

**THE LEAKE FAMILY**

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distinguished lawyer and debater. He was a member of the Virginia Legislature in 1842, a member of Congress for the session of 1845-47, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, 1851, and was a candidate for Governor in 1854, but after a very close vote was defeated by Hon. Henry A. Wise. In 1859-61 he was again a member of Congress.

After the war, he withdrew from politics and practiced his profession. He died in 1884.

An amusing incident can be told of Shelton F. Leake during his early school days. The old trick of placing a bucket of water over the door, which when opened would douse the boy who entered, was frequently resorted to. But when it was tried on young Leake, it was neatly turned upon the player. One day two mischievous boys laid a trap of this kind to douse young Leake, but by chance he overheard the plot and determined to beat them at their own game. As they climbed out of the window, he stole around the house and hid on the other side. They looked for him for some time in order to send him in the room on some pretext, but not finding him, they engaged in a game of marbles. While they were absorbed in the game, Leake ran to the window and shouted, "boys run in here quick, there's a snake in the house!" Forgetting all about the trap they had laid, they rushed into the room and were well drenched. This so incensed his companions that they seized young Leake and would have given him a beating but for the interference of the teacher, who was much amused at the trick. At another time, while a young preacher was holding forth in an old country meeting house and while in the midst of the sermon young Leake suddenly sprang up with cap in hand and shouted, "boys, there's a bat in the house," and away he went followed by his companions, tramping upon the toes of the people, until the "Winged worshiper" was brought down, when Leake quietly took his seat, and the minister proceeded. This was the celebrated Shelton F. Leake who in after years was known as the "Demosthenes of the Hustings," and who

carried the humour of his boyhood even to old age.

5. Elisha (3) Leake, fifth son of Walter (2) Leake, married in 1791 Fanny Cury; he was a member of the Goochland Committee of Safety 1775. He had two sons, Samuel (4) and Richard (4) who emigrated to Memphis, Tenn.

6. Josiah Leake inherited the old Goochland homestead from his father. He married three times; first to Anna Fentor; second, to Anne Minter; third, to Anne Foster; and had the following children: Waler (4), Josiah, Jr., (4), John M. (4), Samuel (4), and Christian (4). Walter married, 1790, Susanna Jones; moved to Maysville, Ky.; and at one time was a member of the Kentucky Legislature. Josiah, Jr., married Elizabeth Porter Hatcher; inherited the old Leake Mansion in Goochland; was a member of the Virginia Legislature, 1810-1811; had two sons, Samuel D. and Walter D.

Samuel D. (4) married Fanny Minor Kean, and was the father of Judge William Josiah Leake, of Richmond, lately president of the Virginia State Bar and now practices law in that city.

Walter D. Leake, son of Josiah Leake, Jr., married Jane Margaret Kean; was a distinguished lawyer and citizen of Goochland county; was a member of the Virginia Legislature, 1846, and also for several consecutive years canvassed the Virginia Congressional District as candidate of the Democratic party, but the Whigs were in power and elected John Minor Botts; he was a member of the Reform Convention 1845, and was also a member of the Secession Convention, having defeated Hon. James A. Seddon for the position, who afterwards became Secretary of War in the Confederate Cabinet; was captain of the Goochland Artillery during the Civil War. He died 1873, leaving three children surviving him, being Charles L. Leake, Martha E. and Judge A. K. Leake.

John H. Leake, son of Josiah, Sr., moved to Alabama and there died in early manhood, while a member of the Alabama Legislature.

Samuel Leake, son of Josiah, Sr., was a physician and died young.

Nor must we omit to mention among the North Carolina branch (descendants of William (3) Leake and Judith Mosely), Colonel John Wall Leake, of the Confederate

army, and Robert Leake Steele, both of whom were pioneers in the cotton manufacturing interests of that state, which has become so prosperous, and both of blessed memory. Also Colonel Walter Leake Steele, another descendant, was a leading citizen. He was a member of Congress for the forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions, and then declined a re-nomination; he was generally esteemed as one of the most gifted sons of the "Old North State." Then there was William Leake Terry, of this branch; he was born in Anson County, N. C., 1850; moved to Little Rock, Ark., in 1877; was elected to state senate in 1878, and became its president in 1879; then was elected from the fifty-second to fifty-fifth sessions of Congress as a Democrat from Arkansas.

Dr. William J. Leake (brother of Hon. Shelton F. Leake,) who went to Yazoo City, Miss.; he married a Martha Hughes, of Frankfort, Ky., and his son, Dr. Henry K. Leake, of Dallas, is now one of the leading physicians in Texas.

Judge David H. Leake, of Goochland county, is also in direct descent; and so is Mr. Walter Leake, of Richmond, Va., who is a grandson of the Hon. Walter D. Leake (5), of Goochland, (in descent from Josiah, Jr., 4), Josiah, Sr., (3), Walter (2), William (1), and is the son of Judge A. K. Leake, of Goochland, who married Violet Harris, daughter of General D. B. Harris.

To Walter Leake we are indebted for the above authenticated pedigree, as taken from the family Bible and other sources.

We give the coat of arms for the Leake family, as taken most closely from the House of Warwick. Sir Francis Brooke, eighth baron, with the title of Earl of Warwick in 1746; the title of Earl of Warwick and Warwick Castle becoming extinct by the death of Sir Edward Rich, Earl of Warwick and of Holland, 1759. Nicholas Leake, son of Sir Francis Leake, Earl of Scarsdale, having married lady Frances Rich, daughter of Sir Edward Rich assumed the arms through her of the House of Warwick, and dropping those of Scarsdale.

The arms for Warwick, as given in the British Peerage, are:

"On a shield are, a saltier engrailed, sa, nine annulets, ov."  
 "Crest—Out of a ducal crown, rising a swan, with wings extended."  
 "Motto—Vix ea nostra voco."  
 "I scarce call these things our own."  
 (Alluding to the honors of ancestry.)  
 Taken from Ovid Metam 13th, p. 140.

E. C. M.



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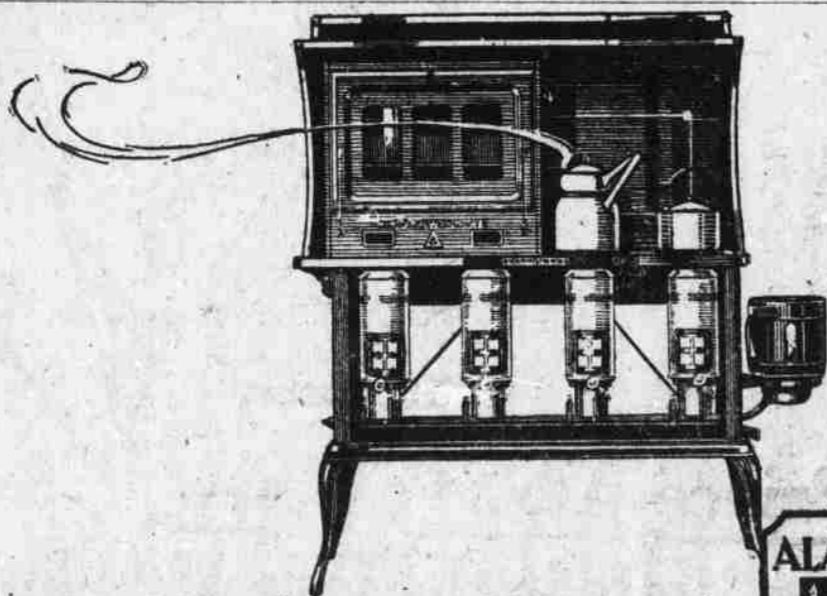
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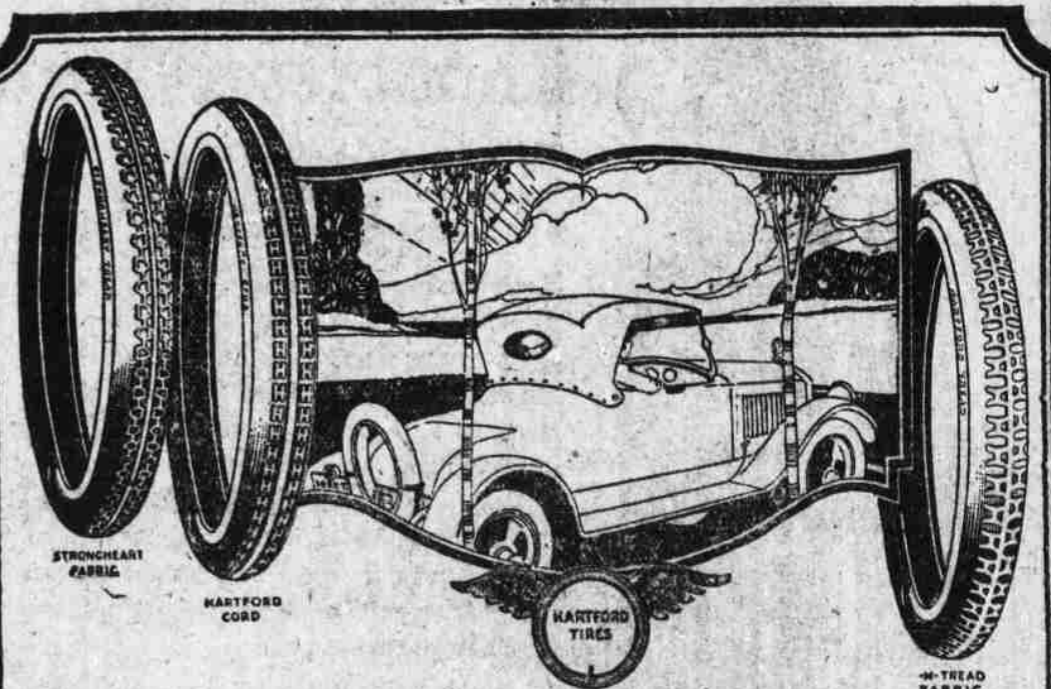
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