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SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MABEL LOUISE WEBBER

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EDITED BY
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No. 1

GRIMBALL OF EDISTO ISLAND

Compiled by MABEL L. WEBBER

Paul Grimball, an English merchant, came to the Province of South Carolina in Feb. 1682; on April 10, 1681, Lord Shaftesbury and two others of the Lords Proprietors, address a communication to the Governor and Council, containing among other things, a commission to grant 3000 acres of land to "Mr. Paul Grimball, Merchant bound for Ashley River to settle there."¹

In March 1682/3 he had a warrant for land on Cooper River bounding on land already purchased by him from Samuel Boswood² and in October 1683, he received a warrant for 600 acres due him for arrival of self and servants; he became a Proprietor's deputy in 1683;³ settled on Edisto Island, where in 1686 his house with that of Governor Morton, was sacked by the Spaniards⁴.

He was Secretary of the Province by 1683 and in October 1688 was appointed Receiver General and Escheator;⁵ was a member of the committee to consider the modification of the Fundamental Constitution in July 1687; was disqualified by Seth Sothell from holding office in 1690, and was sent to jail and forcibly dispossessed of the records intrusted to him because he would not deliver the

¹ *S. C. Hist. Soc. Coll.* v. 1, p. 104.

² *Warrants for Lands in S. C.*

³ McCrady, 1671-1719, p. 210.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 216.

⁵ *S. C. H. Soc. Coll.* v. 1, p. 120.

seal used for granting lands;⁴ Grimball in his petition to the Governor and Council⁷ recites the outrages committed by Sothell and his followers, and among other things states that William Chapman, the constable at Charles Town with seven others from Berkley County went to the petitioners house on "Edistoh" Island Colleton County "forty miles by water" on February 3, 1691, entered his house with clubs, frightening Mrs. Grimball and the family, making the search upon the pretence of hunting for public papers and records, from there they went to the house of Mr. John Hamilton "your Petr's sonn in Law" a mile distant, and searched his house under the same pretense.⁸

The Proprietors granted Grimball a new commission in May 1691.⁹ In April 1693 they wrote to Col. Ludwell transmitting to Mr. Grimball a power to appoint and remove Judges or Sheriffs of the counties at pleasure; they also stated that Mr. Grimball complained that he was obliged to stay in town longer than is needful, and requested that the duties of his office be made as little irksome as possible.¹⁰ The Proprietors wrote to Mr. Grimball June 28, 1695 concerning the appointment of Archdale as Governor, and Grimball in his will, proved February 20, 1696, requests that a ring be given to Gov. Archdale as a token of respect.

Paul Grimball made his will December 13, 1696, as Paul Grimball Esq; of Edisto Island, Colleton County; a full abstract was printed in this *Magazine*, vo. XI, page 55. He mentions his wife Mary, sons Thomas and John, daughter Providence Grimball, daughters Mary Hamilton and Ann Linkley; son-in-law Christopher Linkley; the lands mentioned in his will were on Edisto; 1600 acres to his wife for life, and then to his son, Thomas; 400 acres to his daughter Linkley; there is no mention of lands to any of his other children. He had formerly owned lands on Cooper river the plantation known later as Wraggs or Marshland,¹¹ but sold during his life time.

Mary Grimball, wife of Paul, mentioned several times in the records and Statutes at large as Madam Mary Grimball, was

⁴ *Ibid*, p. 125.

⁷ *Warrants for Lands, 1692-1711*, p. 198.

⁸ *Ibid*, p. 200.

⁹ *S. C. H. Soc. Coll.* v. 1, p. 126.

¹⁰ *Ibid*, p. 131.

¹¹ *This Magazine*, v. XIX, p. 54.

living in 1711, when she was made guardian of her grand-son Christopher Linkley,¹² but was dead by 1720, when her son Thomas made his will; Mary Grimball left a will but it is now missing.

Paul Grimball the first and his wife Mary had issue:

2. i. Mary Grimball, married to John Hamilton, deputy Secretary of the Province, and had three children by 1695, when John Hamilton of Edisto Island registered a stock mark for them; Hamilton was a member of the House of Assembly in 1696, and 1698, and is mentioned in 1696 as Capt. John Hamilton. There is some evidence that he was the John Hamilton who came out with Lord Cardross and William Dunlap, but this would have to be proved.¹³ Mary Hamilton died before her husband, and he married next Dorothy _____, who administered upon his estate November 6, 1707; after his death she married Thomas Ogle of Edisto Island, survived him also, and died leaving a will dated 1719 which mentions among others, her son-in-law Paul Hamilton.¹⁴

Of the children of John Hamilton, only three are known to be by Mary Grimball: i. Mary Hamilton, born before 1695, married first about 1705, John Wilkins, who died in 1730, she then married Archibald Neal,¹⁵ John Wilkins and Mary Hamilton had issue several children, among them Paul Wilkins, mentioned in the will of his uncle Paul Hamilton. ii. Paul Hamilton, born before 1695, married Martha Bower, daughter of William Bower and his wife Martha Hext; Paul Hamilton died about March 1738/9 when his will was proved, his wife had predeceased him; their children were Paul, John, Archibald, daughters Martha and Dorcas; Paul was a Tory, and died in England about 1799, leaving no issue; Dorcas and John seem

¹² Probate Court, 1687-1710, p. 175.

¹³ *S. C. H. Soc. Coll.* v. 1, p. 93, Art. 30, 35, 37.

¹⁴ *Probt. Ct.* 1722-24, p. 57.

¹⁵ *St. Andrews Reg.*

to have died young, Martha married Rev. John McLeod, and Archibald (1736-1766) married Rebecca daughter of Ezekial Branford, and was the father of Paul Hamilton, Governor of S. C., and Secretary of the Navy. iii. Ann Hamilton, born before 1695; married first before 1713, David Loughton, no issue; married 2d. George Barnet, one daughter Ann Barnet; married 3d. before 1717, David Hext, and had five daughters¹⁶; her daughter Ann Barnet married in 1731, Charles Codner¹⁷ and had Richard, born 1732, Grace, born 1742, married John Ash, Charles, born 1734, Sabina, born 1735, married William Elliott, Providence married 1761, Joseph Eddings, Ann.

3. ii Ann Grimball daughter of Paul and Mary, married first Christopher Linkley¹⁸ who died in 1699, for in that year his Mother Mary Linkley, in England, gives power of attorney to collect a legacy left her by her son.¹⁹ Christopher Linkley and Ann Grimball had at least one child, Christopher, a minor in 1706, when Lawrence Dennis and Thomas Grimball were appointed his guardians; this second Christopher Linkley married Sarah Jones and died before 1719, for his widow made her will in that year²⁰ mentioning children, but not by name; Christopher Linkley 3d. married Mary Holman in 1735²¹ and died in 1740. Ann Grimball widow of Christopher Linkley, married second before 1699 Charles Odingsell, deputy secretary of the Province under Paul Grimball; their children, so far as known, were, 1, Mary married first Samuel Jones and had issue, married second Capt. Ebenezer Simmons, no issue 2, Ann Odingsell 1706-1754, married first 1724,

¹⁶ *This Magazine*, v. VI, p. 36, 37.

¹⁷ *St. Philips Reg.*

¹⁸ Will of first Paul Grimball, see above.

¹⁹ Probate Court, 1697-1710.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 1671-1727, p. 119.

²¹ *St. Andrews Reg.*

John Smith, an English merchant, and second Benjamin D'Harriett, also a merchant²² no issue by either husband; 3, Charles Odingsell, minor in 1718, when his half-brother Christopher Linkley was appointed his guardian²³ died on a trip to Savannah about 1740 leaving issue, Charles, Mary, and possibly others.²⁴ Ann Grimball seems to have married for a third husband, Lawrence Dennis, who afterwards married her sister Providence.²⁵

4. iii. Providence Grimball, daughter of Paul and Mary, unmarried when her father made his will in 1695; she married first Lawrence Dennis,²⁶ and second, November 25, 1733, Ribton Hutchinson; she had no issue. Lawrence Dennis left a will now missing, but from recitals, we find that he left land to Paul Grimball, his nephew by marriage.

Providence Hutchinson made her will 9 January, 1755, proved 27 February, 1756; mentioning many of her friends and relations; she speaks of her husband Ribton Hutchinson and marriage settlement with him; the Antopedo Baptist church, 400 Pounds, and her silver tankard. nephew John

²² *St. Philips Reg.*

²³ Probate Ct. 1714-1718, p. 91.

²⁴ ". . . Mr. Odingsell, who was an Inhabitant of Carolina, and had been a great Benefactor to the infant Colony of Georgia . . . having come to Savannah to see how the Colony succeeded . . . being abroad some time after it was Night, as he was going to his Lodgings was taken up in the Street for a Stroller, carried to the Guard House, and threatened with the Stocks and Whipping-Post; the Terror and Fright of which . . . threw him into a high Fever . . . he was carried aboard his Boat in order to be sent Home, and died in the Way some where about Dawfuskee Sound." *Narrative of the Colony of Georgia*, Charles-Town: P. Timothy, 1741, p. 35.

²⁵ Mesne Conveyance Off. F, p. 100, 31 Dec., 1726: Lawrence Dennis and Providence his wife, deed of gift, lot no. 35 in Chas'tn. to Benjamin d'Harriett Jr. and Ann his wife "our daughter." Mrs. Providence Dennis afterwards mentions Benj. d'Harriett and his wife and nephew and niece. As we know that d'Harriett married Anne Odingsell, widow of John Smith, the explanation seem to be that Lawrence Dennis had first married Anne Odingsell, widow, sister of Providence Grimball, and thus Anne d'Harriett was his step daughter.

²⁶ Will of first Paul Grimball.