

**WILLIAM LEE (Mary Thornton)  
son of William and Dorothy Lee**

William Lee was born 14 May 1704<sup>1</sup> in Richmond County, Virginia. The earliest record of him as an adult is on 3 July 1733 when William Lee is summoned to answer petition of John Carpenter.<sup>2</sup>

On 8 Jan 1734 William Lee plt. agst. Patrick Miller for debt<sup>3</sup> and William Lee action of trespass agst. William Lyell.<sup>4</sup> On 5 Aug 1735 action of trespass and assault and battery between William Lee plt. and Edward Anderson def.<sup>5</sup> On 6 Apr 1736 William Lee vs. Edward Anderson continued.<sup>6</sup> On 8 June 1736 Mary Evans, relict of Richard Evans, made oath he died without a will and gave security with William Hodgekinson and William Lee.<sup>7</sup> On 6 July 1736 William Lee agst. Edward Anderson, witnesses for Lee were Robert Jorden, Peter Campbell, and Sam. Pound of Orange Co.<sup>8</sup>

On 12 May 1740 claim of William Lee of this county for taking up a negro man slave named George belonging to Cpt. William Ball of Lancaster Co. was this day sworn to in court by the sd. Lee and ordered to be certified.<sup>9</sup> In 1742 the estate of Ann Singleton dec'd. paid William Lee.<sup>10</sup> On 2 May 1743 William Lee his petition agst. George Taylor is continued till next court.<sup>11</sup> Court 18 May 1743 William Lee, the overseer for Thomas Barber was in court accused of killing one of Barber's slaves. John Dozer gave security for Lee to appear in court to answer charges and William Lyell of NFP was one of the witnesses to the incident.<sup>12</sup>

On 5 July 1743 William Lee brought his petition in this court agst. George Taylor for 950 pounds of tobacco due by acct. dated 1742...def. produced a discount and there appearing to be nothing due to plt. suit was dismissed.<sup>13</sup> On 3 June 1745 in an action of trespass William Lee agst. George Taylor for sd. defendants taking without leave of plt. a certain canoe.<sup>14</sup> On 20 June 1745 William Lee plt. vs. George Taylor def. found for plt.<sup>15</sup> On 5 Aug 1745 in an action of trespass between George Taylor plt. and William Lee def., at defendant's motion a special imparlance is granted him till next court. Same in George Taylor vs. Elizabeth Taylor.<sup>16</sup> On 2 Dec 1745 action of trespass George Taylor plt. agst. William Lee def. and same agst. Elizabeth Taylor def. Neither defendant appearing judgment is granted the plaintiff.<sup>17</sup>

On 7 Apr 1746 William Barber and William Lee by petition setting forth that they became security for Ann Bales adm. of her husband's estate and they being apprehensive that sd. estate is likely to be

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<sup>1</sup> FHLC #33746, Richmond Co., Virginia Parish Records, North Farnham Parish 1672-1801, filmed November 1950. "Copy of NFP Register 1672-1800 Property of circuit Court of Richmond Co., VA. to be kept on file in the clerk's office forever. E. Carter Delano, Deputy Clerk, Warsaw, Virginia, 2 May 1927

<sup>2</sup> FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

<sup>3</sup> FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

<sup>4</sup> FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

<sup>5</sup> FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

<sup>6</sup> FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

<sup>7</sup> FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

<sup>8</sup> FHLC Film #33709 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 10

<sup>9</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

<sup>10</sup> FHLC Film #33679 Richmond Co., Virginia Account Book 1 (1724-1783), p. 197

<sup>11</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

<sup>12</sup> Familysearch.org, Richmond Co. VA., Fines, Examination of Criminals, Tryalls of Slaves 1750-1754, p. 304

<sup>13</sup> Familysearch.org, Richmond Co. VA., Fines, Examination of Criminals, Tryalls of Slaves 1750-1754, p. 304

<sup>14</sup> Familysearch.org, Richmond Co. VA., Fines, Examination of Criminals, Tryalls of Slaves 1750-1754, p. 304

<sup>15</sup> FHLC Film #33679 Richmond Co., Virginia Account Book 1 (1724-1783), p. 213

<sup>16</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

<sup>17</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

embezzled...law directs to hold them harmless and ordered they take sd. estate into their possession.<sup>18</sup> On 6 May 1746 action of trespass George Taylor agst. William Lee...def. pleaded not guilty and suit continued. Same George Taylor agst. Elizabeth Taylor.<sup>19</sup> On 3 June 1746 George Taylor vs. William Lee for trespass, find for def., William Barber and Deborah Rains witnesses for William Lee.<sup>20</sup> George Taylor his action of trespass agst. Elizabeth Taylor is dismissed the plt. not prosecuting.<sup>21</sup>

The will of Elizabeth Taylor dated 4 May 1747 and probated 7 Sept 1747 names two daughters Dorothy Crutcher and Sary Ellate possibly White, grandson William Lee, and great grandchildren (children of William Lee) Betty Lee, Ann Lee, Sary Lee, and Richard Lee.<sup>22</sup> On 7 Sept 1747 the LW&T of Elizabeth Taylor was presented by William Lee exec. and proved by William Barber and William Tillery. Appraisers appointed were William Barber, William Baker, George Gaydon, and William Philips.<sup>23</sup>

On 7 Aug 1749 William Lee vs. William Baker trespass.<sup>24</sup> On 2 Oct 1750 William Lee vs. William Baker for trespass.<sup>25</sup> On 2 Apr 1751 William Lee vs. William Baker trespass, Lee by attorney Charles Barber, found for Plt.<sup>26</sup>

On 3 Feb 1751/2 William Lee, Mary Lee, and Richard Lee were witnesses for the King agst. Owen Brady for one day each.<sup>27</sup> (Note: A witness had to be at least 14 yrs. old to testify. If this is Richard, son of William, then he was born by 1737.)

*This is the first mention of Mary as the wife of Wm. Lee. Records of the christening of the children of Peter Lee and Mark Lee in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, give the name of Wm. Lee's wife as Marie Thanton. The records are in Spanish or French and many of the Anglican names are not written as we know them. There are no Thanton families in Richmond Co. Va. and it is likely this name is Thornton. The name Mark is rare in the Lee family, but common in the Thornton family. Mark Thornton and wife Mary may have been the parents of William Lee's wife Mary Thornton. Mary Thornton would have been born about 1714 in Richmond Co. Va. and married William Lee at least by 1749/50 to have been the mother of Peter Lee born January 1750/1. If she was the mother of the older Lee children then she married Lee by 1734.*

On 7 July 1752 on the motion of William Lee, a certificate is granted for him to obtain letters of administration on estate of William Croucher dec'd. giving security with Owen Brady and Nathaniel Mason.<sup>28</sup> On 7 Nov 1752 William Lee appointed by the court as guardian of Katy Croucher, orphan of William Croucher dec'd. giving security with Peter Evans. On motion of William Lee, George Gaydon and James Forrester and George Davis are appointed to divide the estate of Richard Croucher dec'd now in possession of Dorothy Croucher widow, between sd. Dorothy and Katy the daughter of William Croucher dec'd.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

<sup>19</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 11

<sup>20</sup> Familysearch.org, Richmond Co. Va. Order Book 12, page 6

<sup>21</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>22</sup> FHLC Film #33677, Item 1, Richmond County, Virginia Will Book 5, p. 531

<sup>23</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>24</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>25</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>26</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>27</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>28</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>29</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

On 5 Mar 1753 Travers Tarpley agst. William Lee for 550 pounds of tobacco due by account.<sup>30</sup> On 2 Oct 1753 Travers Tarpley adm. of Billington McCarty, agst. William Lee, adm. of William Croucher for debt dismissed.<sup>31</sup> On 3 Apr 1754 petition of Owen Brady and Michael Connell setting forth that they became security for William Lee, adm. of William Croucher and they suspect the sd. estate will be wasted and want Lee to be compelled to give counter security and deliver up estate.<sup>32</sup> On 1 July 1754 Owen Brady and Nathaniel Muse vs. William Lee for counter security...Lee did not appear.<sup>33</sup>

On 7 Apr 1755 William Lee vs. William Baker for trespass.<sup>34</sup> On 3 June 1755 Owen Brady and Nathaniel Mason plts. vs. William Lee def. upon petition for counter security for the def. just adm. on Croucher's estate...and Croucher's estate account was returned and recorded.<sup>35</sup> On 3 Sept 1755 William Lee agst. William Baker for trespass...Baker found guilty.<sup>36</sup> On 4 Oct 1757 William Lee agst. Owen Brady and Elizabeth his wife for debt.<sup>37</sup> On 7 Mar 1758 William Lee agst. Owen and Elizabeth Brady for debt. Motion of Richard Lee, witness for William Lee agst. Owen Brady, for six days attendance.<sup>38</sup> On 3 July 1758 motion of William Lee a witness for Charles Hammond agst. John Brown for 11 days attendance.<sup>39</sup> On 3 Apr 1759 William Lee agst. John Brown for trespass.<sup>40</sup>

On 8 Sept 1761 William Beale vs. William Lee for debt dismissed<sup>41</sup>. Judgment upon petition is granted Traverse Tarpley agst. William Lee for 344 pounds tobacco.<sup>42</sup> William Glasscock agst. Richard Lee for trespass dismissed.<sup>43</sup> Henry Williams agst. William Lee for trespass, assault and battery, is dismissed.<sup>44</sup>

On 1 Apr 1763 Know...I William Lee for 60 pounds due to Mr. William Glasscock and the other part to Archibald Ritchie as costs of sd. Glasscock's suit agst. me do make over to William Miskell and James Samford my securities in the form of household effects.<sup>45</sup> On 1 Aug 1763 a bill of sale from William Lee to William Mistell and James Samford proved by Samuel Williams witness.<sup>46</sup> On 7 June 1763 John Tarpley vs. William Lee for trespass is dismissed by consent of parties. William G. Glasscock vs. William Lee debt.<sup>47</sup> On 6 July 1763 Judgment upon petition granted Thomas Williams agst. William Lee for 450 pounds tobacco.<sup>48</sup>

**On 4 June 1764 William Glasscock agst. William Lee for debt abates by the death of the defendant.**<sup>49</sup> On 2 July 1764 appraisal of estate of William Lee by William Baker, Alex Dudley, and Keene Samford ordered.<sup>50</sup> On 3 July 1764 on the motion of William Glasscock, certificate is granted him for letters of administration on the estate of William Lee dec'd. giving security with Leroy Peachy.

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<sup>30</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 13 (1752-1755)

<sup>31</sup> FHLC Film #33710 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 12

<sup>32</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 13 (1752-1755)

<sup>33</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 13 (1752-1755)

<sup>34</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 13 (1752-1755)

<sup>35</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 13 (1752-1755)

<sup>36</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 13 (1752-1755)

<sup>37</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>38</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>39</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>40</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>41</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>42</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>43</sup> FHLC Film #33711 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>44</sup> FHLC Film #33693 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 14 (1756-1762)

<sup>45</sup> FHLC Film #33693 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 12 (1757-1768), p. 479

<sup>46</sup> FHLC Film #33693 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 12 (1757-1768)

<sup>47</sup> FHLC Film #33693 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 12 (1757-1768)

<sup>48</sup> FHLC Film #33693 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 12 (1757-1768)

<sup>49</sup> FHLC Film #33693 Richmond Co., Virginia Deed Book 12 (1757-1768)

<sup>50</sup> FHLC Film #33733, Item 2 Richmond Co., Virginia Will Book 6, p. 361

Appraisers appointed were Roger Williams, Keene Samford, William Baker, and Alex Dudley.<sup>51</sup> On 6 Aug 1764 inventory and appraisal of the estate of William Lee returned. John Tarpley plt. vs. William Lee Jr. def. attachment dismissed.<sup>52</sup> (Wm. Lee Jr. was born by 1743 to have been 21 when John Tarpley sued him in court.)

In April 1769, the estate of William Lee dec'd. paid to Cryer for crying good, to sheriff for levies and taxes, and to secretary's notes for estate sale. Also, to Joseph Hanks for his legacy bequeathed to his wife by Elizabeth Taylor dec'd., to Thomas Hanks the same, to Sarah Lee the same, to Richard Lee the same, to James Samford for coffin, and to William Glasscock for balance.<sup>53</sup> (The children who received legacies from their great grandmother Elizabeth Taylor had to have been born prior to 1747, the date of her will, and thus were at least age 21.)

The children of William Lee and Mary Thornton include Elizabeth "Betty" Lee, Anne Lee, Sarah Lee, Richard Lee, William Lee, Charles Lee, Peter Lee, Mark Lee, and John Lee.

*William and Mary Lee had Peter Lee born 30 Jan 1750(51?) and John Lee born 22 Dec 1757 (NFP Registers). Mark Lee was the brother of Peter Lee as shown by records in Kentucky and Louisiana. Four children - Elizabeth, Anne, Sarah, and Richard Lee - were named as great grandchildren in the will of Dorothy's mother Elizabeth Taylor in 1747. DNA evidence has connected descendants of Peter Lee of Louisiana, William Lee of Shelby Co. Ky., John Lee of Adams Co. Ms., Richard Lee of Nelson Co. Ky. and Charles Lee of Hardin Co., KY.*

**RICHARD LEE** was at least 14 years old by 3 Feb 1751/2 (thus born by 1737) when William Lee, Mary Lee, and Richard Lee were witnesses for the King agst. Owen Brady for one day each. (Virginia Law required a witness be at least 14. I would suspect he was at least 16 or 18 if not older.) On 2 July 1753 (Richmond Co. OB 13) Richard Lee was a witness for John Nichols agst. Owen Brady for 10 days. On 7 Mar 1758 (Richmond Co. OB 14) Motion of Richard Lee, witness for William Lee agst. Owen Brady, for six days attendance. On 8 Sept 1761 (Richmond Co. OB 14) William Glasscock agst. Richard Lee for trespass dismissed. On 4 June 1765 (Richmond Co. OB 15) William Sprigg vs. Richard Lee attachment. On 5 Aug 1765 (Richmond Co. OB 16) William Spragg vs. Richard Lee upon attachment obtained by plt. agst. the defendant's estate, def. having privately removed himself out of this county and so absconds that the ordinary process of law cannot be served. According to Virginia Colonial Soldiers by Lloyd Dewitt Bockstruck the names of the soldiers on the payrolls at Pittsburgh c. 1774 (Dunmore's War) under the command of Cpt. Michael Cresap Sr. includes one Rd. Lee, along with Mark Lee and Peter Lee.

**ANN LEE** married Joseph Hanks. Joseph Hanks was born 20 Dec 1725 and married Anne Lee about 1758. Their eldest child Thomas Hanks was born 1759 according to his Rev. War Pension papers. They had children: Betty Hanks born 4 Mar 1771 (NFP Register), Thomas Hanks b. 1759, Joshua Hanks, Lucy Hanks, Nancy Hanks, Mary Hanks, William Hanks, Joseph Hanks, and Charles Hanks who married Christina Hargraves in Louisiana. (See Hanks Family)

**ELIZABETH "BETTY" LEE** married Thomas Hanks and they had Joseph Hanks born 21 Feb 1764 and Nancy Hanks born 13 Sept 1766 (NFP Register). Thomas and Betty Lee had apparently left Richmond Co., Va. by 1783. No further record of them has been found.

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<sup>51</sup> FHLC Film #33712 Richmond Co., Virginia Order Book 15 (1762-1769)

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<sup>53</sup> FHLC Film #33679 Richmond Co., Virginia Account Book 1 (1724-1783), p. 547

**SARAH LEE** was unmarried in Apr 1769 when she received legacy from great grandmother Elizabeth Taylor. On 5 July 1773 (Richmond Co. OB 19) Grand jury agst. Thomas Hanks presentment or for attachment. Same agst. Sarah Lee presentment or for attachment. On 3 Aug 1779 Grand jury agst. Thomas Hanks and Sarah Lee defendants, presentment dismissed.<sup>54</sup> Note: *A presentment is a charging document returned by a grand jury on its own initiative, without the involvement of a prosecutor. So, if a grand jury heard about a murder, decided to charge someone with murder (somehow came up with the form indictment to do so), and voted to return the charge that would be a presentment. An indictment is a set of charges drafted by a prosecutor and submitted by the prosecutor to the grand jury. The prosecutor asks the grand jury to vote to return the indictment, i.e., to charge the person(s) named therein. If they return it, it is a charge.* <http://campus.udayton.edu/~grandjur/feedback/feedba53.htm> The attachment is a summons for the person/s to appear. A presentment is a grand jury communication to the public concerning the grand jury's investigation. It has traditionally been an avenue for expressing grievances of the people against government.[91] In early American common law, the presentment was a customary way for grand juries to accuse public employees or officials of misconduct.[92] While an "indictment" was normally thought to be invalid without the signature of a government prosecutor, a presentment required no formal assent of any entity outside the grand jury. In early America, a presentment was thought to be an indictment without a prosecutor's signature and a mandate to a district attorney to initiate a prosecution.[93] <http://www.constitution.org/lrev/roots/runaway.htm> 91. See ORFIELD'S, *supra* note 22, at 392 n.16 (noting that "[t]he common law powers of a grand jury include the power to make presentments . . . calling attention to actions of public officials, whether or not they amounted to a crime). 92. See Hassman, 28 A.L.R. FED. at 854-57. 93. However, on occasion, grand juries have used the term "presentment" to indicate what is commonly a grand jury report, or a statement to the court regarding some matter but which neither recommends indictment nor initiates any prosecution. *Id.* at 853 n.2.

**CHARLES LEE** and Jane Lee had William Lee born 1 Nov 1770 and Nancy Lee born 26 Sept 1766 (NFP Registers). I believe this Charles Lee to be the same as the Charles Lee of Nelson Co. Ky. who married Abigail. Descendants of their proposed son Thomas match the DNA of Peter Lee.

**WILLIAM LEE** was born by 1746 for on 6 Aug 1764 (Richmond Co. OB 15) John Tarpley plt. vs. William Lee Jr. def. attachment dismissed. On 6 July 1772 (Richmond Co. OB 17) William Lee agst. John and Robert Clark debt. William Lee resided in Hampshire and Hardy Co., WVa. and died in Shelby Co., Ky. "William Lee and his family migrated from Richmond County to Hampshire County sometime between 1772 (when he was a plaintiff against John and Robert Clarks in a suit involving debt) and 1781 when his son, Samuel, enlisted as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. " (Kenneth Schulte Manuscript)

**PETER LEE** was born 30 Jan 1750/1. He married Rebecca Taylor in 1778 in Hampshire Co., W. Va., migrated to Kentucky, Mississippi, and Louisiana. (See Peter Lee Family).

**MARK LEE** was probably born about 1752. He was in Cresap's Company during Dunmore's War, resided in Kentucky, Mississippi, and Louisiana. According to Louisiana records he was married to Nancy Quise, Quaze, Keeze, or Kais (Keys or Case) and both were listed as being from Maryland. (See Mark Lee Family). Records in Ky., Ms. and La. note Mark Lee as the brother of Peter Lee

**JOHN LEE** was born 22 Dec 1757. This John Lee is the same as the John Lee in Adams Co. Miss. 1805.

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<sup>54</sup> Familysearch.org, Richmond County, Virginia, Court Order Book 18, page 111