

In Congress

The delegates of the United states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, TO

Leven Powell Esquire-

WE, reposing especial trust and confidence in your Patriotism, valour, conduct, and fidelity, DO, by these Presents, constitute and appoint you to be Lieutenant Colonel of a Regiment of Foot commanded by Col. William Grayson, to take rank from the eleventh day of January, 1777, in the Army of the United States raised for the defence of American Liberty, and for repelling every hostile Invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Lieut. Colonel, by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and soldiers under your command to be obedient to your Orders as Lieutenant Colonel.

And you are to observe and follow such Orders and directions from time to time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress for that purpose appointed or Commander-in-Chief for the time being of the Army of the United States, or any other of your superior Officer, according to the rules and discipline of war, in Pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this or a future Congress.

DATED-- Philadelphia the 22nd day of December, 1777-----BY Order of the Congress.

Attest,
Charles Thomson, Secy.

Henry Laurens,
PRESIDENT

Upon the outside of the commission is endorsed----

"His excellency the commander-in-chief, in consequence of Lieut-colonel Powell's request, and in consideration of his ill state of health, which renders him at present incompetent to the fatigues of his Office, acquiesces with the colonel's inclination to retire from the Army. His excellency therefore receives and accepts his resignation- given at Headquarters, by his excellency's command, this 28th October, 1778,

James M. Henry ,
Secretary.

SIMMS.

simms family of Cecil Co. and Charles Co., Maryland, and also of Elizabeth, Stafford and Prince William Cos., Virginia.

1. Marmaduke simms of England Patented land 1666. Married the widow of pulmer Medford. Will dated 1687, was of simms forest, Cecil Co. Maryland-sen, Anthony 1648-sen Marmaduke 1670-sen-Marmaduke 1700-sen-Alexander 1725.

Alexander simms of simms forest, Md. moved to Stafford Co., Va. Charles simms, born in Prince William Co., Va. in 1755, studied law with General Mercer, was Lieut. Col. of 6th Regt. Virginia Line; in Revolutionary Army. While in camp at Valley Forge he married Nancy Douglas, daughter of Major William Douglas of the Royal Army who had retired from the British service. After the Revolution Colonel Charles simms settled in Alexandria where he resided for thirty-five years, and was a prominent both at the bar and in Public life. Belonging to the Federal Party, he was in the Convention of Virginia in 1788, and was a member of the committee appointed to recommend amendments to the Constitution of the U.S.

Col. simms was a member of the Society of Cincinnati, and a personal friend of General Washington, at whose funeral he served as one of the Pall bearers, standing by the right shoulder.

In 1814 Colonel simms was Mayor of Alexandria, and it became his painful duty to surrender the town to the British, there being no means of defense. He died August 29th, 1819- and was buried with Military and Masonic honors. A tablet raised to his memory by his daughter-
Mrs. Catherine Powell, now rests against the east wall of Christ Church, Alexandria. His children were:

Charles simms, Douglas, John Douglas, Catherine (married Powell), Nancy (married Wallach) and Peebe (married Weightman).
Catherine simms married Guthbert Powell of Llangollen, son of Col. Leven Powell. Their children were:-
Ann Maria (married Powell), Llewellyn Powell, M.D.; Charles Leven A.M.; Mary (married Adie; Rev. Guthbert Powell); Jane (married Grady); Ellen (married Gray); John simms; Leven and Pannie (married Gordon).

Major Douglas, father of Mrs. simms, married a widow Van Tyle nee Van Buskirk, whose descendants Van Tyle lived and perhaps shall live in New York and Connecticut. Major Douglas took no part in the Revolution, but moved his family to Nova Scotia. Judge Johnston of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, is his descendant.

Major Douglass, retired officer of the Royal Army, married Mrs. Van Tyle, nee Van Buskirk, and their daughter, Miss Douglas became the wife of Colonel Charles simms of Virginia in the winter of 1777 or 87.

Major Douglas had three sons by his first marriage:-
William, Douglas, George Douglas, John Douglas who married Phoebe Van Tyle, his stepmother's daughter.

Mrs. Van Tuyle, nee Van Buskirk had by her first marriage:-
Otte Van Tuyle; Margaret Van Tuyle, married Theo. Metcalf and had a son Eliphalet Metcalf, who married a wealthy lady in Georgia; Mrs. Ledyard; Mrs. Kip; Olivia, who married in Brooklyn (Varicks); Phoebe Van Tuyle, married John Douglas, lived 7 miles from Saratoga, where her sisters Mrs. Ledyard, Mrs. Kip and Mrs. Metcalf lived.

SIMS CONTINUED

Mrs. William Douglas was the daughter (or sister) of Lieut Colonel Abraham van Burskirk, who left the colonies on the breaking out of the revolution and settled at Wood Church, about 12 miles from Shelburne, Nova Scotia. He died and was buried in Shelburne, June 2, 1799, aged 61 years. His monument is in Christ Churchyard, Shelburne, with others of his family.

POWELL

"Broke's Welsh gentlemen" contains the family record from 1687 to 1697, when Nathaniel Powell came to Virginia; sailed with Captain John Smith, Dec. 19, 1606. He will all his family killed in the massacre at the colony March 22, 1622. (Brown's Genesis of United States).

William Powell an incorporator of the 2nd charter Virginia company of London, laid L 25 subscription. came to Virginia with Gates (3rd supply) 1611. was Member of the first House of Burgesses, July 30, 1619, and a man of influence in the colony. Capt. John Smith, in his "Adventures and Observations" published in London 1629, says, "Master William Powell was a man of good means and great parentage and ever rests my faithful friend."

It is supposed that William and Nathaniel Powell were brothers.

William Powell of James River had two sons:
Guthbert of Lancaster and Thomas.

Guthbert had

William Powell of Somerset, Md., whose will dated Feb. 2 1715 mentions children,
John, William, Leven and Margaret- of these

William Powell married Eleanor Peyton about 1736. His will dated 1787, proved 1788, mentions
Leven, William, Peyton and Sarah.

Leven Powell, born 1737, married 1765 Sarah Harrison, daughter of Burr Harrison of Chappanwampsie. He bought 500 acres of land in Loudon Co., where he made his home, and was a man of extensive influence there. In 1775 he joined the Revolutionary Army, received a Lieutenant Colonel's commission, and served with distinction though his failing health forced him at length out of active service. At the close of the war, the State of Virginia voted him, by special act of Assembly, the same grant of land that he would have received had he continued in active service.

Colonel Powell was a Member of the Virginia Assembly several times; a Member of the National Congress in 1799, 1800, 1801 and 1802; where he voted for Jefferson in the contest between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr in the House of Representatives. In the previous election he had given the only electoral vote cast for John Adams in Virginia.

He was a man of great firmness and moderation, and unquestioned integrity; zealous in the service of his country; and commanding always the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens. He had left quite an extended correspondence with the members of his own family, and the leading public men of his day, and these letters bear testimony to his high qualities of mind and heart. He died in 1810 at Bedford Springs, Pa., whither he had gone for the restoration of his health, and was buried there. He was a member of the Episcopal Church and a friend of Rev. Dr. Priggith of that church.

The descendants of Colonel Powell are:--

1. William Powell, drowned in the Shenandoah 1802. He left six children:--

Leven Pudley, Thomas, Burr G., Emily (married Hereford), Maria (married Madison), Gallie (married Fitzhugh).

His family moved first to western Virginia then to Kentucky, and then further west. Many of his descendants live in St. Louis and Kansas City-Mo.

2. Burr Powell, born 1768, died 1838, married Kitty Brooke. Their children were:--

Humphrey Brooke, William Leven, George Guthbert, Frank Whiting, Edward- Nancy (married Nelson), Sarah (married Harrison), and Betty (married Conrad).

3. Leven Powell, born 1770, married Elizabeth Orr. Had issue:--

William Alexander, John Leven, Guthbert, Alfred H. and Ellen.

4. Guthbert Powell, born 1775, died 1848. Married Catherine Sims, daughter of Colonel Charles Sims of Alexandria, Virginia, and made his home on his estate of Llangollen in Loudoun Co. He was, like his father, a man of high intelligence, sound judgement and unblemished integrity, very influential in his county and district, which he represented in Congress in 1811. While taking a deep interest in public affairs, a member of the Whig Party and not unwilling to serve his country when called to do so, he was no politician, preferring private to public life and was one of the best and most successful farmers of his neighborhood. His children were:-

Ann M., married her cousin William L. Powell, son of Burr Powell; Virginia (married Taylor); Edward B., Llewellyn; Brooke; Guthbert; William; Alfred H. Fannie (married Harrison) and Fannie.

Dr. Llewellyn Powell married Elizabeth Harrison, moved to Louisville, Ky., and died there 1870. Had issue:- Charles H. Guthbert, Jate, Ellen, Lizzie (married Nash), Fannie, Thomas, Mittie (married Williamson) and William.

3. Charles Leven Powell, born 1804, died 1896. Married Selina Lloyd of Alexandria, Virginia. Had issue:-

Lloyd Powell, member of Co. F. 2nd Va. Infantry C.S.A., fell at the 1st battle of Manassas, July 31, 1861; Charles L. Jr., member of Braxton's Battery C.S.A., fell August 24, 1862 near Warrenton, Va. Rebecca C.; Harriet L. (marr- married Smeeth); Minna E.; Niss L. (married Hepburn).

4. Mary E. Powell married Adie. Had issue:-

George Adie, Mary E., Margaret (married Pope), Ellen, Lewis, Edward, Guthbert, Charles and Temasia (married Allison).

5. Ellen Douglas Powell married Gray. Had issue:-

Kate S. (married McDonald), and Rev. Arthur P. Gray.

6. Rev. Guthbert Powell died Nov. 22, 1897.

7. Jane S. Powell married Grady. Had issue:-

Maria Grady, Edward, Guthbert Powell, Frank Temple.

8. John Sims Powell Had issue:-

Guthbert, Edmund Lee, Sims, Charles, Jate Sims, Eleanor (married Petts), Laura (married Roberts) and Sally Lee.

9. Leven Powell. died 1893.

10. Fannie, married Gordon. Had issue:-

Kate, Chapman and C. Powell.

5. Alfred H. Powell, married 1st Sidney Thruston. Had issue:-
Admiral Leven Minn Powell U.S. Navy.

Married 2nd. Mary Tidball. Had issue- Sarah Jane (Conrad).

Married 3rd. Nancy Kean. Had issue;- Alfred H. Powell, Jr.;

Married 4th. Elizabeth Harrison, who survived him.

6. Harrison Powell.

8. Stella Powell.

9. Sallie married Chilton. Had issue:-

William, John, (General) Robert Chilton (C.S.A.), Elizabeth (married Atkinson), Mary (married Lee), Ellen (married Smith), and Phebe (married Day).