

THE RAMBLER LOCATES GRAVES OF HENRY LEE AND WIFE OF THE LEESYLVANIA TRACT

After a Struggle Through Vines and Briers He Also Finds a Brick From the Old Home—Site of House Which Disappeared So Long Ago That Old Freestone and Neabsco Inhabitants Had Never Heard of It.

go back to the dim and shadowy bit of tangled woods at Freestone Point, twelve miles below Mount Vernon and a mile below Gunston Hall, The Rambler told you last Sunday he found the site of the old Leesylvania. It was the home of Henry Lee and Lucy Grymes. He was the fifth son of Richard Laetitia Corbin. Henry Lee lived in the house which he called the dim and shadowy spot in the woodland tangle, was the father of Light Horse Harry Lee and John Lee, whose vote was important in setting up the seat of the national government on the Potomac.

The Rambler, struggling through vines, briars and second-growth, came to a place in the woods although still a jungle, rarer than the surrounding open land, he felt that it had been the time the place of some old home. He saw growing there a bush by some persons "round-leafed," or Malva rotundifolia, "cheeses," and yet by some persons "white man's foot." It was native to Europe and came with the settlers and their freight wagons and lingers there to this day. The house and the people who lived in it have turned to dust. There are also patches of the forest in places over with broad-leafed plants. That is a weed from Europe followed emigrants to the country the Indians of this country called it "white man's foot." The little bush of that garden variety which our grandmothers called "wreath" grew there.

The wild shrubbery and at a distance from the spot where the house stood were some old posts, which perhaps you may remember by the name of fleur de lys. Some French lexicographers pronounce "fleur de lys" and "fleur de lees." Soon the Rambler found the corner of a brick stick in the humus, and kicking it about he found that it was an old and handmade and had been used in one of those big chimneys after the molds of the early immigrant brick-makers brought with them to the country. The Rambler had no doubt that this was the site of a house which had disappeared so long ago that the old Freestone and Neabsco inhabitants had never heard of it.

Several hundred yards west and north of the site are the graves of Henry Lee of Leesylvania and his wife Lucy Grymes. The graves of several generations of Leesylvanians are scattered through the woods, but no one knows the site of the house of Henry Lee and Lucy Grymes. The Rambler has heard that somewhere in these good people's graves rest was enclosed by a fence of posts of which were cedar. Some of those posts has been found, perhaps a man without a name came upon the rotting

and from it one gathers certain facts about the Freestone Point farm, now upgrown in woods, about which the Rambler has written several narratives, on which are the ruins of the home of Col. Joseph W. Fairfax and the graves and tombstones of his parents, the graves of many other people, the site of the home of Henry Lee of Leesylvania, and the site of an older home, which the Rambler has found but has not yet identified.

Henry Lee of Lee Hall on the Potomac in his will bequeaths "to my son Henry and his heirs forever my plantation in Prince William county which I have at Freestone Point and at Neabsco and Powell's creeks which was granted by Patent to Gervase Dodson for 2,000 acres and by my Grandfather, Henry Corbin, Gentleman, given to his daughter Lettice, who was my mother, and afterward descended to my brother, Mr. Richard Lee, as heir-at-law to her, and by my said brother given to me as by deeds recorded in Stafford county, may more fully appear."

He recites in his will that he "sold part of this land (1,000 acres) to John Wright and later bought it back, 666 1/2 acres from Francis Wright, son of John, and 333 1/2 acres from Benjamin Grayson, to whom said Francis had sold." He leaves to Henry 3,111 acres of land in Fairfax county "at or near Salsbury Plain and Platt Lick." To Henry he also leaves twenty slaves—Tom, Dinah, Hannah, Moll, Daniel, Frank, Little Dinah, Dick and Cato, "now at Neabsco Quarter," and Tibbles, Cain, Westminster, Eva, Harry, Joe, Sabina, her child, now at Salsbury Plain Quarter, "and at my dwelling plantation, Prue's Frank and Winney's Moll."

To his son John he left eighteen slaves "and the home where I now live, bequeathed to me by my honored father, Col. Richard Lee, deceased, and all of several plantations bought by me from Joseph and John Chandler, John and James Byard and William Oxford and his wife Frances, also 100 acres in Machotique (Machodoc) Neck, which I bought from Richard Kenner; lands in Northumberland, bought from the heirs of Thomas Matthews, and one and one-half acres at the Turk Swamp, which I bought of Capt. Richard Bushrod, with design to build there a mill. My will and desire is that a mill be built there at the charge of my estate, said mill to go to my son Richard and his heirs forever."

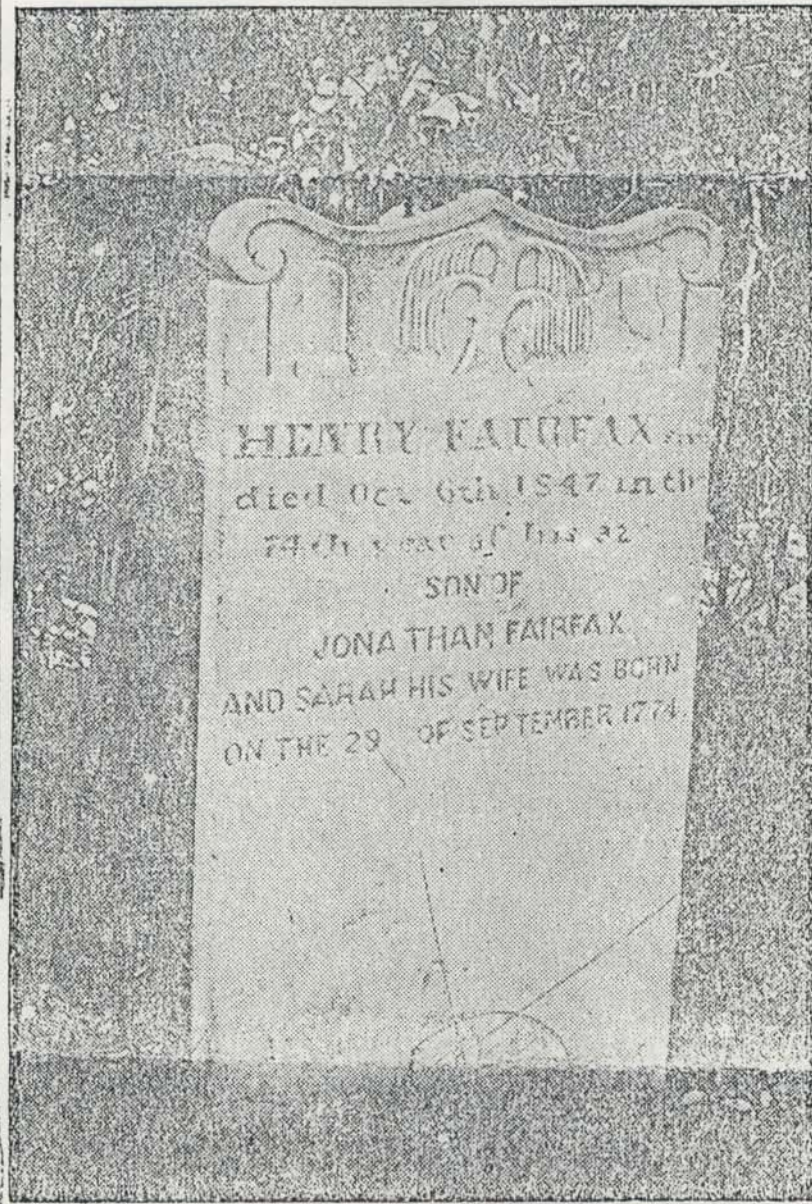
To his son Richard he left fifteen slaves, the plate in his dwelling and sundry cattle, sheep, hogs and horses.

To his daughter Lettice he left £700, two slaves and a long list of household furniture and heirlooms.

To his wife Mary he bequeathed a life interest in one-third of his estate, fifteen slaves and his plantation at Kingcapsico in "Machotique" Neck.

The widow of Henry Lee of Lee Hall died in 1764. Lettice, her daughter, married Col. William Ball of Lancaster county, and died in 1788. Col. William Ball was a kinsman of Mary Ball, mother of George Washington.

The Rambler must bid you adieu for a week and he thinks that he will come back to Light Horse Harry Lee next Sunday, because he wants to tell of the work of that man in the fight for ratification of the American Constitution by Virginia. His pet aversion in the Virginia constitutional convention was Patrick Henry, and the manner in which he talked to Mr.



AN OLD GRAVESTONE IN THE WOODS OF FREESTONE POINT.

of Col. Augustine Warner. This John died about 1709 and left a son John, who was born in 1693 and died in 1748. Bishop Meade copied the epitaph of the second John Grymes, and the Rambler borrows the inscription

council in 1724-5. He died before the marriage of his daughter Lucy to Henry Lee of Leesylvania. Here follows a copy of the marriage certificate of Henry Lee and Lucy Grymes: This is to certify all whom it may concern

...over with broad-leaved
That is a weed from Eu-
... followed emigrants to the
... and because it appeared
... Europeans settled in the
... country the Indians of this
... called it "white man's foot-
... little bush of that garden
... and their grandmothers call-
...-wealth" grew there.
* * * *

the wild shrubbery and at a
... distance from the spot
... the house stood were some
... which perhaps you
... by the name of fleur de
... some French lexicogra-
... pronounce "fleur de lee" and
... cur de lees." Soon the Ram-
... the corner of a brick stick-
... the humus, and kicking it
... burial place found that it
... and handmade and had
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... altered after the molds
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... The Rambler had no doubt
... was the site of a house
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... one and Neadsco inhabitants
... heard of it.
... hundred yards west and north
... use-site are the graves of
... of Leesylvania and his
... was born Lucy Grymes,
... es of several generations of
... women are scattered through-
... ods, but no one knows the
... of Henry Lee and Lucy

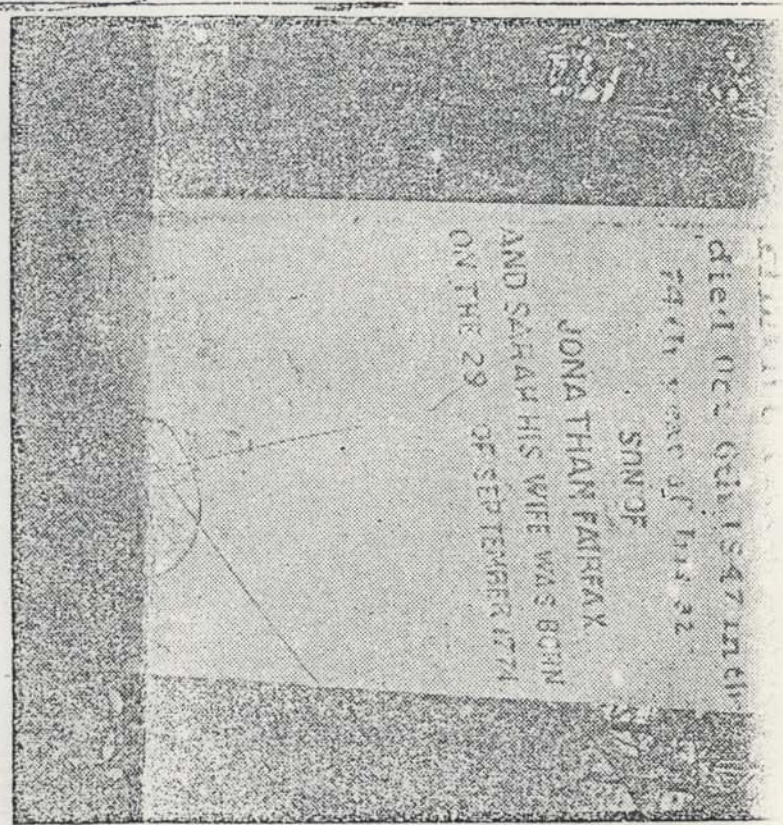
The Rambler has heard that
... in which these good people
... at rest was inclosed by a
... posts of which were cedar,
... of those posts has been
... perhaps a man with a
... that come upon the rolling
... those markers.
... Grymes, mother of Light
... try, is believed to have been
... art of George Washington
... was a youth. The story has
... for so many generations, is
... neck of Virginia, and bears
... points of probability that the
... accepts it as true. The fa-
... n by George Washington to
... ese Harry Lee is often ex-
... y the fact that this Henry
... a son of Lucy Grymes. As
... her writes this he recalls
... is something on this sub-
... ashington Irving's "Life of
... on," and if you will excuse
... few moments while he goes
... to an old bookcase he
... it back and read it is:
... these manuscript memorials of his
... ings and exercises we have com-
... ents singularly in contrast with all
... ve just cited, and with his ap-
... nite character. In a word, there
... in his own handwriting that be-
... from yours of age he had one

of Col. Augustine Warner. This John
... died about 1709 and left a son John,
... who was born in 1693 and died in
... 1748. Bishop Meade copied the epi-
... taph of the second John Grymes, and
... the Rambler borrows the inscription
... from the bishop. It follows:
... Here lies the body of the Hon. John Grymes,
... esq., who for many years acted in the public
... affairs of this dominion with honor, forti-
... tude and fidelity to their majesties, King
... George I and II. Of the council of state, of
... the royal prerogative, of the liberty and prop-
... erty of the subject a zealous assertor. In
... the seat of judgment clear, sound and un-
... baised. In the office of receiver-general suc-
... cessful. Approv'd. Of the college of William
... and Mary an ornament. Visiting patron
... benevolent to all, ornate, liberal, pious,
... respected, loved, revered. Lamented by his
... family, acquaintance, country, he departed this
... life the 21 day of November, 1748, in the
... fifty-seventh year of his age.

John had a brother Charles, who
... married a daughter of Edmund Jen-
... ings, president of the council from
... 1706 to 1710. Miss Jennings, mother
... was Prances Corbin, daughter of
... Henry Corbin and Alice Eltonhead.
... Prances was a younger sister of Lac-
... titia Corbin, who married Richard
... Lee of Mount Pleasant, in Westmore-
... land county. Charles Grymes lived
... at Stratford, in Hutchinson county, on
... the Kapahannock, about a hundred
... miles below Washington. He was
... born in 1697, and was Sheriff of Rich-

die 1 Oct. 1611 547 mth
1748
SON OF
JONATHAN FAIRFAX
AND SARAH HIS WIFE WAS BORN
ON THE 29
OF SEPTEMBER 1774

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... family, acquaintance, country, he departed this
... life the 21 day of November, 1748, in the
... fifty-seventh year of his age.

This is to certify all whom it may concern
... that I, William Preston, minister of James
... City parish in ye county of James City, in
... the colony of Virginia, did join together in
... holy matrimony according to the rites and
... ceremonies and laws of England, Henry
... Lee and Lucy Grymes, juniores, daugh-
... ter of Charles Grymes, on the 29th day
... of our Lord 1774, in ye year
... of our Lord 1774.
(Signed) WILLIAM PRESTON.

Henry Lee of Leesylvania, husband
... of Lucy Grymes, was a son of Henry
... Lee and Mary Bland, born in 1729,
... presumably at his parents' home, Lee
... Hall, in the Stratford-Wakefield-
... Nomini region. That old hall looked
... out on the Potomac, and as the
... Rambler's memory serves him and
... without turning to a map, was about
... eighty-five or ninety miles below
... Washington. Henry Lee of Lee Hall
... was the fifth son of Richard and
... Lucetta Corbin Lee, was born about
... 1691 and died in 1747. It was in 1723
... or 1724 that he married Col. Richard
... Bland's daughter Mary.

... his son John he left eighteen
... slaves "and the home where I now
... live, bequeathed to me by my honored
... father, Col. Richard Lee, deceased, and
... all of several plantations bought by
... me from Joseph and John Chandler,
... John and James Byard and William
... Oxford and his wife Frances, also 100
... acres in Machotique (Machodoc) Neck,
... which I bought from Richard Kenner;
... hands in Northumberland, bought from
... the heirs of Thomas Matthews, and
... one and one-half acres at the Turk
... Swamp, which I bought of Capt. Rich-
... ard Bushrod, with design to build
... there a mill. My will and desire is
... that a mill be built there at the
... charge of my estate, said mill to go
... to my son Richard and his heirs for-
... ever."
... To his son Richard he left fifteen
... sundry cattle, sheep, hogs and horses.
... To his daughter Lettice he left 1700,
... two slaves and a long list of house-
... hold furniture and heirlooms.
... To his wife Mary he bequeathed a
... life interest in one-third of his es-
... tate, fifteen slaves and his plantation
... at Kingspassico in "Machotique" Neck.
* * * *

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... died in 1764. Lettice, her daughter,
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... fight for ratification of the American
... Constitution by Virginia. His pet
... aversion in the Virginia constitutional
... convention was Patrick Henry, and
... the manner in which he talked to Mr.
... Henry ought to be shocking to per-
... sons who look on Patrick Henry as
... a redoubtable orator. Gov. Randolph
... spoke to Henry in that convention
... with scorn and contempt and it would
... really seem at this range that in the
... discussion Mr. Lee and Gov. Randolph,
... who were not brilliant orators, or per-
... haps orators of any kind, but merely
... blunt speaking men, knocked Patrick
... Henry to the floor, pinned him there
... and kicked his eloquence and his ar-
... guments all around the place.
... It was really shocking to the Ram-
... bler, who has the matter from El-
... had two men not generally known in
... American history had the temerity to
... wallop so popular a hero as Patrick
... Henry and to treat him as common
... clay, and to insinuate broadly to his
... face that he was a piece of exalted, in-
... formed common clay, a very bigoted, in-
... formed man, who could not reason
... straight, and a gentleman who was
... short on loud speaking and very
... short on intelligent interpretation of
... facts. But of all this another time.

... his son John he left eighteen
... slaves "and the home where I now
... live, bequeathed to me by my honored
... father, Col. Richard Lee, deceased, and
... all of several plantations bought by
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