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APPENDIX A

ALEXANDER NOT HUSBAND OF ELIZABETH FARRAR

Frequently, those who claim to descend from the Alexander and Elizabeth Baker who emigrated to Boston in 1635 on the ship *Elizabeth & Ann* identify Elizabeth as Elizabeth Farrar and Alexander as the son of another Alexander Baker, who married (1) Alice, daughter of Edward Jervys and (2) Frances, daughter of Michael Grigg and widow of Francis Pendleton, and as the grandson of George and Anne Swayne Baker. An authoritative abstract of the records of baptisms, marriages and burials at Westminster Abbey in London disproves that theory (and thus calls into question the entire Alexander Baker story).

The source is Joseph Lemuel Chester, *The Marriage, Baptismal and Burial Registers of the Collegiate Church or Abbey of St. Peter, Westminster* (Harleian Society, 1876). The book is regarded as authoritative by no less than the writers of the website of Westminster Abbey itself [<http://www.westminster-abbey.org/library/marriage.htm>]:

“The Abbey's baptism registers begin 1608, the marriage registers in 1655. They were edited for publication (up to 1875) by Joseph Lemuel Chester and were published as *The marriage, baptismal and burial registers of the Collegiate Church or Abbey of St. Peter, Westminster* (Harleian Society, 1876). This printed edition of the registers can be found in many large reference libraries and in libraries specialising in genealogical studies. Although a small number of errors and omissions have subsequently come to light, Chester's is a generally reliable edition with a good index and excellent biographical notes.”

According to Chester, on 3 Dec 1662, one Mary Baker married John Dugdale at Westminster. Mary Baker is identified as “second dau. and coheir of Alexander Baker, of New Windsor, co. Berks, Gent., by Elizabeth dau. of Thomas Farrar of Harold, co. Beds. ... See her grandfather's burial 2 Oct. 1635.” [Chester, p. 3 n.1]

The entry as to her grandfather Alexander Baker on 2 Oct. 1635 identifies him as the son of George Baker and Anne Swayne. It also indicates that his first wife (Alice, daughter of Edward Jervys) died in 1624 and he remarried to Frances, dau. of Michael Grigg, and widow of Francis Pendleton. [Chester, p. 131 n.5, p. 124 n.1]

According to the passenger lists of the *Elizabeth & Ann*, the Alexander who went to Boston in April 1635 was accompanied by his wife Elizabeth and daughters

Elizabeth, age 3, and Christian, age 1 (who would have been his “second daughter”). [There are many transcriptions of the passenger lists online. See http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/eliza_ann1635.shtml for one transcription or http://www.mayflowerfamilies.com/ships/elizabeth_ann.htm for another.] That Alexander’s children are well-identified by their birth and/or baptism records at the First Church of Boston, including son Alexander b. 1635, Samuel b. 1637, John b. 1640, Joshua b. 1642 and Hannah b. 1644, as proved by their baptismal record (all were baptized on August 5, 1645, per *Boston Births and Baptisms, 1640-1649*, Page 22, Genealogy.com). None of his children was a daughter Mary, and certainly not a daughter Mary who could have been his “second dau. and coheir.” Indeed, given the primogeniture-based inheritance laws of the time, once Alexander had sons (and the Alexander who went to Boston had many sons), a daughter would not have been a co-heir at all.

Therefore, the Alexander Baker who came to Boston in 1635 was not the husband of Elizabeth Farrar, not the son of Alexander and Alice Jervys Baker nor of Alexander Baker and his second wife Frances Grigg and not the grandson of George and Anne Swayne Baker.

APPENDIX B

OTHER EARLY BAKER REFERENCES

1 March 1658 – LAND PATENT: Henry Goodgaine, 334 acres in New Kent County adjoining the land of [Martin Baker](#) thence &c. southerly on a branch of Skinices.

There is no extant record of any original grant to Martin Baker. This grant is the first that shows that a Martin Baker was already an established landholder.

20 April 1682 - LAND PATENT: Evan Jones, 148 acres of land in New Kent County, on the south east side of Warranny Swamp adjoining the land of Mr. Hancock, [Martin Baker](#) and Lt. Colo. Wm. Hockaday.

APPENDIX C

WHY PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS BAKER, b c1711, d c1777, is often reported by his descendants to have been born in Chester, Pennsylvania. The story is totally undocumented and, on its face, it is utterly implausible: it would require parents born in different New England states to have met, married and moved to Pennsylvania, and then their son to have moved on to Virginia -- all in a time period when farmers and planters

simply did not move so readily and so aimlessly. So how did the story get started? Why would anyone in the Baker family have chosen a Pennsylvania birthplace for Thomas?

The truth may never be known, but there are three words that suggest a likely reason for the choice: “the Baker Hoax.” The Hoax began with newspaper reports of a will from c1830, identifying one Jacob Baker of Pennsylvania as the rightful heir to some of the most prime real estate in the City of Philadelphia. The property was reportedly worth \$80 million, and included the land whereon today stands Independence Hall, Franklin Square and the United States Mint. The story was that Col. Jacob Baker, a surgeon in the Continental Army during the American Revolution, was rewarded by George Washington and a grateful new-born U.S. government with a grant of 11,000 acres of mineral-rich land in 17 Pennsylvania counties, plus Philadelphia. Baker family members were contacted by promoters and told the old Jacob Baker will had been uncovered in the Philadelphia Orphans' Court, and that if they would contribute to the “legal fees” the promoters would seek to secure them their share of the estate. Among the common criteria necessary to claim a part of the estate, of course, was an ancestor born in Pennsylvania. An estimated 500,000 people fell for the hoax and paid the assorted swindlers some \$25 million.

Of course, as might have been expected, there was no massive estate waiting for Baker family members to claim. Philadelphia Orphans' Court records indicate that the estate of a Jacob Baker, Revolutionary War Veteran, was disposed of around 1847. His fortune totaled a whopping \$6,000. Nonetheless, throughout the early years of the 20th century, concluding in many convictions in 1937, Bakers by the thousands sought to prove some connection to Jacob Baker or at least to some Pennsylvania Baker.

Is this how the story of Thomas' Pennsylvania birth began? I suspect we will never know. But it certainly explains why Texans born of North Carolinians born of Virginians would, suddenly, claim to be descendants of a Yankee.

APPENDIX D

SOUTH CAROLINA LAND GRANTS

Note that the process of obtaining a land patent in South Carolina was cumbersome, requiring a petition, a survey and plat map and, for a period of years in the 1730s/40s up until 1775, a Memorial setting out the location, quantity, names of adjacent land owners, and the boundaries of the land. Memorials also included a chain of title, often from the original patentee to the current owner.

The South Carolina Department of Archives and History in Columbia, SC holds copies of Colonial / Royal land grants 1675-1788 in printed version (63 volumes) and on microfilm (27 reels). This record series forms part of the records of Recorded Instruments of the Secretary of State and consists of copies of earlier recordings of land grants. Most entries include the name of the grantee; the number of acres granted; the county in which the grant was located; the boundaries, with the names of surrounding landholders; the quitrent requirements; the conditions of the grant; the certification date of the plat; and the date of the grant.

A basic index to these documents is online and searchable by name. Thus far only the most cursory examination of the index has been achieved and only a few select transactions listed in this document so far. Even when the index has been fully examined, however, the documents themselves will remain to be reviewed for the additional wealth of detail they should provide.

Note that the Davenports who appear in the early South Carolina land records are not Pamunkey Davenports. As reported by John Scott Davenport, compiler and researcher of The Further Chronicles of the Pamunkey Davenports, "The Davenports in South Carolina before the Revolution were all Newberrys, back trace to North Carolina, then briefly to the Shenandoah of Virginia, then to Pennsylvania, then to West Jersey, then to England. No kin of ours. They were all Tories during the Revolution, actively serving the King's cause. One served as the King's Magistrate for the district and his mill was headquarters for the British Army, was the staging area for campaigns against the Rebels in the backcountry. Several served in the King's Loyal Militia, received British Army pay--one was among the British troops captured at the Battle of King's Mountain. Pamunkey Davenports and close kin, a Baker or two if I recall correctly, were on the winning Patriot side at King's Mountain. None of the Tory Davenports fled with the Brits when the Red Coats withdrew in 1782, remained in place, took amnesty, and became good citizens, but it took several generations before they were allowed to resume the public roles and stature they had before the Revolution. The Davenport Mill was burned to the ground, never rebuilt, ultimately the land, prime and an ideal mill location, was sold out of the family."

APPENDIX E

UNDATED (c1800) BURKE COUNTY TAX LISTS

-- **Undated** - POLL TAX LISTS: **Burke County**

Captain Lain's Company

John Browning

William Wiseman

David Baker

Joseph Buchanan

Davenport Wiseman
William Wiseman

Martin Browning
 Thomas Davenport
 William D(avenport?)

Source: Edith Warren Huggins, *Burke County, North Carolina, Records, Vol. IV* (Easley SC: Southern Historical Press, reprint 1985), 124

Captain Joseph Young's Company

Martin Davenport

John Browning

William Wiseman

Thomas McKinney

John Gouge

David Baker

Source: Edith Warren Huggins, *Burke County, North Carolina, Records, Vol. IV* (Easley SC: Southern Historical Press, reprint 1985), xxx

Captain Joseph Young's Company

Martin Browning

Charles Browning

Nicholas Browning

John Browning

Benjamin White

William Wiseman Sen.

William White

Abner Davenport

Martin Davenport Sr.

David Browning

Thomas Davenport

James Davenport

Martin Davenport

Source: Edith Warren Huggins, *Burke County, North Carolina, Records, Vol. IV* (Easley SC: Southern Historical Press, reprint 1985), xxx

(Probable Captain Austin's Company)

John McKinney

Joseph Buckanan

Arthur Buckanan

David Baker

Thomas McKinney

Thomas Baker

Samuel Pitman

William Bailey

William Baker

Source: Edith Warren Huggins, *Burke County, North Carolina, Records, Vol. IV* (Easley SC: Southern Historical Press, reprint 1985), 130

(Unknown Company)

John McKinney, 250 ac

Joseph Buckanan, 150 ac

Arthur Buckanan, 150 ac

David Baker, 2400 ac

Thomas McKinney, 500 ac

Thomas Baker, no land

Samuel Pitman, 143

William Bailey, no land

William Baker, no land

Source: Edith Warren Huggins, *Burke County, North Carolina, Records, Vol. IV* (Easley SC: Southern Historical Press, reprint 1985), 132

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