

THE ANCESTRY OF EDWARD FOULKE, OF GWYNEDD, PENNSYLVANIA.

By Charles M. Ffoulke

COLWYN AP MOREIDDIG was a descendant of the king of Gwynedd who reigned in Anno Domini 330.

II. Gwrgenen, son of Colwyn, was Lord of the Comot of Penllyn in Merionethshire, and was a half brother on his mother's side to the Prince of Powys, who bestowed upon him the aforesaid Lordship of Penllyn.

III. RHIRID FLAIDD (or Rhirid the wolf), son of Gwrgenen, was, like his father, Lord of Penllyn, and lived during the reigns of Henry II and Richard I, Kings of England.

Although believed to have been of Norman blood, on his mother's side, yet the evidence collected thus far upon this point, is so slight that it was deemed inadvisable to introduce it here without further investigation. He was a distinguished warrior and chieftain and was designated by the Bards as a "wolf of the field of battle." He resided in his principal castle called "Neuaddau Gleision" in the township of Rhiwaedog, was a friend of the Norman English, when it suited his purposes, and was entrusted by them with several high offices within the bounds of his own domains. He married Gwenllian, daughter of the Lord of Broughton, and had three children.

IV. MADOC, the eldest son became, upon his father's demise, Lord of Penllyn. He married Ardun, daughter of Philip, Lord of Eyfeiliog, and had two children.

V. IORWERTH, the eldest son, became in turn, Lord of Penllyn, married Gwerfyl, daughter of the Lord of Cedigfa and Deuddwr, and had five children.

VI. MADOC, the eldest son, was the last of the race bearing the title of Lord of Penllyn. Among the petitions presented to the Prince of Wales at Kensington, in 1305, is one by Madoc praying that he might peacefully enjoy certain lands in the Bailiwick, not of Cors-Y-Gedol as stated in some pedigrees, but of a "tract in Penllyn and Ardudwy," which the King had granted him for services rendered his Majesty. He married Eva, daughter of Griffith ap Einion ap Griffith, by whom he had two sons and three daughters.

VII. SIR GRUFFYD, the eldest son, Knight "of Llan Uwch Tegid," became one of the richest and most distinguished men of his race. He led a band of Welshmen to the French Wars, and was with Edward III at Crecy, and subsequently commanded a company of free lances, which terrorized the departments of the Seine and Loire. The Chronicles of 1357 state:

At this time there was another company of men-at-arms or robbers, collected from all parts, who stationed themselves between the rivers Loire and Seine, so that no one dared to travel between Paris and Montargis, or even remain in the country; the inhabitants on the plains had all fled to Paris or Orleans. This company had chosen for their leader a Welshman named Griffith, whom they knighted, and who acquired such immense riches as could not be counted. These companions advanced one day near Paris, another day toward Orleans, another time to Chartres, and there was no town or fortress but were taken and pillaged except such as were strongly garrisoned. They made war upon every man that was worth robbing.

He married Alice Vaughan, daughter of Bleddyn Vaughan, and had three children.

VIII. SIR IEVAN, the eldest son, was, like his father, a soldier in the French Wars. It is stated by some authorities that he died in 1370, but it appears by other records that he survived until some years later, probably until 1379. He lies buried in the ancient Church of Llan Uwch Llyn, near Bala, where his tomb still exists. His figure, cut in stone and clad in full armor, rests upon his tomb and supports a shield upon which is emblazoned the three wolves' heads, the armorial insignia of his house.

He married first Gwenllian, daughter and heiress of the Lord of Evionydd and Ardudwy, head of one of the Noble Tribes of Wales. Upon her death, he married Annesta, daughter of the Lord of Tref Gynon.

He is stated, in a manuscript, in the handwriting of Robert Vaughan, of Hengwrt, to have "lived in great credit and esteeme in the dayes of King Edward 3, who allowed him an annuall stipend for guarding and conducting of ye Justice of North Wales with a companie of archers whilst he should sojourne and stay in ye countie of Merionethshire."

IX. IEVAN, his eldest son by his second wife, married Anne, daughter of Sir Griffith Vaughan, knight Banneret of Agincourt. Sir Griffith Vaughan was knighted on the battlefield of Agincourt, in the year 1415, but was in 1447, suspected of holding secret correspondence with the Yorkists, and being summoned to the castle of Pool, was seized upon his arrival and beheaded in the Court Yard.

X. DAVID, the eldest son of Ievan, married a daughter of David Lloyd, who was also a descendant of Rhirid Flaidd, Lord of Penllyn, and had two children.

XI. DAVID LLOYD, the elder son married Annesta, daughter of Griffith ap Ievan, and had by her one son.

XII. This son, ROBERT LLOYD succeeded to a portion of his father's possessions in Llanderfel, mostly that part lying in the township of Nant Y Friar, i.e., "The Foaming Brook," naturally therefore in the MSS. records of the celebrated antiquity, Robert Vaughan, of Hengwrt, he is designated as "Robert Lloyd of Nant Y Friar, son of David Lloyd of Glanllyn." The farm of Gwern y Brechwn formed part of his father's estate, and subsequently became the principal place of residence of the head of the family.

Robert married, (according to an ancient MSS. pedigree brought to Pennsylvania by the ancestors of Edward Rees) a daughter of Reynold ap Griffith, of Upper Brannas, and had six children.

XIII. The eldest son, THOMAS, inherited a considerable portion of his father's estates in the township of Nant Y Friar, including the farm in Gwern y Brechtwn. He married, (according to the MSS pedigree of the Rees family), Catherine, daughter of Robert ap Griffith, whose ancestor was Lord of Isaled, and had six children.

XIV. EVAN, the second son, married Dorothea Evans and had five children.

XV. THOMAS, the eldest son, who was generally designated in the documents of the period as "Thomas Lloyd Esquire of Nant Y Friar," must have been born as early as 1578-80, unless he was under age at the time of his marriage, which is quite possible. He became one of the most prominent men of his county, and had the honor of receiving the appointment of Justice of, and in 1623 that of High Sherriff of, the county of Merioneth.

He married Catherine, daughter of William ap David, of Llanderfel. Although the entry of their marriage is made upon a page which bears at its top the date 1599, yet, as the books were imperfectly and carelessly kept, some entries appear under a certain year when they ought to have been placed under dates much earlier or later. Consequently, it is very probable that in writing the words, "within the year aforesaid," instead of designating the year in numerals, the Registrar unwittingly recorded the marriage as having taken place at a date considerably in advance of its actual occurrence.

XVI. FOULKE AP THOMAS LLOYD, or Foulke Thomas, the third child of this union, was baptized at Llanderfel Church, on the 14th of April, 1623, but it is probable that he was born some years before that date. He was a tenant on the farm called "Coed-y-foel" on the Rhiwlas estate, which belonged to the Lloyd-Price family, and his son, Edward Foulke, our common ancestor, succeeded the tenancy, and held it until he decided upon removing to the new world.

XVII. This Edward Foulke was the third son of Foulke Thomas, and was born in the Parish of Llandderfel, most probably in the farm house of Coed-y-foel, where his ancestors had held lands for centuries. He emigrated with his family to Pennsylvania, sailing in the ship, "Robert and Elizabeth," which cleared from Liverpool, England, April 18th, and arrived at Philadelphia, July 17, 1698. He bought and settled upon a plantation of four hundred acres of land, according to the original survey, in the township of Gwynedd, County of Philadelphia. The deed for the purchase was, however, not executed until July 5, 1699. Some years afterwards, the plantation was resurveyed, and found to contain seven hundred and twelve acres, whereupon a patent was issued to him covering the additional three hundred and twelve acres.

He married, in Wales, about 1682, Eleanor, daughter of Hugh ap Cadwallader, and had nine children. The subsequent pedigree will be found in the "History of Gwynedd," by Howard M. Jenkins.

<http://www.foulke.org/history/docs/1898.html#ancestry>