



THE CANTRELL COAT OF ARMS HEREBY ILLUSTRATED IS OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED IN BURKE'S GENERAL ARMORY. THE ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMS (SHIELD) IS AS FOLLOWS:

"AR. A PELICAN IN HER PIETY, IN HER NEST SA."

WHEN TRANSLATED THE BLAZON ALSO DESCRIBES THE ORIGINAL COLORS OF THE CANTRELL ARMS AS:

"SILVER; A PELICAN FEEDING HER YOUNG IN HER NEST; ALL BLACK."

ABOVE THE SHIELD AND HELMET IS THE CREST WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS:

"A SILVER TOWER, DOOR BLACK."

Ch #12

History of the Cantrill-Cantrell Family

Thomas Wilson Cantrell Ancestors

Flonnie Cantrell Green

Like all families in America, the Cantrell family came first to America by sea. There have been many different spellings of the name Cantrell, for example, Cantrell, Cantrelle, Cantrill, Cantral, Cantrall, Chantrell, Chantrelle and Chantril. It seems the spelling has always been one of personal taste. Even brothers would spell their name differently.

The name of Cantrell, wherever found, can be traced to the original family of Chantrell or Chantrelle in France. The first appearance of the name in England was William Chantrell about AD 1199.

Mark Anthony Lower gives the definition as "The Little Singer." Charles Waring Bardley, in his Dictionary of Surnames says the name means one "who rang the Chantrelle, Chantrelle, meaning a small bell; Chanter, to sing." From the 12th to the 15th century the name appears in English records from time to time. After that the name is found in England, Ireland and France. The three spellings were Chantrell, Cantrill or Cantrell.

The ancient Cantrell coat-of-arms is A Pelican in her Piety, Argent (silver) nest, Sable (black) Crest. The pelican is feeding her young. The crest is A Tower, Argent (silver) port, Sable (black). The Family Motto is "I feed you of my blood". The Pelican represents the four duties of a father toward his children. The first is Generation; the second is his office of Education; the third is Training Up, or Instruction of Learning; and the fourth is the Duty of Informing his Children with the Example of A Virtuous and Honest Life.

In France, the Cantrells who were French Huguenots fled to Ireland at the time of the St. Bartholomew Massacre (1572). Probably the first to go from England to Ireland was Godfrey Cantrell, 1655. He was among the persecuted Quakers in Queens County. The first names to appear in America was in 1608 at Jamestown, Virginia. Since that time there have been eight, possibly more, distinct families of Cantrells who have come to this country from England, Ireland, and France. There is documented proof that members of the Cantrell family were in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Massachusetts before 1700.

It has not been possible to find the exact years they moved from settlement to settlement in the 17th & 18th centuries. Before the Revolutionary War, however, branches of the family had left Pennsylvania and

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settled in Western Virginia and the Carolinas. It is probable that those who went to the Carolinas migrated with the little bands of Baptists, as they had become identified with the Mother Baptist Church, the Old Welsh Tract of New Castle County, Pennsylvania. Now, there are Cantrells in almost all denominations.

Into the history of many states is woven history of many thousands of the name Cantrell and today representatives of the name can be found in almost every state and territory. They have been merchants, farmers, teachers, ministers, physicians, lawyers, judges, brick makers and masons, blacksmiths, millwrights, bankers, city/county/state officials and many other occupations.

In *The Cantrill-Cantrell Genealogy* (1908), Susan Cantrill Christie wrote, "To the credit of the name let it be said, we have never found anywhere a single criminal." This author notes the statement was made almost a hundred years ago.

The Cantrells have always been patriots as well as pioneers. They have fought in every war from colonial times. The most prominent characteristics in the family were honesty and courage. The ancestral history of the Thomas Wilson Cantrell family, many of whom live in Bartow, Paulding, Floyd, and surrounding counties of Georgia, is outlined below.

1. Richard Cantrill ¹ was born about 1660, in Derbyshire, England. He was a brickmaker and brickmason. He was in the Province of Pennsylvania in 1682. Tradition has it that he built the first brick house in Philadelphia which was Robert Turner's home (Christie, 1908). Another family historian has suggested that Richard Cantrill built the home of William Penn and the bricks were brought from England as ballast in the ship, *Welcome*, which brought William Penn to America (W.G.Cantrell). He was married to Dorothy Jones about 1693 "out of meeting" because Richard belonged to the Church of England. Not only did the apparently spirited young woman marry someone outside of her own faith, she also "horrified" her quiet Quacker friends by prominently figuring at a masquerade ball (Christie, 1908). She was a daughter of Ellis and Jane Jones, Quakers, who came to America in 1682, in the ship, *Submission*. Dorothy was born in 1672, in Wales, England. Her father, a weaver, was a servant to the Governor. (Susan Cantrill Christie, 1908: Warren G. Cantrell).

In 1692, Richard was granted warrant for a 30 ft. lot on Third Street near the burying ground. In 1693, he sold this lot to Thomas Hall. In 1702, he received

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a lease for three acres and sixty perches between Fifth and Sixth Streets. He was to build a brick house and plant an orchard. The date of Richard's or Dorothy's death is not known. In 1730 and 1732, the will of Jane Jones mentioned three of the children of Richard and Dorothy. The records of Race Street Meeting-house contain the burial records of one child. 4 Children.

1. Mary 2. Joseph 3. Zebulon 4. Dorothy

2. Joseph Cantrill ² (Richard Cantrill ¹) was the second son of Richard. He was born in 1695. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He married Catherine A. Heath about 1718. She was a daughter of John and Hannah (Haines) Heath. They attended the Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church in Wilmington, Delaware. Three of their children were baptized in the Holy Trinity Church, the oldest and quaintest church in the nation. Joseph was probably a farmer in the lower counties of Pennsylvania which later became part of Delaware. Because no will has been found, perhaps Joseph accompanied some of his sons on the move to North Carolina. In 1752 and 1753, son John was taxed for two white polls in Orange County, NC. One may have been his father (Susan Cantrill Christie, 1908; Warren G. Cantrell).

A complete list of the children of Joseph and Catherine has never been found. The following list has been compiled from the family genealogist and the court and county records of Orange County, NC. 9 Children.

1. Hannah 2. Daughter unnamed 3. John 4. Joseph 5. Zebulon 6. Isaac 7. James 8. Benjamin 9. Stephen

3. John Cantrell ³ (Joseph Cantrill ², Richard Cantrill ¹). (Note: Change in spelling) Joseph's third son was born in 1724. in New Castle County, Pennsylvania (now Delaware). He was baptized 25 March 1726. in Old Swedes (now Holy Trinity Church) in Wilmington, Delaware. John Cantrell matured to adulthood in New Castle County, Pennsylvania, where he married a Miss Brittain who was the daughter or sister of Joseph Brittain who accompanied the couple to Orange County, North Carolina, following the birth of some of their children. They migrated through the Great Valley of Virginia to the Upper Haw River in the Piedmont Plateau of the Carolinas. The area was known as the "Land of Eden". He lived in what is now Rockingham County, North Carolina, before the Revolutionary War, and shortly after the war he moved to Ninety Six

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District, now Spartanburg County, South Carolina, where he owned and farmed over eight hundred acres of land on Buck Creek, waters of Pacolet River. He was involved in Buck Creek Baptist Church. He had seventeen sons by his first wife and four sons and two daughters by his second wife (married about 1770) whose name was Jane (Susan Cantrill Christie, 1908: Warren G. Cantrell).

John died in 1803, and three of his sons administrated the estate. His second wife gave him four sons and two daughters. The sons who administered the estate were Abraham, Stephen and Moses. 24 Children.

1. Abraham 2. Isaac 3. Jacob 4. Joseph 5. Charles
6. James 7. Brittain 8. Edward 9. Stephen 10. John
11. Reuben 12. Thomas 13. Aaron 14. Moses 15. Simon
16. Peter 17. Benjamin 18. Son unnamed 19. William
20. Daniel 21. Daughter unnamed 22. Gabriel 23.
Daughter unnamed 24. Joshua

4. Isaac Cantrell ⁴ (John³, Joseph², Richard¹) was John's second son, born 1745, in New Castle County, Pennsylvania (now Delaware). He accompanied his parents to North Carolina, where he married Nancy Watson in 1766. She was born in 1748. He served in the war for American Independence from the Salisbury District and his name is on the payrolls filed in the archives at Raleigh, North Carolina. This service has been verified by a number of applications approved for membership in the DAR. He owned considerable land along the bank of Wolf Island Creek in Rockingham County, North Carolina. About 1788, it is recorded in a very old Baptist Church record that Isaac Cantrell was an itinerant minister serving the Baptist Church at Matrimony Creek, Strawberry District, without pay. This is the first record of a minister in the family in America. His wife died in 1799, and Isaac went to Tennessee to live. He died in Warren County, Tennessee, at the home of one of his sons, in 1804 (Susan Cantrill Christie, 1908: Warren G. Cantrell). 9 Children.

1. Aaron 2. Thomas 3. Moses 4. Sampson 5. Issac
6. Katherine 7. John 8. Abraham 9. Watson

5. John Cantrell ⁵ (Isaac⁴, John³, Joseph², Richard¹), Issac's seventh child, was born in 1773. (Christie) or 1780 (W.G.Cantrell) in Guilford County, North Carolina (now Rockingham County). He grew up along Wolf Island Creek and in his late teens he accompanied others in the family to the 96th District of South Carolina where