

**FOUNDERS, BENEFACTORS, EDUCATORS & DOCTORS
CONGRESSMAN & REPUBLICAN PARTY FOUNDER
QUAKERS & MANUMISSION
(SNOWDEN-WARFIELD-THOMAS-HOPKINS-RELATIONSHIPS)**

SNOWDEN FAMILY

Richard Snowden
(1640-1711)



Richard Snowden, Jr.
(1666-1720)



Richard Snowden ("Youngest") (1688-1763)
Elizabeth Jane Coale (1692-1713)
1. Deborah Snowden (1710-1758)
2. Elizabeth Snowden (1711-1763)
3. Mary Snowden (1712-1755)
Elizabeth Thomas (1697-1775)
(7 children)



Thomas Snowden (1722-1770)
Mary Wright (1728-1757)

THOMAS FAMILY



Samuel Thomas (1655-1743)
Mary Hutchins (- 1751)
1. Elizabeth Thomas (1697-1775)
2. John Thomas (1697-1749)
Elizabeth Snowden (1711-1763)
3. Samuel Thomas (1702-1780)
Mary Snowden (1712-1755)



Maj Thomas
(1751-1803)
(manumission)

Richard Snowden
(1747-1772)
Eliza Rutland
(- 1775)

Mary Thomas
(1731-1770)
Samuel Thomas
(1725-1784)

Elizabeth Thomas
(1736-)
Johns Hopkins
(-)

Evan Thomas
(1738-1826)
Rachel Hopkins
(-)



Snowdens



Warfields

Dr. C. A. Warfield
(1857-1935)
- U MD Med School
- MD Med-Chi Society

Family
Branches include
Dr. George A. Scheele
(1939-)

Mary Snowden + **John Chew Thomas**
(1770-1844) (1764-1836)
(manumission, 1810)

Dr Richard Henry Thomas
(1805-1860)
Martha Carey (1805-1835)

Dr James Carey Thomas
(1833-1897)
Mary Whitall (1836-1880)

Martha Carey Thomas
(1857-1935)

Helen Whitall Thomas
(1871-1956)

Simon Flexner (1863-1946)

James Carey Thomas Flexner
(1908)

Samuel Hopkins
(-)
Hannah Janney
(manumission)

Johns Hopkins
(1795-1873)

Benefactor:
- Johns Hopkins University
- Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Johns Hopkins Medical School

Philip Evan Thomas
(-)
(manumission)
(Founder: B&O RR)

Notes:

1. Shown in blue color are the founders, benefactors, educators and doctors in the family, who founded two medical schools and a prestigious Women's College, as well as one Congressman and Republican Party Founder (John Chew Thomas) and the families who initiated manumission, the freeing of African-American slaves. These lineages underscore the importance of the family in founding Colleges, Medical Societies, Medical Schools and Research Institutes. Many family members also played an important role in manumission and the abolition of slavery in the United States.
2. The Snowden family originated in Wales but had settled in Birmingham, England, for a number of years. Knowledgeable in mining and smelting of iron ore, the family must have been part of the 'Industrial Revolution' which developed in England. In 1659, at age 19, Richard Snowden Sr. came to Laurel, MD and acquired 400 acres of land. Through industrial, agriculture, and milling interests, the family came to acquire several thousand acres of land through purchases and grants. These holdings ultimately encompassed large portions of 4 counties, including Prince George's, Anne Arundel, Howard, and Montgomery Counties.
3. Richard Snowden Sr's home, Birmingham Manor, was built in 1690 and remained in the family for 201 years until it was destroyed by fire. Thomas Snowden, who initially built what later came to be called Montpelier, was born in Birmingham Manor.
4. Richard Snowden ("Youngest") descendents include individuals in the Snowden, Warfield, Thomas, Hopkins, Flexner, Scheele, and other families.
5. Richard, "The Youngest", had two wives and 10 children. His first wife, Elizabeth Jane, was married at age 17, had children at ages 18, 19, 20, and died at 21. Two of Richard's daughters by his first wife married brothers (John and Samuel) in the Thomas family. In 1717, Richard married his second wife, Elizabeth (who was John and Samuel's sister) with whom he had 7 additional children. It is largely the progeny of this Richard which accounts for the large number of Snowdens which survive today.
6. All descendents of Elizabeth Thomas (married to Richard, the "Youngest") may trace their family back to Charlemagne (742-814), King of the Franks and Holy Roman Emperor. This line includes William the Conqueror (1027-1087), King of England (crowned 1066), and King John of England (1166-1216), whose conduct was so evil it led to the creation of the Magna Carta to which he was forced to place his signature!
7. The grandson of Samuel and Mary Snowden Thomas, Philip Evan Thomas, was a principal in the foundation of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. He was the first of 10 to contribute \$20,000 to engineer the enterprise of the railroad and he was its first President. He was also the first to advance \$25,000 to the State of MD to begin building the Washington Monument in Baltimore.
8. Johns Hopkins, who had become the largest shareholder in the B&O RR, gave 7 million dollars to establish a University dedicated to advanced learning, a hospital that would give the best patient care, and a medical school that would train highly competent physicians and further the advancement of medicine. The Johns Hopkins University opened in 1876, The Hospital in 1889, and the medical school in 1893. The Last Will and Testament of Richard the Youngest reveals that among many other bequests he gave 50 lbs. to his great-grandson, Samuel Hopkins, who later became the father of Johns Hopkins. In 1989 there was a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Hospital and the Postal Service immortalized Johns Hopkins on a US postage stamp.

9. The Snowden, Thomas, and Hopkins families were Quakers and this religion developed strong religious convictions against the holding of slaves. The Quakers of Maryland were the first to initiate the manumission movement to free black slaves in this country. Listed below are the names of family members who initiated manumission:
 - Samuel Snowden, son of Richard 'youngest' was the first of the Snowdens to release slaves in 1785 (72 slaves freed)
 - Major Thomas Snowden of Montpelier freed 100 slaves
 - John Chew Thomas freed slaves in 1810
 - Philip Evan Thomas, the first President of the B&O Railroad, freed over 200 slaves
 - Samuel Hopkins, father of Johns Hopkins, freed slaves
 - After slaves were freed, many of these land owners could no longer maintain their plantation and by necessity were forced to move to a large city, the closest being Baltimore.

10. Mary Snowden, the only daughter of Richard and Eliza Snowden, lost her father and mother in 1774, at the age of 4. She was adopted by her uncle, Major Thomas Snowden, and raised to womanhood at his home, Montpelier. It was here that she married John Chew Thomas, but made her home at her inheritance, Fairland. This home, located on Brockridge Rd. near the center of the now Maryland City, MD, was originally built by Richard Snowden for his wife, Eliza Rutland. John Chew Thomas, Mary's husband, graduated from the Univ of PA and was a lawyer by profession. He was elected by the Federal Party of MD as a Representative to Congress (1799-1801). He played a crucial role in breaking the long tie in Congress which resulted in the election of Thomas Jefferson and the defeat of Aaron Burr (among the 16 colonies, Jefferson and Burr tied with 8 votes each; see p62 of "An American Saga" for interesting details. The appearance of the Republican Party under Jefferson resulted in the demise of the Federalist Party. In 1788 John Chew Thomas lost his membership in the Society of Friends for his marriage to a nonmember and the offense of slave-holding. After manumitting his slaves in 1810, he and his family were returned to the Society.

11. Dr. Richard Henry Thomas married three times, the first to Martha Carey, the daughter of a wealthy banker, James Carey. James had made a considerable fortune in shipping and importing, became President of the Bank of Maryland, and married Hannah Ellicott (heiress). In 1792 James helped to form the 'Society for the Abolition of Slavery and the relief of free negroes'. Dr. Richard became a Professor of Obstetrics at the University of Maryland Medical School. His moving "Memoir of Martha C Thomas, Late of Baltimore, MD (1841) is a moving account of the long illness of a woman who found on her deathbed surcease by abandoning herself to God (see p73 of "An American Saga"). She died from tuberculosis.

12. James Carey Thomas was a medical doctor and best friend of Daniel Coit Gilman, the first President of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. It is generally recognized that it was Gilman's talent and vision which led to the selection of the four great doctors at the hospital (William Osler, William Welch, William Halsted, and William Kelley). Consequently, Dr. Thomas played an informal but creative role during this seminal period in the development of both the Hospital and medical school. At his death Dr. Osler was said to have dismissed his class telling them that the man they were indebted to for the medical school had died. Drs. Welch and Osler were pallbearers at the funeral and the Trustees and professors marched in a body to the Quaker Meeting House.

13. Martha Carey Thomas was the first women's president of Bryn Mawr College for Women in Philadelphia. Again it was the Quakers, predominantly some of those cited here, who organized and inspired the effort to found this institution. Martha was a strong feminist. She formed the "group", which was comprised of 4 very capable Baltimore women in their twenties. The group included Mary Garrett, who became the richest unmarried woman in the country when her father, a President of the B&O RR, died in 1884. In a manner then revolutionary he made his unmarried only daughter an equal inheritor with his sons. Financial support from Mary Garrett played a crucial role in the opening of Bryn Mawr College and later (1892) in the opening of the Johns Hopkins Medical School. The

sharp decline in B&O RR stock had seriously threatened the opening of the Medical School. It was Mary Garrett and this group of women who raised most of the \$500,000 necessary to save the Medical School. Their gift was called the "Womens Memorial Fund" and was contingent on a change of School policy which would allow admission of women on an equal basis with men. In 1892 this was a radical change in tradition.

14. All members of the Quaker religion were ministers, leaders in the church and equal in the "eyes of the Lord". This forum provided for the organization of women in leadership roles which led to important reforms in society. Martha Carey, Mary Whitall, Martha Carey Thomas and others were ardent leaders in the Quaker religion and part of the movement which led to Women's Suffrage in 1902 and ultimately to Prohibition in 1919.
15. There are several well known Quaker meeting houses in the Snowden territory in Maryland:
 - Indian Springs Meeting House
 - Sandy Springs Meeting House
 - Quaker Meeting House
17. Simon Flexner was the first Director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research (now the Rockefeller University). William Welch, professor of Pathology at Johns Hopkins, was the first Chairman of the Board and given the responsibility to select the first director. Simon's brother, Abraham Flexner, was responsible for the Flexner report on medical schools in the United States (1910). This report caused the closing of over 100 (deficient) medical schools in our country. Abraham was chosen to organize the Rockefeller Foundation for the support of extramural scientific and medical study. Because of a controversy which developed shortly after taking on this responsibility, he was forced to resign. Abraham Flexner then went on to found (single-handedly) the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University.
18. James Carey Thomas Flexner is an accomplished author who has written several books on George Washington, one on William Welch, and one about his mother and father.

References:

1. The Thomas Book, by Lawrence Buckley Thomas (1896)
2. An American Saga, the story of Helen Thomas and Simon Flexner (1983, Little Brown & Co., by James Carey Thomas Flexner
3. Montpelier & the Snowden Family, by William C Cook; copyright, 1976; available at gift shop, Montpelier.

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