

Buchanan Family Records

**by
William M. Clemens**

Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society

BUCHANAN FAMILY RECORDS.

An Account of the First American Settlers
and Colonial Families of the Name of
Buchanan, and Other Genealogical and
Historical Data, Mostly New and
Original Material Including
Early Wills and Marriages
Heretofore Unpublished.

BY

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THE BUCHANAN FAMILY.

The origin of the name Buchanan is believed to be shown on an ancient pedigree of the O'Cahans, of which the 102nd name is that of "Conn Clonnach O'Cahan" (son of Dermot), who had a brother, Annselan, who was ancestor of the O'Bo-cainains (from the Irish "bocain," a fairy, and "an," one). The name became O'Buchanan, or Buchanan. This Annselan is believed to have been the first of the name who settled in Scotland.

About the middle of the Thirteenth Century, Gilbert, seneschal to the Earl of Lennox, obtained from him Buchanan, in Stirlingshire, and probably took his name from that estate. It is also thought to have had an ecclesiastical origin, from the fact that in its Gaelic form, it is "Mac-a-Chononaich" ("son of the Canon"). The family in very ancient times bore the name of "Mac Anslan," and it is believed by some authorities that, on the passing of the lands and chiefship of the clan to an ecclesiastic, the name was changed.

Maurice of Buchanan received a charter of confirmation of his title to the estate from the king.

ried a daughter of Argyle, and had two sons, George, Sheriff of Dumbarton, 1561, and Walter, founder of the family of Spittal. He married Margaret Edmondston of Duntreath and had a son, John. By his second wife, Janet Cunninghame, of Craigends, he had a son, William, who was ancestor of the line of Auchmar.

The ancient war cry of the Clan Buchanan was "Clar Innis;" from their meeting place on an island of that name in Loch Lomond. Their badge was the "Dearc bhraoileag" (bilberry), or "Darag" (oak).

One branch of the family in America is descended from George Buchanan, who was born in Scotland about 1698. He came to America in 1723, and became a physician of Baltimore, Maryland. His wife was Eleanor, daughter of Nicholas Rogers. George Buchanan died in 1750. His son, Andrew, of Baltimore, was born in 1734. He was Presiding Justice of Baltimore county. In 1744 he was a member of the Committee of Correspondence, and, in 1776, Brigadier-General of Maryland troops. He married Susan, daughter of Alexander Lawson, one of the Commissioners of Baltimore. His son, Doctor George Buchanan, of Baltimore, was born in 1763, and died at Philadelphia in 1808. He received his degree of M. D.

father of the future President soon had a prosperous business. In 1788 he married Elizabeth Speer, whose home was at the foot of South Mountain, between Chambersburg and Gettysburg. Their son, James, was born at Stony Batter, April 23, 1791. In 1796 the family removed to Mercersburg, where the father opened another store. He died in 1821. The old Buchanan home at Mercersburg was the lower part of what is now the Hotel Mercer.

Patrick Buchanan, born April 16, 1745, in Tyrone county, Ireland; married, February 7, 1776, Margaret Scott, born February 22, 1753. He died November 19, 1824. She died in her 93rd year. He was an elder and she a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church.

Issue:

1. Anne, born December 25, 1776, died April 11, 1864.
2. John, born January 2, 1779, married July 14, 1819.
3. Elizabeth, born April 16, 1781, died January 15, 1878.
4. Mary, born August 17, 1783.
5. William, born January 11, 1786, married August 10, 1806.
6. James, born January 11, 1788, married April 13, 1825, in Cooper County, Mo.

2. Margaret, born May 17, 1832, died February 5, 1853, unmarried.
3. Harriet, born June 10, 1834, died January 2, 1837.
4. George Coalter, born July 19, 1836, married December 15, 1858, in New Orleans, Emily Louise Ferrian.
5. Charles, born May 31, 1838, died February 9, 1864, unmarried.
6. Andrew, left Lisbony, Ireland, May 11, 1822, arrived in New York, June 24, 1822; was made a citizen October 12, 1827, at Florence, Ala.

George Coalter Buchanan, born July 19, 1836, in Louisville, Ky., married December 15, 1858, in New Orleans, La., Emilie Louise Ferriere, born December 25, 1838, in New Orleans, and died August 2, 1889, in Toronto, Canada.

Issue:

1. Cora, born November 9, 1859, died September 21, 1865, in Augusta, Ga.
2. George C., born March 31, 1861, in New Orleans.
3. Harriet C., born December 18, 1862, married Clifton Atkinson, in New Orleans.
4. Emma, born November 21, 1864, in Augusta, Ga.

George Buchanan, born September 7, 1775. 7.
Frances, married Thomas C. Pearsall. 8. Fanny
Buchanan, died unmarried.

Among New York Buchanans in the Revolution
were:

Ebenezer Buchanan, Albany Co.
James Buchanan, Orange Co.
John Buchanan, State Line.
Patrick Buchanan, Albany Co.
Robert Buchanan, Ulster Co.
Samuel Buchanan, State Line.
William Buchanan, Suffolk Co.

Among the Revolutionary officers of the name
are Andrew and William, of Maryland; Andrew,
John, Patrick and William, of Virginia; John and
Robert, of South Carolina; Thomas, of Pennsyl-
vania, and Robert, of New York.

General David Chrystie Buchanan fought for
the Union in the Civil War, at the Battle of Mal-
vern Hill.

Following is a record of early marriages of Bu-
chanans in New York State:

1778, May 19, David Buchanan and Mary Con-
nell.

1771, Dec. 26, John Buchanan and Sarah Har-
rison.

Thomas Buchanan, 1782, Northumberland Co., private.

Robert Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

Arthur Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

John Buchanan, 1783, Westmoreland Co., private.

John Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

James Buchanan, 1777, Lancaster Co., private.

The Virginia marriages of Buchanans, taken from original records, are as follows:

BUCHANAN, David & Wright Steel, Sept. 4, 1789, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, George & Nancy Casady, June 23, 1803, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Jean & James Parks, May 4, 1786, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, John & Martha Wilson, June 7, 1796, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, John & Mary Patton, June 17, 1749, Augusta Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Mary & Conrad Moler, May 4, 1826, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Patsey & David Dice, Oct. 9, 1823, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Peace W. & Saml. Pettegrew, Oct. 22, 1812, Rockbridge Co., Va.

GENEALOGY, 45 William Street, New York,
records the following Buchanans who are wanted
as heirs to estates:

Buchanan, Arthur, New York.

Buchanan, Elizabeth, *nee* Gedder.

Buchanan, James, died 1850.

Buchanan, Maria, New York, 1880.

Buchanan, Peter, married 1840, Susan Muller.
