

Beale NR
YORK CO. VA.

THE GENEALOGY OF THE
BEALE FAMILY
1399 - 1956



SEP 20 '80

Compiled from personal correspondence covering most of the forty-eight states, England and the Virgin Islands; personal interviews with scores of Beale descendants throughout the South; family bibles, old letters and various legal documents zealously possessed by members of the family; various records and publications in the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.; D. A. R. records; State & National Archives Departments; county and church records; Virginia & Tennessee State Libraries; as well as libraries of many Historical & Genealogical Societies; Census Reports and numerous other courses too varied to enumerate.

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THE BEALE FAMILY OF ENGLAND

The Times Dispatch of Richmond, Va., Nov. 26, 1920, published the following article on the Beale family of England as taken from 'A History of All Saints Church of Maidstone, Kent County, England', by J. Cave Brown, E.M.A. This history was taken from the monument & tabletts which still appear on the piers & walls & some on the pavements of the church:

"Foremost among them, both for its age & also for its character... so rare if not unique... is the one to the Beale family. It has also an additional claim to notice inasmuch as that old Maidstone family of which some of the descendants still reside in the town, produced a direct representation in the person of one late Rev. Beale Post, whose name & highly valuable work on 'All Saints College' has been so frequently referred to in these pages. This tablet supplies also a connecting link with an ancestry who held an honorable place here at least 400 years ago, contemporary with Archbishop Courtney himself.

Inserted in the SE face of the graceful column which separates the S. aisle of the chancel from the choir proper, is an engraved copper plate, 30 inches long & 18 inches wide, containing a genealogy of six generations (the designer himself representing the 7th) & covering a period considerably over 2 centuries.

Thomas Beale, thrice grandson of John Beale, his great grandfather's great grandfather, twice mayor of this town himself, loyal to God & the King, of frugal & contented spirit, beloved by his neighbors & studying the good of this town, the husband of 2 wives & the father of 21 children, died Feb. 2, 1593 & left surviving 6 sons & 2 daughters whose father, Wm. Beale, late portreve of this town, who succored its needy in his time, died in the year 1534, whose grandfather, Robert, lived in this town & died in 1490. His great, great grandfather, William in 1492 having in this time been portreve of this town & one of the first brethren of the Fraternity of Corpus Christi in this town, was buried in the church at St. Faithe, & John, his great, great, great grandfather also died in 1399. Here they lived earning a good report; here, dying, they look for a resurrection of the flesh at the advent of Christ. May God's blessing rest on their posterity. Thomas, the son of said Thomas, erects this monument to their memory".

This copper plate in All Saints Church, Maidstone, is divided into 6 spaces, each representing a generation;; each of these spaces is divided into 3 compartments; the center one containing the figure of the parent; the left the sons, with the name of the one who succeeded to the family honours; & the right, the daughters.

Mr. Frank Tyler of Maidstone, England, supplied further data on this family (from wills, deeds, etc.) which has enabled the writer to supplement the brief history taken from All Saints Church.

The following genealogical table may better explain the line of descent in reversed order:

John Beale of Maidstone, d 1399, md & had
A1 Wm. Beale, he was in his time portreve & one of the elder brethren of the Fraternity of Corpus Christie, d 1429, & was buried in St. Faithe's Church; md Catherine & had
B1 Son
B2 Daughter

- B3 Daughter
- B4 John Beale of Maidstone, d 1461 (2nd son) md 1st, Agnes; md 2nd, Alicia & had
 - C1 Son
 - C2 Robt. Beale of Maidstone (1st son), d 1490, md Agnes & had
 - D1 Wm. Beale, he was twice portreve of Maidstone (1st son), d 1534, md Johanna & had
 - E1 John Beale, (1st son), Visitation of London, 1634, P 314; md & had
 - F1 Richard Beale, Esq., of London, (1st son), merchant, d 1636; he was originally a clothier, afterwards purchased sundry estates in Kent & resided at Whaddon, County Surrey; Visitation of London, 1634, P 314; he left his grand nephew, Richard Beale*, his heir; funeral notice of Richard appeared in The Heraold's College record. He md Bersheba Gilbert & had G1 to G7, all issue d unnm as recorded in the above mentioned funeral notice.
 - F2 Alexander Beale of Frettenden md & had
 - G1 Richard Beale of Maidstone, Visitation of London, 1634, P 314; md Nov. 28, 1601, Margaret Hicks of Bekesbourne (Canterbury Mar. Licenses) also (Visitation of Kent, 1663 & Frittenden Parish Reg.) & had
 - H1 Margaret Beale, b 1602, Frittenden Parish Reg.
 - H2 Richard Beale*, (Visitation of London, 1634, P 314), Esq. of Hayle-place, Loose, d 1664, was Justice of Peace for Kent. Named heir to great uncle, Richard Beale who d 1636, & who named him in his pedigree at the Visitation of London of 1634 as being 'beyond the seas' at that date; md Susan, daughter of Edward Bennett, deputy to the Hanburg Company (Visitation of Kent, 1663) & had
 - 11 Richard Beale, b 1645, d 1703.
 - 12 Alexander Beale, b 1646, of Barbados, md Martha Curtis.
 - 13 Edward Beale, b 1648.
 - 14 to 111 Daughters.
- E2 Wm. Beale, d 1607, named in Will of Thos. Beale, 1606, Consist. Ct. Canterbury.
- E3 Margery Beale, named in Will of Thos. Beale, 1593, Prerogative Office, Doctors' Commons, md John Clarke & had
 - F1 Ralph Clarke.
- E4 Son (shown on monument of Thomas)
- E5 Daughter (Beale above mentioned)

- E6 Daughter (also named in Will of Thos. Beale.
E7 Thomas Beale, d 1593, was a Jurate of Maidstone Corporation & Mayor in 1561 & 1574; married 1st, 1547, Johanna Cobb who died 1551 (Maidstone Parish Reg.), & had
- F1 Alice Beale, b 1548 (Maidstone Parish Reg.)
md Thos. Snat & had issue.
- F2 Clement Beale (Maidstone Par. Reg.) married
..... & had
- G1 Wm. Beale, b 1577 (Maidstone Par. Reg.)
became Mayor of Farnesham, 1608 (Jacob: History of Farnesham 1774).
- G2 Elizabeth Beale, b 1581.
- G3 Jeremy Beale, b 1583.
- G4 Judith Beale, b 1585 (Maidstone Par. Reg.)
- G5 Katherine Beale, b 1589.
- Thomas Beale, d 1593, md 2nd, 1553, (Maidstone Par. Reg.) Alice Wolgate, d 1613 & had
- F3 Thos. Beale of Maidstone, 1559-1606, named in his father's Will, 1593, Prerogative Office, Doctors' Commons; was erector 1600 of copper plate in All Saints Church, Maidstone; md Sept. 13, 1603, Elizabeth Masters of Willesborough (Canterbury Mar. Licenses) & was named in Will of husband, 1606 (Consist. Ct. Canterbury). The issue of this marriage, viz: concerning the son, Thomas, whose birth I have been informed occurred on Dec. 2, 1604, with its source of reference being M.S. Maidstone Register but-unfortunately for Beale descendants, my British correspondent, Frank W. Tyler, F.S.A.; F.S.G., of Canterbury, was unable to verify this Thomas being the son of Thomas who died in 1606, but with the hope that some future reader of this genealogy will perhaps find the clue that will prove this link with the American family, I am including same as one of the issue of above union, with the full realization as to its possible erroneous inclusion & surmised kinship. His issue
- G1 Thos. Beale, b Dec. 2, 1604 (M. S. Maidstone Reg.).
- G2 Margaret Beale who was named in the Will of her father in 1606, Consist. Ct. Canterbury.
- G3 Robt. Beale, b 1606, md Oct. 15, 1639, Ursula Bedmanton (West Farleigh Reg.).
- F4 John Beale of London, merchant, living in 1633 when he entered his pedigree in the Visitation of 1633; named in the Will of his father, Thos. Beale, 1593, Prerogative Office, Doctors' Commons; md Anne, daughter of Allan Ducker

(Le Neve's Pedigrees of Baronets, Vol 2, P 319)
& had

- G1 Sir John Beale of Farningham Court, created Baronet in 1660; Sheriff for Kent 1665; died 1684; purchased Chillington House at Maidstone which is now the Maidstone Museum; also West Court in Detling; md 1st, 1655, at Aylesford, Anne, daughter of Sir Wm. Colepeper of Aylesford of Preston Hall. No issue & at her death in 1657, he md 2nd, Jane, daughter of Richard Duke, Esq., of Maidstone, by whom he had 4 daughters & no son so that at his death in 1684 the baroncy became extinct.
- G2 Richard Beale, b 1617.
- G3 Thomas Beale, b 1619.
- G4 William Beale.
- F5 William Beale. (named in will of Thos. Beale,
- F6 Edward Beale. (1593, Prerogative Office, (Doctors' Commons.
- F7 Elizabeth Beale, b 1572, md Snatt.
- F8 Ambrose Beale, gent., also named in Will of Thos. Beale, 1593, lived at Maidstone where he was Mayor in 1624 & 1637; b 1575, d 1655; md 1st, 1598, Katherine, daughter of Maples, of Malden Kent, who was b ... & by whom he had no issue. He md 2nd, April 18, 1617, Anne, widow of Thos. Reve, Jurat of Maidstone (Canterbury Mar. Licenses). In 1636, Ambrose Beale was fined by Archbishop Laud £ 50 as a leading Puritan there (Civil War; Parliamentarians). He had
 - G1 John Beale, gent., b 1606, was Mayor of Maidstone 1667; (Visitation of Kent, 1663); md 1st, Rebecca, daughter of Whittaker of London; later he md Mary, daughter of Thos. Ely of Sevenoaks, who d 1677, without issue, two years prior to death of John in 1679.
 - G2 Israel Beale (1st son) of Maidstone, gent., d 1653, (Visitation of Kent, 1663); md (name of wife not given in Visitation of London, 1633, P 159); md 2nd & had
 - H1 Ambrose Beale.
 - G3 Robert Beale, b 1612, named in Will of father in 1655, Prerogative Office, was living 1671.
 - G4 Anne Beale, b 1611, named in Will of Ambrose Beale, 1655, Prerogative Office & in Will of John Beale, 1679, Consist. Ct. Canterbury.
- D2 Son.
- D3 Daughter.

The above genealogy of the Beales of Maidstone, Kent Co., is taken from Wm. Berry's Genealogies of Kent, London, 1830, P. 18.

BRITISH RECORDS OF BEALES

- Stephen Beale of Maidstone, yeoman, married Mary Vidian, May 29, 1592 (Canterbury Mar. Licenses).
1651... Andrew Beale of Maidstone, a leading Royalist there (proceedings of the Committee for Compounding).

CIVIL WAR CAVALIERS

- 1651... Andrew Beale of Maidstone, fined £ 80.
1648... Dr. Wm. Beale, master of St. John's College, Cambridge, sequestered for delinquency.
1652... Alderman Paul Beale of York compounded.
1646... Thos. Beale of Wakefield Lodge, Northampton, petitioned to compound.
1647... Edwin Beale of Marylehom compounded.
1642... Capt. Richard Beale imprisoned as a Delinquent.
1649... Edward Beale, a Delinquent.
1660... After the Restoration Capt. Roger Beale petitioned for some place. Stated that he had been repeatedly wounded during the wars & had been imprisoned after the Battle of Worcester.

CIVIL WAR PARLIAMENTARIANS

- 1652... Col. Wm. Beale was prominent on the Parliament side, both in the English & Irish campaigns.
1636... Ambrose Beale of Maidstone had been fined by Archbishop Laud £ 50 as a leading Puritan there.
1650... Richard Beale, a Parliamentary Commissioner for the Kent Militia.
1653... Capt. Thos. Beale on service at Bristol & in Ireland.
1651... Capt. Ephraim Beale muster master at Bristol.
1656... Order from the Privy Council for warrants to the Ordnance Officers in the town to provide Capt. Beale, commanding the 'Protector's Life Guard' with 160 breast plates, back plates, & 'pott' helmets.

FROM PARLIAMENTARY & STATE PAPERS OF THE PERIOD

The following are from the Calendars of the Colonial Papers preserved in the Public Record Office.....
Thos. Beale: Sept. 30, 1668... American Beales before 1700: The order re Castle Comfort which will be found under Thos. Beale I of York Co., Va., Aug. 11, 1676.... Proclamation by Nathaniel Bacon; Thos. Swanne; Thos. Beale; Thos. Ballard & James Bray; addressed to the Sheriff of Westmoreland Co.; Gov. Berkeley having absented himself from the Government to proceed to the election of Burgesses to meet at James City, the 4th of September next.

William Beale of Barbados:

One of the 'planters & merchants' of Barbados who petitioned re difficulties in recovery of debts there.

Extract from Will of Roger Rydle, or Ridley, Mayor of Canterbury, 1452, 1459, 1468; will dated 8 Jan. 1470, '..... to Haman or Homan Beale, Thomas atte Wode (several Times Mayor of Cant) & Wm. Ingram, whom I constitute my executors.... the same Hamon Bele shall have 40.... for his trouble, etc.

William Sauver: The Antiquities of Canterbury, 1640, Temporal Government, P 369 seq.; Canterbury Cathedral, Chapter Library, M.S.S. C. 185 'Mayors of Canterbury':

No. 16...	Hamon Beale	1464.
No. 30...	Hamon Beale	1478.
No. 75...	Thomas Beale, sonne of Hamon Beale,	1523.
No. 84...	Thomas Beale.....	1532.
No. 91...	Thomas Beale	1539.

In the same Vol., P 104, in the account of the Church of the Grey friars, Cant. (this church is long since destroyed): 'Hamon Beale, a Citizen, & in his time twice Mayor of Canterb., choosing their (ie, the Franciscans) church for the place of his buriall, as Babell his wife had formerly done, gave 40^s in money to the Convent.'

In a MSS. in possession of Wm. C. Urry of Canterbury, England, the following extracts were taken:
'Let all men know, here & hereafter, that I, Milo, son of John de Sceglan, have given & granted & have continued by this present charter to William de la bele a certain annual revenue of six pence....from certain land in Burgh... Witnesses....Alan Plant (Burgh is in Lincolnshire).' This deed is undated but must be within a few years of 1260 as Alan Plant became Parson of Burgh 1260-61.....'Let all men know here & hereafter that I, Wales Pymchim of Burgh, near Waynesflet, have given, granted & have continued by this charter to William atte Bele of the same place & to his heirs & assigns a building with garden & field.... in Burgh..... Thursday next after the feast of St. Bartholemew Apostle, 47 Edwd. III, 1374-5.' (Burgh, Wainfleet, are in Lincolnshire).

Register of Parish of St. George, Canterbury:

Marriages, May 27, 1584: Clement Bassock & Elizabeth Beele, widow.

Notitia Parliamentaria, 1750, P 262:

Members of Parliaments for the County of Kent:

Richard Beal, Esq., 1654.
Richard Beal, Esq., 1656, P 275.

Scholar of Winchester School, Hampshire:
Richard Bele, 1418 (of Fransham).

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To establish dates along with terms used in connection with the English history of the Beale family:

RESTORATION was a term employed in the history of England in connection with the re-establishment of monarchical government which returned with the accession of Charles II in 1660.

CAVALIER which was derived from the Latin, cabballus, 'a nag', was a horseman which later acquired the meaning of 'Knight' or 'Gallant'. In 1641 the term 'Cavaliers' was applied as a nickname to Charles' partisans in opposition to the Roundheads, or friends of the Parliament, and from a term of reproach it came to be adopted as a title of honor, until, after 1679, it was superseded by 'Tory'.

Charles II reigned in England from 1660 to 1685; he was present in the battle of Edgehill in 1642, where he narrowly escaped capture; on May 8, 1660 he was proclaimed King at Westminster & on the 26th he landed at Dover after eight years foreign exile (during Cromwell's reign) & was welcomed, at Whitehall, by the two houses of Parliament on May 29, 1660.

MAIDSTONE, county town of Kent, on the right bank of the Medway, 34 miles ESE of London. At its west entrance, overlooking the river, are the remains of All Saints' College, established in 1620, as a hospital for pilgrims traveling to Canterbury.

WHITEHALL was originally a palace in London but after the death of Wolsey it became crown property which was the scene of Wolsey's disgrace, Henry VIII's death, the execution of Charles I, & the deaths of Cromwell & Charles II. The hall now serves as a military & naval museum.

ENGLISH
COAT OF ARMS



DIEU ET MON DROIT

COAT OF ARMS
CAPTAIN THOMAS BEALE II
YORK COUNTY, VIRGINIA.



BEALE COAT OF ARMS

The Beale coat of arms as designated to the family of Kent County, England, are:

Arms.....Sable on a chevron between three griffins' heads
erased argent; three estoils gules
Crest.....Unicorn's head erased or, semy of estoilles gules
Motto.....None recorded

To make the above more understandable by those not versed in the terms of heraldry - A black chevron between three silver griffins' heads erased; with three red six pointed jagged stars on the chevron. The crest is a gold unicorn's head erased, sprinkled with red six pointed jagged stars. The older arms did not bear mottoes which were adopted in later generations as each individual found a motto that appealed to him or in some manner referred to the 'character' of the family.

The Beale coat of arms as cut on the tomb stone of Capt. Thomas Beale who died in 1679 & was buried at Chestnut Hill, Richmond County, Va., is among the oldest known coat of arms & differs slightly from the English arms in that the three estoils gules (three red stars) are replaced by what appears to be three cross molines (the cross of this type being modeled after the metal fastening on millstones) but being described by some members of the family as being 'knight temporal crosses' & which is presumed to have replaced the red stars because the emigrant Beale is supposed to have been a Knight of Malta.

There is a motto recorded by some members of the American family being 'rather death than dishonor', but whether or not it was used is not known to the writer nor has she been able to ascertain same by any accepted source of reference. The motto was the battle cry of the Royalists at Edge Hill & the Beales were known to be Royalists, thus possibly adopted same as the Beale motto.

BEALE - THE NAME

Major Frank Lee Beals, U. S. Army retired, of Chicago, Illinois; did a great deal of research on the origin of the name Beale and in 1929 published a small booklet, a copy of which was given to the writer who has taken the following abstracts from it:

"the name Beal is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in existence, going back as it does to the beginning of all things, & being connected with the creation of man himself. As a surname it dates back to about the 11th century when surnames first began to be employed.

In its present form it first came to light some 1200 years before Christ, although it had undoubtedly been in use for many centuries before that.

The name Beal, which I consider the basic name from which all of those having the same root, regardless of the branch, took their origin, the spelling has remained constant. That Beale is a

Celtic name most authorities agree...the Celts came up out of the valley of the Danube about 1200 B.C. & established dwellings about the lakes in Switzerland. There are two towns still in existence in Switzerland which bear names of peculiar significance, Baal & Biel. The Celts were the earliest Aryan settlers in Europe.

The Druids were their priests who taught the existence of one god, 'Beal'. Celtic antiquarians claim that Beal means 'the source of all beings' or the life of everything. It is generally admitted that the Celtic god Beal has affinity with the Phoenecian god Baal. In each case the surpreme deity was identified with the sun, & fire was regarded as the symbol of divinity. The remanants of one of the Druidical places of worship still stands at Stonehenge, Salisburg Plain, England.

Benjamin Thorpe says of the sacred fires of the Druids, 'This custom of kindling sacred fires on certain days prevails throughout the whole of Europe (1851), & was known to antiquity, particularly in Italy. The Celts kindled such fires, on the first of May, to the god Beal, (thence even now called Bealtine).'

As a place name Beale (e,l,s) undoubtedly originated with the god of the Druids, Beal.

The name originated with Belus, a god, third descendant of Io, son of Libya. He has affinity with Bali of Hindu mythology & with Baal, the principal male deity of the Phoenecian & Canaanitish nations. Nebuchadenezzar built a temple to Belus & it was inside this temple that the tower of Bable stood. The Assyrians erected the first statue to him & worshipped him as a god, calling him Baal. The word 'baal' signified lord & master of the universe. There is a temple to Baal at Tanis. This Syro-Phoenecian deity is the Baal of the Hebrew scriptures. He has affinity with the Egyptian god Set & with the Assyrian god Bel.

Belus became the Baal, or ruler, of Babylon, & according to the historians of Armenia, was deified & worshipped by the name of Baal. Belus had a daughter who was queen of Carthage.

The Scripture mentions 'Chamanim', the Temples consecrated to the worship of Baal & in which a perpetual fire was kept burning. It signified 'places enclosed with walls'. Baal Shamen is the god who dwells in heaven & is analogous to the Greek Zeus.

The name Beal, Baal, Belus must be between 6200 & 6500 years old, or to state it in another way it must have been in existence for 195 generations, more or less. Undoubtedly it originated with Belus & was handed down through time in the religious practices of many peoples....."

THE BEALE FAMILY IN AMERICA

The presumed arrival of our Thomas Beale I was about 1640 but our first authentic record of him in America is when he applied in 1646 for 250 acres of land in York County, Va., viz:

At a Court held for York County the 16th of October 1646 the following entry was made -

'Whereas Thomas Beale hath in the Court made sufficient proof that there is due to him 250 acres of land for the transportation of five persons in the Colony...viz: Thomas Beale, Alice Beale, Morgan Hennett, John Ashfield & John Hayward. The Court hath ordered that certificate thereof be made ... September

(York Co. Rec.) The next mention of him is his first appointment as a Member of the Council in 1662 (Wm-Mary Quart. Vol. 3, P 65-67).

Lt. Col. Thos. Beale who served as a Member of his Majesty's Council for Virginia, also served as an officer of the Colonial Militia.

The Virginia Statutes at Large by Henning, Vol 2, P 320, mentions Thomas Beale as a Member of the Council in 1673-74 & again P 54, as a Member in 1676. He was recommended by Charles II for Commandant at Point Comfort, Sept. 30, 1668 & for Lieutenant Colonel, 1671.

Colonial Dames of America in Virginia, History & Register, 1892-1930 'state that Thomas Beale I was born in England about 1621, died in Virginia after 1676 & served as a Member of the Council 1670.'

Virginia Magazine of History & Biography, Vol 5, P 26, states that 'Among the General Court Decisions, 1664-1670, which met at James City, June 29, 1665, we find as a Councilman, Col. Carter, Col. Beale, Col. Willis, Col. Bacon; as Secretary, Thos. Ludwell. In Vol 5, P 118, we find that 'Among the General Court Decisions, Sept. 28, 1667, there were present: Thos. Ludwell, Secretary; Edward Carter, Henry Corbin, George Read, Nathaniel Bacon & Major Beale.

In Virginia Genealogies, P 738, we find that Thomas Beale, Back Creek, York County, Va., owned two thousand acres on Rappahannock Creek, Jan. 31, 1667, said land being purchased or obtained from Richard Lawrence & wife, Elizabeth, of James City County, Va.

Col. Thos. Beale & wife, Alice, (Alice Beale is said to have been the widow of Reade at the time of her marriage to Thomas Beale...Va. Mag. Hist. & Biog. Vol 23, folio 10) patented land in York County, Va., March 25, 1649.

The family tradition is that Thomas Beale was a Member of the Life Guards of Charles II & came to Virginia when the Cavaliers were dispersed. The York County records show that he returned to England at the Restoration & brought back to the then Governor of Virginia, Sir Wm. Berkeley, the following letter:

"September 30, 1668

White Hall

The King to the Governor of Virginia.....Recommends Thomas Beale of whose abilities & prudence the King hath had long experience, to be Commander of his Majesty's Fort or Castle called 'Castle Comfort' in York River which hath been for time void & if that be disposed of to any other Fort or Castle that may become void." (Domestic Entry Book Charles II, Vol 31, P 11, at Richmond, Va.) The Castle being occupied he was made Lt. Colonel of York (Sainsburg Mss. Va. State Library).

Another family tradition has it that first mention seems to be made to the Beales in history, when Capt. Thos. Beale distinguished himself in The Siege of Pontifract Castle & was wounded, whereupon he was picked up by a Dutch vessel & brought to the West Indies. We find that he & his descendants owned large plantations at Santa Cruz, Virgin Islands, which were called 'Jerusalem' & 'Paradise' (thus bearing out the fact that the original Beale might have spent some time in the Virgin Islands) & that they spent their summers in Virginia where they had a large trade for their sugar, rum, etc., & to which territory they had their own ships laden with rich cargoes plying from the Virgin Islands. In 1624 the Beales came to their plantation in Suffolk, Nansmond County, Va., on one of their ships. During the Revolutionary War the Beales, descendants of the emigrant, lost their ships & about the same time their plantations in Santa Cruz were destroyed by tornado, thus their return to Virginia.

Still another tradition has it that the Cavalier Beale was a Knight of Malta & the Knights of Malta bought the Island of Santa Cruz in 1651. This accounts for the Beale's interest in Santa Cruz & the Knight Templar Crosses on the Beale Arms. The Knights of Malta as they have been known since 1530 was the name of the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, a military order founded by one Gerald (Gerard) probably about 1113, to care for the poor & strangers in the Holy Land. From 1309 to 1522 they were known as the Knights of Rhodes. There are now four great priories in Bohemia & Italy (New Standard Encyclopedia).

Thomas Beale I was called Major in 1661 when we find an order entered, 'directing the Sheriff of York County to take ye said Bushrod into this custody & him with a guard of six soldiers to convey to ye prison of York County until ye next quart. Ct. at James City'. However, in February 1661-1662, Bushrod had so far regained the favor of the Court as to be appointed with Major Beale & Lt. Col. Henry Gooch to divide the estate of Wm. Hughes, dec'd. (Wm-Mary Quart. July 1892, P 93); he served as Justice of York County; as Lt. Colonel of York County in 1668 & under Governor Berkeley as a Member of the Council for many years; he sat in judgement on Bacon (Tyler's Cyc. of Va. Biog.) & during Bacon's rebellion was one of the signers of the proclamation of August 11, 1676, calling the election of Burgesses for an Assembly to meet Sept. 4, 1676.

The Court for York County, Va., held at the house of Col. George Reade, Aug. 27, 1661 Present - Col. Francis Maryson, Governor; Col. Geo. Reade; Major Thomas Beale & Lt. Col. Henry Gooch.

The Court for York County, Va., held Aug. 25, 1662 Present- Edward Hill, Esq. & Col. Thomas Swann, Esq. who sat as 'itinerary Judges' & also Nathaniel Bacon, Col. George Reade & Major Thomas Beale of the Council.

Mr. Thomas Beal, Edw., Counsell of State mentioned as 'Itinerary Judge' (Wm-Mary Quart. Vol 25, P 30).

From the above records which we accept as authenticated facts it would seem that Thomas Beale came to America, obtained the 250 acres of land due him in 1646 & perhaps remained until he patented the land in 1649 & then, maybe leaving his family in Virginia, he returned to England where he continued his citizenship for whichever side he was on until about 1661, when ne again returned to the State as is shown

The issue of Thomas Beale & wife, Alice, were:
A1 Ruth Beale, b. abt 1644, York Co., Va.; d 1698 when her will was probated in York Co., Va., on Nov. 24th of that year. Named in her will was daughter, Elizabeth Lucas; grandsons, John & Thomas Read & John Smyth; granddaughter, Redley (??); Elizabeth Lucas, Margaret Lucas, Ruth Rascow; Sarah Vauson; Sarah Smyth & Susanna Tiplady.

Ruth Beale md Capt. John Tiplady, who died about 1669 & whose will was administered by Ruth Beale Tiplady, his widow. He was the son of Matthew Tiplady, Merchant of London...Deed from Matthew Tiplady of London, Merchant, appointing his loving 'uncle' Mr. John Goodwin of the Parish & County of York, Gent., his attorney in Va. Recorded in York Co., May 24, 1699....Capt. Tiplady served as a Justice of York Co., 1677 (Va. Mag. Hist. & Biog. Vol 37, P 163); as Church Warden of York Parish, April 1661; he obtained land grants in York County in 1685 for 345 acres, as is recorded in Book 7, P 443.

Their issue:

B1 Elizabeth Tiplady md Nov. 10, 1670, Thos. Reade of Warwick who died before 1688. There appears of record in York Co., Nov. 10, 1670, a document by Thos. Read_ wherein he asked for his wife's part in her Father's estate which was granted on Nov. 10, 1670 by Mrs. Ruth Tiplady, wife of John Tiplady (Wm-Mary Quart., Vol 6, P 142).

From 'The Reades & Their Relations', P 8, we find that the Thomas Reade, executor of the will of the Hon. George Reade, 1671, was a kinsman as stated in said will. This Thomas Reade of Warwick married Elizabeth Tiplady, daughter of John Tiplady & Ruth Beale, & had two sons living in 1702.

From this same publication we give a brief sketch of the Reade ancestry as therein set forth for whatever benefit it may give to the reader or descendant of the above couple. The writer was unable to ascertain the exact relationship of Thomas Reade to the Hon. George Reade, above mentioned, other than is stated in the will of the Hon. George Reade.

'The first clue to the English history of George Reade' was the fact, shown in several letters in the English Calendar of Colonial Papers that he had a brother, Robert, who was private Secretary to his uncle, Sir Francis Windebank, Secretary of State for England during the reign of Charles I. From this it was ascertained that George Reade was a descendant of the Reades of Facombe Manor, County Southampton, England (Gen. Meredith Reade, former American Consul at Paris, made researches into history of the family of Robert & George Reade, which was published in Long Athenaeum, April 28, 1894).

The conspicuous branches of the Reade family in England, all of which are believed to have come from the same ancient stock, are those of Borstall, Brockett Hall, Shipton Court, Ipsden House, Blackwood & Facombe.

The Facombe branch of Facombe Manor (to which was attached the living of Facombe Rectory) also owned lands in the County of Cork, Ireland, as well as Manor of Linkenholt, Hampshire. The arms & crests vary, but on all the shields is

by the order given above & remained here until after the Restoration in England at which time he brought back to the Governor, Sir Wm. Berkeley, the letter dated Sept. 30, 1668. From this time on, it would appear that Thomas Beale I remained in the States where he died sometime around 1700 when his will was refused record in York County because it was not properly witnessed.

The will of his wife, Alice Beale, 'Widow of Thos. Beale, Esq.' was recorded in York Co., Feb. 24, 1702, & stated 'that she desired to be buried in the garden on the plantation on which she dwells & as near the grave of her deceased husband as possible'. This plantation was 'Mulberry Bend' on Back Creek, a few miles below Yorktown, near the mouth of York River.

In her will, dated Oct. 9, 1700, Alice Beale named her grandson, Thos. Beale; granddaughter, Elizabeth Powell who had two children; great grandsons, Thomas & Benjamin Reade, sons of Francis Reade; cousin Robt. Jones; grandson, Peter Goodwin; cousin, Sarah Brown, wife of Wm. Brown to whom was willed 'Bay Trees' plantation of 200 acres & plantation on Back Creek of 300 acres for life. Executors, Peter Goodwin & Sarah Brown. Witnesses: Sam Cooper, Thomas Edmunds & Elizabeth Ridge.

York County Records...Personal - Alice Beale gave 'Betty', negro, to granddaughter, Rebecca Goodwin; one negro man to great grandson, John Goodwin, and to what appears to be ... Samuel Bilkson, bed, rugs & curtains, etc.

In Book 12, 1702-1706 - there appears in the York County, Va., records a deed of gift to her grandson, Peter Goodwin, by Madam Alice Beale, in 1702, as executrix of her deceased husband, Col. Thos. Beale's estate (Va. Mag. Hist. & Biog., Vol 31, P 276) 'out of the natural love & affection I bear my grandson, Peter Goodwin, &c., all my land on Back Creek in the Parish & County of York, to redound to grandson, Thos. Beale of Rappahannock, should the said grandson, Peter Goodwin, die without heirs. Dated Sept. 23, 1702.

Court for York County, Va., held Oct. 31, 1661 Present - Major Thomas Beale, Esq., Capt. Wm. Hay.

May 26, 1671, mention is made of Lt. Col. Thomas Beale & Alice, his wife

On the Duke of Gloucester St., Williamsburg, Va., the quaint church, Bruton Parish, the oldest Episcopal church in America, contains a pew with the bronze plate bearing this inscription: 'Thomas Beale, Member of the Council, 1662, Vestryman 1684'.

Family tradition provides most interesting conversation as well as reading material but unfortunately, it is not always accurate nor to be depended upon & is included here only because the writer has been unable, after 25 years of research, to separate the true from the false & hopes that some future genealogical researcher or Beale descendant may solve that which now remains unsolved.

That Thomas Beale I was married upon his arrival in America is evidenced by the fact that he included the name of his wife, Alice Beale, as being one of the five persons imported by him to the Colonies, & it is with sincere regret that the writer has been unable to locate the marriage record of this couple, although her English correspondent, Mr. Frank W. Tyler, has made a minute search for the marriage record in Kent County, England, records.