

Gall and singular

as well Noblemen as Gentlemen and others
to whom these Presents shall come, 2 Major Sir
Neville Roden Wilkinson, Knight Commander of the
Royal Victorian Order, Knight of Grace of the Order
of Saint John of Jerusalem, Treasurer of the Order
of Leopold of Belgium, With Swords, Ulster King of Arms
and Principal Herald of Off Ireland, Recorder & Knight
Attendant of the Most Illustrious Order of Saint
Patrick, and his Excellencies and Excellencies

3. Whereas application hath been made unto me by Mordecai Jackson Crispin, of New York City, in the State of New York, in the United States of America, eldest son of Benjamin Franklin Crispin, great-grandson of Silas Crispin, (died 18th August 1868), and directly descended, as appears from a pedigree duly registered in my office, from Captain William Crispin, of Newcastle, County Cork, an Officer in the Royal Navy who was married to Rebecca Broadbent, daughter of Joseph Broadbent, of South Devon, his wife and one of the celebrated

Six William Henry, John Lewis, and Isaac of the delinquent
and his family which has been recorded in my Office as apprehending unto
them, being desirous that such claim as without injury or prejudice to any other he may fix
such advance may be duly confirmed by lawful authority, and registered and recorded in the Office of
His Majesty's Surveyors of the Lands here, and that the Officers of said Court there and all others whom
occasion may take full notice and have knowledge thereof, he hath therefore prayed for a
full Confirmation of his Claim with such distinction as to may deem proper to assign unto
him and his descendants and the other descendants of his father Benjamin Franklin Crispin.

Know Ye Therefore that I the said Utkler King of Arms, having taken the request of the said applicant into consideration, and having examined into the circumstances am pleased to comply therewith, and by virtue of the power unto me given by His Majesty's Letters Patent under the Great Seal, and by the authority of the same have ratified and confirmed, and by these Presents do exemplify, ratify and confirm unto the said **Mordecai Jackson Crisp**, and his descendants and to the other descendants of his father Benjamin Franklin Crispin, afterwards, the **arms** following, that is to say:—Arms, three lions rampant azure, and a bendwise barbez, for Crest, on a wreath of the colors A demi griffin crested with wings addorsed gules, mantled gules doubled argent, and for Motto, Dum elamus redimam, the whole as is in the margin more clearly depicted do show and to hold the said arms unto him the said **Mordecai Jackson Crisp**, and his descendants and unto the other descendants of his father Benjamin Franklin Crispin, afterwards, for ever, and the same to bear use, show, set forth and advance in shield or banner or otherwise, observing and using their due and proper differences according to the Law of Arms, and without the least hindrance, molestation, interruption, punishment or challenge of any manner of person or persons whatsoever. *Witness* my hand and the Great Seal of Great Britain this 10th day of June 1782.

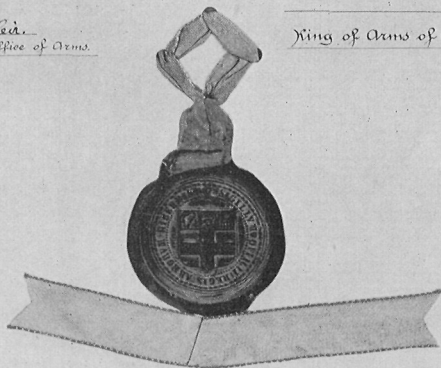
In Witness whereof I subscribe these Privents with my Name and Title and affix hereunto the Seal of my Office this Twenty-seventh day of July, in the Eighteenth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Fifth, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith and so forth, and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

Entered in the Records of U.S. Office
in "Grants and Confirmations" Vol. 10, folio 15

Thomas U. Sadler.
Registrar of the Office of Arms.



Neill Philkwin *Ulster*
King of Arms of All Ireland.



*Confirmation of Captain William Crispin's Arms
By the Office of Arms in Ireland*

THE MOTTO OF THE CAPTAIN WILLIAM CRISPIN ARMS

DUM CLAVUM RECTUM TENEAM (*While I hold the tiller right*) is from Quintilian (*Institutio Oratoria*, II 17) and is the phrase from which 'Dum Clavum Teneam' (*While I hold the tiller*), the motto used by William Penn, the Founder, and his sons was taken. His grandsons used the full quotation, Dum Clavum Rectum Teneam. This is erroneously quoted in *Burke's General Armory* and in Charles Norton Elvin's *Hand-book of Mottos*, published in 1860 as Dum Clarum Rectum Teneam. How the error of the use of the word Clarum instead of Clavum occurred in these publications is unknown. The Romans used these words when they wanted to say they should do their duty, no matter what the result might be. Quintilian states that oratory is an art, that the speaker must not be judged by success alone but rather by the faithfulness with which he follows the rules laid down by that art. He says by way of explanation, "Nam et gubernator vult salva nave in portum pervenire, si tamen tempestate fuerit abiectus, non idem minus erit gubernator dicetque notum illud" (For the pilot, also, desires safely to reach the harbor with his ship. If, however, storms prevent, he is none the less a pilot) and quotes the well known phrase "Dum Clavum Rectum Teneam". In a broad sense the words mean, then, that men should be judged by their loyal, steadfast, and proper adherence to duty and not only by success, which might have been acquired through chance or good fortune. This has been presented in a very scholarly manner in the *Pennsylvania Magazine*, Vol VI, October, 1882, pp 485-486, by the late Prof Oswald Seidensticker, of the University of Pennsylvania.

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No. 3

CAPTAIN WILLIAM CRISPIN

By M. JACKSON CRISPIN,
of New York City and of Berwick, Pennsylvania.

(Continued from page 131.)

Captain William Crispin by his first wife, Rebecca (Bradshaw) Crispin, had issue:

1. WILLIAM, of whom nothing is known except that he was baptized on June 24th, 1653, as shown by the registers of the Church of St. Olave, Hart Street, London. He undoubtedly died young.

2. SILAS, concerning whom later.

3. REBECCA, married (first) on October 24th, 1688, at Ifield Friends' Meeting, in Sussex, England, Edward Blackfan, son of John Blackfan,⁷⁶ of Steyning, County Sussex, England.

Her cousin, William Penn, Proprietor of Pennsyl-

⁷⁶ John Blackfan, of Steyning, father of Edward, appears to have been a man of some position in his locality. He early joined the Society of Friends and suffered much persecution for his religion. Besse, in his "Sufferings" reports several instances. In 1659 John Blackfan was prosecuted in the Exchequer for twenty pounds for tithes of eight and a half acres, when all the corn that grew on his land was scarce worth half that amount. In 1662, he was committed to Horsham Gaol, on a writ *de excommunicate capiendo*, after prosecution in the Ecclesiastical Court for refusing to pay towards the repairs of the Steeple House. In 1663 he and the others were prosecuted in the Ecclesiastical Court for being absent from public worship, and he was excommunicated and some of the others imprisoned.

vania, his wife Gulielma Maria Penn, and their children Laetitia and Springett Penn attended the wedding and signed the wedding certificate.^{76a} Edward Blackfan was a member of the Society of Friends, and like his father, came in for a share of the ill-treatment inflicted upon that Society. In 1681, he was indicted, with others, at Horsham Assizes, for absence from the national worship, and in 1684, for being present at some Quaker meetings at Steyning, according to Besse, he "was fined £7.18. which, at the persuasion of some Justices and others, he paid in order to Appeal, but when the Sessions came on, he found so little encouragement in prosecuting the same, that he chose rather to lose his money, than to be put to farther Charge."

Edward Blackfan intended to go to Pennsylvania and is spoken of in Penn's letters in 1689 as being about to take official documents to the Provincial Council, but when on the point of sailing, he died in 1690. His widow, with their son William afterwards went to Pennsylvania, in the same ship with Thomas Chalkley and other Friends, about 1700. She was a member of the Free Society of Traders in Pennsylvania, subscribing to £50 of its stock. On her arrival, her relatives, the Penns, sent her to take charge of their Manor of Pennsbury, in Bucks County, where she lived a number of years.

Edward and Rebecca (Crispin) Blackfan had one child:

William Blackfan, married at Friends' Meeting, 2d month, 20th, 1721, Eleanor Wood of Philadelphia. From them descend the Blackfan family of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Rebecca (Crispin) Blackfan married (second) in 1725, Nehemiah Allen, of Philadelphia, son of Na-

^{76a} The original marriage certificate now in possession of a lineal Pennsylvania descendant, Miss Elizabeth C. Blackfan, of Philadelphia.

thaniel Allen, previously mentioned as one of the Proprietary's Commissioners for settling the Colony in 1681, of whom her father, Captain William Crispin, had been one. She is not known to have had any issue by Allen.

4. RALPH remained in Ireland, and continued to live near Kinsale in County Cork.

An original vellum deed (in size 21 x 8½ inches) of gift for 500 acres of land in Pennsylvania to Ralph Crispin, as signed by his cousin William Penn, "Sixth Month Caled July"⁷⁷ 25th, 1688, is in the collection of John Frederick Lewis, Esq., Vice President of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania. By his courtesy it is here printed and reproduced:

William Penn Proprietary and Gover^r: of the Province of Pennsylvania and Countys Annexed To all persons to whome these presents shall come Greeting Know yee that I of my free Gift have Granted, and doe heareby give and Grant unto my Loveing Coszen Ralph Crispin the Son of Cap^t: William Crispin late of the Kingdome of Ireland Dicaased five Hundred Acres of Lands within the said Province of Pennsylvania To have and to hould the afores^d five Hundred Acres of Lands, unto y^e s^d. Ralph Crispin and his heirs to the onely use and behoof of him the said Ralph and his heirs and Assigns Yeilding and paying upon y^e first Day of the first Month Cal'd March Yearly forever unto me and my heirs two shillings for Every one hundred Acres of the said five Hundred Acres of Lands as a Quit-rent for y^e same, And I the said William Penn doe hereby nominate and appoint William Markham, Thomas Ellis, and John Goodson my Comm^{rs}. for Lands to Deliver Seizin thereof Accordingly, In Wittnes whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and Seale the Twenty fivth Day of the Sixth Month⁷⁸ Caled July Anno: Do: one thousand Six Hundred Eighty and Eight and In the third yeare of the Raigne of King James ye Second over England etc

Wm Penn
[Red wax seal
impressed with
the Lesser Seal
of the Province of
Pennsylvania]

⁷⁷ Here is a contemporaneous error in the name of the month, for which William Penn is responsible: the Sixth Month in that period was not July but August.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

The verso of the document:

Sealed & Deliverd in
the P^rsents of
Ro^t. Webb
W^m Penn^m

K n o w all men by these presents that I Ralph Crispin of Corke in the Kingdome of Ireland gent ffor and in consideration of the sume of Twenty seaven pounds ster to mee in hand paid before the perfection hereof by Ebinezer Pike the receipt whereof I doe hereby acknowledge and thereof and of every part thereof doe hereby exonerate acquitt and discharge the said Ebinezer Pike his Ex^r.s adm^r. and assignes, Have and by these presents doe assigne make over Bargaine and sell unto the said Ebinezer Pike his heires and assignes all my right title Intrest and claime in the wth.in menconed five hundred Acres of land in Pennsylvania wth.in menconed In witnesse whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and Seale this Twenty ffourth day of May Anno Dni One thousand Six hundred & Ninety and in the Sixth yeare of the Raigne of our Sovereigne Lord King James the Second &c

Raphe Crispin

Sealed and delivered in
the presence of us and
when the words (by Ebinezer
Pike) was Interlined

W^m Charters
Sam^l Hunt
Joⁿ: Browne Notar Publ

Endorsed:

William Penn
his Lease of 500
Accers of Land in
Pennsilvania
to R Crispin
& R Crispin to Ebenezer Pike

Ralph Crispin married, at Kinsale, first, in 1678, Anne Millner,⁸⁰ and second, in 1682, Anna Busted.⁸¹ He died at Kinsale and was buried there on June 21st, 1730.⁸² He left probably three children, as by deed,⁸³ dated May 10th, 1731, his son Silas sold a third part of

⁷⁹ This was yet another William Penn, possibly the son of Ensign William Penn, of Kinsale.

⁸⁰ Cork and Ross Marriage Licenses, index only, the originals being destroyed in the Irish troubles of 1922.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² Parish Registers of Kinsale.

⁸³ Registry of Deeds, Dublin, No. 68,338,48381.

William Penn's Original signed Deed of Gift on Vellum, with his Lesser Seal of the Province, conveying to Captain William Crispin's Son, Ralph Crispin, 500 Acres of Land in Pennsylvania, in 1688.



William Penn's Original signed Deed of Gift on Vellum, with his Lesser Seal of the Province, conveying to Captain William Crispin's Son, Ralph Crispin, 500 Acres of Land in Pennsylvania, in 1688.

property, called Ballynrustigg in Kinsale, which evidently passed to him on his father's death. George Crispin, constable of Clontead parish in 1718,⁸⁴ who married Elizabeth Reynar in 1714,⁸⁵ and Rebecca Crispin who married John Watts in 1704⁸⁶ were probably children of Ralph. Although the will of Ralph Crispin was destroyed during the troubles in Ireland, in 1922, yet the following abstract of it was previously secured (for which reason it is recorded here):

Will of Ralph Crispin, of Killcaha,⁸⁷ Co. Cork, Gent. (Wills Diocese of Cork)

To son Silas Crispin 1/—

My worldly substance to be equally divided into three parts,—

To son Silas Crispin, one third of my substance and the same to be left in my executors hands until such time as he is lawfully divorced from Margret Goshin and after that to give him the lawful interest of it and no more till such time as he is married lawfully to another woman, but if said Silas Crispin do not as aforementioned, his part is to be taken from him and divided between the two parts as follows,—

To grand-daughter Ann Shaw, alias Watts, one third part of my substance.

To grandson Edward Watts, one third part.

To the three children of Ann Shaw, alias Watts, named John, Ralph and Ann Shaw £10 each, to be put to interest until they come to 21 years of age.

To sister Amy Wester, alias Crispin £6.

To son George Crispin's children by name, Ann, Elizabeth and Rebecca Crispin, Ballyrusligge, if they can prove any right to it under my hand and seal, provided they pay £100 if they have a right to the said lands, that is, the two thirds of the same, said three children to give sufficient security to make good all leases, and contracts whatsoever that I am obliged to, and if they have no right to said land I give and bequeath my granddaughter Ann Crispin £10, Elizabeth Crispin £5 and Rebecca Crispin £5, said sum of £20 to be put out to interest till they come to the age of 21 years.

To Ann Browne Crispin alias Busteed £5

To Uslie Upington alias Busteed £5

" Mary Condon als Crispin £15

" Mary Condon, daughter to John Condon and Mary Condon, alias Crispin £3

⁸⁴ Council Book of the Corporation of Kinsale.

⁸⁵ Cork and Ross Marriage Licenses.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ Probably Kilcaha.

To grandson Ralph Crispin, the son of Thomas Crispin £5

To servant maid Nell Sheehy £2

“ “ boy Garrett Roch £2 together for Margaret Kewicke and Garrett Roch her son, a house and garden free for the term of 7 years.

To Teige Dally, the house he holds from Catherine Shaw at Brown's Mills, rent free for three years.

Executors, Nicholas Beamish, Sovereign of Kinsale and William Milard of Kinsale.

Dated 17th June 1730

Ralph Crispin (No seal)

Witnesses: Philip Ward

Tho. White

Dannell Murphy

Proved 13th March 1730 by Bartholomew Shaw and

Edward Watts, principal legatees named
in said Will, the executors having renounced.

5. RACHEL, m. Thomas Armstrong. William Penn granted her one thousand acres of land in Pennsylvania; he regranted this to her husband, by a deed dated 11th mo., 2nd, 1694, in which he acknowledged having some years before granted the same to Rachael Armstrong, by the name of Rachel Crispin “which grant is mentioned to be lost in the Wars of Ireland,” and therefore repeated it to Thomas Armstrong; five hundred acres to be disposed of for the support of him, his wife Rachel, and their child born, or children to be born, and the other five hundred acres to Silas Crispin, Samuel Carpenter, and Lasse Cock, in trust for Rachel Armstrong, her child, &c. At the meeting of the Board of Property held 6th mo., 1st, 1733, Samuel Mickle, of Philadelphia, requested a warrant for this one thousand acres, which was granted him, as it was shown that Rachel and her heirs had sold to Henricus Chapman, of London, who sold to Mickle. Thomas Armstrong and Rachel his wife, Robert Swiney and Jane his wife (one of the daughters of the said Thomas and Rachel), by deed dated May 15th, 1724, for forty pounds granted the said one thousand acres to Henricus Chapman, of London, who, together with George Armstrong, son and heir of Thomas and Rachel Armstrong, by deeds of lease and release, dated July 6th and 7th, 1731, granted the said one thousand acres to

Samuel Mickle, of Philadelphia. At the meeting of the Board of Property held 4th mo. 15th, 1736, a patent was signed to Samuel Mickle for two hundred and fifty acres on a branch of the "Parkeawining," in right of Rachel Armstrong, formerly Crispin. On 8th mo. 2nd, 1731, James Buckley requested a grant of about two hundred acres on the branches of the Octoraro to build a mill. This was afterwards confirmed to him in right of Samuel Mickle's purchase "made of the children of Captain Crispin," the minutes of the Board have it, but Mickle's purchase was from only one child of Crispin's.

Thomas and Rebecca (Crispin) Armstrong had issue:

Jane Armstrong, m. Robert Swiney (probably Sweeney):

George Armstrong, "son and heir."

Another child, or children (at least one daughter), name or names unknown.

Captain William Crispin was married, secondly, in 1665,⁸⁸ at Kinsale, County Cork, Ireland, to Jane Chudleigh, daughter of John Chudleigh of that place, as has been shown. She was buried at Kinsale on March 28th, 1718.⁸⁹ They had issue:

6. JAMES, see below.

7. JOSEPH, died unmarried, between 1687 and 1698, between the ages of seventeen and twenty-one years.

8. BENJAMIN, married (between 1698 and 1702) Alice. . . .

9. JANE, m. (between 1687 and 1698) Greenslaid Lucomb. A Jane Crispin married by License in 1692 Robert Prince, possibly a first husband.

⁸⁸ Herbert Webb Gillman. *Index to Marriage License Bonds of the Diocese of Cork and Ross, Ireland, 1623-1750* (Cork), Ireland, 1896-7) 26, 34 —also Cork and Ross Marriage Licenses.

⁸⁹ Parish Registers of Kinsale.

10. ELEANOR, d. unm. between 1687 and 1698, aged between seventeen and twenty-one years.

11. ELIZABETH, m. between 1687 and 1698, Millard: he died before 1702.

An Elizabeth Crispin married at Kinsale, August 25th, 1691, to Garrett Condon,—possibly a first husband.

12. AMY, married at Kinsale, May 20th, 1699, Daniel Jones.

William Penn, of his free gift, granted 8th August 1687 to James, Joseph, Benjamin, Jane, Eleanor, Elizabeth, and Amy Crispin, children of William Crispin by his second wife Jane (Chudleigh) Crispin, all minors at this time, 3000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, and named as Trustees Thomas Chudleigh, Martin Pierce and John Watts.

Fifteen hundred acres was to be sold for their "education, support, and settlement in life," and it was stipulated that if any child should die prior to the age of 17, that its portion was to revert to the Proprietary. No return of the laying out of this land was sent to the Trustees, and none was sold by them, but Jane Crispin, although left in straitened circumstances by her husband, had herself paid for the education of her children. Therefore, William Penn granted to her, "Jane Crispin of Kinsale, widow," November 22nd, 1696, this 1500 acres; an additional reason for this grant to her was, as stated in the deed, that Eleanor and Joseph had died after reaching 17 years and Jane, Elizabeth and James had married very well, while Benjamin and Amy were capable of supporting themselves. This land was afterwards inherited by her surviving children.

James Crispin married between 1687 and 1698 and removed from Kinsale to the Island of St. Christopher in the West Indies, where he became prominent in maritime affairs. He appears eventually to have obtained the entire 3000 acres above referred to, and while, according to the law of Pennsylvania, as eldest brother, he was entitled to two

shares of it, each of his brothers and sisters receiving one share, it is not clear how he acquired the remainder of the property.

In an account of the disposition of this land among the Penn Papers in the possession of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, it is stated that James' surviving brother and sisters Benjamin, Jane, Elizabeth, and Amy, by deed of May 10th, 1702, sold their rights to James, who died intestate, seized of three thousand acres, leaving issue. James Crispin's children were clearly considered the heirs of the whole three thousand acres, for about 1731 they sold all of their shares, aggregating this amount, to persons living in Pennsylvania, and their right was unquestioned until 1752, when a controversy arose about one of these sales. At this time, Thomas Penn wrote that he had in his possession a deed (Now owned by M. Jackson Crispin) of 1698, on which was endorsed a conveyance, dated July 30th, 1702, from Benjamin, Jane, Elizabeth and Amy, to Captain Arthur Smith, and that this appeared to be the original conveyance, thus they had not conveyed to their brother James. The reason for the conflict of these two conveyances is unknown; nevertheless it is certain that James Crispin's children were the actual owners of the property for their title was considered valid and accepted. It has been surmised that James Crispin had married a daughter (and possibly heiress) of Captain Arthur Smith, which could explain his possession of his brother's and sisters' rights, but as the name of his wife is at present unknown this is merely conjecture.

James Crispin was the Commander of the "St. George" Galley bound from Leghorn to London, loaded with a large cargo of merchandise. The "St. George" was attacked by two privateers and James Crispin so as to save the vessel, ran her ashore, on the island of Corsica, County of Laccindo in March 1711, which caused his ship to be badly damaged. Captain James Crispin, to save as much of the cargo, as possible, had to unload it in an unused barracks in the Gulf of St. Fiorenzo at Fornali nearby, and set up six cannon to guard it. While there, two large French privateers (galleys) strongly armed, and a galliot⁹⁰ came into the bay and sent boats ashore for provisions. Before landing they promised the Captain Commander of St. Fiorenzo that they would not make any attack on Crispin's ship. However, when they arrived on shore they told Crispin that unless he made

⁹⁰ A small galley.

them very good terms for his ship and cargo they would burn his galley. Crispin told them that he would defend his goods at all hazards and if they decided to come that he was prepared for them. They attacked him and the fight lasted from two-thirty to four-thirty in the afternoon. The Fort of St. Fiorenzo and the Tower of della Mortella joined with Crispin, and beat off the privateers in a hot fight. Crispin's battery fired so often that all of his six cannon were discharged every seven and a half minutes. Crispin's boat was repaired in due course and proceeded to its destination. Depositions concerning this matter were taken at Leghorne, and have been translated from the Italian.⁹¹

James Crispin had issue,—

Arthur Smith commanded merchant ships.

Prudence, m. . . Smith, of St. Christopher, 1752.

James, drowned off St. Christopher in a hurricane, 1731, died intestate, under 21 years, probably unmarried.

Richard, living in 1733.

Elizabeth, m. . Harris, living in St. Christopher, 1752.

Joseph, of St. Christopher. In Philadelphia, 1752.

Michael, living in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1751.

Joseph and Michael sold April 7th, 1752, to Thomas James, Jr., of the City of Philadelphia seven hundred and fifty acres of land, being their share of the three thousand acres given by William Penn, the Proprietor, to their grandmother, Jane (Chudleigh) Crispin.⁹²

⁹¹ Rawlinson MS. c. 683, Bodleian Library, Oxford.

⁹² *Penna. Archives*, 3S. vol. 2, p. 188 (Board of Property Minutes).

(To be continued)

ERRATA

First part of Captain William Crispin article, in April issue:

In the motto, frontispiece, and page 131, line 6, for *Clavum* read *Clavum*.

Page 100, line 22, delete *and*.

Page 115, line 11, for *Navy* read *Army*, as Robert Wadeson was Treasurer of the Army, not of the Navy.

Page 122, line 10, change footnote number 82 to 52.