

The Descendants of Richard Edwardes

King Henry VIII Tudor

It is suggested in some documents including in the book 'Edward's Legacy' by David Dean Edwards (1992), that it was whispered among some Tudor researchers that Agnes was mistress to King Henry VIII of England and that the son RICHARD was fathered by King Henry and not by William. But no solid proof has yet to be found if it ever will be. Nor has solid proof been found that Richard was the son of William either. It will be up to the researcher as to which line to follow. I believe that the evidence leans more towards the fact that Richard was the "bastard" son of the King and Agnes and my documentation here will reveal that line. It is documented that Agnes did have a son named Richard, but only 2 sons, William and Henry are shown to be positively the sons of William. Richard is said to have kept his Edwards last name out of shame for the indecency that his month engaged in.

King Henry VIII [Tudor](#) was born ca. 1491 and died ca. 1546. He had a mistress named Agnes Blewitt who was born 1509 and she died ca.1575.

The 1 child of King Henry VIII Tudor and Agnes is as follows:

I. Richard Edwardes

**** Note **** It has also been suggested that Agnes was the wife of William Edwardes, born ca. 1500 in England and died ca. 1547. The son Richard is the son that cannot be positively linked to William because records suggest that he was born from another man, King Henry VIII. He is known as the "bastard child" of Agnes.

The 2 known children of William Edwardes and Agnes are as follows:

- William Edwards
- Henry Edwards

I. Richard Edwardes

Richard was born 1523 in Somersetshire, England and died 1566 in Cadiff, England. He married Helen Griffith in 1563.

English composer and poet, who became Master of the Children of the Chapel Royal in 1561 and wrote two plays for them. His five surviving songs, of which the most famous is In going to my naked bed, show the influence of the Franco-Flemish style on English music before the arrival of the Italian madrigal. Three keyboard arrangements of 3 part-songs (only one assigned to him, but the other two assumed to be his from his authorship of the words) survive in MS.

English playwright Born in Somerset, Edwards was educated at Oxford, receiving both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree. He considered the law as a career, entering Lincoln's Inn Field, but never took up the practice. Instead he became master of the children at the Chapel Royal, where he created musical dramas that the children's choir could perform. The composition, 'Palamon and Arcite' was written for the Queen, and was performed at Oxford. Sadly this has since been lost. The Queen was impressed with the piece, and intended to bestow a gift on Edwards, but he died soon after the performance. Little more is known of Edwards' life. Edwards' importance as a playwright is that he instigated the basing of the English tragedy on the Latin classical model. His plays were classical in subject, but were set in a contemporary world. The only play of his that is still in existence is 'Damon and Pithias' (1571), and he notes in this his intention to follow Horace in his decorum. The play does not break up into parts in the way other plays of the time did in order, for example, to suggest the passage of time. In this way his play has been seen as having a more natural effect. It has been noted that his true talent was, however, for comedy. He helped to develop the popular appeal of Elizabethan tragedy in pioneering what was, in effect, comic relief in a play. One only has to look at the famous grave digger scene in Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' to see how great this influence was.

'Damon and Pithias' was a rhymed play about two Greek characters. Based on a Greek legend, it tells of how they both insist in giving up their life for each other, as one of them is to be executed by Dionysus. Dionysus is so impressed with their selflessness that he asks to join their brotherhood, and the execution is forgotten. Edwards also compiled the influential 'Paradyse of Dainty Devises' (published posthumously, 1576), a collection of minor poets of the 1560's and 70's.

Of Corpus Christi College and Christ Church, Oxford, was master of the children of the Chapel Royal, 1561. He composed Palamon and Arcite (now lost) for Queen Elizabeth's entertainment at Oxford, 1566. The Excellent Comedie of ... Damon and Pithias (printed 1571) is his only extant play. He was the compiler of the Paradyse of Dainty Devises, published after his death (1576).

The 1 known child of Richard Edwards and Helen Griffith is as follows:

II. Richard Edwards

II. Richard Edwards, Jr.

Richard was born Abt. 1554 in Cardiff, England.

The 1 known child of Richard Edwards, Jr. is as follows:

III. Joshua Edwards

III. Joshua Edwards

Joshua was born 1580 in Cardiff, England.

The 1 known child of Joshua Edwards is as follows:

VI. William Edwards

VI. William Edwards

William was born 11/01/1620 in Glenn Morganshire, England.

More info:

"*WILLIAM EDWARDS, son of Richard was born 01 Nov 1618/1620 in London. The Edwards at that time were residents of Edwards Hall, near Cardiff, Glamorganshire, Wales. WILLIAM had at least four sons, William (who settled in Jamestown, Virginia), John, *THOMAS and Robert. Some accounts say the brothers came to the colonies together and settled on land granted to them by the King of England. There was a William Edwards, son of Reverend Richard Edwards of Wales, who came to Boston, Mass. with his stepfather, William Coles in 1630 and settled in Hartford Connecticut about 1636. This information, and the fact that WILLIAM, son of RICHARD, died in Hartford, Connecticut, make it extremely likely that it was our ancestor WILLIAM who was the original immigrant from Wales"

The 1 known child of William Edwards is as follows:

V. Thomas Edwards

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Thomas was born 1639 in Edward's Hall, Glamorganshire, Wales and died 1671. He was the captain of the ship 'Society'. He married Elizabeth Hael (Hall) in 1660. She was born in 1639 and died in 1699.

The 1 known child of William Edwards is as follows:

VI. Robert Thomas Edwards

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Robert was born 1662 in Wales and died 1739. He married Margaret Cuelin on 12/25/1685 in Glamorgan, Wales. She was born in 1666 in Denbigh, Wales and died 1738.

The 6 known child of Robert Edwards and Margaret Cuelinis as follows:

VII. Thomas Nathaniel Edwards

- Henry Edwards
 - John Edwards b. 1683
 - Robert Edwards b. 1685
 - Haydon Edwards b. 1687
 - Richard Edwards b. 1694
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VII. Sir Thomas Nathaniel Edwards

Thomas was born 10/14/1690 in Stafford, (England) Wales and died 2/11/1781 in Maryland. He married Isabel (Elizabeth) Downing on 3/17/1713. She was born in 3/12/1693 in Cardilf, Glamorganshire, Wales and died 1783 in Maryland.

At the beginning of the Revolutionary War, SIR THOMAS, although very old, was active in supporting the English government and became personally responsible for goods bought in New York for the British Army. At about that time he died, and Robert Edwards II administered the estate. It is documented that he resided in St. Mary's County, Maryland as early as 1678.

The 9 known child of Thomas Nathaniel Edwards and Isabel Downing are as follows:

- Joseph Edwards
- Robert Edwards, II. b. 2/24/1714
- Joshua Edwards b. 1718
- William Edwards b. 4/08/1720
- Thomas Edwards b. 7/07/1723
- Leonard Edwards b. 1725
- John Crawford Edwards b. 2/10/1726
- Jacob Edwards b. 1729
- Martha Edwards b. 1731 d. 1799

Sources Referenced: Captain Bill Book Three - A Genealogy of the Catawba River Valley of SC; FTM's Family Archives, Disk#11, Tree#4088.

VIII. William Edwards

William was born on August 4, 1720. He married 1 Sarah Hilliard on 9/10/1747 b1710 d1784 and child John Jackson Edwards b1750 in Baltimore.

Or the same William is also shown as marrying Polly Cramer on 5/8/1747.

William Edwards may have upwards of 18 children. Here are the ones I found:

Joseph Edwards b1742 married Hannah b1742. Child is James b16/4/1765 d11/8/1825 Warren, OH,USA married Elizabeth Stooky.

Marty Edwards b15/4/1750 d1781 married Mills Nevel Drury Child is Priscilla Drury b1805

Jesse Edwards b3/4/1754 d2/11/1856 married Catherine Skilman or Beekham. Child is Elizabeth b14/10/1781

*Drucilla Edwards b4/3/1755 d18/9/1841 married John Jones on 26/12/1798

James Edwards b1759 d1816

Peter Edwards b3/6/1760 d5/9/1840 married Rhoda Clark.

Robert Edwards b1776 d 1802

Spencer Edwards b1780 d1860 married Katy Riddle child is Elizabeth b1819

Possible additional wife is or more likely to a different William Edwards is Jane Taylor.

IX. Drucilla Edwards

Drucilla Edwards was born on March 4, 1755 and died on September 18, 1841. She married John L. Jones on December 26, 1798.