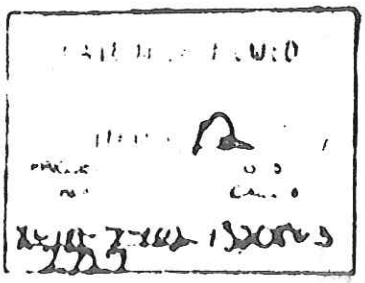
Descendants of Lewis ap John in Pennsylvania.

(Derived from Nannau)

Notes and Queries.

By

P. S. P. Conner.



The "Agreement"

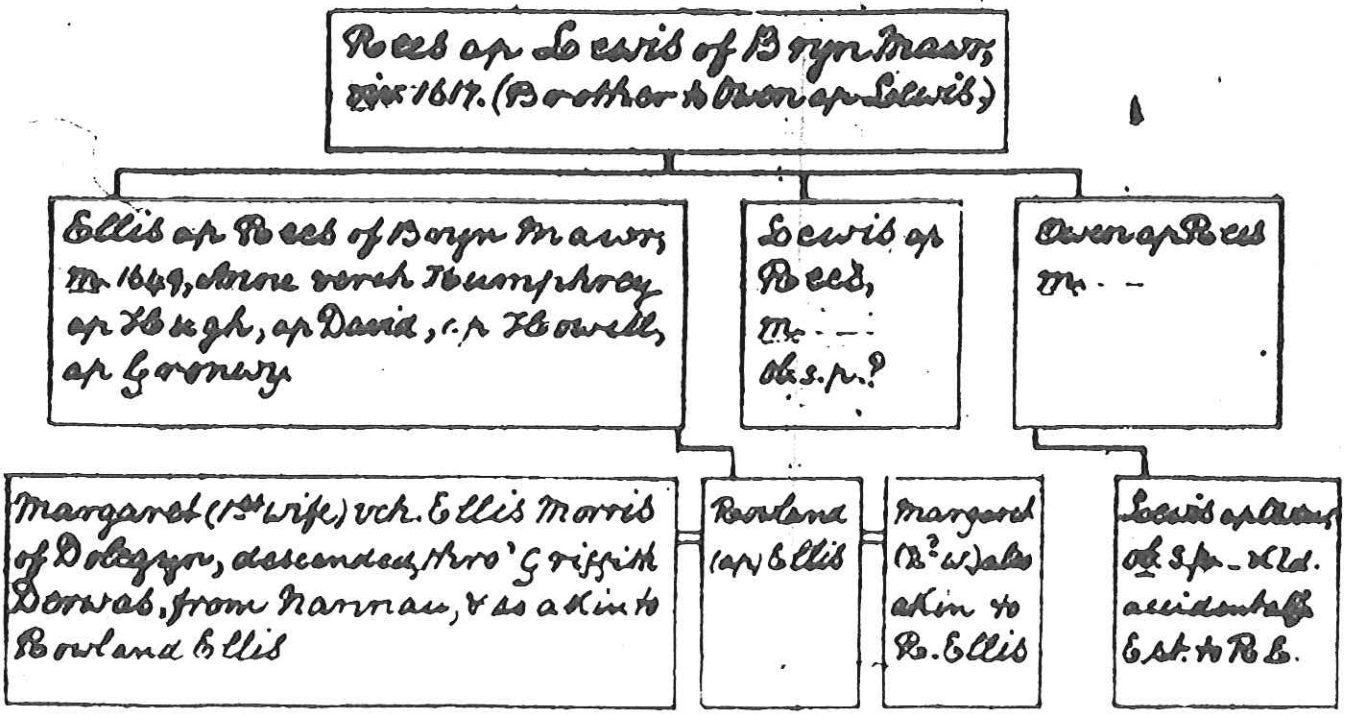
The "Agreement" referred to is the one relative to the depasturing of the "Extent Mawr," near Dolgelly, made on Aug. 28, 1654, between the following nineteen parties; to wit,—Griffith Nanney, Esq. John Lloyd, Esq., Robert Vaughan, Esq., Tudor Vaughan, David Ellis, Owen Lewis, Ellis Morris, Griffith Lloyd ap Ellisey, Owen Tudor, Richard Humphreys and Howel Vaughan of the one part; and, of the other part, Lewis ap John Griffith, Griffith Simon, John Williams, Griffith ap Robert, Lewis ap Rees, Ellis Lewis ap Tudor, Sir Richard Lloyd and Lewis Anwyl.— After the recital of the various articles of the "Agreement" come the signatures of thirteen of the parties concerned, six of the original 19 mentioned in the preamble; viz.*, not giving their hands. (*Howel Vaughan, Lewis ap John Griffith, Griffith ap Robert, Lewis ap Rees, Sir Richard Lloyd and Lewis Anwyl.) Following the signatures is the accompanying "Schedule" giving the name, place, and number of cows allowed, of each of the 19 parties mentioned.

The "Schedule."

Sir Richard Lloyd's allowance [of cows, to pasture on "Extent Mawr"] for Bryn y Castell and Tir Extent bach, 9.—Griffith Nanney, Esq. Plâs y Brithdu, 7.—Jo'n Lloyd for Trefeilia, Hafod, Cae Tyddyn, Ednyfed, and Pen yr allt, 18.—Robert Vaughan, Esq., for the 2 ten's called Gwengraig Uchaf, 7.—Tudor Vaughan for Cefn Coch ucha and issa, 7.—Howell Vaughan for Gwengraig eitha and Hefn y clawdd, 8.—David Ellis for Gwanas, 6.—Owen Lewis for Tythyn Mawr and Tyddyn y Garreg, 16.—Ellis Morris for Dolgyn ucha, 5.—Richard Humphrey for Tythyn Pwll, alias Coea, 8.—Lewis Jo'n Griffith for Dewisbren and Dreberfeder, 9.—Owen Tudor for Pandu & Gorder and Mass Coch, 8.—Griffith Simon for Cwmcorysyl, 8.—Jo'n Williams for the half of Gwengraig issa, 5.—Griffith ap Robert for the halfe of Gwengraig issa, 8.—Griffith Lloyd ap Elliseg for Frith yr enrych and Dregerrig, 6.—Lewis ap Rees for [illegible] and Mass yr helme, 5.—Lewis Anwyl for Pylhyn y frurth [?], 5.—Ellis Lewis ap Tudor for Cwm Curynch, 6.—In all 19 owners and 151 cows.

N.B.—For the full terms of the said Agreement refer to p. 420, Vol. XV., "Collections of the Powys-land Club," for the year 1882.

Table 1.* — (Refer to the Pedigree)



** Ellis Morris of Dolegyn, near Dolgelly, a well known Bard or gentleman of his day (vide the above Table, also the Pedigree and the Schedule &c.) As shown above, he was the father of Rowland Ellis's first wife. There is a deed (executed in Wales, A.D. 1682) to him from Richard Davies, of Welshpool, for land in Pennsylvania. This deed is recorded in Book E.I., Recorder of Deeds Office, Philadelphia. The witnesses are: Rowland Owen, David Evans, Rowland Ellis, Owen Lewis, Jr., Owen Lewis and Evan Harry. In this deed Morris is called "of Dolgynlcha, in co. Merioneth, gentleman". Besides this one, there are two other deeds accompanying it, conveying land in Pennsylvania from the said Davies, recorded in the above mentioned Deed Book; viz., one to Lewis Owen of Gwanas in said co. of Merioneth, gentleman, witnessed by Rowland Owen, Ellis Morris, Rowland Evans, Evan Harry; and the other deed, to Rowland Owen of Gwanas, or Gwenas, in said co., gent., witnessed by Ellis Morris, David Evans, Evan Harry & Rowland Ellis.

Notes and Queries.

(1) — Lewis ap John (ap Griffyd or Griffith, ap Howell of Nan-
au) of the Pedigree: — Was he not the same person as the Lewis ap
hn Griffith of the Agreement of August 28, 1654? Aged then
out 80 years? — If so, then the Lewis ap John of the Pedigree
as, apparently, possessed of Dewisbren and Dreberfeder; see the
hedule attached.

(2) — Judwr Vaughan of the Pedigree (whose daughter Mary
arried Owen, son of Lewis ap John): Was he not the same
s the Juder Vaughan of the Agreement (vide Schedule &c)? If
, then the Vaughan of the Pedigree was owner of Cefn Cochucha
d Issa. (P.S. — He was alias Theodore Vaughan of Caerynwch, near Dolgelly.)

(3) — Owen ap Lewis, of the Pedigree, husband of Mary dau. of
udwr Vaughan. If Owen's father owned Dewisbren & Dreberfeder
: I infer that Owen inherited one if not both of these places, or
least lived in their vicinity. This Owen Lewis must not be
nfounded with the Owen Lewis of the Agreement, owner, accor-
ng to the Schedule, of Tythyn Mawr and Tyddyn y Garreg, —
his latter gentleman was descended from Baron Lewis Owen who
as killed by outlaws in 1555. The family of the Baron and that
Owen Lewis of the Pedigree were of different origins.
N.B. — As Bryn Mawr, the house of Rees ap Lewis brother to the
wen ap Lewis of the Pedigree, stands within two miles of the town
Dolgelly, south from it, I infer that the said Owen's place, whatever
may have been named, was somewhere in that neighborhood.
Bryn Mawr was built by Rees in or about the year 1[illegible], see the Or-
nance Map for this and other places herein mentioned.

(4) — Robert ap Owen of the Pedigree: He lived during the mid-
le of the 17th century, and was fifth in descent from Howell of
annau. In what parish did he live, and where is his will re-
rded? Was he of Dreberfeder? Or of Dewisbren? for it seems
at both of these places belonged to his grandfather Lewis
p John. In 1756 Dewisbren was owned by Hugh Rowland Owen
the family of Baron Owen above mentioned.

To return to Robert Owen of the Pedigree: Was he a Quaker? It will be noticed that his wife was Margaret the daughter of Sion (John) ap Lewis, of the line of Griffith Derwas: Where was this branch of the ancient family of Hannau seated? It is most probable that the wedding of Robert and Margaret took place in the parish church of the bride; hence its discovery might reveal much relative to both families. This couple, as shown by the Pedigree, had at least two children; viz., a daughter named Margaret, the second wife of the well-known Quaker gentleman Rowland Ellis of Bryn Mawr, in county Merioneth, who, removing to Pennsylvania, died at Gwynedd, there in, A.D. 1739; and a son called Lewis ap Robert or Lewis Owen, indifferently, to whom the next note refers.

(5) Lewis ap Robert or Lewis Owen, as indifferently called: He must have died before 1708, probably not long after his son Ellis' birth, which occurred in or about the year 1680, for his (Le R's) widow Mary had a daughter by her second husband, Owen Robert, old enough to marry in 1717, which she did in Pennsylvania. There is no record of this Lewis Robert, or Lewis Owen, in America; but there may be at Mount Mellick, in Ireland, where his family was from about 1699 to 1708, when its members came to Pennsylvania. That the Lewis Robert who signed Certificate of Removal from Tyddyn y Garreg, Wales, to Radnor Meeting in Pennsylvania, from 1683 to 1707, could not have been the one who was the father of Ellis Lewis of the Pedigree is evident from what is stated above; but the Lewis Robert (unless the same person as the Certificate signer) who, along with Cadwallader Thomas, Rowland Ellis, Hugh Roberts, Evan Rice, Griffith John, Gainor David and Elizabeth Williams, was imprisoned (being Quakers) in 1676, may have been he that is the father of Ellis Lewis of the Pedigree. (See Besse's "Sufferings" of the Quakers, Vol. I.) Possibly, after all, Lewis Robert, the father of the said Ellis was not a Quaker and hence notice of him must be looked for in records other than those of the Friends. Where did this Lewis ap Robert live? At or near Denisbren or Drelorfeder, both of which places seem to have belonged to his great grandfather Lewis ap Ithon? The statement that Lewis ap Robert's sister Margaret was the wife of Rowland Ellis, of Bryn Mawr, may afford a clue to the history of the said Lewis's place of residence and the parish in which it lay.

(6) — Mary, the wife of Lewis ap Robert, of the Pedigree:— Of what parentage and family was she? It may afford some clue to mention that she and her people were about sailing for Amer-ica in 1698 (or '97?) the year Rowland Ellis came finally, having sent their household goods in advance; when illness prevented their following. Thus detained in Wales, they went to Ireland (Mt. Mellick, Queen's County) and thence to Pennsylvania, in '98. As already shown, she must have been a widow and have mar-ried her second husband Owen Robert before 1700, for, in 1717, 4th day, 3d. month, Lydia, her daughter by this second husband, was married to Benjamin Mendenhall, at Gwynedd Meeting, said Province. I subjoin the Welsh names attached to the Kindred line of her marriage Certificate; they are as follows:— Owen Robt, Mary Robt (her father and mother), Robt Robert (her brother), Hanh Roberts, Ellis Lewis (her half-brother), Griff-ith Roberts, Cadr Roberts, Ellis Pugh, Thos. Pugh, Robt Pugh, Thos. Ellis, Griffith Owen, Hugh Griffith and Job Pugh. If any of these names can be personally and locally identified in Wales, it may lead to a full understanding as to who Mary and Owen Robert were. The latter died at his place, in the said Gwynedd township, in 1788, his will being registered at Phila-delphia in the same year, the witnesses being Thomas Foulke & John Evans, the latter Rowland Ellis's son-in-law. — John Hugh and John Humphrey are appointed "overseers," being called his "trusty friends," while his wife Mary is named as his sole executrix.

(7) — Lewis ap Rees, of Maes yr Helmo and another place illeg-ible in the MS. — See Schedule: Was he not the same person as Lewis the uncle of Rowland Ellis? The latter, upon the marriage of his said uncle and the accidental death of his cousin Lewis ap Owen (ap Rees, ap Lewis ap John of the Pedigree) without issue, in or about the year 1688, became entitled under a settlement made by his grandfather, Rees ap Lewis of Bryn Mawr (vide Ped.), to the es-tate of the said Lewis ap Owen. (See also Table X.) Rowland Ellis, in company with the following Welshmen, all of whom are designated "gentlemen"; excepting Edward Thomas who is called a "yeoman"; became a first purchaser of land in the Province of Pennsylva-nia, by grant from its founder William Penn. The list is as follows:—

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The said Rowland Ellis, Lewis Owen, Robert Owen, all of Merionethshire; and Charles Lloyd, Richard Davis [Davies?], Margaret Davis [Davies], widow, John Humphreys and the said Edward Thomas all of Montgomeryshire — See "List of First Purchasers," in Read's "Explanation" to map of Philadelphia, printed in said city in the year 1774.

(8) — Ann, the dau. of Rowland Ellis (by his first wife, v. Pedigree), married, in 1696, the Rev. Richard Johnston, curate of Dolgelly: — Is the present residence of this family of Johnston known?

(9) — Howell Gruffydd, father of Ellen the wife of Lewis ap John: — Who was this Howell? I presume, a well known, or he would have been fully described.

Information on the above points will greatly oblige the subscriber,

Philip S. P. Conner

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Harara, near Rowlandsville,

Cecil County, Maryland.

July 26, 1894.