

My great grandfather "Nicholas Trist,"  
(Son of Browse & Elizabeth Trist of the town  
of \_\_\_\_\_ Devonshire England) came to  
America during the Revolution, and was  
Lieutenant in the "Royal Irish" of which  
his brother Browse Trist was C<sup>o</sup>. at Bunker Hill

My great grandfather married in Phil<sup>a</sup>  
a Miss "Elizabeth House", she was a woman of  
much ability, & was known & respected by M<sup>r</sup> Jefferson  
M<sup>r</sup> Monroe & James Madison; these gentlemen all  
were her friends personally, and corresponded with  
her, she had one child a son "Hore Browse Trist" born

17, he was educated partly in  
England, where he visited his cousins at  
the old Trist Estate of "Bowden" in  
Devonshire, he married in Phil<sup>a</sup>

17 a Miss Mary Brown, a great  
beauty and a lady of ability, whose  
mother "Catherine Colquhoun" (Cathoun)  
was of Irish birth & descent, the family  
being descended from the Earls of Leinster  
she married a M<sup>r</sup> Brown & came to

America (U. S.) where she had a very large family of sons & daughters, her daughter "Mary" married "Hore Browne Trist Esq." he moved to Va<sup>a</sup> their eldest son Nicholas P. Trist was born in Charlottesville Albemarle C<sup>o</sup> Va<sup>a</sup> June 2<sup>d</sup> 1800. the second son Hore Browne Trist J<sup>r</sup> was born in Washington D. C. 1802 they had no other children, my grandfather bought the Estate of "Birdwood" near Charlottesville Va<sup>a</sup> where he lived until Mr<sup>r</sup> Jefferson appointed him<sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> Collector of the Port of "New Orleans" after the purchase of Louisiana, 1802, he sold "Birdwood" & removed to La<sup>a</sup> where he died 1804 of Yellow fever; his wife remained in La<sup>a</sup> where she married Mr<sup>r</sup> "Philip Livingston Jones" of New York - he died in a few years leaving no children, he requested that my father should take his name

"Philip" which accounts for the P  
in his name, which had been "Nicholas  
Trist" after his grandfather. My  
grandmother after some years  
married a 3<sup>d</sup> time a M<sup>r</sup> Julian de Tournillon  
a french gentleman, who had been saved by a  
faithful negro from the "Insurrection in Hayti"  
& brought to L<sup>a</sup>. my grandmother had two  
children by this marriage Mary de Tournillon  
who married D<sup>r</sup> Thomas Cottman of L<sup>a</sup> &  
"Julian de Tournillon" who married 1<sup>st</sup> a  
Miss "Landry" by whom he had 3 children  
"Rosella Tournillon", & "Ada Tournillon" & a  
son "Julian", always called "Tournillon". Rosella  
married a M<sup>r</sup> "Montgomery" of N. C. "Ada"  
married a M<sup>r</sup> "Dick Bond" of L<sup>a</sup>, she has  
a son, & M<sup>r</sup> Montgomery has a daughter,  
my uncle Julian "de Tournillon" married a 2<sup>d</sup>  
time a Miss "Pediisloe" he had by her  
several sons one named Nick, & one Bruce.  
I believe, what became of Julian Tournillon the  
son of my uncle's 1<sup>st</sup> marriage I never knew.

My great grand mother "M<sup>rs</sup> Nicholas Trist"  
nee "House", <sup>lived</sup> was living for several years with  
her mother, my great grand father having <sup>soon</sup> almost  
~~immediately~~ <sup>after his marriage</sup> given up his commission in the British army, &  
removed to Louisiana then belonging to  
Spain" & which was of course "neutral  
ground," there he purchased an estate  
& prepared a home for his wife & child;  
in 17 my grandfather being then a small  
child too young to undertake such a  
journey my great grandmother left him  
with her mother in Phil<sup>a</sup>, and set out on  
a long journey to join her husband in  
La<sup>a</sup> there is a journal kept by her giving  
an acc<sup>t</sup> of this winter journey to "Pittsburgh"  
on horse back - my great grandmother  
took with her a young cousin her mother's  
niece " Polly Stretch " afterwards M<sup>rs</sup> Spogell  
(mother of M<sup>rs</sup> Peaco, & Caroline & Mary Spogell)  
& "Polly" was a brave & an unselfish girl or she never  
would have consented to the hardships &  
the perils of such a journey. They rode

on horseback to "Pittsburgh" taking 3 weeks for the winter journey, they staid at "Pittsburgh" all winter having <sup>while</sup> a flat boat was built, on which they were to go down the "Mississippi," they left in the Spring, and after weeks of perils from Indians, & from "Snags" in the river, & suffering from heat & mosquitoes, they reached Natchez, where my poor great grandmother heard of the death of her husband three weeks before; the shock was so great that she fainted and was so long unconscious that they almost despaired of her recovery; but the brave woman rallied & continued her sad journey, she arrived at last at the "Home" prepared for her, where she found every comfort & elegance of the time; even a trained riding horse which came neighing up to the piazza to receive the lumps of sugar which the servants told her, "Master" always gave him, saying "I hope soon that your mistress will be here to give this with her own hands." M<sup>rs</sup> Trist & her young Cousin Polly

remained two years on the plantation,  
& in New Orleans, before M<sup>rs</sup> Trist could  
settle "matters," she wrote to M<sup>rs</sup> Jefferson  
saying "that she should lose so much  
by "exchange" of currency "that she should  
not carry away from Louisiana as many  
dollars as her husband had brought pounds.

Finally after weary delay M<sup>rs</sup> Trist  
& "Polly Stetch" sailed in a Spanish  
vessel for "the Havana" where they were  
detained three or four months, waiting  
for a vessel to take them to "New York"  
which they finally reached, having escaped  
the "Algerine Pirates" which then infested  
our waters. M<sup>rs</sup> Trist kept a journal  
during her stay in Louisiana, and giving  
an account of her stay in N. O. & her  
sea voyage to Havana, her experiences  
while there, & her "voyage" to "New York"  
this journal with all of <sup>her</sup> letters & papers  
were left with her niece "Mary House"  
who married "M<sup>rs</sup> Peachy Gilmer" & lived

## "Albemarle" Co

at "Pen Park" in Henry County for some time,  
Cousin Emma Gilmer (M<sup>rs</sup> Beckenridge of  
"Grove Hill" Botetourt Co) wrote me that  
two trunks of my great grand mother's  
papers were burnt by the "Gankees"; but I  
hear that some of the "Gilmer" family have  
numbers of letters addressed to my great  
grand mother by M<sup>r</sup> Jefferson, M<sup>r</sup> Madison  
& M<sup>r</sup> Monroe & other men of "Eminence",  
and Cousin "Emma" says her "Journal" was  
deeply interesting & most romantic. Those  
trunks must have been mines of  
interesting matters, and probably of valuable  
relics in the shape of St Memin's copper  
plates, & his miniatures of many interesting  
persons; I wonder that my father never  
claimed her papers! which contained all  
her letters from her husband, & some I  
have one of my great grand father  
"Nicholas Trist," and none of my grand father,  
"M<sup>r</sup> John Gilmer" who died at the "Louise  
Home" in Washington within the last 10

years recovered some few of my great  
grand mother's papers, which she gave  
me. My great grand mother died  
at "Monticello" when I was two years  
old,<sup>1825</sup> she is buried there, but I do not  
know in what part of the grave yard  
she was laid. I have letters of her's  
written to her grand sons "Nicholas P. Trist"  
and "A. B. Trist" when they were youths in  
La living at "Bayou La Fourche" with  
their mother & step father "M<sup>r</sup> Journillon",  
my father attended "the Collige d' Orleans",  
where he rec<sup>d</sup> some prizes signed by  
"M<sup>r</sup> D'Arcy" the President of the College.  
My father came to Monticello when  
he was 17 to go to the "University of  
Va" which not being yet opened "President  
Monroe" gave him ~~the~~ "Commission for West  
Point" & he had to take it from La  
altho born in Va, because Va had her  
quota of Cadets at "West Point."

My great grand mother never returned  
to La. she lived at "Pen Park" with her  
niece "Mary Gilmer," and at "Birdwood"  
Albemarle Co., and she boarded afterwards  
at M<sup>rs</sup> Diver's "Farmington" Albemarle Co.,  
her letters are dated from all of these  
places - she must have lived with her  
mother M<sup>rs</sup> House, <sup>Phil<sup>a</sup></sup> & also in "New Jersey,"  
until after her son "Holl. Browne Trist" was  
grown and married, soon after which  
he must have moved to "Charlottesville"  
where my father "Nicholas Trist" was born  
my great grand mother "Brown," accom-  
panied her daughter to La. where many  
of her children lived married & died,  
she <sup>did</sup> not live my "grand mother," who died  
in my father's arms; he had been sitting by  
her all the evening at the tea table, & she  
had spoken to him of the satisfaction  
she took in his engagement to "Virginia  
Randolph" for my grand mother Trist, had  
a great love & admiration for my grand mother

"Martha Randolph" they were old friends and she said to my father "it will be a great comfort to me when I die to leave my "Little Mary" to be brought up by your wife Virginia Randolph." soon after this, my grand mother retired & my father was sitting reading, when M<sup>rs</sup> Lornuillon came in hurriedly and said "go to your mother she is ill," while I said "Browse" for the D<sup>r</sup>;" my father hurried to her room, & found that she had stepped out on the Piazza, he went immediately to her, she requested him to help her to her bed, but she died in his arms, before she reached her room, she had great beauty and a very superior mind, she had brought my father & uncle up with the greatest care, instilling into them, the highest principles, and great devotion to each other; they never seemed to know or feel any separate interests; she also trained them to have the most remarkably "easy

graceful manners", for which they were  
noted as children, and as men; she taught  
them to cultivate their hearts as the greatest  
source of happiness; after "honor & integrity,"  
they absolutely idolized their mother,  
and next to her they loved each other;  
my father always said "that to displease his  
mother was their greatest dead"; they were  
also much attached to their grand mother  
"Brown," and never forgot her tenderness  
and her indulgence to them. my father  
was 4 years old & my uncle 2 years when  
they lost their father, he died of yellow  
fever in N. C. August 29<sup>th</sup> 1805<sup>1805</sup>.

My grand-mother some years after his death  
married M<sup>r</sup> "Philip Livingston Jones" he had known  
and loved her as the beautiful "Mary Brown",  
and went to Louisiana to renew his address  
when she was a widow. My grandmother finally married  
M<sup>r</sup> Jones" and the "Philip" in my father's name, came  
from a request made by M<sup>r</sup> Jones that it might be added, to  
the Nicholas; as Browse had the 3 names Hore Browse Trist