

THE FOLK FAMILY

The FOLK name is spelled in such diverse ways as Folke, Foulk, Foulque, Fowke and Fulk. An unpublished manuscript giving the history of the Folk family traces its ancestry back to the year 40 BC, showing descent from the Kings of Scandinavia. The Swedish noble Folke lived about 1100, marrying Ingegaerd, daughter of King Canute the Great who died in 1086, and was the ancestor of the Folke family which furnished a line of Scandinavian kings, the Folkungs, who ruled in Sweden, Norway and Denmark from 1250 to 1365.

A family of the name of Foulque, or Fulk, settled in France at an early date. In the 10th century, simultaneously with the conquest of Normandy by the Northmen, or Scandinavians, the Foulques rose to great prominence as the Counts of Anjou. From them were descended the Plantagenet kings of England who ruled from 1154 to 1485, the Angevin kings of the Sicilies who ruled from 1266 to 1399 and the Angevin kings of Hungary who ruled from 1308 to 1382. One traditional origin of the Folk family is that they are descended from the Counts of Anjou, the family name being originally spelled Foulque or Fulk. If this tradition be true, in view of the aforementioned Scandinavian ancestry of the Folk family, it would appear probable that the ancestor of the Counts of Anjou was one of the Folke family of Scandinavia who migrated to western or northwestern France near the beginning of the 9th century.

During the Conquest of England by King William the Conqueror in 1066, members of the Folk (Foulque or Fulk) family settled in England. From them are descended the Baronets Folkes, the Baronets Fowke and the family of Fooks.

During the Reformation, beginning in 1529 with the rise of Protestantism, many members of the Folk (Foulque or Fulk) family remaining in France identified themselves with the Huguenots. Because of the bitter persecutions during the reign of King Louis XIV (1643-1715), many Huguenots fled from France. Some settled in Germany, others in Holland, others in Switzerland.

The Norman-French family of Folk (Foulque or Fulk) bore a coat-of-arms: "Sable a lion Or armed Gules, fronting a stork Argent", some members varying the arms to show "Per pale, Vert and Gules, a fleur-de-lis Ermine" or "Vert, a fleur-de-lis Argent".

The FOLK family of South Carolina, whose name in early records was also written Foulque, Foulk and Fulk, is descended from:

I. JACOB FOLK, according to family tradition a native of Wenningstadt, Germany, though there is a possibility that he was a native of Willemstadt, Holland. He came to the United States in 1740/41 and settled in the Dutch Fork section of Newberry-Lexington County, South Carolina. Among his children was

II. JACOB FOLK, who was born in Germany (or Holland) and came to South Carolina with his parents. He first settled at Old Granby, three miles south of Columbia, where he was a tanner by trade, and lived with a Mr. Cary in partnership for five years. Around 1750 he moved to Pomaria, S. C. where he married CATHERINE EPTING, daughter of Capt. JOHN ADAM EPTING, leader of a group of settlers who came from Wenningstadt, Germany to Newberry County, South Carolina, receiving a royal

grant, dated 28 November 1749, of 250 Acres on Grim Creek, opposite Upper Saxe-Gotho Township in the Fork between the Broad and Saluda Rivers. Jacob Folk was born prior to 1740; he died 20 June 1774, leaving a family of seven children, among whom was

III. JACOB FOLK, born 24 December 1772 at Pomaria, Newberry County, S. C.; died 10 November 1845 in Colleton County, S. C., being buried in the Churchyard of Wesley Chapel, a Methodist Church which he helped to organize and build. In early manhood he moved from Pomaria to Barnwell District, S. C. where in 1799 he was appointed by the South Carolina State Legislature as "one of the Commissioners to Lay Out and Keep in Repair a Road from Charleston to Augusta; to Buxton's Ferry and passing Old Cowpen Ford on Little Saltcatchers direct to Orangeburg". In 1803 he removed from Barnwell District to Colleton County where he became possessed of a large estate. In 1797 he married MARY ELIZABETH HOWARD (born 1780, died 18 February 1839), daughter of John Howard who came from Maryland/Virginia to Barnwell/Colleton County, S. C. where he became the owner of large tracts of land. Among the twelve children of Jacob and Mary Elizabeth were:

IV. (a) JACOB FOLK, born 17 March 1802 Barnwell County, S. C.; died 16 March 1891; he married in 1822 OLIVE BRAHAM KEARSE (born 7 Sept. 1803, died 13 Jan. 1836, daughter of Jacob Kearsse and his wife, Nancy Brabham). Among their eleven children were:

V. (a) 1. JOHN FRANCIS FOLK, born 11 Oct. 1822; died 11 Mar. 1861; married MAHALA ELIZABETH PLATTS (born 22 May 1820, died 14 December 1897); among their eight children was

VI. (a) JOHN JACOB FOLK, born 20 June 1845; died 14 March 1918; he married (1) MARGARET R. L. DURR, (born 29 Oct. 1844; died on the Brazos River in Texas 26 May 1870, daughter of John L. Durr and his wife, Margaret (Amanda) Byrd) on 3 Oct. 1866; they were the parents of one child: MARY OLIVE ELIZABETH ("Minnie") FOLK (born 23 Nov. 1868 in Texas, died 18 Sept. 1895 in Orange, Texas; she married her cousin, ELLISON CAPERS FOLK, see below).

V. (a) 2. Henry Nimrod Folk, born 5 Feb. 1836, died 28 Nov. 1918; married (1) 27 Aug. 1857 Mary Rebecca Weissinger (born 25 June 1841, died 8 Oct. 1869, dau. of Johannes Weissinger and his wife, Martha Meldred Zeigler) and (2) 18 May 1870 Elizabeth Ann Felder (born 30 Apr. 1839, died 13 Aug. 1909, dau. of Evan Darley Felder and his wife, Elizabeth Jane Zeigler); among his children was:

VI. (a) 3. Henry Calhoun Folk, born 4 Dec. 1869; married 12 Apr. 1893 Elizabeth Weissinger (dau. of John Jacob Weissinger and his wife, Virginia Hutto) and was the father of:

1. Ethel Folk, married R. B. Still
2. Lucile Folk, married Prof. J. C. Guilds
3. Henry Nimrod Folk, married Simmie Rowe McMichael
4. Leonard Folk, married Clarence E. Black
5. John W. Folk
6. Mary Folk (who died in childhood)
7. Virginia Folk
8. Oliver Faber Folk

IV. (b) LEVI FOLK, born Colleton County 1815, died 1849; married

(1) 6 Nov. 1834

14 March

27 Feb.

on 6 Nov. 1834

to March

6 Oct.

3.

(1) SARAH COPELAND (born 1813, died 1844); (2) Susan Catherine Grimes (1824-1896). By his second wife Levi Folk left a dau., Ella Folk who married a Mr. Ray and lived in Florida. By his first wife, Sarah Copeland, Levi left a son:

V. (b) JACOB LEVI FOLK, born 21 Nov. 1857; died 6 July 1885; he enlisted as a Private in Co. D, 24th Inf., Confederate States Army 9 Apr. 1862; in Oct. 1862 he was promoted to 5th Sgt., in Feb. 1863 to 4th Sgt. and in Aug. 1863 to 3rd Sgt.; In Oct. 1863 he was commissioned 2nd Lt. and in Feb. 1864 was promoted to 1st Lt.; on 23 Dec. 1858 he married ELIZABETH ANNE WEISSINGER (born 16 Nov. 1833, died 29 January 1904, dau. of Johannes (John) Weissinger (13 Feb. 1801-21 Dec. 1843) and his wife, Martha Meldred Zeigler who died 17 June 1858, dau. of Jacob Zeigler and his first wife, ~~Martha Piquet~~ ^{Mary Ann Pendergris}.) Their six children were:

1. Meldred Zimmena Folk, born 30 Mar. 1864

2. Jacob Weissinger Folk, born 22 June 1867, died 23 Sept. 1950, married Anna Oteria Gray, born 3 Mar. 1873, died 8 January 1958. Their eight children were: ^{died 23 Oct. 1958}

1 June 1912
17 Aug 1916
28 Apr 1948

Jasper Dunham (11 Aug 1886 - 5 July 1975)

a. Vinona Folk, born 7 Sept. 1890, married "Jack" Peeples and left two children: ^{Carmen} ~~Ercell~~ Peeples who married Job McGowan and had no children and J. D. Peeples who left three children: ^{H.} ~~Ellen~~ ^{Ellen} ~~Mariz~~ 1941, ^{Robert D.} ~~Robert D.~~ 1944, ^{Jasper David} ~~Jasper David~~ 1948

b. Owen Weissinger Folk (28 Dec. 1891 - 16 Apr. 1925) mar. Juanita Thomas; 3 children: (1) Elizabeth Folk, married Stanley Carter, 3 children, (2) Helen Folk, married John Goodwin, 2 children, (3) Owen Weissinger Folk, Jr.

c. Elizabeth Pearl Folk (24 July 1894 -) mar. (1) William G. Clifton; one child: James Clifton married Willie Lou Wall and had 3 children: Barbara, Carolyn and James; (2) Eugene Mosely; two children: Rebecca Oteria Mosley who married Wellings Blackmon and left 4 children: David, Lena, Katherine and Renea, and Eugene Mosley who married (1) Lydia Haselden; 2 children: Elizabeth and Margaret, and (2) Del Miles; 1 child: Anna.

d. Pearl Bulalie Folk (28 July 1896 -) mar. J. Martin Williams; 5 children: 1. Owen, 2. Leland, 3. Harold, 4. Wallace, mar. Lucile Norris, 6 children: Norris, James, Nancy, Janet, Owen and David, 5. Lois, mar. Elisha Myers, 2 children.

e. William Ellison Folk (3 Aug. 1899 -) mar. Eliza Oakman Hay Frampton; 2 children: 1. Caroline Oteria Folk (16 Apr. 1923 -) mar. Alvin Eusebius Caldwell, one child, deceased; 2. William Ellison Folk, Jr. (8 Feb. 1925 -) mar. Virginia Uldine Ham; 3 children: Janet Carol, William Ellison III and Julia Virginia.

f. Reba Catherine Folk (25 Mar. 1902 -) mar. William Mosley; 6 children: Mattie Sue (deceased), Christine, Ruth, Otis, Myrtle and Betty.

g. Anna Erma Folk (2 Oct. 1909 -) mar. Edison Sauls; 6 children: Louise, Hazel, Rosena, Eddie, Caskell and Jerold. Anna Erma Folk married as her second husband, Joe Shynkarek; 2 children: Lottie Fay and Oteria.

h. Jessie Carlton Folk (26 Oct. 1912 - 6 Nov. 1936) mar. Virginia Garris; 2 children: 1. Quintilia Folk mar. William Dean Aultman, 3 children; and 2. Laney Carle Folk, married Eddie Warner, 1 child.

3. ELLISON CAPERS FOLK (24 Apr. 1869 - 14 August 1934) mar. (1) Mary Olive Elizabeth ("Minnie") Folk, (23 Nov. 1868 - 15 Sept. 1895) only child of John Jacob Folk, 20 June 1845 - 14 Mar. 1918, and his first wife, Margaret R. L. Durr, 29 Oct. 1844 - 26 May 1870. John Jacob Folk married (2) Ella E. Ayer (1857-1893) by whom he had three children and (3) Daisy H. Watts by whom he had nine children. John Jacob Folk was a son of John Francis Folk (see above V. (a) and VI (a) who was a first cousin to Jacob Levi Folk, father of Ellison Capers Folk. Ellison Capers Folk and Mary Olive Elizabeth Folk were the parents of two children:

a. Mahala Varie Folk (11 Dec. 1892 - 25 Jan. 1978) mar. Johnston Peeples, M.D. (5 Sept. 1897 - 15 Apr. 1959) and had six children: 1. Johnston Folk Peeples, 2. Otis Benjamin Peeples, 3. Rev. Charles LaMada Peeples, 4. Mahala Olive Peeples, who mar. Charles Forrest Sumner, Jr., 5. William Peeples and 6. Paul Wiggins Peeples, M.D.

b. Margaret Anne Folk (1 Dec. 1894 - 20 Feb. 1983) mar. 8 June 1915 Robert Rhodes Peeples (4 Mar. 1890 - 22 Jan. 1947); 3 children: 1. Rev. Robert Epting-Howard Peeples who married Cora Zelma McKenzie, 2. John Randolph Peeples who married 9 Sept. 1947 Ruth Elizabeth Pate and had four children: John Randolph Peeples, Jr. born 25 Dec. 1948, David Dwane Peeples born 21 Mar. 1951, Derbianna Peeples born. 2 July 1953 and Margaret Celia Peeples born 31 Jan. 1957 and 3. Margaret Ruth Peeples, born 29 Apr. 1926 at Estill, South Carolina.

4. Joel Wyman Folk (25 Jan. 1871 - 24 May 1871).

5. Elizabeth Jane Folk (14 April 1872 - 1960) mar. Samuel Sanders; one child: Leon

6. John Gustavus Folk (8 January 1874 - 14 Dec 1919); m. (1) 28 Jan 1898 Jesse Franklin Mears (3 Jul 1877-12 Sep 1912, daughter of John T. and Laura Catherine (Folk) Mears; 6 children:

- a. Daughter (20 Nov 1898-20 Nov 1898) Unnamed.
- b. Unnamed Son (18 Apr 1901-18 Apr 1901).
- c. Clarion Coy Folk (10 Jul 1902-21 Nov 1943)m. 22 Mar 1932 Mrs. Helen Elise (Kearse) Ellington (24 Aug 1912- Oct 1948, dau. of Jacob Thompson & Lois Elise (Steadman) Kearse); 2 children:
 - (1). Clarion Coy Folk, Jr. (1941-) m. Mildred Parker.
 - (2). Gustavus Kearse Folk (1943-) m. Sep 1969 Shelia Lynn Bowen, dau. of Clyde Albert Bowen of Greenville, SC
- d. William Gerard Folk (9 Feb 1904-1Apr 1934) m. 15 Feb 1930 Addie Mae Rawlerson (23 Jul 1908-

e. John Gustavus Folk, Jr. (16 Apr 1908-30 Dec 1930); unmarried.
This paper was prepared from records selected and compiled by the Rev. Robert E. H. Peeples on 23 May 1960.