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# BUCHANAN FAMILY RECORDS.

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An Account of the First American Settlers  
and Colonial Families of the Name of  
Buchanan, and Other Genealogical and  
Historical Data, Mostly New and  
Original Material Including  
Early Wills and Marriages  
Heretofore Unpublished.

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BY

WILLIAM M. CLEMENS

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*Limited Edition.*

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**BUCHANAN FAMILY RECORDS.**

CONTAINING

Scottish Ancestry.  
Maryland Buchanans.  
President James Buchanan.  
Patrick Buchanan's Family.  
The Buchanans of Missouri.  
New York Buchanans.  
Revolutionary Records.  
New York Marriages.  
Members of Congress.  
Pennsylvania Muster Rolls, 1776.  
Early Virginia Marriages.  
Virginia Wills.

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# THE BUCHANAN FAMILY.

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The origin of the name Buchanan is believed to be shown on an ancient pedigree of the O'Cahans, of which the 102nd name is that of "Conn Clonn-tach O'Cahan" (son of Dermod), who had a brother, Annselan, who was ancestor of the O'Bo-cainains (from the Irish "bocain," a fairy, and "an," one). The name became O'Buchanan, or Buchanan. This Annselan is believed to have been the first of the name who settled in Scotland.

About the middle of the Thirteenth Century, Gilbert, seneschal to the Earl of Lennox, obtained from him Buchanan, in Stirlingshire, and probably took his name from that estate. It is also thought to have had an ecclesiastical origin, from the fact that in its Gaelic form, it is "Mac-a-Chononaich" ("son of the Canon"). The family in very ancient times bore the name of "Mac Anslan," and it is believed by some authorities that, on the passing of the lands and chiefship of the clan to an ecclesiastic, the name was changed.

Maurice of Buchanan received a charter of confirmation of his title to the estate from the king.



In it he is called "son and heir of the late Maurice of Bouchannane of the land called Bouchannane." The charter includes Sallachy. The bounds are "from Kelyn to Aldmar, down to the water of Hanerch, and the lands of Sallachy down to the pool of Longchlomneid." The lands were to be held "by the delivery of a cheese out of each house in which a cheese is made on the said lands."

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A descendant of Gilbert, Maurice of Buchanan, married a daughter of Menteith of Rusky, who was related to the Royal House. His son, Walter, married the heiress of the ancient house of Leny. Their eldest son was Sir Alexander, who fought at the Battle of Bauje-en-Anjou, 1421, under Stuart, Constable of France, and is said to have slain the Duke of Clarence. He was killed in the Battle of Vernenil, in 1424. His brother, Walter, succeeded to Buchanan. This Walter married Isabel (daughter of Murdoch, Duke of Albany), Countess of Lennox. Their eldest son, Patrick, married the heiress of Killearn and Auchreoch. Their youngest son, Thomas, was the ancestor of George Buchanan, the historian. Patrick's son, Walter, married a daughter of Lord Graham. Their youngest son was known as the "King of Kippan," of the time of James V. Patrick, who was killed at the Battle of Flodden, mar-





ried a daughter of Argyle, and had two sons, George, Sheriff of Dumbarton, 1561, and Walter, founder of the family of Spittal. He married Margaret Edmondston of Duntreath and had a son, John. By his second wife, Janet Cunninghame, of Craigends, he had a son, William, who was ancestor of the line of Auchmar.

The ancient war cry of the Clan Buchanan was "Clar Innis," from their meeting place on an island of that name in Loch Lomond. Their badge was the "Deare bhraoileag" (bilberry), or "Da-rag" (oak).

---

One branch of the family in America is descended from George Buchanan, who was born in Scotland about 1698. He came to America in 1723, and became a physician of Baltimore, Maryland. His wife was Eleanor, daughter of Nicholas Rogers. George Buchanan died in 1750. His son, Andrew, of Baltimore, was born in 1734. He was Presiding Justice of Baltimore county. In 1744 he was a member of the Committee of Correspondence, and, in 1776, Brigadier-General of Maryland troops. He married Susan, daughter of Alexander Lawson, one of the Commissioners of Baltimore. His son, Doctor George Buchanan, of Baltimore, was born in 1763, and died at Philadelphia in 1808. He received his degree of M. D.



at the University of Pennsylvania in 1789. He was President of the Royal Physicians' Society, of Edinburgh, Scotland. His wife was Letitia, daughter of Hon. Thomas McKean, Chief Justice, and Governor of Pennsylvania, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and President of Congress. Their son, McKean Buchanan, was born in Baltimore. He entered the United States Navy in 1826, and was an officer of the frigate, *Congress*, which was destroyed by the *Virginia*, under the command of his brother, Admiral Franklin Buchanan, of the Confederate Navy.

Other members of the family were Judge John Buchanan, of the Maryland Court of Appeals, and for twenty-one years Chief Justice. He died near Williamsport, in his seventy-first year.

Thomas Buchanan, of Washington county, Maryland, was also a jurist of ability. He died in 1848.

---

James Buchanan, the fifteenth President of the United States, was the second child of James Buchanan, a native of County Donegal, Ireland, who, in 1783, at the age of twenty-three, came to Philadelphia. A few months later he removed to Stony Batter, at the foot of North Mountain, near Mercersburg, and some years later had a store at that place. This was a place of exchange of the products of "the West" for those of the East, and the



father of the future President soon had a prosperous business. In 1788 he married Elizabeth Speer, whose home was at the foot of South Mountain, between Chambersburg and Gettysburg. Their son, James, was born at Stony Batter, April 23, 1791. In 1796 the family removed to Mercersburg, where the father opened another store. He died in 1821. The old Buchanan home at Mercersburg was the lower part of what is now the Hotel Mercer.

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Patrick Buchanan, born April 16, 1745, in Tyrone county, Ireland; married, February 7, 1776, Margaret Scott, born February 22, 1753. He died November 19, 1824. She died in her 93rd year. He was an elder and she a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church.

Issue:

1. Anne, born December 25, 1776, died April 11, 1864.

2. John, born January 2, 1779, married July 14, 1819.

3. Elizabeth, born April 16, 1781, died January 15, 1878.

4. Mary, born August 17, 1783.

5. William, born January 11, 1786, married August 10, 1806.

6. James, born January 11, 1788, married April 13, 1825, in Cooper County, Mo.



7. George, born March 24, 1790, died January 13, 1854, in St. Louis, Mo.

8. Andrew, born July 6, 1792, in Lisbony, Ireland; married December 4, 1828, in Florence, Ala., Harriet Paxton Coalter, and died May 1, 1860, in Louisville, Ky.

9. Charles, born October 4, 1794, in Ireland, died, unmarried, November 18, 1835, in Louisville, Ky.

George Buchanan arrived in New York, May 22, 1816. He lived in Louisville, New Orleans and St. Louis. He was twice married.

James Buchanan married, April 13, 1825, Eliza ———. He lived in Booneville, Cooper county, Mo.

#### Issue:

1. Jane Anne, born May 20, 1826.
2. Patrick, born November 10, 1828.
3. George, born March 3, 1831.

John Buchanan was a lieutenant in the 43rd Regiment of Foot, 1813, with Lord Wellington.

Andrew Buchanan married Harriet Paxton Coalter. She was born at Duck River, Lincoln county, Tenn., near Fayetteville, February 19, 1810, and died in Louisville, Ky., October 3, 1886.

#### Issue:

1. Mary, born March 21, 1820, married September 21, 1859, in Louisville, Herman Beckurts, and died April 19, 1879, in Cannon City, Colo.





2. Margaret, born May 17, 1832, died February 5, 1853, unmarried.

3. Harriet, born June 10, 1834, died January 2, 1837.

4. George Coalter, born July 19, 1836, married December 15, 1858, in New Orleans, Emily Louise Ferrian.

5. Charles, born May 31, 1838, died February 9, 1864, unmarried.

6. Andrew, left Lisbony, Ireland, May 11, 1822, arrived in New York, June 24, 1822; was made a citizen October 12, 1827, at Florence, Ala.

George Coalter Buchanan, born July 19, 1836, in Louisville, Ky., married December 15, 1858, in New Orleans, La., Emilie Louise Ferriere, born December 25, 1838, in New Orleans, and died August 2, 1889, in Toronto, Canada.

Issue:

1. Cora, born November 9, 1859, died September 21, 1865, in Augusta, Ga.

2. George C., born March 31, 1861, in New Orleans.

3. Harriet C., born December 18, 1862, married Clifton Atkinson, in New Orleans.

4. Emma, born November 21, 1864, in Augusta, Ga.



5. Andrew Scott, born May 18, 1869, in Louisville, Ky.
  6. Ada, born February 22, 1867.
- 

Thomas Buchanan was a king among early New York merchants, and his firm was in existence for full fifty-five years, and was known in 1766 as Walter and Thomas Buchanan. Between that date and the close of the Revolution the firm changed, and became Thomas Buchanan & Company. Walter lived at 4 Duane Street, where he died about the close of 1804. His son, Doctor Walter W. Buchanan, lived in Hudson Street, not far from Duane. Then he moved away and was gone until 1825. He came back to the city that year, and lived at 114 Grand Street, corner of Broadway.

Thomas Buchanan became very prominent from 1792 to 1809, when he took in his son George, as a partner, and the firm was Thomas Buchanan & Son. The firm was in business at 44 Wall Street as late as 1816. The residence of Thomas was at 64 Broadway. George lived at the home of his parents. Thomas died in November, 1815, aged 71.

Thomas Buchanan married Almy, a daughter of Jacob Townsend. They had issue eight children. 1. Jane Buchanan, died unmarried. 2. Almy, married Peter P. Goelet. 3. Martha, married Thomas Hicks. 4. Margaret, married Robert R. Goelet. 5. Eliza, married Samuel Gilford. 6.



George Buchanan, born September 7, 1775. 7. Frances, married Thomas C. Pearsall. 8. Fanny Buchanan, died unmarried.

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Among New York Buchanans in the Revolution were:

Ebenezer Buchanan, Albany Co.

James Buchanan, Orange Co.

John Buchanan, State Line.

Patrick Buchanan, Albany Co.

Robert Buchanan, Ulster Co.

Samuel Buchanan, State Line.

William Buchanan, Suffolk Co.

---

Among the Revolutionary officers of the name are Andrew and William, of Maryland; Andrew, John, Patrick and William, of Virginia; John and Robert, of South Carolina; Thomas, of Pennsylvania, and Robert, of New York.

General David Chrystie Buchanan fought for the Union in the Civil War, at the Battle of Malvern Hill.

---

Following is a record of early marriages of Buchanans in New York State:

1778, May 19, David Buchanan and Mary Connell.

1771, Dec. 26, John Buchanan and Sarah Harrison.



The following Buchanans were members of Congress:

BUCHANAN, Andrew, a representative from Pennsylvania, born in Chester county, Pa., April 8, 1780, died in Waynesburg, Pa., Dec. 2, 1848.

BUCHANAN, Hugh, a representative from Georgia, born in Argleshire, Scotland, Sept. 15, 1823, died in Newman, Ga., June 20, 1890.

BUCHANAN, James, representative and a Senator from Pennsylvania, born in Cove Gap, near Mercersburg, Franklin county, Pa., April 23, 1791, died in Wheatland, near Lancaster, Pa., June 1, 1868.

BUCHANAN, James, a representative from New Jersey, born in Ringoes, Hunterdon county, N. J., June 17, 1839.

BUCHANAN, John Alexander, a representative from Virginia, born in Smyth county, Va., Oct. 7, 1843.

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The Pennsylvania Muster Rolls, of 1776-1783, contains the names of the following Buchanans:

James Buchanan, 1779, Washington Co., private.

David Buchanan, 1781, Northumberland Co., private.

James Buchanan, 1782, Northumberland Co., private.





Thomas Buchanan, 1782, Northumberland Co., private.

Robert Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

Arthur Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

John Buchanan, 1783, Westmoreland Co., private.

John Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

James Buchanan, 1777, Lancaster Co., private.

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The Virginia marriages of Buchanans, taken from original records, are as follows:

BUCHANAN, David & Wright Steel, Sept. 4, 1789, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, George & Nancy Casady, June 23, 1803, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Jean & James Parks, May 4, 1786, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, John & Martha Wilson, June 7, 1796, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, John & Mary Patton, June 17, 1749, Augusta Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Mary & Conrad Moler, May 4, 1826, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Patsey & David Dice, Oct. 9, 1823, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Peace W. & Saml. Pettegrew, Oct. 22, 1812, Rockbridge Co., Va.



BUCHANAN, Phebe & Coleman Clayton, Oct. 11,  
1825, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Sarah & Thos. Wood, Aug. 27,  
1759, Fauquier Co., Va.

---

Among the early wills filed in Virginia, and never before published, are those of Joseph of Prince William county, and James of Rockbridge County, and are as follows:

BUCHANAN, JOSEPH.

Prince William Co., Va. Will filed Feb. 26,  
1738.

wife Elizabeth.

s. John Buchanan.

s. Joseph Buchanan.

s. Hoanie Buchanan.

s. William Buchanan.

s. George Buchanan.

bro. George Buchanan.

bro. Joseph Buchanan.

BUCHANAN, JAMES.

Rockbridge Co., Va. Will filed June 6, 1797.

James Bell, g. s. of Victor Bell.

Jerry Bell, s. of Victor Bell.

Mary Neagle.





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GENEALOGY, 45 William Street, New York, records the following Buchanans who are wanted as heirs to estates:

Buchanan, Arthur, New York.

Buchanan, Elizabeth, *nee* Gedder.

Buchanan, James, died 1850.

Buchanan, Maria, New York, 1880.

Buchanan, Peter, marreid 1840, Susan Muller.

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Following pages clippings  
inserted in original

forfeited to the state where they lived because no heirs could be found. Sometimes the relatives hear of these heritages too late, sometimes they even start a lawsuit but fail because of insufficient evidence, and other times they never know of these fortunes because they have lost track of their kinsfolk; so it behooves you to know who your relatives are and where they live.

Any matter dealing with the claiming of money left by an ancestor or a relative is generally termed an heirship case. There are countless thousands of them every year. A survey over the United States shows that there are millions of dollars "escheated" or forfeited to the state governments every year. This is done when no heir appears to claim the money or property left by any person. In New York City alone, as high as \$600,000 has been given to the treasury at one time. In California, lists showing hundreds of thousands of dollars of unclaimed bank deposits are published every few years. Every state in the Union has similar actions and it has been estimated that more than \$100,000,000 is escheated or lost every year because no heirs appear to claim their portions. The work of proving relationship in a case like this should be entrusted to a genealogist who has specialized in this line. Even lawyers prefer to engage a qualified genealogist rather than to do this work themselves, on account of the unavoidable traveling, the special research required, and the peculiar interstate laws which must be carefully observed. If there is unrecovered money due you from the estate of some relative or ancestor, investigate before it is too late, but be sure you have a trustworthy attorney, and a reliable genealogist experienced in this particular work.

As in all other things, there are two kinds of heirship case, the good and the bad. Usually they can be quickly differentiated, because any case more than fifty years old is ordinarily outlawed and beyond recovery. Most fortunes lying unclaimed in foreign countries were forfeited to the rulers at the time of the World-War. Whatever the proposition, it is always advisable to consult a

*Genuine  
Heirship  
Cases*

*Phantom  
Heirship  
Cases*





reliable attorney before taking any definite action. With his advice, and a knowledge of both the difficulties to be encountered and the cost to be met, you can easily gain a fair understanding of the proposition and of your chances of success. Both for the sake of interest and as a matter of warning, there is given herewith a list of so-called "phantom" estates, and you are specifically advised not to invest any money in them with the expectation of becoming an heir. There are enough good cases so that you do not need to bother with any like those. Just make sure you know who your relatives are and where they live, and you may find something really dependable "up in your family tree."

"The following is a list of *phantom estates* which have been a source of revenue for claim lawyers for many years, with a table showing their *supposed* value and the number of heirs among whom they will be divided *when recovered*:

	HEIRS	ESTATE
Anneke Jans, .....	1,000	\$ 317,000,000
Baker, .....	87	250,000,000
Sir Hugh Mosher, .....	—	200,000,000
Chadwick, .....	5	37,000,000
Edwards, .....	160	90,000,000
Joseph Wilson Ingraham,.....	—	500,000,000
Hyde, N. G., .....	200	12,000,000
Hyde, Ann, .....	150	360,000,000
Hyde, Brooklyn, .....	1	5,000,000
Jennings, .....	1,835	400,000,000
Hedges, .....	—	250,000,000
Kern, .....	100	200,000,000
Leak, .....	—	100,000,000
Mackey, .....	1	10,000,000
Merritt, .....	80	15,000,000
Shepherd, .....	15	175,000,000
Trotter, .....	200	200,000,000
Townley-Chase, .....	—	1,800,000,000
Lawrence-Townley, .....	1,000	500,000,000
Van Horn, .....	20	4,000,000
Webber, .....	60	50,000,000
Weiss, .....	4	20,000,000

Grand total: 22 estates, 4,918 heirs. Value of estates, \$5,490,500,000." (!!!)

Reference; *Genealogical and Historical Record of the Carpenter Family, J. Usher, 1883, page 62.*



ms J-147-

Phoebe Ann Buchanan  
my marriage papers  
was dau of "James  
& Mary Buchanan  
(co. clerk's office),  
(don't know James'  
parentage)

A great ~~grand~~ grand daughter  
of Phoebe Annis -

FRANCIS E. Schmidt.

Library has my address  
from slips.

name in Illinois

1943 is CLAYTON R



Enoch, David, William, Jane (?). He 1830) from Warren or Clermont County, Edgar County, Illinois, where he died, widow and children. (F. B.)

**Darling.**—Wanted: Parentage of Luling, who married (1801) at Richmond, Stephen Page, and settled at Hancock, Vt.

**d.**—Wanted: Parentage of Abigail Gould, (9) at Salem, Mass.; married (1) — John Thomas. (H. W. P.)

**Munsell.**—Wanted: Information and concerning one Ann Munsell, born (c. 1708) ticut.

**inson.**—Wanted: Maiden surname of who married (1735) Thomas Dickinson, born (1708) in Hartford, Conn.

**Hunter.**—Wanted: Family history, marriage, etc., of Jacob Hunter, who was a member of Captain Andrew Cumings' company in Colleton County, S. C., from Saltwater and Edisto Districts. He moved (about 1780) to Roberson County, Tenn. (C. H. H.)

**Hurlbut.**—Wanted: Ancestry of John (1760-1824), born at New Milford, Conn., son of Ulysses (now Ithaca), N. Y., married (1785) Tillah Southwick, of Williamstown, N. Y., and had John, with his brothers, Henry and Chauncey, who moved from Conn. to N. Y. State. John (1785) married Ithaca, Chauncey at Chenango Forks, and Henry on the Comensky River, Pa.

rs

2. **Snyder.**—A certain Henry Snyder, son of Christopher Snyder of Hunterdon County, N. J. (immigrated about 1730), was living at "Snyder's Patent," Albany County, N. Y., and his brother, Jacob, served in the Revolutionary War. Jacob, "the miller," at the close of the war moved to Pennsylvania and founded a settlement on Shamokin Creek, Northumberland County. There is a power of attorney, issued by Henry Snyder, of Albany, N. Y., to "his brother Jacob Snyder" of Hunterdon County, N. J., and John Snyder, of Northampton, Pa. (A. R. M.)

2. **Munro.**—Benjamin Munroe (born 1730) married (1) Mary Ormsby, and had issue: (1760); Jacob (1762); Benjamin (1765); Joseph (1777); Benjamin (1779). He married (2) Ruhamah Luther (1767-1847) and had issue: Alice Allen (1803); Jacob (1805); Thomas (1806); Thomas Jefferson (1809); John (1811). From Records of the State of Massachusetts, Benjamin Munroe served (1777)

as a private in Rhode Island Militia (D. A. R. No. 39080). From "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the American Revolution," XI 208, Benjamin Munroe was a private in Col. Thomas Carpenter's regiment; service 16 days; company marched from Rehoboth to Bristol, R. I., on the Alarm of December 8, 1776. (N. M. M.)

(631) 5. **Shawan.**—It may assist the inquirer to learn that "Ruddles Mills" is in Bourbon County, near Cynthiana, Ky. (F. B. Culver, Editor.)

(632) **Buchanan.**—From the "History of Stratford, Conn.," by J. Guthrie Smith, of Glasgow, Scotland: "George Buchanan of Blairlusk sold this estate to his brother William and moved (1674) to Ireland, where he married (1675) Elizabeth Mayne and had four sons: (1) John, of County Tyrone; (2) William, of same county, who was father of Patrick whose son Robert was father of General Thomas Buchanan (1776) and of Alexander Buchanan, of Cumberland County, Pa.; (3) George, settled in Munster and from him were descended George and Andrew Buchanan of Louisville, Ky. (1857); (4) Thomas, of Ramelton, County Donegal, from whom descended James Buchanan (born 1761), father of James Buchanan, President of the United States. There were several Buchanan families, before 1775, in Cumberland County, Pa. (W. F. B.)

(632) **Buchanan.**—John Buchanan of County Donegal, Ireland, was a brother of James Buchanan (born 1761) who is said to have been the only one of his family to immigrate (1783) to America and who married Elizabeth Speer, sister of Rev. William Speer (1764-1829), a Presbyterian minister. (W. F. B.)

(649) 1. **Avery.**—If the inquirer will write to Miss Cleora Francelle Smith, Horace Mann School, Minneapolis, Minn., he will obtain data desired.

(649) 2. **Smith.**—Cleora Francelle Smith, who married George W. Avery, was the daughter of John Trefeathern Smith and was my father's youngest sister. John Trefeathern Smith (1803-1884) married (1827) Mary Ann Bates (1806-1884). He was the son of Biley Hardy Smith (1756-1833), born in Raymond, N. H., died in Cornville, Maine, by a second wife, Lydia Elkins (died 1848). Biley Hardy Smith was a private in Capt. Hezekiah Hutchins' Company, Col. James Reed's N. H. Regiment; enlisted 1775. (C. F. S.)

(650) **Sabin-McNeil.**—Israel Sabin, from Uxbridge and Rehoboth, Mass., married (1749) Beulah Albee. There were Sabins at Weare, N. H., at an early date. Many of the families near Richmond, N. H., left after the Revolution and settled near Hancock, Leister and Salisbury, Vt. (H. W. P.)

(652) **Eggleston.**—Many years ago, I saw the Ambrose Eggleston mss., which were then in the



(660) Buchanan.—Mr. Frederic J. Haskin, Director of the Haskin Information Bureau, Washington, D. C., writes: The latest reference that we find to the Buchanan estate appeared in the New York Times, December 24, 1930, page 2, column 7, as follows—"Albany relatives of William Buchanan, who died one hundred years ago, were informed by Surrogate Hetherington that a search of the Surrogate's records in Queens County had failed to produce any trace of a will in which Buchanan disposed of \$850,000,000 worth of real estate in the heart of New York City. The relatives said they understood the will provided they should receive the \$850,000,000 worth of real estate 99 years after Buchanan's death." Careful investigation should be made before investing any money in attempts to recover unclaimed estates. F. B. Culver, Editor.)

There is no evidence so far that James Buchanan, the President, ever was owner or was interested in any real estate in New York City or State. Inventory of his estate (1868) was published as amounting to about \$300,000, consisting of stocks, bonds and realty (local) accumulated during his forty years activity. (W. F. B.)





## HEIRS TO ESTATE OF 850 MILLIONS CAN'T FIND SAME

### Search Brooklyn for "Buchanan Riches."

New York, July 6.—[Special].—An estate of 850 million dollars in central Brooklyn realty which can't be found in the tax records, left by a man who apparently lived and died unrecorded, although said to have been a brother of President James Buchanan, is being sought by a growing number of "heirs" from all parts of the United States and Canada under the terms of a will drawn a century ago which has been carelessly mislaid.

The first "heir" wrote eight months ago to Surrogate George F. Wingate's court in Brooklyn. Some fifty more have written since, and still the number grows.

All assert they are descendants of one George Buchanan, who, dying a century ago, left an estate in Brooklyn realty which was to be distributed to "then existing heirs" in 1902, one hundred years after his death.

The estate, they say, comprised 160 acres in the heart of Brooklyn, parceled out under 99 year leases. But neither will nor estate can be found, although surrogate's court records go back unbroken for 150 years.

A feature of the case is that such a will actually was drawn by President Buchanan, whose Pennsylvania estate, worth millions, sequestered a hundred years, is to be disposed of this year.

"I believe the Brooklyn Buchanan case a hoax perpetrated on members of the Buchanan family," said Chief Surrogate's Clerk John R. McDonald. "Probably some sharper, knowing the terms of the President's will, has been getting money from these people by promising them valuable information leading to wealth."

## ESTATE SWINDLERS WARNING IS ISSUED BY NEW YORK JUDGE

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 24.—The "Spanish prisoner" swindle, heard with years during which it was worked to separate the credulous from their money, was recalled by a letter from Surrogate James A. Foley of New York county to Gov. Roosevelt which the governor made public today.

The governor requested that a given nationwide publicity be given to prospective victims and promoters of a wholly mythical "Buchanan estate," variously defined to these to include the site of the White Church, the Woolworth building, the Times building, Central park and also the land upon which the Knickerbocker building at 5th avenue and 64th street was recently erected.

Surrogate Foley pointed out in his letter that lawyers and fact promoters had been busy in this country, Canada and England enticing persons to whom they charged in some cases considerable amounts of money, pointing out to them that they were interested in estates in New York which may yield fortunes, provided they could establish their claims.

## HUGE ESTATE CALLED MYTH

### Difficult to Find Anything Definite About Buchanan Property

Seattle, Jan. 19.—(AP)—A national investigation by The Associated Press has failed to reveal legal records of an immense "estate" supposed to be distributed in the near future to heirs of the late President James Buchanan.

More than 1,000 persons have been notified recently that they are heirs and that distribution soon will be made. Most of these notices have been from "heirs" in Houston, Vancouver and other cities.

Questioning of "heirs" generally brought evasive answers or testimony that "they have forgotten" what parents have told them concerning the "estates."

Several of the "heirs" have referred questioning persons to a long list of prominent persons, headed by Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York. Governor Roosevelt said the "estates" are "purely a myth."



















