

**GENEALOGY**

OF THE

**CULBERTSON AND  
CULBERSON FAMILIES**

**Revised Edition**

Who came to America before the year 1800, and several families that have come over since then; containing biographical sketches of some of the more prominent members of the various families.

BY

**LEWIS R. CULBERTSON, M. D.**

---

The Courier Co., Printers, and Binders, Zanesville, O.  
1923

## PART FIRST

---

William (?) Culbertson, who emigrated from Scotland to County of Derry near Londonderry, Ireland, about 1665-1687. One of his brothers settled in Omagh, Tyrone Co., Ireland; another at Ballygan, near Ballymoney, Co. Antrim, Ireland. The settlement of the last named brother was called "Culbertson Row", and it was from this the "Row" in Pennsylvania derived its name. These brothers were Scotch Covenanters and were driven from Scotland during the reign of James II of England.

King Charles II ascended the throne of England in the year 1660 and the persecutions of the Covenanters began about 1665 and continued throughout his reign. The poor Scotch Presbyterians being hunted down without mercy, sought refuge in northern Ireland. The enmity of the treacherous and false King Charles followed them to Ireland. Charles II on ascending the throne had promised the Scotch Presbyterians that he would protect them as his grandfather, James I, had done. (James I was a Presbyterian and was called "Good King Jamie" by the Scotch, he being a Scotchman.)

Charles II was a Catholic, as was also his father, Charles I. On the death of Charles II in 1685, his son, James II, ascended the throne. He immediately began to persecute the Covenanters in Scotland and Ireland. The Scotch-Irish rose in rebellion against King James II, and fled to several fortified cities in northern Ireland. One of these cities was Londonderry. Within its walls 7000 men were besieged and at the end of the siege their numbers were reduced by famine and disease to 3000, all Protestants. King James was in command of the Catholic army. William, Prince of Orange, with a large fleet then sailed into Londonderry Bay and drove King James away in 1688. The Prince of Orange was a staunch Protestant and married Mary, the oldest daughter of James II of England, and by right the heir apparent. The great Battle of Boyne was fought in 1690, by the forces of King William and King James and the latter was completely routed and James became an exile, while William ascended the throne. After this the Scotch-Irish had comparative quiet.

William Culbertson (so say family records) was one of the defenders in the seige of that place in 1688. This was one of the most memorable sieges in history. The defenders were reduced to eating horse and dog flesh and even ministers fought on the walls. I am informed by parties in Londonderry, Ireland, that there are no Culbertsons living in the County Derry now, but there are Culbertsons living at Balyscanlon, Co. Donegal, which is not far from Londonderry. Wrote this family but received no reply. There was also a family lived at Newton Stewart, Co. Tyrone, Ireland, that may be descended from one of (s) Culbertsons. This town is very near Londonderry. The "Row" in Antrim Co., Ireland, is only a few miles from the boundary between Antrim and Derry Counties. (s) John(?) Culbertson who emigrated from Scotland to Ireland.

## SECOND GENERATION

Issue:

- A. **John**, b. 1680-90; d. Nov. 1756. (See Sec. First; Part Second.) Pg 16
- B. **Robert**, b. 1692 or before; d. 1762. (See Sec. First; Part Third.) Pg 38
- C. **Andrew**, d. 1746. (See Sec. First; Part Fourth.)Pg 43
- D. **Samuel**, d. 1749. (See Sec. First; Part Fifth.)Pg 103
- E. **Oliver**, d. 1792. (See Sec. First; Part Sixth.) Nephew of Robert, Andrew and Samuel. Pg 122

The descendants of John (A) living in Erie Co., Pa., claim that (A) John's father was William Culbertson one of the defenders of Londonderry, Ireland—before mentioned—in 1688. (Colter Genealogy of Culbertsons of Erie Co., Pa., pub. 1889.) The above or part of them may be descended from Scotch—John Cuthbertson (Culbertson?) banished from Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland in 1670 (before mentioned).

The Culbertson-Colter Genealogy by J. P. Colter on page 83 says: "The earliest record we have of them in Ireland was at the seige of Londonderry. We learn from family records that Wm. Culbertson was one of the defenders of the Seige of Londonderry." Whether Colter actually had any Bible record of this I do not know. His statement would not tally with a statement of John Culbertson of Duluth,

Minn., in 1892, in which he said: "I have in my possession a cane brought from Ireland by John Culbertson, my ancestor, and which has been handed down through the family through seven generations of John Culbertsons." The man who made this statement was the seventh generation. The man who settled in Chester Co., Pa., in 1712 and on tax record there 1713 (A-John) was the second John, therefore the first John who had the cane was Scotch John and very likely the John Cuthbertson above mentioned as banished from Ayrshire in 1670.