

## Synopsis of the History of the Family of Marr

1.

John Erskine was the family name of the Earl of Mar, who fought for the liberty of Scotland under Sir William Wallace and Robert Bruce against Edward I of England.

In 1715-16 there arose in England what is known in history as the Jacobite Rising, led by Bruce Edward, son of James II, who laid claim to the crown against the German claimant, George I.

In that rising, John Erskine, Eleventh Earl of Mar, led an army of 8,000 men against the English in behalf of the Pretender Prince Edward, but was defeated by a much larger army under the Duke of Argyle. The rising was put down and the Pretender with his men soon escaped to France but he eventually returned to Scotland.

2.

A son of his, Alexander, fled to America and for obvious reasons dropped the name Erskine, and took the name of his father's title, Mar - adding a second R, making it Marr, which has become the family name of all his descendants. His descendants settled in Pennsylvania, where he was when the American Revolution broke out - and a number of them bearing the name refused to fight against the King of England and came to Canada. Some settled as pioneers (Loyalists) in Ontario, North-East of Toronto, and some in N.B. Among the latter was

3.

Alexander Marr, who settled near what is now the town of Sussex, where he lived as a farmer until death. He was buried at Smiths Creek at 80 years of age.

Alexander Erskine, came to America about 1716. Dropped the name Erskine and took the name of his father's title, "<sup>MARR</sup>Mar", adding the second R, making it Marr, which has become the family name of all his descendents. Landed in Florida, and while there married, a Creole Indian girl- Miss Job. His descendents finally settled in Pennsylvania, and when the American Revolution broke out, a number of them refused to fight against the King of England and came to Canada.

3.

Alexander Marr came to New Brunswick and settled at Smith's Creek, near Sussex, where he lived until his death. Buried at Smith's Creek, 80 years old. He had eleven children, 4 girls, 7 boys.

1. William, 2 Gersham, 3 James, 4 Alex, 5 ,6 Wilson,  
7 , 8 Richard, 9 , 10 , 11 David,

12

3. James Marr, married Mary Ann Graham in August 1825, he was 19 she was 17. They had 12 children.

1. James Jr., 2. Ann, 3 & 4 Edward and William (twins), 5. Henry,  
6. Simon, 7. Oliver, 8. Flynn, 9. George, 10. Susan, 11. Lizzie,  
12. Reuben.

Anne Graham Marr died Oct. 1, 1889.

Copy of the obituary of Mrs. James Marr. Feb. 25/1892.

Born at Smiths Creek, N.B. Dec. 10, 1806. His graandfather Alexander Marr was born in Aberdeen, Scotland.

From Sq. Adm. P. E. M. LEITH, D.F.C., U.E. etc.  
887 Esquimalt Avenue, West Vancouver, B.C. V7T1J9.

My direct ancestor William Leith owned the estates of Barnes, Edingarick & Ruthrieston and was a Baillie of Aberdeen in 1343 and Provost in 1352 & 1373. He married in 1350 Christiane Mar, daughter of Donald, 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar. William Leith died on Aug 5, 1380.

I enclose a photo-stat of the reference in Burke's Peerage of 1855 showing the descent of the Erskins from Elyne Mar, the sister of Donald, Twelfth Earl of Mar and Lord of the Garioch (pronounced Geory).

My ancestress Christiane Mar, and her descendants, as the daughter of Donald 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar would have precedence over his sister Elyne and her descendants. The obvious explanation that this did not occur was that my ancestress Christiane was illegitimate. However, I still am descended in blood through Christiane from the exceedingly ancient line of Mar, and I calculate I can wear the Mar tartan with pride.

The Mar tartan is a hunting tartan. I can also wear the Leith (Lord Burgh) and the Dalzell (Earls of Carnwath) tartans which are dress (i.e. red) tartans.

My grandmother, The Lady Mary J. Dalzell Leith, was the older sister of the 16<sup>th</sup> and last Earl of Carnwath and my second-cousin once-removed is Peter Leith, the present Lord Burgh.

Page 659. MAR "de Perse Pius"

Lineage. Of the title of Mar Lord Hailes says "This is one of the earldoms whose origin is lost in its antiquity. It existed before our records, and before the era of genuine history."

Martocus, Earl of Mar, is witness to a charter of donation by Malcolm Canmore to the Celdes of Peebles, of the manor of Kilgob-Earnock, in 1065. From this nobleman, we pass to his descendant  
Grotney 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar, who s. his father in 1294, and d. before 1300.  
He m. Lady Christian Bruce, dau. of Robert, Earl of Carrick, and sister of Robert I, and by her (who m. 2<sup>dly</sup> Sir Christopher Seton, of Seton; and 3<sup>dly</sup> Sir Andrew Moray, of Bothwell) had issue;

1. Donald, his successor.

1. Elyne, who m. Sir John Menteath, and had a dau.,

1. Christian, m. to Sir Edward Keith, and had a dau.

Janet Keith, m. to Sir Thomas Erskine, and was mother of

Sir Robert Erskine, who claimed the Earldom of Mar in 1435.

The earl ~~was~~ s. by his son

Donald, 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar. This nobleman, upon the death of Randolph, Earl of Moray regent of Scotland, was unanimously appointed to fill his place by the parliament assembled at Perth, 2 Aug. 1332.

His lordship immediately assumed command of the Scottish army, which by his ignorance of military discipline was totally defeated by an inferior force under Edward Balliol, 12<sup>th</sup> of the same month, and the Earl of Mar paid for his inexperience with his life being smothered in the rout. He had m. Isabel, only dau. of Sir Alexander Stewart, of Bonhill, and had a dau.

Margaret, of whom presently, with an only son, his successor,

Thomas, 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar, a person of much political importance in the reign of David II. His lordship was great chamberlain of Scotland in 1358, ambassador to England in 1362, and one of the guarantors of a truce with the English in 1369. The earl obtained from King David a charter of confirmation of the lordship of Garioch. He d. s. p. in 1377, and with him terminated the direct male line of the old Earls of Mar. His lordship was s. by his sister,

Margaret, Countess of Mar; who m. 1<sup>st</sup> William, Earl of Douglas (who in her right became 14<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar, and was designed Earl of Douglas and Mar), and had issue.

John, Earl of Douglas and Mar, killed at Otterburn, in 1388, and d. s. p.

Isabel  
Her ladyship being divorced from Lord Douglas, m. 2<sup>dly</sup> Sir John Swinton of Swinton, who fell at Homildon, in 1402. Her ladyship d. in 1385, and was s. by her son, mentioned above, who was s. in the Earldom of Mar



of Robert I, and by her (who m. 2<sup>ndly</sup> Sir Christopher Selon, of Selon; and 3<sup>rdly</sup> Sir Andrew Moray, of Bothwell) had issue;

1. Donald, his successor.

1. Elyne, who m. Sir John Menteath and had a dau.,  
1. Christian, m. to Sir Edward Keith, and had a dau.

Janet Keith, m. to Sir Thomas Erskine, and was mother of Sir Robert Erskine, who claimed the Earldom of Mar in 1435.

The earl ~~was~~ was s. by his son

Donald, 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar. This nobleman, upon the death of Randolph, Earl of Moray, regent of Scotland, was unanimously appointed to fill his place by the parliament assembled at Perth, 2 Aug. 1332.

His lordship immediately assumed command of the Scottish army, which by his ignorance of military discipline was totally defeated by an inferior force under Edward Balliol, 12<sup>th</sup> of the same month, and the Earl of Mar paid for his inexperience with his life being smothered in the rout. He had m. Isabel, only dau. of Sir Alexander Stewart, of Bonhill, and had a dau.

Margaret of whom presently, with an only son, his successor, Thomas, 13<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar a persons of much political importance in the reign of David II. His lordship was great Chamberlain of Scotland in 1358, ambassador to England in 1362, and one of the guaranties of a truce with the English in 1369. The earl obtained from King David a charter of confirmation of the lordship of Garioch. He d. s. p. in 1377, and with him terminated the direct male line of the old Earls of Mar. His lordship was s. by his sister,

Margaret, Countess of Mar; who m. 1<sup>st</sup> William, Earl of Douglas (who in her right became 14<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar, and was designed Earl of Douglas and Mar), and had issue,

John, Earl of Douglas and Mar, killed at Otterburn, in 1388, and d. s. p.  
Isabel

Her ladyship being divorced from Lord Douglas, m. 2<sup>ndly</sup> Sir John Swinton of Swinton, who fell at Homildon, in 1402. Her ladyship d. in 1385, and was s. by her son, mentioned above, who was s. in the Earldom of Mar by his only sister,

Isabel Countess of Mar. Her ladyship m. 1<sup>st</sup> Sir Malcolm Drummond of Drummond who d. without issue; and 2<sup>ndly</sup> Alexander Stewart, natural son of Alexander, Earl of Buchan, 4<sup>th</sup> son of Robert I.

From Sq. Adm. P. E. M. LEITH, D.F.C. U.E. etc.  
887 Esquimalt Avenue, West Vancouver, B.C. V7T1J9.

My direct ancestor William Leith owned the estates of Barnes, Edingarick & Ruthrieston and was a Baillie of Aberdeen in 1343 and Provost in 1352 & 1373. He married in 1350 Christiane Mar, daughter of Donald, 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar. William Leith died on Aug 5, 1380.

I enclose a photo-stat of the reference in Burke's Peerage of 1855 showing the descent of the Erskins from Elyne Mar, the sister of Donald, Twelfth Earl of Mar and Lord of the Garioch (pronounced Geory).

My ancestress Christiane Mar, and her descendants, as the daughter of Donald 12<sup>th</sup> Earl of Mar would have precedence over his sister Elyne and her descendants. The obvious explanation that this did not occur was that my ancestress Christiane was illegitimate. However, I still am descended in blood through Christiane from the exceedingly ancient line of Mar, and I calculate I can wear the Mar tartan with pride.

The Mar tartan is a hunting tartan. I can also wear the Leith (Lord Burgh) and the Dalzell (Earls of Carnwath) tartans which are dress (i.e. red) tartans.

My grandmother, The Lady Mary J. Dalzell Leith, was the older sister of the 16<sup>th</sup> and last Earl of Carnwath and my second-cousin once-removed is Peter Leith, the present Lord Burgh.



# The Ancient History of the Distinguished Surname MARR

Though shrouded by the mists of time, the chronicles of Scotland reveal the early records of the Norman surname Marr which ranks as one of the oldest. The history of the name is interwoven within the colourful plaid of Scottish history and is an intrinsic part of the heritage of Scotland.

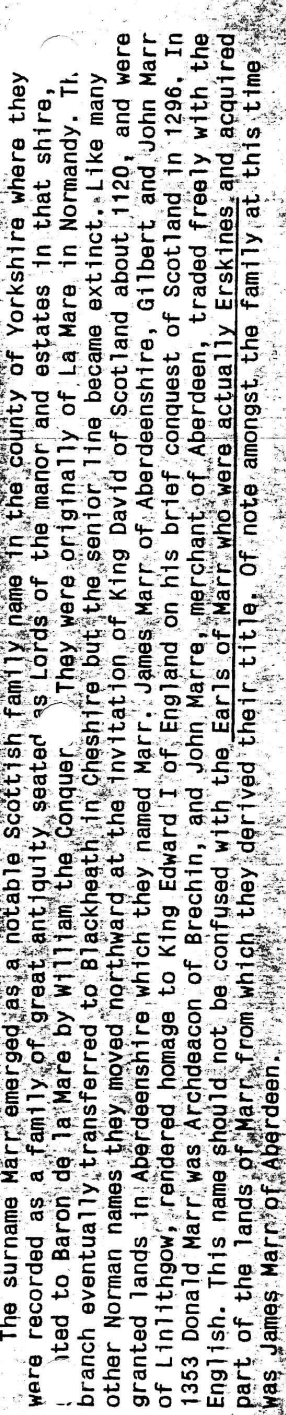
Diligent analysis by professional researchers using such ancient manuscripts as the Domesday Book (compiled in 1086 by William the Conqueror), the Ragman Rolls, the Wace poem, the Honour Roll of the Battle Abbey, the Inquistio, the Curia Regis, Pipe Rolls, the Fataise Roll, tax records, baptisms, family genealogies, and local parish and church records shows the first record of the name Marr was found in Yorkshire where they were seated from very early times and were granted lands by Duke William of Normandy, their liege Lord, for their distinguished assistance at the Battle of Hastings in 1066 A.D.

Variable spellings of the name were typically linked to a common root, usually one of the Norman nobles at the Battle of Hastings. Your name, Marr, occurred in many references from time to time, and variables included were Mar, Marre, Mare, and more. Scribes recorded and spelled the name as it sounded. It was not unlikely that a person would be born with one spelling, married with another, and buried with a headstone which showed another. Preferences for different spellings were derived from a branch preference, to indicate a religious adherence or sometimes to show nationalistic allegiance.

The family name Marr is believed to be descended originally from the Norman race. The Normans were commonly believed to be of French origin but were, more accurately, of Viking origin. The Vikings landed in the Orkneys and Northern Scotland about the year 870 A.D., under their King, Strigud the Stout. Later, under their Jarl, Thorfinn Rollo, they invaded France about 911 A.D. The French King, Charles the Simple, after Rollo laid siege to Paris, finally conceded defeat and granted northern France to Rollo. Rollo became the first Duke of Normandy. Duke William who invaded and defeated England in 1066, was descended from the first Duke Rollo of Normandy.

After the conquest, Duke William took a census of most of England in 1086, it became known as the Domesday Book. By 1070, William's nobles were growing restless, dissatisfied with their grants of land. William took an army north, and laid waste most of the northern counties. King Malcolm Canmore of Scotland offered refuge to these nobles, granting them land. Later, King David, about 1160, also encouraged his Norman friends to come north to join the royal court and obtain lands.





The surname Marr emerged as a notable Scottish family name in the county of Yorkshire where they were recorded as a family of great antiquity seated as Lords of the manor and estates in that shire, titled to Baron de la Mare by William the Conqueror. They were originally of La Mare in Normandy. The branch eventually transferred to Blackheath in Cheshire but the senior line became extinct. Like many other Norman names they moved northward at the invitation of King David of Scotland about 1120, and were granted lands in Aberdeenshire which they named Marr. James Marr of Aberdeenshire, Gilbert and John Marr of Linlithgow, rendered homage to King Edward I of England on his brief conquest of Scotland in 1296. In 1353 Donald Marr was Archdeacon of Brechin, and John Marre, merchant of Aberdeen, traded freely with the English. This name should not be confused with the Earls of Marr who were actually Erskines and acquired part of the lands of Marr from which they derived their title. Of note amongst the family at this time was James Marr of Aberdeen.

The surname Marr contributed much to social and political affairs of England or Scotland, later, in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries the country was ravaged by religious and political conflict. The Monarchy, the Church and Parliament fought for supremacy. The unrest caused many to think of distant lands.

Settlers in Ireland became known as the "Adventurers for land in Ireland". Essentially, they "undertook" to keep the Protestant faith, and became known as "the Undertakers". There is no evidence that the family name migrated to Ireland, but this does not preclude the possibility of their scattered migration to that country.

The news about the attractions of the New World spread like wildfire. Many sailed aboard the fleet of sailing ships known as the "White Sails".

In North America, migrants which could be considered kinsmen of the surname Marr, or variable spellings of that same family name included Alexander Marr who settled in Maryland in 1747; Christopher Marr settled in Virginia in 1715; James Marr settled in Virginia in 1774; George, Jacob, John, Peter and Thomas Marr arrived in Pennsylvania between 1800 and 1870; Joseph Mar settled in Louisiana in 1721; Andrew and Mary Mare settled in Virginia in 1663; Nicholas Mare with his wife and two children settled in Virginia in 1700.

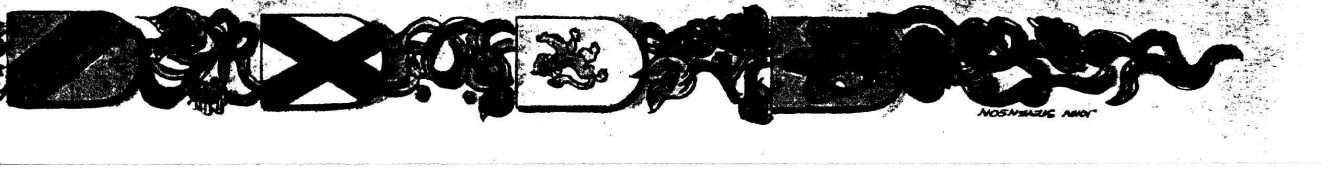
From the port of arrival many settlers joined the wagon trains westward. During the American War of Independence some declared their loyalty to the Crown and moved northward into Canada and became known as the United Empire Loyalists.

Meanwhile, the family name was noted in the social stream. There were many notables of this name. Marr, Alan Marr, British Ship Builder; Sir Alan Marre, British Parliamentarian; Lady Marre, Lecturer; Sir Leslie Marr, Lecturer.

In the process of researching this distinguished family name we also traced the most ancient grant of Arms from the branches which developed their own Arms.

The most ancient grant of a Coat of Arms found was:

Red with two silver lions.  
The Crest was:  
A Leopard with spots.



Though shrouded by the mists of time, the chronicles of Scotland reveal the early records of the name in surname Marr which ranks as one of the oldest. The history of the name is interwoven within the colorful plaid of Scottish history and is an intrinsic part of the heritage of Scotland.

Diligent analysis by professional researchers using such ancient manuscripts as the Domesday Book (compiled in 1086 by William the Conqueror), the Ragman Rolls, the Wace poem, the Honour Roll of the Battle Abbey, the Inquisitio, the Curia Regis, Pipe Rolls, the Falaise Roll, tax records, baptisms, family genealogies, and local parish and church records shows the first record of the name Marr was found in Yorkshire where they were seated from very early times and were granted lands by Duke William of Normandy, their liege lord, for their distinguished assistance at the Battle of Hastings in 1066 A.D.

Variable spellings of the name were typically linked to a common root, usually one of the Norman nobles at the Battle of Hastings. Your name, Marr, occurred in many references from time to time, and variables included were Mar, Marre, Mare, and more. Scribes recorded and spelled the name as it sounded. It was not unlikely that a person would be born with one spelling, married with another, and buried with a headstone which showed another. Preferences for different spellings were derived from a branch preference, to indicate a religious adherence or sometimes to show nationalistic allegiance.

The family name Marr is believed to be descended from the Norman race. The Normans were commonly believed to be of French origin but were, more accurately, of Viking origin. The Vikings landed in the Orkneys and Northern Scotland about the year 870 A.D., under their King, Sturgud the Stout. Later, under their Jarl, Thorfinn Rollo, they invaded France about 911 A.D. The French King, Charles the Simple, after Rollo laid siege to Paris, finally conceded defeat and granted northern France to Rollo. Rollo became the first Duke of Normandy. Duke William who invaded and defeated England in 1066, was descended from the first Duke Rollo of Normandy.

After the Conquest, Duke William took a census of most of England in 1086, it became known as the Domesday Book. By 1070, William's nobles were growing restive, dissatisfied with their grants of land. William took an army north, and laid waste most of the northern counties. King Malcolm Canmore of Scotland offered refuge to these nobles, granting them land. Later, King David, about 1160, also encouraged his Norman-friends to come north to join the royal court and obtain lands.

The surname Marr emerged as a notable Scottish family name in the county of Yorkshire where they were recorded as a family of great antiquity seated as Lords of the manor and estates in that shire, granted to Baron de la Mare by William the Conqueror. They were originally of La Mare in Normandy. This branch eventually transferred to Blackheath in Cheshire but the senior line became extinct. Like many other Norman names they moved northward at the invitation of King David of Scotland about 1120, and were granted lands in Aberdeenshire which they named Marr. James Marr of Aberdeenshire, Gilbert and John Marr of Linlithgow, rendered homage to King Edward I of England on his brief conquest of Scotland in 1296. In 1353 Donald Marr was Archdeacon of Brechin, and John Marre, merchant of Aberdeen, traded freely with the English. This name should not be confused with the Earls of Marr who were actually Erskines and acquired part of the lands of Marr from which they derived their title. Of note amongst the family at this time was James Marr of Aberdeen.

The surname Marr contributed much to social and political affairs of England or Scotland. Later, in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries the country was ravaged by religious and political conflict. The Monarchy, the Church and Parliament fought for supremacy. The unrest caused many to think of distant lands.

Settlers in Ireland became known as the "Adventurers for land in Ireland". Essentially, they "undertook" to keep the Protestant faith, and became known as "the Undertakers". There is no evidence that the family name migrated to Ireland, but this does not preclude the possibility of their scattered migration to that country.

The news about the attractions of the New World spread like wildfire. Many sailed aboard the fleet of sailing ships known as the "White Sails".

In North America, migrants which could be considered kinsmen of the surname Marr, or variable spellings of that same family name included Alexander Marr who settled in Maryland in 1747; Christopher

Though shrouded by the mists of time, the chronicles of Scotland reveal the early records of the name in surname Marr which ranks as one of the oldest. The history of the name is interwoven within the colorful plaid of Scottish history and is an intrinsic part of the heritage of Scotland.

Diligent analysis by professional researchers using such ancient manuscripts as the Domesday Book (compiled in 1086 by William the Conqueror), the Ragman Rolls, the Wace poem, the Honour Roll of the Battle Abbey, the Inquisitio, the Curia Regis, Pipe Rolls, the Falaise Roll, tax records, baptisms, family genealogies, and local parish and church records shows the first record of the name Marr was found in Yorkshire where they were seated from very early times and were granted lands by Duke William of Normandy, their liege lord, for their distinguished assistance at the Battle of Hastings in 1066 A.D.

Variable spellings of the name were typically linked to a common root, usually one of the Norman nobles at the Battle of Hastings. Your name, Marr, occurred in many references from time to time, and variables included were Mar, Marre, Mare, and more. Scribes recorded and spelled the name as it sounded. It was not unlikely that a person would be born with one spelling, married with another, and buried with a headstone which showed another. Preferences for different spellings were derived from a branch preference, to indicate a religious adherence or sometimes to show nationalistic allegiance.

The family name Marr is believed to be descended from the Norman race. The Normans were commonly believed to be of French origin but were, more accurately, of Viking origin. The Vikings landed in the Orkneys and Northern Scotland about the year 870 A.D., under their King, Sturgud the Stout. Later, under their Jarl, Thorfinn Rollo, they invaded France about 911 A.D. The French King, Charles the Simple, after Rollo laid siege to Paris, finally conceded defeat and granted northern France to Rollo. Rollo became the first Duke of Normandy. Duke William who invaded and defeated England in 1066, was descended from the first Duke Rollo of Normandy.

After the Conquest, Duke William took a census of most of England in 1086, it became known as the Domesday Book. By 1070, William's nobles were growing restive, dissatisfied with their grants of land. William took an army north, and laid waste most of the northern counties. King Malcolm Canmore of Scotland offered refuge to these nobles, granting them land. Later, King David, about 1160, also encouraged his Norman-friends to come north to join the royal court and obtain lands.

The surname Marr emerged as a notable Scottish family name in the county of Yorkshire where they were recorded as a family of great antiquity seated as Lords of the manor and estates in that shire, granted to Baron de la Mare by William the Conqueror. They were originally of La Mare in Normandy. This branch eventually transferred to Blackheath in Cheshire but the senior line became extinct. Like many other Norman names they moved northward at the invitation of King David of Scotland about 1120, and were granted lands in Aberdeenshire which they named Marr. James Marr of Aberdeenshire, Gilbert and John Marr of Linlithgow, rendered homage to King Edward I of England on his brief conquest of Scotland in 1296. In 1353 Donald Marr was Archdeacon of Brechin, and John Marre, merchant of Aberdeen, traded freely with the English. This name should not be confused with the Earls of Marr who were actually Erskines and acquired part of the lands of Marr from which they derived their title. Of note amongst the family at this time was James Marr of Aberdeen.

The surname Marr contributed much to social and political affairs of England or Scotland. Later, in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries the country was ravaged by religious and political conflict. The Monarchy, the Church and Parliament fought for supremacy. The unrest caused many to think of distant lands.

Settlers in Ireland became known as the "Adventurers for land in Ireland". Essentially, they "undertook" to keep the Protestant faith, and became known as "the Undertakers". There is no evidence that the family name migrated to Ireland, but this does not preclude the possibility of their scattered migration to that country.

The news about the attractions of the New World spread like wildfire. Many sailed aboard the fleet of sailing ships known as the "White Sails".

In North America, migrants which could be considered kinsmen of the surname Marr, or variable spellings of that same family name included Alexander Marr who settled in Maryland in 1747; Christopher