

Mr. William Henry DeCourcy Wright, who was born at "Blakeford," December 9, 1795, was the youngest son of Governor Robert Wright, by his first wife. This beautiful home, "Blakeford," is a small peninsula as it were, bounded by Chester River on the northwest and by the old Courcy Creek for the rest of its periphery. The present "Blakeford" house, which is of colonial architecture, was built by Mr. William H. DeC. Wright, in the place of a temporary building erected when the old large square mansion was burned, in 1806, during Gov. Robert Wright's first term as Governor. Mr. W. H. DeC. Wright married Miss Eliza Lee Warner, of Delaware, widow of Samuel Turbutt Wright, his cousin, who was a half-nephew of Thomas Wright, of "Reed's Creek," and son of Maj. Samuel Turbutt Wright, of the Revolution. Samuel T. Wright lived at the "Green Lot" farm, near "Walnut Grove" and "Reed's Creek." Mrs. W. H. DeCourcy Wright was a most attractive woman—pleasing manners, a fine musician, and devoted to literature. Her father was consul to Havana. Mrs. Wright's children by her first marriage were: Valeria (Mrs. Paul Forbes) and Anna Matilda (Mrs. Wm. Hemsley). The children of Wm. H. DeC. Wright and Eliza Lee Warner were: Clintonia, Gustavia, who died in Rio de Janeiro; William Henry DeCourcy, born in Rio; Gustavus W. T., Caroline Louisa, Victoria Louisa and Ella Lee, who was born May 2, 1837, and died January 25, 1861. Miss Clintonia Wright married for her first husband Capt. Wm. May. Her last was ex-Gov. Philip Francis Thomas. Both were polished, intelligent gentlemen. Mr. Thomas was Secretary of the Treasury under Buchanan, in 1840. He made a speech at a Democratic meeting held at Harris' Shops, equidistant between Church Hill and Centreville, to the largest concourse of people that ever assembled in Queen Anne's County.

"When Governor of the State he laid before the Legislature a message of great force and power, upon the question of Constitutional Reform, and determined to use every effort to pay off the State debt. Under his administration it was accomplished, and Maryland was restored to a high and honorable position. The noted Mason and Dixon's Line, which separates the Northern from the Southern States, was determined by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two Englishmen of acknowledged merit.

"In 1835 a law was passed appropriating \$8,000,000 for the internal improvements of the State. Judge James Buchanan,