ministers could perform marriages. The almost total lack of support for the Anglican Church made ministers scarce because of a lack of church income. After the death of their parents, the sons followed the custom of the time by dropping their mother's surname and assumed the use only of their father's surname. Notice too, that Mary refers to son-in-law James Read. Today we would use the term stepson.

1. Prince George County, Virginia. Deed Book 1713-1728, pp. 147-149.
3. Isle of Wight County, Virginia. Deed Book 4, pp. 56-60.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.