

Of **President Lloyd's** personal character nothing whatever is known, and as little of his habits and pursuits. His elevation to some of the highest positions in the provincial government must be taken as evidence of ability and of honest repute. He was a man of affairs as well as politician, and added to the fortune inherited from his grandfather and father. His home was at Wye House, but his public duties required his frequent and long attendance at Annapolis.

**On the first of February, 1703, he married Miss Sarah Covington, of Somerset county, Md.** Family tradition has preserved or invented an interesting story of his courtship and marriage. It was the custom of the Friends or Quakers to hold their yearly or half yearly meetings at the " Great Meeting House at Third Haven "-that is at the meeting house still standing but unused near the town of Easton, a celebration of the bicentennial of the erection of which was made in the past year. To these meetings not only Friends from every portion of the Eastern and Western Shores resorted, but many persons of other communions and many more who acknowledged no religious connection. Nor were all who assembled moved by pious motives. Booths were erected for the sale of trumpery of one kind or another and especially for the sale of liquors. Horse racing and other rough country sports were indulged in by the ungodly; and of course where there was an assemblage of young people of both sexes there was much coquetry and serious courting.

It is related that among the "visiting friends" from Somerset (of whom it may be said incidentally that they belonged to one of the very earliest of the Quaker societies formed in America) was a **beautiful Quakeress, Sarah Covington**, who came to the meeting from her distant home, seated on a pillion behind her father, and dressed in the simple garb of her people, which rendered her charms more pleasing by contrast with its plainness. **The two young Lloyds, Philemon (II) and Edward (II) had ridden over from Wye House**, to meet their acquaintances, participate in any sport that was passing and to witness whatever might be done by the Quakers in their exercises, or by the worldly people assembled for amusement, as if at a fair or merry making. They were both attracted by the great beauty of the young woman from Somerset, and each resolved to pay his addresses; but each concealed his purposes from the other.

The meeting being over, **Philemon** quietly took horse and made his way to the fair maiden's home on Somerset county. On reaching Miss Covington's door, to his distress and dismay he saw the well known 'turn out' of his **brother Edward** with accoutrements for special gala days. The two brothers, thus rivals and far from home, had to adjust the difficulty as best they could. \* \* Philemon proposed that whoever saw her first should be the first to offer his heart and hand; and by comparison of their accounts it was found that **Edward** had seen the young lady upon the road, before her arrival at the meeting house, where **Philemon** had first seen her.

He said: "my purpose was then fixed to make her my wife, if her mind and character were like her face." Philemon yielded the prize and **Sarah Covington became Mrs. Edward Lloyd, the mistress of Wye House.**

A portrait of this lady is in the possession of descendants. She was the **mother of several children, among them Edward (III) the Secretary**, but her husband dying she married Mr. James Hollyday, and became the mother of the very distinguished lawyer and statesman of the same name. **She died in London in 1755** at an advanced age, at the home of her **daughter Mrs. Anderson**, the wife of a merchant long engaged in trade with Maryland, surviving her second husband.