**Captain John Thomas Chappell**

**and his son, Thomas Chappell, Sr.**

The father of our first known Chappell lineage ancestor who landed here in America was Captain John Thomas Chappell, the Master of the “Speedwell” Ship. Captain Chappell later returned to England.

 His son, Thomas Chappell, was the first Chappell ancestor to come and remain in America. In 1635 when Thomas was only 23 years of age, he brought over a crew of 50 men to Jamestown, Virginia. From Jamestown, he moved to Hopewell, Virginia. For head rights from this voyage, he was allowed a land grant of 400 acres of land in Prince George County at Hopewell, Virginia. There is a creek on this land which was a portion of the land that Thomas patented. This goes by the name of *Chappell’s Creek*. On this land there is a church built in 1657 (***Merchant's Hope Church***) and is believed to be the oldest church in America.