OF

THE SECCESSION CONVENTION

The name Alston through parents and grandparents on the paternal side of one, John Alston, Senior, belonged to English history as progenitors of this family of Fairfield County were related to the nobility of England and possessed great wealth.

ONE OF THE EARLIEST KNOWN ANCESTORS OF THE LINE

DIRECTLY TRACED WAS FATHER OF JOHN ALSTON, SENTOR, WHO

MOVED FROM ENGLAND TO SCOTLAND, FROM WHENCE HIS SON,

JOHN, SENIOR, VEMIGRATED TO AMERICA TO SETTLE IN THE

SOUTHERN PART OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY BEFORE THE REVOLUTION.

JOHN WAS A GRADUATE OF GLASGOW UNIVERSITY, AND HE HAD

BEEN COMMISSIONED BY KING GEORGE III AS SURVEYOR.

SETTLING ON CEDAR CREEK WITH HIS WIFE, MARY BOYD, A

SCOTCH GIRL, HE BUILT A SIZABLE ABODE ON A GENEROUS

LAND GRANT. THIS HOUSE WAS BURNED IN 1865.

The children of John Alston, Senior, and Mary
Boyd were: Charnel, James, David, Janie, Agnes, Anne,
John and several others who died. Samuel, Born 17,69,
DIED July 1835, was quite prominent in the district.

OF

THE SPECESSECH CONVENTION

THE NAME ALSOON THROUGH PARENTS AND CHANDRABENTS ON THE PATERNAL SIDE OF ONE, JOHN ALSTON, SENIOR, RELIGIED TO ENGLISH HISTORY AS PROCENTIORS OF THIS WANTLE OF EATRRIELD GOUNTY NEEL RELATED TO THE NOSILITY OF ERGLAND AND POSSESSED GREAT WEALTH.

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THE CHILDREN OF JOHN ALSTON, SENIOR, AND HARY BOYD WERE: CHARNEL, JAMES, DAVID, JANIE, JANIE, ACUES, ANNE, JOHN AND SEVERAL OTHERS WHO DIED. SAMUEL, BOEN 1789.

DIED JULY 1885, WAS QUITE PROMINENT IN THE DISTRICE.

OF

THE SECCESSION CONVENTION

HE LIVED AND DIED IN THE HOUSE IN WHICH HE WAS BORN ON CEDAR CREEK.

David left three sons, and one of these, John, married, and is known to have been principal of Mt. Zion College.

James, son of John, Senior, and Mary Boyd, married Frances Kirkland. They had two children: Elizabeth married Doctor George Butler Pearson, and William
John Alston, the subject of this sketch, married first,
Marianna Brown of John's Island, second, Susanna Pope
Cook, daughter of Captain John Cook of the Revolution,
and wife, Martha Pearson.

The will of James Alston made in 1839 is recorded in the Fairfield County Courthouse. It was written
as he was living near Monticello, eighteen miles west
of Winnsboro; and mentions his brother, Samuel, and
his son, William J. Alston, the latter being given the
Cedar Creek plantation. George Butler Pearson was

COTONET NIPETY T' TPRAAM

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THE SEGGESSION CONVENTION

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JAMES, SON OF JOHN, GENIOS, SUNDERINE MARY BOYD, MARE
RIED FRANCES KIRKLAND. THEY HAD TWO CHILDPEN: BLIZABETH MARRIED DOCTOR GEORGE BUTLER ISARSON, AND WILLIAM
JOHN ALSTON, THE SUBJECT OF THIS SKETCH, MARRIED FIRST,
MARIANNA BROWN OF JOHN'S ISLAND, SECOND, JUSANNA LOPE
COOK, DAUGHTER OF GAPRAIN JOHN COOK OF THE REVOLUTION,
AND WIFE, MARRIED FEARSON.

THE WILL OF JAMES ALSTON MADE IN 1859 IS RECORDSED IN THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY COURTHOUSE. IT WAS WHITTEN
AS HE WAS LIVING NEAR CONTICELLO, SIGHTEEN MILES WEST
OF WINNSHORD; AND MENTIONS HIS BROTHER, SANDEL, AND
HIS SON, STELLIAM J. ALSTON, THE LASTER BEING CIVEN THE
CERAS CREEK PLANTATION. GEORGE BUTLER PLANEOW WAS

OF

THE SECCESSION CONVENTION

NAMED TRUSTEE.

HISTORY RECORDS "JAMES ALSTON WAS A MAN OF REMARKABLE FIRMNESS OF CHARACTER AND STRENGTH OF MIND.

HE AMASSED A LARGE FORTUNE AND WAS EVER NOTED FOR HIS
GENERAL NOBILITY OF DISPOSITION. HE DIED IN 1841,

UNIVERSALLY RESPECTED."

COLONEL WILLIAM JOHN ALSTON WAS BORN JULY 21,

1802. A SON OF WEALTH, HE WAS EDUCATED AND INTELLIGENT. HE BECAME A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE FROM

FAIRFIELD COUNTY SERVING FROM 1840 TO 1846. WHEN A

VACANCY OCCURED IN THE SECCESSION CONVENTION CAUSED

BY THE DEATHS OF GENERAL JOHN BUCHANAN, AND WILLIAM

S. LYLES, MEMBERS OF THAT BODY FROM THE COUNTY, HE

AND WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON WERE ELECTED TO FILL THE

VACANCIES.

"Colonel Alston Had Built A Fine Large House of in FairfieldCounty which was said to be the finest residence NEAR MONTICELLO/A SHORT TIME BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR.

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THE SECCESSION CONVENTION

OTHER LADIES WERE IN IT WHEN IT WAS FIRED. MRS.

ALSTON TOOK REFUGE IN ANOTHER HOUSE WHICH WAS ALSO

FIRED. (ALSO, ATROCITIES WERE PERPETRATED ON THE

HOME OF WILLIAM S. LYLES AS REVENGE FOR BEING A MEM
BER OF THE SECCESSION CONVENTION.)"

COLONEL WILLIAM J. ALSTON AND HIS FIRST WIFE,

MARIANNA BROWN, HAD THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN: JAMES

HENRY, WILLIAM SAMUEL, KIRKLAND, MARION KENNON.

JAMES HENRY DIED AS A YOUNG MAN; KIRKLAND DIED AS A

CHILD, AND MARION KENNON FELL AT THE BATTLE OF SOUTH

MOUNTAIN, MARYLAND.

BY HIS SECOND MARRIAGE TO SUSANNA POPE COOK,

WHO DIED IN SPARTANBURG IN 1870, THERE WERE THREE

CHILDREN: PHILLIPEC., FRANCES KIRKLAND; JOSEPH KIRK
LAND ALSTON, THE LAST CHILD, WAS BORN MARCH 6, 1860

NEAR MONTICELLO.

Colonel William J. Alston died suddenly on

July 4, 1868. He seemed to have a premonition of his

THE SECONSTON CONVENTION

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OF

THE SECCESSION CONVENTION

PASSING. HIS WIFE LIVED ONLY A SHORT TIME AFTER HIM.

HE WAS A DEVOUT CHRISTIAN, LEADING WITH OTHERS IN THE

PLANS AND GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE BUILDING

OF THE MONTICELLO METHODIST CHURCH NEAR HIS HOME.

"The son, Joseph Kirkland Alston, graduated at Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Virginia, as first Captain in 1882. Returning to South Carolina he studied law in Winnsboro under Rion and Gailliard, and opened an office in Columbia. He died at thirty-seven years of age, having married October 17, 1888 Miss Belle Bratton McCaw of York whose grandfather, Doctor William Bratton of Winnsboro, youngest son and namesake of the Revolutionary patriot, Colonel William Bratton of York, was in the fore front of men worth-while in Fairfield."

THERE ARE NO LIVING MALE DESCENDANTS OF THIS
LINE OF ALSTONS. THUS ENDS THE SAGA OF A PROMINENT
FAMILY NAME OF FAIRFIELD.

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"THE SON, JOSEPH KIRKLAND ALSTON, CRABUATED AT VIRGINIA PILITARY INSTITUTE AT LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA, AS FIRST CAPTAIN IN 1882. RETURNING TO SOUTH CAROLIVA HE STUDIED LAW IN WINNSSORD UNDER RION AND CALLLARD, AND OPENED AN OFFICE IN COLUMBIA. HE DIED AT THIRTY-SEVEN YEARS OF AGE, HAVING MARRIED COTOLER 17, 1863 hiss Belle Bratton Hocaw of York whose Crandraher. Doctor Vieliam Bratton of Vinnsbord, vouncest son and namesake of the Repolutionary patriot, Coloner William Bratton of York Patriot, Coloner William Bratton of York Patriot, Coloner William Bratton of York, was in the Fore Front of Hen Worth-While in Faireleds."

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