

BAILEY, RALPH (Baily, Bayley) (1752?-1798). Father of BENJAMIN BAILEY (d. 1830).

Ralph Bailey, the son of Ralph Bailey (fl. 1775) and Elizabeth Seabrook, was a planter on Edisto Island in St. John Colleton Parish. On 14 October 1789, he acquired Point of Pines plantation, a tract of 1,262 acres on the North Edisto River. Eighty-nine slaves worked his land. St. John Colleton elected Bailey to the Fifth General Assembly (1783-1784), but he declined to serve. However, he did act as tax inquirer and collector for Edisto Island (1786). He married Mary Splatt, daughter of Benjamin Splatt and Sarah Eberson, and they were the parents of nine children: Benjamin, Henry, Ralph (d. 1806), Edward, John Splatt, Charles, William Eberson, Elizabeth (m. James Hunter Swinton), and Thomas. Ralph Bailey died 17 November 1798 at the age of forty-six.

Fifth General Assembly

St. John Colleton

*1784***

SOURCES: Mary Buford Clark Brockman, *Clarks of Edisto Island, South Carolina & Clark Family in America* (n. p., n. d.), pp. 20-21. *Census, 1790*, 32. Charleston Wills, C(1793-1800), 543-46. Inventories, C(1793-1800), 368-69. Petit Jury Lists, 1767, 1778. A. S. Salley, Jr., *Ralph Bailey of Edisto Island and Some of His Descendants* (Charleston, SC, 1902), pp. 9-15. *SCHM*, 23: 100; 30: 68; 44: 201. *SC Statutes*, 4: 730.

Legislators Book from Greenville, S.C.

BAKER, THOMAS (d. 1789).

Thomas Baker was a resident of Winnsboro in Fairfield County. Representing the District Between Broad and Catawba Rivers, he served in the Sixth (1785-1786) and Seventh (1787-1788) General Assemblies. He also was a member of the Mount Sion Society (1783) and a captain in the militia (1785-1789). His wife, Sarah, predeceased him in February 1785. Known as a hot, uncontrolled character, Baker was accused in 1788 of viciously attacking without provocation one John Havis. The following year, he challenged JABOB BROWN of Winnsboro to a duel after Brown had sworn out a peace bond against him. On 28 May 1789 at a racing ground in Camden, the two men met with pistols and killed one another. Thomas Baker left a small estate of seven slaves, livestock, household furnishings, and a French horn.

Sixth General Assembly

*District Between Broad
and Catawba Rivers*

1785-1786

Seventh General Assembly

*District Between Broad
and Catawba Rivers*

1787-1788

SOURCES: *Charleston Yearbooks*, 1887, 340. Fairfield Co. Estate Papers, file 1, pkg. 13. Fairfield Co. (WPA) Inventories, 1(1787-1792), 10-11. Green, p. 204. Kirkland & Kennedy, 2: 227-28. *SCHM*, 19: 140; 50: 208.