

CAPTAIN JOHN BLAIR

JAN ————— 1932

Was Man of Large Affairs In York County a Century Ago.

WAS NOTED FOR HIS BENEVOLENCES

"Just A-Rolling Along" Mention of Former Citizen Brings a Sketch From One of His Descendants That Was Printed After His Death—Native of Ireland Was Devoted to His Adopted Country—Donations to Ireland In Time of Famine.

Killough H. Patrick, of White Oak, a descendant of Captain John Blair of York county, writes to The Yorkville Enquirer as follows about Captain Blair, after reading what was said about that gentleman in its issue of January 1st:

"In your last 'Just A-Rolling Along the Way' article, I was very much interested in your write-up of Capt. John Blair. I happen to have a copy of a clipping which appeared in The Yorkville Miscellany, giving an account of the death of Capt. Blair, also a copy of a clipping from the Derry Sentinel, giving an instance of Capt. Blair's benevolence. I am herewith enclosing you copies of these clippings, which I trust will be of interest to you.

"I note that you are soon to visit the Bullocks Creek section. I am interested in this section for the reason that two of my great grand fathers lived in this neighborhood. They were Thomas Patrick, (1784-1842), who married Mary Gilfillan (1790-1843), and Robert G. Hayes, who married Sallie Minter. Thomas and Mary Patrick are buried at Sharon, close by the grave of Capt. Blair. I understand that Robert Hayes and his wife are buried at Bullocks Creek, but I have never

ed and attended with great suffering, he bore with uniform composure and resignation: no murmurs having ever been heard from him. He was frequently visited by pious friends with whom he conversed freely respecting death and a future state, to whom he expressed his firm, unwavering reliance in the righteousness of our Savior, and a confident expectation of a participation in the joys of Heaven. In

the enjoyment of this peace which passed all understanding, he met death and closed his eyes on earth to open them, we confidently believe, upon the glories of the upper world. Write ~~down~~ are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yet saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them.'

"While we believe that the change to him has been unspeakable gain, we also believe that to an affectionate and bereaved wife, to a large circle of relatives and friends, to the church, and community at large, his death is a loss indeed—a loss which will be long and severely felt.—Yorkville Miscellany. (From the Christian Magazine of the South, Dec. 1848.)

Donation to the Irish Presbyterian Church.

We understand that John Blair, Esq., of Yorkville, South Carolina, has recently forwarded to the congregations of the general assembly in this neighborhood the handsome sum of five hundred pounds, in the proportions annexed, viz:—To the first congregation of Strabane (Mr. Goudy's,) three hundred pounds, and to the second congregation of Donaghadeey (Rev. Mr. Porter's,) two hundred pounds. These sums are vested in the respective sessions, for the time being, and are to be applied to the religious education of the children of the poor connected with these congregations. The generous individual who has made the above munificent grant, emigrated from this country to America, many years ago; having spent a portion of the earlier period of his life in Strabane and the vicinity of Donaghadeey.—Derry Sentinel. (From the Christian Magazine of the South, July 1846.)