

CHRONICLES OF WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA
from
Washington's Newspapers 1889-1898

Articles of

Eliza A. Bowen, Rev. F. T. Simpson,
S. A. Wooten, and others.

Transcribed and edited by
Mary Bondurant Warren

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HERITAGE PAPERS,
Danielsville, GA 30633

door of the tobacco house, and that he could hold up for some time two men of ordinary size, one on each hand, with his arms extended their full length from his body. Daniel Harvie's name is found in our early records, but he took cold and died soon after he came to Georgia from hauling a drag for fish in Long Creek.

John Marks who is placed on my list of persons of the court records, before 1788, is one of the brothers, John and James Marks, whom Governor Gilmer reports among the Broad River settlers. John Marks married as he says, a widow who brought with her to Georgia, Merriwether Lewis, her son by a former marriage. This was the Lewis who afterward undertook what is called Lewis and Clarke's expedition, which explored the Northwest Territory and the sources of the Missouri. Lewis and Clarke counties in the new state of Montana commemorate them. John Marks who had been a distinguished officer of the revolution, died and his widow and her son returned to Virginia, where in 1794, he went into the army. But it is remembered of his stay in Georgia, that at some time between 1790 - 1794, during an alarm from the Cherokees, the Broad River settlers sought safety in the woods. One night a gun was heard to fire, which occasioned a great panic, which was quelled by the presence of mind of the boy Merriwether Lewis who suddenly threw water, extinguishing the light of the fire.

WASHINGTON CHRONICLE, December 18, 1889.

The MSS. documents entrusted to me enable me now to give a very interesting account as it seems to me of the old Academy on Mercer Hill and the early teachers. On Aug. 27, 1784, just after the laying out and sale of town lots, the commissioners met and it was stated that ± 800 (\$4000) was the lowest bid for the building. Col. Micajah Williamson urged them to postpone for a lower. Accordingly, when they met a week later, they awarded the job to Capt. Joseph Cook at ± 781 (\$3905). It seems the sale of lots in the town was to be used in payment, and Col. Micajah Williamson was empowered to collect and pay out monies for the building, which is called an Academy and Church. This Col. Micajah Williamson's name is on the oldest jury list, that of 1779, so that he must have been a very early settler. He must have come from Virginia or the Carolinas. In 1784, he bought the property owned by Gen. B.W. Heard on the north side of Court Street. It is called a reserved lot. I think this may mean that he had before acquired it, in 1780, when the lots were first laid out, but the legislature ordered them laid out again. One of his daughters, the youngest, afterwards married Duncan G. Campbell. She was sister of Mrs. Judge Griffin, not daughter as I supposed, and it is probable that she lived her sister and was not married until after her father's death. Judge Andrews said that Col. Williamson's son, William Williamson, was the first child born in Washington of white parents. There is a William Williamson on the first graduating class at Athens in 1804, but it hardly seems he could have been old enough to be this first white child. He may have been the grandson of the old Col. W., who evidently had older sons, probably born before he came to Wilkes. Col. Micajah Williamson

Jail, this is on lot 3 and in 1784 was bought by Micajah Williamson.

Masonic Hall, Lot No. 11. Deeds made out in 1786 for Joseph Cook. In 1792, titles were made for Mrs. Grace Little and David Creswell, and a little later, the more southern portion became the property of "Mrs. Ann Powell late Wilkinson." ←

When the Common was sold in 1794, I think it was bought mainly by speculators. Mr. T.M. Green owns now, lots 108, 107, 106, 105, 104, 103, 102 of the Common. Lot 108 contains his new residence. It was sold to Benajah Smith, the direct ancestor of Mrs. Fred Hunter, for £13 5s (about \$60.) Lots 107, 106, 105, 104 extended in a straight line north from 108. These were bought by Samuel Blackburn for £4 10s, £3 10s, £3 5s. Lots 103 and 102, the two lots lying east of Judge Andrews old garden at Haywood, were bought for £4 7s, and £4 by Col. Micajah Williamson but I suppose owing to his financial troubles, he could not keep them, and they eventually came into the possession of Mr. Samuel Blackburn. In 1805, Dr. Gilbert Hay, then living in Judge Andrew's old house at Haywood, came up to the Board of Commissioners and presented an order from Mr. Samuel Blackburn (who had moved to Virginia) for titles to lots 107, 106, 105, 104, 103, 102. They were thus in 1805 added to Dr. Hay's other property at Haywood. Lot 108, however, did not belong to Mr. Samuel Blackburn having been bought in 1804 by Mr. Benajah Smith.

As a Masonic Hall was first built on that lot, Dr. Hay did not acquire the lot 108, on which Mr. Green's house now stands, until about 1810.

Mr. Hines front lot 109, and his back lot 110 were bought in 1794 by Benajah Smith, for £13 2s and £8 1s, or about \$60 and \$40.

Mrs. Dr. Lane's lot, 49, was bought in 1794 by Benajah Smith, for £6 or about \$30. He also bought the lots lying south of Mrs. Lane, lot 50, for £7 5s; 69 for £3 10s and 70 for £2 15s.

Dr. Robert Simpson's house and garden on Liberty St. are 8 and 7. South of Dr. S.'s residence, three lots 51, 68, 71 sold respectively for £7 12s, £5 12s, £2 10s. South of his garden, three lots 52, 67, 72 sold respectively for £10, £3 1s, £3 2s. These six lots: were all bought by the teacher named Samuel Blackburn.

Mr. Hogue's cottages on the south side of Liberty St., are on lot 6 of the old town. South of this, on the Common lies lot 53, bought in 1794 by Mr. Samuel Barnett's grandfather Richard Worsham for £3 6s. In line with 53, but south of it, lie 66, 73 bought by John Hendley in 1794, for £1 15s, £2. Marcus Pharr Jr. and Wm. Fluker now live on the part of the Common reserved in 1784 to build an Academy. These lots are 55 Pharr; 64 Fluker; 75 south of 64, and 54, 56, 74 on the west side of Spring Street, built up in negro houses. These were not sold in 1794 but deeded to John Mathews a son of Gov. M. who had served on the board as clerk and attorney, and these were given in payment; but valuation not given. In 1805, when Dr. Hay acquired part of Mr. T.M. Green's property, James Corbet had titles made to him for 64, 54, 55, 74. Mr. Corbet built the house in which Dr. Andrews lives now, and his widow lived there a long time.

It was the same storm of wind and rain that blew a chimney of Capt. C.A.Alexander's house down upon the roof.

Your friend,
Elisa A. Bowen

OBITUARY

Mrs. Sarah Amanda Quinn died June 21, 1897 near Danburg, Wilkes county, Georgia. She was born and reared in this neighborhood, and in this section spent her long life. She was born October 11, 1825, and was near 72 years of age. She was the youngest child of James and Sophia Hinton, who had a large family. This ancestor was a man of good estate, and was remarkable for his energy, and discreet management of his planting interest. He has been dead a half century.

Soon after his death Mrs. Quinn was married to Dr. William Quinn of Danburg. He was a practitioner of medicine for 45 years, dying in 1885. A son has succeeded him in the profession, Dr. Augustus Statham Quinn, and there are daughters surviving the parents.

The family is quite respectable and so were the parents.

Mrs. Quinn, Sarah A. Hinton was a lady of exceedingly striking person with charming face and form. She was very tall, near six feet, and was quite symmetrical in her form.

The writer [of the obituary] is her nephew and almost of the same age. We were children together, she being only three months my senior. I was reared side by side with her by her father who was my paternal grandfather. She was to me more like a sister than an aunt.

Mrs. Quinn until her marriage spent her days on the plantation, and after her marriage lived in a quiet retired way, the good wife of a doctor and farmer. She was a Baptist, and in her religion had followed her ancestors.

It makes me feel a sense of loneliness when I think of this, and to realize that I am the oldest of my tribe is hard for me to do.

James Wootten Hinton, Macon, Ga.

WASHINGTON CHRONICLE, July 12, 1897

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT

Mrs. Dempsie Colley Fatally Injured on the Train. She was the former Miss Daisy Cade, and was fatally hurt in an accident on the incoming train. Her father Capt. W.G.Cade was at the depot to meet her. She was married about a year ago to Mr.Dempsie Colley of New Orleans.

LIST OF NEW PENSIONERS

Thomas S. Wilson
Jesse Willis
J.T.Truitt

Carter S. Moss
James A. Anthony
F.M.Johnson

R.C.Sale
N.H.Hinton
G.W.Daricott



→ A.J.Cook M.D.Arnett R.L.T.Porterfield
 Thomas H. Brooks J.J.Perteet Thos. R. Hoyle
 Elijah Blackam
 are new Confederate pensioners placed on the list for Wilkes County.
 These are the only ones so far accepted.

WASHINGTON CHRONICLE July 26, 1897

LETTER FROM THE SICKROOM

The letter which I wrote in regard to the fracture of my thigh has brought me letters of sympathy, not merely from Georgia, but from many other states. As so many persons have shown interest in me, I suppose it is not presumption to think they will care to hear how the accident has ended. It has been over six weeks since the limb was broken. There is no question at all that it has now united. I do not test its strength, but it seems to me quite firm and strong. It is a little shorter than the right limb. I have got to learn how to walk--of course it will take a crutch or crutches--but may be in the end a high heel to my left shoe and none to the right, will enable me to walk without crutches. The very wet weather has made me suffer from neuralgia in my limb. I now sleep at night in a reclining chair.

Friends have been very kind coming to see me, and as I must be a prisoner for some time longer, I hope they will continue to come. Reading and writing are a great resource and give me pleasure, but after having these alone for a time, I get a sudden disgust with books and want folks.

Just as I write this, I hear of the marriage of Mr. Swinson to Miss Ida Quinn. I always hoped this would take place. Ida is one of the finest women Wilkes county has reared, past or present. As far as I can judge, Mr. Swinson is entitled to one of the very best women to be found. Here's good luck to the brides of today. Mr. Swinson and Mr. Barksdale will help to keep up the good name of old Washington.

Elisa A. Bowen

WASHINGTON CHRONICLE, August 9, 1897

DEATH OF COL. WILBERFORCE DANIEL

This well known gentleman died at his home in Augusta on Sunday, and his remains buried here on Monday. He was a native of Lincoln county but had lived in Augusta the last thirty years. He served during the war with distinction and was several times promoted for gallantry, coming out with the rank of Colonel.

He served two terms as Sheriff of Richmond County. In 1867 he married Miss Mary Wynn at the old Wynn home in this county, and this always identified him with the people of Wilkes. Sympathy for his wife in this great bereavement that has come to her.

John Lindsay	James Brantley	William Wigg
Geo. Bragley	John Cook	John Cook
John Ho. -	John Richardson	
Frederick Williams	Joseph Miller	
William Muller	John Wilder	
George Rynard	John Smith	
James McLean	John Cook	
Benj. Wesley	Joseph Wilder	
Edw. Eales	John Smith	
John Gimbry	John Carter	
Wm Gimbry	Michael Miller	
Said Richardson	Richard Holliman	
Henry Duke	Joshua Miller	
Henry Williams	Solomon Bantick	
Henry Duke	Joseph Miller	
Edward Smith	John Bantick	
Daniel Purnell	Ed. Leeds	
John Cooper	James Brantley	
John Hill	Benjamin Brantley	
Charles Gordon	Harris Brantley	
George Gyles	John Smith	
Charles Howard	Rich. Wesley	
John Phillips	Nat. Conith	
John Hill	Sam. Jones	
James Phillips	Sam. Bishop	
Edward Hill	Stephen Bishop	
David Holliman	James Davis	
Ad. Allen Holliman	William Wilder	
Elisabeth Hill	William Wiggins	
John Cook		

WILKES COUNTY'S "SIGNERS"

THIS LETTER TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS SOUGHT THE REMOVAL FROM COMMAND OF GEN. MCINTOSH.

WRITTEN FROM WILKES COUNTY 5 JULY 1777.



(FOR)

87

the Good of the American Cause. Your Memorialists therefore hope your Honorable Body will take the Premises into consideration and Order as soon as possible the removal of General M^r Insook from among them, as your Memorialists are thoroughly convinced it will highly discourage our Enemies in East Florida, and be a more deadly Stroke to them in this State than any ^{other} can be, and Grant them such other relief as to your Honorable Body may seem meet. Dated at Wilkes County the fifth of August One thousand seven hundred and Seventy Seven

Geotwellly
Ben Pison
Abodelly
Robert Day
Edward Black
Ene Black
John Ayler
William Daniel

Benj. Gascoyne
Leach Phillips
Wm Johnson
Gethen Z Neal
Macharia Phillips
Jedidiah Green
John A. Neal
Frederick Francis
Jedidiah Green
James Bentley

Wm Phillips
William Hobbs
John Gray
Jacob Hudson
George Neal
Frederick Francis
William Moore
Jacob Newdite
Wm Downes

NOT SHOWN ON THIS COPY ARE ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES OF:

WILLIAM DANIEL
WILLIAM FOSTER
WILLIAM PHILLIPS
JOHN TREVOR
JAMES WHITE
JOHN CONNER
RICHARD JOHNSON
NATHAN O NEAL

JAMES BENTLEY
JOHN TOLSON
RICHARD GASCOYNE
RICHARD WHATLEY
ALEXANDER SCOTT
THOMAS POSTESS?
SILVANUS JOHNSON
JACOB IPLY

WM. DOWNS
WILLIAM QUEEN, SENR.
ROBERT HARPER, JR.
BENJAMIN THOMPSON
JOHN ONEAL
THOMAS LEVIRET
JOHN BENTLEY?

ALL WILKES COUNTY FREEHOLDERS, SIGNED IN THE COUNTY 5 AUGUST 1777.



Mrs. Bentley 88
 Stephen Jennings
 Lige Webb
 J. M. D...
 The ...
 Moses ...
 The ...
 Charles ...
 George ...
 Saint ...
 Joseph ...
 Joseph ...
 Martha ...
 Matthew ...
 Joel ...
 Andrew ...
 Joseph ...
 Benjamin ...
 Stephen ...
 David ...
 John ...
 William ...
 James ...
 Thomas ...
 William ...
 John ...
 Abram ...
 John ...

Pollin ...
 James ...
 Ambrose ...
 William ...
 William ...
 Andrew ...
 James ...
 John ...
 Toll ...
 Isaac ...
 Edward ...
 Sarah ...
 Lucy ...
 Benj ...
 Ruben ...
 Wm ...
 Joseph ...
 Wm ...
 David ...
 James ...
 William ...
 Joseph ...
 Wm ...
 Rufin ...
 Ganaway ...
 Joseph ...
 Gideon ...
 William ...
 Maradeth ...
 Sayner ...

Boman ...
 Edmund ...
 Sarah ...
 Dennis ...
 Lewis ...
 Samuel ...
 Wm ...
 John ...
 Thomas ...
 Samuel ...
 Joseph ...
 John ...
 Edward ...
 John ...
 Silas ...
 Sarena ...

WILKES CO. FREEHOLDERS
 WRITING TO THE
 CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
 5 AUGUST 1777
 ASKING THE REMOVAL FROM
 COMMAND OF GEN. MCINTOSH.



To his Honour the Governor, and the Executive Council, for the State of Georgia, the Memorial of sundry Inhabitants of the County of Wilkes, humbly sheweth,

That your Memorialists have been lately notified that an Act has passed the General Assembly, depriving Persons of the privilege of laying their Head-Rights on the late ceded lands, whereby their just Expectations are disappointed - That they fear the consequences of carrying the ~~New Mode of granting Lands into Execution, as they have observed with concern the~~ Dejection or Rancour, with which the disagreeable News ^{has} filled the exasperated Minds of the People at large.

Your Memorialists therefore desirous of having Grievances redressed by sober and regular Means, beg leave to move you that an Assembly be immediately called, and the granting Orders for said Lands suspended, till Petitions may be heard for a repeal of such Law or Laws, as your Memorialists conceive affect the Happiness of Individuals, and the Peace and good order of the State. And your Memorialists shall pray,

Witness

Nath Smith

Robin Kin

Saml Alexander

Geo Mathews

Doubt Kinnet

Thaman

Robert Day

Disr Oliver

Saml Caswell

Wm Kildaman

Will Terrill

Benj. Herndon

Sampry Ham

J. Herndon

Sydnor Cosby

Joshua Sanders

Benj. Petle

John Norton

C. 1793

To the Honourable the Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly the Petition of sundry of the Inhabitants of the County of Wilkes, humbly sheweth,

That the Settlement and Cultivation of the vacant Lands, was a principal Object which the Legislature of this State had in view the preceding Year - That the Land Acts then passed, appear to your Petitioners to be properly calculated to effect that Design - That those Acts were founded in good Policy, as they tended greatly to the Population and Strength of the Country, by preventing Men of Wealth from engrossing large Bodies of Land, & befriending the honest poor Man by allowing him Two Hundred Acres for his own Head-Right, gratis, and by fixing the first on Purchase at a low Price, and the rest to rise progressively - That the People at large were well pleased with the Wisdom of the Mode for granting Land, and rejoiced in seeing useful and reputable Emigrants from other States daily arriving, with an Intention actually to reside on the Lands they should so obtain - That your Petitioners conceive that Persons who have been induced by the Encouragement held out to them, to remove into this State; as well as others formerly resident here who have never taken Land on their Head-Rights, when they find their sanguine, and as they supposed well-grounded Hopes prove abortive, and Numbers of the lower Class, instead of being Free-holders, have only the prospect of being Tenants to the Wealthy, they will naturally reflect upon and reprobate the Policy and good Faith of those who set to sale the late-ceded Lands, to the Ruin of Numbers, for the poor Pittance of Forty Pounds more in the Thousand Acres, than the former Acts required.

Your Petitioners therefore beg leave to move you, that the Premises may be taken into Consideration, and that the late-ceded Lands may be granted on Head-Rights as heretofore; and that any contrary ~~provisions~~ as they are so disgusting to your Constituents, as well as impertinent and iniquitous in themselves, may be discarded, and any Law or Laws enjoining them repealed. And your Petitioners shall pray



John Cole
 Walton Harris
 Lyman - Cosby
 Bucher Harris
 Joshua Andrew
 James Alexander
 John Norton
 Nat Smith
 Rob. Jenkins
 John Armstrong
 Rob. Harshbarger
 Sam Cuiquet
 Wm Vandeman
 Jn. Innes
 Wm. Hightower
 John Bonderson
 Bobbly
 John Johnson
 William Boon
 Jacob Landers
 James Harrell
 William Hamen
 Williams
 G. L. Jordan
 Henry Coats
 J. William

Michl. Ayers
 Basil Lamar
 William Wilder
 Tho. McAllen
 Chas. Reynolds
 Jesse Coine
 Eliza Keister
 Robert Williamson
 Tho. McDowell
 Kent Bradford
 Micajah McGehee
 William Chatmon
 Isaac Short
 William Cowin
 Michal Coys
 Jon Roy
 Paul Patriots
 Jos. Giff
 Wm. M. R. K.
 Charles Cranshaw
 Wm. Fletcher
 John Cargile
 James Hightower
 John Wingfield Sen.
 Paul Ferrell
 Garland Wingfield
 Tho. Carville

Geo. White
 Jno. Dorick
 Robert Armistead
 Edward Kelly
 S. Reynold
 Wm. Givens
 Wm. Swanson
 Joseph Park
 Daniel Wulley
 Joseph Cooken
 Phillip Guiz
 Dannie Young
 Reuben Burdick
 Jacob Hamman
 Abraham Harris
 David Shuman
 John Pascoe
 Tho. Matton
 C. Charles Smith
 William Matton
 John Hightower
 Wm. Vandeman
 Annis Pottley
 John Star
 Bond. Marsh



Joseph Scott
 Samuel Culpeper
 Thomas Gibson
 John Culpeper
 Light Davis
 Pat. Birmingham
 John Laman
 Tho. Dugan
 Ambrose Down
 John Ashley
 John Ashley
 Robert Ashley
 John Ward
 John Clarke
 William Bentley
 Thomas Severitt
 William Bentley

William Bentley
 binding in substance
 of form



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