

## FORD HISTORY WRITTEN BY L.M. FORD IN 1904

SOURCE: FAIRFIELD COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, WINNSBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA

NATHANIEL FORD, Sr. is as far back as we can trace our ancestry. He came from Carolina County Virginia and settled on Dutchman Creek, Fairfield County, then known as Craven some time previous to the Revolutionary War in what year is unknown. Near this place he ended his earthly pilgrimage in 1843 in the nineteenth year of his age.

He was of stout muscular frame about six feet and two or three inches high and of dark complexion. He was possessed of a good intellect, but his education was quite limited. He was very fond of the social glass and indulged so freely that property dwindled away to nothing in the latter part of his life.

He served as a magistrate for many years, was a mason and as he never connected himself with any branch of the christian church his religious predilections are unknown. It was thought that he was tainted with Deism. In his last illness he was asked his thoughts concerning the future, the reply was: "God gave the soul and to him it will return." After he passed away his face had the appearance of a quiet sleep at the end of a long and eventful life.

In the Revolution he espoused the cause of the colonists against King George. In his latter days he often fought over the battles in which he was engaged not much of this is now remembered. He was about thirty-three years old when hostilities began. He very probably had married previous to that. He was in several skirmishes and battles among them cowpens, Orangeburg, Fort Mobje and Eutaw Springs are remembered. At cowpens he received a bullet, which lodged just under the skin of an arm. It could be seen and felt plainly often he was requested to have it taken out, his reply was "It shall go to the grave with me." And it did. He retained until his death the musket he used in the service, when Sherman's Army passed through it was in possession of his grandson, John L. Ford, they intended to break it up, but upon hearing its history left it uninjured. The last known of it William B. Ford son of John L. Ford had possession of it, this was several years ago. He may still have it.

On one occasion he received a furlough at Orangeburg, set out on foot to visit his home on Dutchmans Creek. After trudging all day, night came upon him some four or five miles above the present site

of Columbia, in a deep ravine near what was known to the wagoners as Joe Brown's hill before the day of the railroads. Here he rested during the night at the root of a large white oak. When he halted and thought of arrangements for the night the wolves were howling fearfully, he discharged his musket, reloaded it, sat on the root of the tree with his faithful gun between his knees and rested as best he could. Little did he think that in less than three-fourths of a century in that same ravine the whistle of the steam engine and the thundering of trains would reverberate.

The country was then an open forest being destitute of undergrowth. A few cultivated tracts were scattered here and there over the country. Wild pea vines from one to two feet high covered the country. The settlers could often see wild deer in herds of five to fifteen grazing about within sight of their cabin doors. Cattle and swine were raised in great abundance with but little care trouble or expense.

NATHANIEL FORD Sr. married a MISS CLOUD, sister of JOSEPH CLOUD, Sawney's Creek, Fairfield County S.C. Nothing is known of her antecedents at this time. A considerable number of Clouds reside in Sawney's Creek section all of whom are relatives. The Bells and Gupples who formerly resided in the same section were relatives also. Mrs. Nathaniel Ford Sr. is reputed to have been a beautiful woman with dark or black hair. She became partially bald before her death.

KEZIAH FORD, sister of NATHANIEL FORD Sr. espoused one NICHOLAS PEAY, and bore to him one son Col. Austin Ford Peay and to Col. A.F. Peay were born one son Col. N.A. Peay and three daughters one of whom married Dr. John Myers, another Joseph A. Black and the other espoused Thomas Lyles, Fairfield. The names of these daughters are not remembered.

It's not known that Nathaniel Ford Sr. had any brothers in South Carolina but it is very probable as the names Kiah, Gardner and Derrel Ford are remembered in the family. Many years ago a Mrs. Maggie Ford who may have been the widow of these man, lived in the Longtown section.

John Long was the maternal grandfather of the late Robert Ford. Whence he came, from whom he descended nothing is known. As the feelings between him and Nathaniel Ford Jr. were not cordial, the chances to learn anything about his family history were remote. He resided many years on Rocky Creek near Pickett's (now Gladden's) mill

and not far distant from Beckhamville in Chester County, where he died in 1834. He was large and fleshy of florid complexion. He weighed over two hundred pounds. He was of Irish descent. He was a successful farmer, saved a competence and left some estate at his death. He was for many years a leader of Mt. Zion Baptist Church on Turkey Branch.

He was twice married. His first wife was a Miss Hannah McFadden, Chester Co. the date of the marriage is unknown. She bore to him three daughters Elizabeth, Mary and Senna. Elizabeth espoused Nathaniel Ford Jr., Mary espoused James Griffin and Senna married Thomas Griffin. These Griffins were brothers and the sons of Rachel Griffin who came to Fairfield from Georgia. His second wife was Eliza Guntharpe whom he married within three months after the death of his first wife. She was a most excellent woman and lived to be about eighty years old, when she died near Blacksburg, York Co. S.C. She bore no children.

NATHANIEL FORD, Sr. was the father of five sons to wit - JOHN, GARDNER, JAMES, HEZEKIAH and NATHANIEL Jr. and five daughters who grew to womanhood; viz: ANNIE, MARY, SALLIE, ELSIE and MARTHA and one whose name is unknown, died in childhood. They are named without regard to the order of their birth as that is unknown.

JOHN married LUCRETIA DURHAM a daughter of Charnal Durham, a soldier of the Revolution who resided on Dutchman's Creek not far from the present site of Ridgeway. Four children resulted from this union: Charnal Durham, Maria, Sallie and Lucretia. Charnal Durham died unmarried. Maria married Hugh Y. Rasborough clandestinely. Her father was very much displeased with the match and probably never spoke to her again although he manifested some spirit of forgiveness when it could do no good or be of comfort to the living. Rasborough was a steady thrifty and a well to do man. They resided several years in the community and removed to Mississippi. Here he accumulated considerable property and was accounted wealthy at his death. All of this family are now dead.

SALLIE became the life partner of RALPH JONES without the hearty concurrence of her father. She bore one child Amanda who married Thomas G. Robertson contrary to the wishes of Mr. Jones her father. The union of Sallie and Ralph Jones proved a happy one. By energetic

industry and strict economy they accumulated a considerable property in land and slaves. At the death of Ralph Jones the whole estate went to his widow who bore no small share in its accumulations. Some years after the death of Mr. Jones Sallie married Wylie J. Davis. This did not prove a very happy union and in a few years they separated. During Sallie's life Wylie J. Davis married Mrs. R.D. Featherstone. Lucretia espoused David Elkins about 1829 or 30. At this time David Elkins was doing commercial business with David Aiken Winnsboro S.C. Lucretia bore one daughter who married John T. Hall, Rocky Mount, and a son Bayliss who married a Miss Shedd. Sallie died in Florida some years since and left some family. Bayliss died some years ago, and left some family. David Elkins was not successful in business, yet a plannible and clever man. He died poor.

GARDNER FORD espoused BETSY GRIFFIN, daughter of RACHEL GRIFFIN and by some persons Betsy was considered of doubtful virtue. She bore three sons and one daughter Martha. This family removed first to Georgia and thence to Barber County Mississippi.\* There Martha married Sauls and all the sons married there also. The names of their wives are not known. Gardner died many years ago a very wealthy man.

HEZEKIAH FORD married KEZIAH BURGESS who bore to him two sons, James and John. Hezekiah was the only one in all the years who made any pretensions to religion. That he joined the church was doubtless due to the Christian influence of the woman he married. He and his family went to Georgia in 1833, and settled in Robertson County, where the entire family died. His widow was the last to die which occurred in 1865. Having no descendants living she left most of her ample fortune to the Methodist Church of which she had been a consistent member for many years of her life.

JAMES FORD married KEZIAH FORD a kinswoman, and a daughter of some of the Fords afore-mentioned. Her mother's name was Maggie and she was related to the Grahams. She bore two sons William and James. James Ford the husband died in 1830, and was buried on a hill in Dutchman's Creek where repose the ashes of Nathaniel Ford Sr. and his wife. This land was once the property of Nathaniel Ford Sr. but now

\* Correction: Barbour County, Alabama

of Loyd Davis who informed the writer in summer of 1903, that he lived in the house built by Gardner Ford. Nathaniel Ford was guardian of these children. Soon after the death of the father James Ford the entire family went to Alabama when last heard of they lived on the Tombigby River.

NATHANIEL FORD Jr. married ELIZABETH LONG daughter of John Long, Chester Co. date unknown. She bore to him one daughter Keziah and four sons, John Long, Hezekiah, Aaron and Robert. This proved a very unhappy union and they separated in 1829, and never lived together again. Ann Griggs lived in the family and caused many of the troubles which led up to this unhappy result. He always made ample provision for his cast off family although living a very evil life with Ann Griggs. We will not go into the details of the family life at this time. They were written by Robert the youngest son of Nathaniel Ford Jr. and can be seen if desired. The oldest child, Keziah, married Alfred E. Guntharpe, Chester Co., and bore to him six children: one son Osborne Robert and five daughters, Elizabeth, Hannah, Martha, Vitha and Sallie.

Osborne married Martha Thompson, daughter of Ethelred Thompson. She bore to him many children, their names I do not remember and she died some years ago. After her death Osborne married a widow--- Atlanta, Ga. last heard of he lived in Shelby, N.C. and ran a little grocery. Elizabeth married a Blalock and bore several to him. Blalock died while the children were small and left his family in rather destitute circumstances. His widow had a hard scuffle for some years to get along, but as her children grew up and were able to assist her times got better with her. I think Elizabeth is now dead. Hannah married a Whisonant, bore one child a son to him, and died. Martha married G. Marion Moore, she bore no child. This couple still resides in Blacksburg. Vitha married Frank Moore and bore several children to him. She died some years ago.

Alfred E. Guntharpe died about 1848. His estate was hopelessly involved, and his family dependent. The widow saved a little from the wreck and removed in 1854 to York County S.C. and purchased a tract of land on which the town Blacksburg was afterwards built. This removal occurred before the marriage of any of the children except Osborne. The building of the Atlanta & Charlotte Air Line railroad and the location and building up of the town of Blacksburg was

the source of much profit to some of the children. Keziah Gunthorpe died in 1863. With the exception of Osborne and Martha I think all her children are dead. John Long Ford married Miss Jemima Leggo, daughter of M.A. Leggo in Nov. 1837. Owing to the temperament of his wife they did not live very happily together, his life was very unpleasant. She bore many children to him but four sons and daughters lived through childhood: William Boyd, John Long, Riley McMaster, Moultrie Judson and Alice. William B. married two daughters of Jon P. Wilson. The first wife bore some children, second bore none, he now lives with his third wife who was a Mississippi widow, she bore some children to him. His present residence is Leggo near Water Valley, Miss. where he does a hotel business which he claims pays. Guests are attracted to his hotel by the mineral water of a high medicinal value.

John Long married ----- and lives in Texarcana, Texas. He has some children the oldest Mary, broke down mentally from over study at school. He and his father-in-law do a mercantile business selling dry goods and groceries. He does well financially.

Riley McMaster married ----- Poinsett Co. Ark. and she bore some children to him. He is a Baptist Minister and serves some churches in Poinsett Co. Ark.

Moultrie Judson espoused Miss --- Faulkner, Poinsett Co. Arkansas, she bore several children to him. He farms near Richardson Texas and is doing well at it.

Alice married James Griffin Hollis and bore to him eight children one of whom died in infancy. J.G. Hollis died a few years ago and Alice and her family reside in Winnsboro. Her oldest daughter Maggie married Thomas M. Haines, Longtown, S.C. in 1903. And Mary the second daughter married James Jackson of the U.S. Army in 1904. John L. Ford's first wife died Sept. 27, 1857. His second wife was Miss Eliza Robertson. She bore two children who died in infancy. John L. Ford suffered many years with a heart trouble and died May 27, 1869. His remains are in the Aimwell cemetery near Ridgeway. He was a mason and a member of the Baptist Church.

Aaron Ford married Carolina daughter of William Kennedy. She died at the birth of her first child. It was a boy and was called William Nathaniel. He served in the Confederate War with Capt. Goodwins Co. 6th Regt. S.C.C. He was always regarded as a good man and brave

soldier performing every duty required and shirking nothing. He emigrated to Poinsett Co. Ark. about 1869 and there married Callie Bailey, daughter of Capt. R.E. Bailey, Rocky Mount S.C. She bore one son and a daughter to him. His wife and both children are dead. William N. still resides in Poinsett Co. Aaron's second matrimonial venture was with Nancy Craig, who bore two daughters, Fannie and Mattie and one son Robert Milton. Fannie married George Boyd and bore several children to him, one son and two daughters are married. They lived near Cornwells, Chester Co. and are doing well apparently in a financial way.

Robert Milton espoused Emma, daughter of Green B. Montgomery, Chester Co. who bore three daughters and one son. Carrie, Maggie and Bertha were the girls, the boy's name was William. Carrie married William Wilson, bore some children and died a few years ago. Maggie married James Anderson. The widow and the other children Wm. and Bertha went to Arkansas, where Bertha married and Emma is with her. On account of health William went to Oklahoma where he was last accounted. Robert died several years ago while his children were small and family were left in indigent circumstances. As they grew in size and could assist in their support they got along very well.

Mattie never married, she resides at Blackstock with her mother who is now quite old. Mattie made enough with her needle to buy a lot in Blackstock and build a comfortable house on it, and how she makes a comfortable living in the same way.

Kiah Ford died in January 1831 of some kidney or bladder trouble with which he had been afflicted since childhood. He was about sixteen years old at his death.

Robert Ford, youngest son of Nathaniel Ford Jr. married Miss Vitha Huger Gaither daughter of Jeremiah Gaither Nov. 7, 1841, Rev. Thomas Hall officiating. This was a runaway match. The couple left Mrs. Eliza Long and traveled to the residence of John L. Ford, brother of the groom, who lived about five miles southerly of Winnsboro, and here the marriage was consummated. I don't think the bride was ever fully forgiven by her father. The children born in this union: Lucius Milton, April 30, 1843, John Long, December 12, 1844, Robert Hezekiah, February 4, 1846, Aaron Augustus Nathaniel Ford, Aug. 17, 1847, Mary Malvina, Aug. 30, 1851, Richard Cornelius, Oct. 10, 1852, and Jerry Gaither, March 1, 1855.

Lucius Milton is unmarried.

John Long married Sallie Susannah daughter of J. Barber Ferguson, Rossville, Chester Co. Jan. 27, 1870, Ref. J.M. Boyd officiating. She bore Leslie Huger November 26, 1870. He died of typhoid fever at Rock Hill, S.C. June 27, 1898 and his remains were buried in the Bethesda Church yard. Anna May, Dec. 10, 1872. She married Robert McIlivain April 15, 1896, Rev. R.A. Yongue officiating. They reside on Dry Creek, Lancaster Co. S.C. and are getting along well in a worldly way. Susan Gardner March 9, 1880, Nannie Rae Aug. 27, 1882, Barber Ferguson April 16, 1885.

Robert Hezekiah married Miss Nannie McElevée Faulkner, Gainesville, Ga. Dec. 25, 1873, Rev. C.B. Cleveland officiating. She was the daughter of J. Harvey Faulkner who was reared near Fort Mills, S.C. She bore Mary Vitha (Daisy) Oct. 21, 1874, who was married to John O. Jackson Jan. 20, 1897, Rev. R.A. Yongue officiating. Robert Harvey Jan. 14, 1880, Nannie Eloise Feb. 25, 1885.

Aaron Augustus Nathaniel was a paralytic and epileptic from eight months old until his death Dec. 5, 1890. He lived 43 yrs. 3 mon. and eighteen days (18). His remains repose in the Gaither family burying lot.

Mary Malvina married Henry McNiell Stevenson Jan. 25, 1877, Rev. Jno. W. Kelly officiating. She bore to him William Ford Nov. 5, 1877, Robert Henry July 16, 1880, Wrennie Heath July 21, 1886. She died Sept. 27, 1886 and her remains rest in the Ebenezer Church yard. Esther Mary, July 22, 1884, Gaither Ferguson Oct. 20, 1890.

Richard Cornelius married Lucy A. Mickle, daughter of Robert Mickle, Sawney's Creek section, Kershaw County, S.C. Dec. 16, 1874. She bore Roberta Jan. 10, 1876, who died Oct. 26, 1877 and is buried in the Bethesda Church yard. Mary Estelle Aug. 3, 1877. She married James M. Smith Feb. 11, 1903. Robert Mickle Feb. 18, 1881, Lucy Rebecca Aug. 18, 1879, Jerry Cornelius Oct. 18, 1882, Lenorah Dorcas Oct. 12, 1886, John Lucius May 12, 1889. Richard Cornelius departed this life July 30, 1893, having lived 40 years, 8 months and 20 days. His ashes repose in the Ebenezer Church yard, near Sawney's Creek, Hershaw Co. S.C. He was not demonstrative, yet he loved his church and did what he could for its maintenance. He was perfectly willing to meet his maker and render an account of his earthly pilgrimage. He loved his family and lived for them. They missed his providing care and guidance for some years after his death. They worked and



scuffled hard to get along for sometime but now they get on fairly well.

Jeremiah Gaither is still single. He remained at the old home-  
stead and farmed until May 1893 when he went to Poinsett Co. Arkan-  
sas and farmed a year or two with cousin Rev. Riley M. Ford. He  
then clerked for Simmins & Co. Druggists, Harrisburg, Ark. for some  
years, during the winter of 1900. He bought an interest in the busi-  
ness and the firm name was changed to J.G. Ford & Co. They still  
deal in drugs.

Robert Ford left his home Nov. 7, 1837 and never returned again  
to become one of the family. He went to Winnsboro, S.C. and became  
a salesman in the store of Robert Cathcart, which position he held  
for more than a year. He then formed a partnership with Mansel Hall  
under the name and style of Hall & Ford. They bought the stock of  
George H. Cathcart and began to merchandize in Winnsboro, S.C.,  
January, 1839. Their capital was eighteen hundred (\$1800) dollars  
each. This business and partnership continued until the fall of  
1841 when the partnership was dissolved and the business was placed  
in the hands of Mansel Hall to close up. Although there was a con-  
siderable stock of goods and several hundred dollars in accounts  
and notes the said Mansel Hall made no settlement and accounted for  
nothing left in hands, and Robert Ford received nothing in the wind-  
ing up of the firm of Hall & Ford. Mansel Hall who had put his every  
dollar in the firm soon opened a new store with a large stock of  
goods. In the fall of 1841 Robert Ford formed partnership with  
Joseph Kennedy under the name and style of Ford & Kennedy and intend-  
ed to sell groceries and speculate in cotton in Columbia, S.C. This  
firm did business entirely on a credit obtained by endorsement of  
notes by Nathaniel Ford Jr. and James R. Aiken to Shannon & McGee  
Charleston, S.C. This firm of Ford & Kennedy was forced to close.  
When the books of Ford & Kennedy were straightened and the notes  
all came in, the debt of the firm amounted to ten thousand (\$10,000)  
dollars more than the assets. The books of the firm showed a profit  
of more than five hundred dollars. Joseph Kennedy was a notorious  
gambler and obtained money on the credit of the firm and lost it in  
the gambling halls which he visited nightly.

In 1843 Robert Ford returned to the country and farmed on a small  
scale. During this year his wife entered suit for possession of

negro (Jeff) who was given to her by her grandfather, Richard Gaither. She obtained possession of negro and was paid four hundred (\$440) and forty dollars for hire of said negro. Said money was invested in negro (Fannie) from whom sprang a large family. In 1844 he removed to Cedar Creek and made one crop, and in December 1844 he removed to the place on which he spent the remainder of his life. His wife's father opposed her marriage and never forgave it. He willed everything to his son Jeremiah R. After his death the widow sued for her dower. This was compromised by the payment of three thousand (\$3000) dollars, this money was given Mrs. Robert Ford and with it was purchased some lands and four slaves, and Robert Ford bought other lands and slaves and was in a fair way to pay all his debts, even his share of the Ford & Kennedy debts, when the Confederate War broke out. When the war ended the slaves were freed and the other property was very much depreciated. He was never able to pay his debts. He struggled on to the end of his life and never did any good financially again.

For more than thirty years he was a member of Bethesda Church (Methodist) to which he gave liberally of his means and also a member of the Flint Hill Masonic Lodge in which at different times he held every office in it. His education was limited but by a judicious course of reading was more than ordinarily versed in the English and American history, also kept up with the current events of the day. In knowledge of the Bible and the tenets of his church he was scarcely second to many of its ministers. He was about six foot high of plethoric habit, weight from 215 lbs. to 225 lbs., of rather dark complexion, grey eyes and black hair. He was considered very handsome in his young manhood. He limped from the effect of a wounded foot in boyhood. His mental calibre was much above mediocrity, and he always regretted that he did not take a collegiate course which was offered by his father. He died July 25, 1880 of a diseased liver and was buried in the Gaither family burying lot as per his request, having lived 69 years 6 months and 6 days.

His wife was an invalid most of her life, suffering for more than fifty years of differing complaints. She was tall, rather dark complexion, grey eyes and dark brown hair. In her womanhood she was considered pretty, had a retentive memory and was a good judge of human nature. Her manners were such as to make friends. She joined the same church at the same time as her husband. In her last illness she

expressed a perfect willingness to meet her maker. She died May 16, 1895, and her remains rest beside those of her husband in the Gaither family burying ground, having lived 77 years 29 days.

About 1843, her children having left her and scattered, Mrs. Nathaniel Ford Jr. broke up house keeping and lived with her children until her death (Jan. 11, 1870), she was about 78 yrs. old, buried in the Long family burying ground. For many years prior to her death her health was not good. At one time of her life she weighed nearly 200 lbs. She was a member of the Baptist Church for about 35 years, and in young womanhood was considered pretty.

Nathaniel Ford, Jr. was sold out by the sheriff in 1843. In the fall of 1844 he, R.W. Palmer and George Armstrong went to Coasa County Alabama. He took with him a few slaves, a wagon and a team of four animals, these were claimed by Ann Griggs. Here he lived until his death in 1865, about 71 years old. He was a large man about 6 ft. 3 in. high and weighed at one time 240 lbs. quite fine looking, very heavy beard and black hair. His education was very limited, intellectual facilities were much above mediocrity, possessed an indomitable energy, was remarkably successful in business, accumulated a considerable fortune which he risked in his too great self confidence and lost all, and died in poverty and obscurity neglected and forsaken by Ann Griggs for whom he cast off his wife and family. Although a wicked man and indulged freely in some of the vices of the day, he was naturally inclined to religion and scarcely ever said what he intended to do without the proviso "If God wills" or "Should God spare my life." He prayed often when living in open violation of God's law, had he lived in a different place and with different environments very likely he would have been a man of remarkable piety. It is said that he professed religion and joined the Baptist Church some years before his death.

MARY FORD, thought to be the oldest daughter of Nathaniel Ford, Sr. was a large and homely woman with cross eyes. She married GEORGE ARMSTRONG and bore to him two daughters. Cynthia and Annie both were very pretty with fair complexion. Cynthia married Robert W. Palmer, York Co. S.C. in 1843 or 4. Soon after this the entire family went to Coasa Co. Ala. Cynthia soon died. George Armstrong returned to S.C. in 1859 or 60 and lived with D.C. Ford until his death. Annie was always delicate and it is probable she passed away many years ago as a spinster.

SALLIE FORD was a small woman and had very dark or black hair and must have been pretty when young. She was married three times, her first husband was JACK NETTLES a country merchant near Sawney's Creek on the Simmons road leading from Longtown to Columbia. She bore to him two daughters Mary and Martha. Mary was a most beautiful woman and was twice married. Sallie's second husband was a widower, CRUMPTON who did not live long. Some years later she married DeLashnit, Chester Co. S.C., soon all went to Tennessee where Mary married a second time, thence they removed to Pontotoc county, Mississippi, and there all trace of them is lost.

ANNIE FORD married GARDNER L. FORD whose father is unknown doubtless he was her relative, they removed to Mississippi soon after marriage. It is thought no issue resulted from this union. They visited South Carolina in 1840 and no mention was made of children. This Gardner Ford had a sister Janie who married a Middletin, one of her sons Austin Peay Middletin was clothed and sent to school by Col. A. F. Peay. This boy came out to S.C. and returned to Mississippi with Gardner L. Ford and his wife.

ELSIE FORD married JAMES YONGUE a widower, near Blackstock, S.C. and bore to him Osmorne, William Belton, Martha Ann and Mary Acina. Osmorne married Jane Lemon and died in the 50's without issue. William Belton studied medicine and became an M.D., he died in 1855 unmarried. Martha Ann married Dr. Green Berry Calvin. They both died without issue. Mary Acina married Jonathan Pratt and bore to him William, Jefferson, Alice and Barlett who died in infancy. After the death of Pratt his widow married Charles B. Watts, both went to Texas about 1866. Elsie Yongue died in 1851 and James Yongue in 1866, both are buried in the Yongue family burying ground.

MARTHA FORD the youngest child of Nathaniel Ford, Sr. espoused GEORGE B. COLEMAN and bore to him two sons Charles and Nathaniel. They left South Carolina many years ago, since which time nothing more is known of them.

This is all that is known of Nathaniel Ford, Sr. and his descendants, and was written from memory by Robt. Ford his grandson in 1880 and copied with some addenda by Lucius M. Ford in 1904.

Richard Gaither migrated from Maryland to South Carolina some years prior to the Revolution bringing with him his wife and her mother, a Mrs. Jacobs. He first settled on Little Rocky Creek, Chester Co. S.C. the land is now in possession of Ross J. Dye and is the place on which he now resides. Richard Gaither spent most of his life near Rocky Mount. In the Revolution he fought on the side of the Whigs. At one time he was confined in Camden under sentence of death, and the day of execution was near at hand when his life was saved by the intervention of a British officer. It is regretted that the name of this officer has not been preserved in the family. During his confinement his clothing became infested with vermin, his daughter Rachel obtained permission to carry some clothing to take the place of those infested. After accomplishing her mission she and a neighboring lady Mrs. Ben Land, who had accompanied her, started on their way homeward, a distance of forty miles through an unbroken forest, but had not gone more than half the distance when a party of mounted tories who had no regard for passes commanded the weary travelers to halt, as soon as Miss Rachel bestrided the back of her animal used the whip to good advantage and after racing several miles she made good her escape, while her more timid friend gave up her horse and trudged her way home on foot. On another occasion, a squad of tories came to her father's house and ordered a meal for themselves, they were informed that nothing could be kept in the house on account of the tories and British. Rachel's mother being threatened, told her daughter where she could get some coarse meal and to prepare some bread and milk for them, the milk in an old pewter basin. After they had finished Rachel said to them: "If the basin was melted and poured down their throats, it would be the dessert of all others she desired them to have." He was an energetic and economic man, acquired a competency and at his death left a large estate of land and some slaves. He built the first cotton gin this section. He died in 1825 about ninety years old and was buried in the family burying ground.

Richard Gaither, born Oct. Children were: Jeremiah, Eli, Beli, Deli, Rachel, Nancy, Mary and Sophia, without regard to the order of their birth.

Jeremiah Gaither born Oct. 20, 1783 married Mary Elizabeth Guntharpe July 4, 1815 who bore to him Richard who died in infancy.

Vitha Huger who married Robert Ford and their family history begins on page ( ) and Jeremiah Richard who married Miss Martha Macon, daughter of Henry Macon, Chester Co. S.C., she bore two daughters, Sarah Ann who married Stark P. Martin in 1877 and bore four daughters Mattie, Mary, Florida and one who died in infancy. This union was not a happy one nor did they live together during the last years of Stark's life. He was called to his back door Dec. 17, 1900 and shot by Harry Nettles a negro, and died the next day. The second daughter Mattie Jeremiah died in 1894 unmarried.

Eli Gaither married Peggy Ester who bore three children to him, Sarah, William and Elizabeth. All went to Ga. and nothing more is known of them.

Beli's wife's name is not remembered, his children were Sallie, who married Lewis Dye and Jeremiah. They went to Alabama and were not heard of again.

Deli married Miss Kitchens who bore son John and a daughter who married Lacy Dye. They went to Alabama and are heard of no more.

Nancy married James Bailey and her children were: Richard, Robert and Mary. Richard died in young manhood, Robert C. married Miss Sarah Arledge who bore to him Charlotte, Susan, Sallie, James, Richard and Mary. Charlotte married James Benson and bore several children, all went to Poinsett Co. Ark. Charlotte and Benson are both dead, but they have children in Ark. Susan married A.W. Hollinman and bore several children. Hollinman has been dead some years, Susan was at Cleveland City, Florida at last accounts. Sallie married William Nathaniel Ford (page ), James died in the Confederate service, Richard died in young manhood in Poinsett Co. Ark. in the early 70's and Mary died in infancy. Robert C. Bailey's second wife was Miss Mary Juan, we are ignorant of her antecedents and place of nativity. She bore two sons, one was killed by his pupil at school, the other was at St. Louis, Mo. when last heard from. Mr. Bailey served as Corporal in the Florida War. He died in the late 50's, his widow died in Illinois some years ago.

Sallie married Green B. Montgomery and her children were: James B., William, Richard C., Robert A., Mary, Mellissa, Margaret, Emma and Eunice. James married Miss Mattie Russell and went to Bradley, Ark. about 1869. His wife died several years ago without issue. He married again. They both live so far as I know. Richard C. graduated

in medicine and stood well as a practitioner, but excessive drinking caused the loss of his practice. He married a Miss McAliley, she bore some children, their number and location I know not. He died several years ago in the northern part of Chester Co. S.C. Robert A. was a teacher, he married a lady of Georgia and went to Yell Co. Arkansas and there died in the early 70's I think. He left two children. His wife dying soon after his death, James B. his brother took the children. One died, the other lives with his uncle. William married Miss Camilla Steel, Columbia, S.C. and left that day or the next for the war. Death prevented his return to her. Mary married Jonathan B. Mickle, a lawyer, and at one time editor of "The Chester Report." She bore some children who are probably in York Co. S.C. Melissa married Jesse Robertson and bore some children and died about 1876. These children were carried to Louisiana some years ago. Margaret married William Drennan and bore two sons and a daughter. John married Miss-----, Rock Hill, S.C. William is single, and Sallie married George W. Kirkpatrick, Jr. and bore some children. These all lived in vicinity of Bascomville, S.C. Emma married Robert Milton Ford (page ). Eunice married Joseph C. Jordan and bore seven or eight sons. They live near Bascomville, and are doing well.

Mary married Andrew McDonald, and bore one son Jimmie and a daughter Sallie. Jimmie died several years ago. Sallie married William McDonald, a kinsman, and bore several children. They reside near Stover and are doing well financially. William was partially paralyzed in the fall of 1903.

Mary (Polly) Gaither married a Jacobs probably, and they went to Alabama soon afterwards and nothing is known of them.

Sophia married Philip Cloyd Dye and bore Nancy, Lewis, Lacy, Richard, Thomas, James, Shelby, Melinda and Elizabeth. Sophia and part of her children remained in S.C. until death, but most of them went west.

Rachel never married, her children were Sallie who married a Bradshaw, and Basil Jacobs. Her children lived and died in York Co. S.C. and very probably they have descendants in that county.

John Guntharpe, a few years after the Revolution, about twelve years old, shipped himself as a stowaway in a vessel leaving an English port probably Liverpool and landed in Charleston, S.C. Remaining there for a time removed to Rocky Creek where he spent the

remainder of his life. He accumulated some property and reared a large family, was honored and esteemed by his neighbors, as he never communicated with his relatives in the old country they never knew what became of him. He lived to be an old man and his ashes repose in the family burying ground.

He married Mary Newly, Charleston, S.C. who bore to him three sons, John, William and Alfred, and seven daughters: Eliza, Mary, Hannah, Martha, Isabel, Sallie and Charlotte.

John married Jennie McCorkle who bore to him four sons Lewis, Robert, Thomas and Alfred, and three daughters Mary, Eliza and Jane. Lewis married Mary Howell, daughter of Sterling Howell who lived on the place now owned by John L Ford, as they removed to Mississippi soon after marriage nothing is known of their family here. Eliza married John P. Wilson and bore two daughters and one son, both daughters married William Boyd Ford, one bore some children, the other died without issue. Jimmie the son may still live. All of Eliza's family removed to Mississippi in the 70's or early 80's, she and her husband are dead. Mary behaved badly in the latter years of her life, she associated with negroes entirely and her remains were buried in a negro church yard. Robert, riding a horse which became unmanagable, ran under a horse rack and was killed. This occurred at old Rossville in the 40's. Jennie the mother was killed by a limb of a tree falling on her, when returning from preaching at the Catholic (Presbyterian) Church on horseback. After the death of their father Thomas, Alfred and Jane removed to Mississippi and nothing more is known of them. This removal was in the late 40's or early 50's.

William Guntharpe married a Miss Westbrook, who bore one son Jacob and some daughters, probably four, their names are not known. He was a mechanic, and resided in S.C. in 1835, but left soon afterwards, where he went or what became of his family is unknown.

Alfred Guntharpe married Keziah Ford, daughter of Nathaniel Ford Jr. A history of this family begins on page ( ).

Eliza Guntharpe was the second wife of John Long and bore no children. She died near Blacksburg, York Co. S.C.

Sallie Guntharpe was the second wife of Ethelred Thomas and bore no children. She lived to a good old age and died near Blacksburg.

Mary Elizabeth Guntharpe married Jeremiah Gaither, a history of this family begins on page ( ). Jeremiah Gaither was born Oct. 20,



1783, and died April 14, 1844. Mary E. Guntharpe was born Aug. 3, 1785, Charleston, S.C. and died May 22, 1852.

Hannah and Martha died unamarrred at the old homestead. Isabel and Charlotte died near Blacksburg unamarrred.

I am endebedted to Miss Adline Sandifer for most of the history of the families of Richard Gaither and John Guntharpe Esq.

Now that we have finished the genealogy of the family of Robert Ford so far as known, will give the military report so far as can be remembered of them.

Robert Ford served in the Regiment of Reserves commanded by Col. ----- Witherspoon, Lancaster, S.C. Regt. was composed of young men under and old men over the conscript age. They were encamped near Georgetown and their duty was to watch for and fight back the Federal troops should they make a demonstration at that point. He served several months in the latter part of the year 1863. He was hospital steward.

T. Brandshaw Lumpkin went to Georgetown for some salt for himself and neighbor which he procured and began his homeward journey about the time that Robert Ford's term of services expired. He was discharged and joined the caravan with others in like condition, and arrived at his home in due time camping the last night on the west bank of Sawney's Creek at Stark Mill, Kershaw Co. In speaking of the experience in camp life he seemed pleased. His greatest discomfort was his absence from his family and business. His son Robert attended to his farm and other business during his absence.

After his duties of the day were discharged he spent much of the time playing checks or drafts with Col. Witherspoon, their skill in the game being nearly equal made it interesting to each.

Lucius M. Ford joined the company raised by O. Barber, Chester Co. S.C. in the fall or winter of 1861. It was a cavalry company. All met at Blackstock in December 1861 to elect officers which resulted: O. Barber Capt., John Grafton 1st Lieut., Henry Moffatt 2nd Lieut. and G.F. Smith a Mexican veteran 3rd Lieut. The services of the company were offered to and accepted by Gov. F.W. Pickens and the company was ordered to be ready to go at any time. Orders were received for Fairfield contingent to meet the Chester

men at Winnsboro in the P.M. of Jan. 16, 1862. Armed and equipped as the law directs, L.M. borrowed a double barreled shot gun of Mr. James G. Johnston a neighbor and was given a pair of horseman pistols by the same man, thus armed he in company with his father and R.S. Nickels another member, wended their way to Winnsboro, arriving in the afternoon. All put up at McMaster Hotel together with many others of the company. On the next morning the company marched through Columbia to Camp Hampton a place of instruction a few miles south of Columbia. The company remained a few weeks, many of the company going to Columbia daily and having a good time generally instead of drilling and preparing for active service. From this the company marched to Charleston and we encamped on the Race Tract. The time was spent here very much as at Camp Hampton. After a stay of a few weeks a march to Pocotaligo was made, here the company first received a taste of military life. Camp duty was onerous, and discipline irksome, but all must come in, and they did. From this camp the company marched to the camp of the 12th Regt. commanded by Co. Jno. Dunovant, Chester Co. S.C. It was at this camp L.M. did his first carrier and picquet work, with which he was not very highly pleased. From this place they went to Shelton Church, at this camp L.M. Ford, R.S. Nickels and others had measles and before their recovery the company went to Grahamville, where they rejoined them after they were all able to travel. While here a virtue was made of a necessity. The conscript law, which required the services of all able bodied men between 18 yrs. and 35 yrs. of age, was passed. The company enlisted for the war and reorganized and most men not in the age conscript returned home, a few did not. The officers elected at the reorganization were O. Barber, Capt., Wade Osborne 1st Lieut., James L. McCrorey 2nd Lieut. and John Kitchens 3rd Lieut. This was the last change of officers. James L. McCrorey was the only one from Fairfield. From Grahamville the company went into camp near Bluffton late in the summer of 1862. The yankees shelled this camp from a transport pretty soon after occupancy. The company was ordered into camp near Pritchardville some miles back from the river, around Pritchardville the company remained until the spring of 1864. While on the coast the duties required picketing and drilling. Two men were detailed each morning to go to some landing on the river and remain twenty-four hours, their instructions

were, if the yankees came out or made any unusual demonstration, one return to camp and report and the other to keep out of their way and watch their movements until the command arrived. This fell pretty heavily as every third night was required of the private to do the duty. At Pritchardville the company was armed with long English rifles and sabres. The shot guns were returned home. A Maj. DuBase, a Frenchman was sent to drill in sabre exercise and an Irishman whose name is not remembered to drill in the manual of arms. Maj. DuBase was the best swordsman I ever saw. Two of our best men, one in front and the other in his rear were given permission to hit if they could, in less than one minute both were disarmed and at his mercy. He was a small man and apparently not very strong.

John L. Ford joined Barber's company at Pritchardville some time during 1863 and remained with it until the end.

In the spring of 1864 orders were received to go to Virginia, the journey was begun in April. The 4th Regt. S.C.C. had never been together since its formation. The field officers were B.H. Rutledge, Charleston, S.C., Col., William Stokes, Orangeburg, Lt. Col., ----- Emmanuel, Georgetown, Maj. and ----- Manigault, Adjt. Part of the Regt. collected at Pocotaligo in April. One half of the men were furloughed home, and the other half rode a horse and led one to Columbia where the furloughed ones returned, the other half went home one furlough, and on to Virginia on the train while the horses were marched through the country. The first camp in Va. was at Brooks Church a few miles from Richmond. At this camp all got together again and in a short time the Regt. joined Hamptons Cavalry. It was put in M.C. Butler's Brigade, Hamptons Division. The first battle in which the Regt. was engaged was Howe's Shop May 28, and second, Cold Harbor, May 30. In these battles the company suffered considerable loss, but L.M.F. missed these as his horse was lame from a kick on the march and he was ordered to remain at Brooks Church until the horse recovered. He rejoined the company at Mechanicsville early June and was in time to join the movement to prevent Sheridan from going up to the Shenandoah Valley, which was consummated by the Trevillion Station battle June 11, 12, 1864. L.M. Ford and J.L. Ford and several others were captured on the 11th and were carried to Pt. Lookout prison camp where they arrived on June 20 and remained about a month and were sent to Emira, N.Y. prison. Here L.M. Ford remained until July 5, 1865.

when he left and arrived at his father's July 13, 1865, broken down in health, and found everybody provery stricken with very little to eat, and he had no clothing except the prison garb which he wore home.

John L. Ford left Elmira prison Oct. 11, 1864 on a parole, being an invalid, and arrived at home some time in November, and remained there until a day or two before the advent of Sherman's army. He having been exchanged a few days before, rejoined the company and engaged in all the skirmishes in the days of hostilities, also in the Bentonville fight. He left camp the night before Johnson's surrender with his gun and horse and other accoutrements and arrived at his father's in due time.

Robt. H. Ford joined Co. B. 4th Battalion Reserves. Jno. McClurkin commanded the company and Perry Gill, Chester Co. S.C. was Battalion commander. This company was sent to Florence S.C. to guard the Federal prisoners there encamped. He remained until Feb. 1865 when he received a sick furlough and he made his way home, where he arrived shortly before Sherman came. He crossed the river and fled easterly with some friends, but was overtaken in a few days and released and he then made his way home as best he could. He had no more experience as a soldier. He enlisted in September 1864.

While on the coast of South Carolina recruits came in until the company numbered about sixty men more than the maximum allowed by the law. Before going to Virginia orders were received to cut off sufficient number of men to reduce it to the maximum required, as the men were needed to replenish the ranks of some companies whose ranks had been reduced by the ravages of the war. This was a bitter thing to the officers and some literature unfit for use in first class Sabbath school was indulged in vocally, but it must be done, and it was. Some of the best men in the company was cut off and these men were left in the old camp as the company began its march, and it was a sad thing to leave many of them as some had been in the company from the first and all were attached to eachother.

The roll of the company as revised is as follows:

O. Barber, Capt.

Wade Osborne, 1st Lieut.

Jas. L. McCrorey, 2nd Lieut.                      died in prison 1864

John T. Kitchens	3rd Lieut.	died of wounds May 1864
George W. Simpson	Orderly Sergeant	
J. Allen Furkett	2nd Sergt.	d
John W. Carter	3rd Sergt.	d
Thomas Worthy	4th Sergt.	d
Jason C. Hicklin	5th Sergt.	
Thomas McCullough	1st Corpl.	died in Elmira N.Y. prison
Berners E. Fripp	2nd Corpl.	d (Aug. 16, 1864)
Lery L. McLemore	3rd Corpl.	
H. Aleck Brakefield	4th Corpl.	
Austin, Lewis		d
Aldrich, Mason		d
Adams, R. Watson		died Elmira prison 1864
Bell, Charles J.		d
Bell, Robert R.		d
Bailey, William	Mail carrier	
Boulware, B. Frank		captured June 11, 1864
Brakefield, John		
Brakefield, Thomas		
Bratton, N. Bonaparte		
Brice, Wm. S.		d
Brown, James S.		d
Cameron, Aleck B.		
Cameron, Robert		Captured June 11, 1864 and died in
Campbell, James, Sr.		d (Elmira N.Y. prison 1864)
Campbell, James, Jr.		died at home on furlough 1862
Carter, Richard W.		
Carter, William		
Cox, Daniel M. (M.D.)		captured June 11, 1864
Connor, Robert S.		
Crosby, J. Allen		
Crockett, R. Stanhope		d
Culp, Robt. N.		Captured May 28, 1864
Clark, James		Wounded May 28, 1864
Dickey, William Wagner		d
Darby, W. Jefferson		died at home on furlough 1862
Douglass, L. Sylvester (M.D.)		d
Estes, Preston W.		
Estes, Andrew		
Ford, L.M.		Captured June 11, 1864
Ford, John L.		Captured June 11, 1864
Fripp, Melvin S.		Captured June 11, 1864
Fripp, Julius S.		d
Ferguson, F. Marion		Died at home on furlough 1862
Grant, Neely		
Grant, John M.		d
Grant, Jimpsey		d
Grant, Aleck		
Grant, B. Andrew		d
Gibson, F. Thomas		Captured May 28, 1864 d
Gibson, John R.P.		Killed June 11, 1864
Gibson, Abe		
Gladden, Edward		died at Pineville, N.C. on the (road home in 1865)

Gladden, Aleck W.	
Hollis, Preston H.	
Holland, Robert	Killed June 11, 1864.
Holland, Joseph	
Hoffman, John	Died of injury received jumping from train in motion in 1862.
Heffley, Thomas	Wounded May 30, 1864 and died of its effects in Washington, D.C.
Ingraham, Lovick P.	Died of disease in Va. Aug. 1864.
Johnson, William	Killed June 24, 1864.
Lumpkin, Reubin P.	
Lumpkin, Troy T.	Captured June 11, 1864.
Lumpkin, Philip P.	Killed May 30, 1864.
McCullough, John	Captured June 11, 1864 and died in Elmira N.Y. prison Aug. 15, 1864.
McCarley, John D.	
McNeel, Sam W.	
McNeel, John S. (M.D.)	
McNeel, William R.	Killed June 11, 1864.
Martin, David	Died of wound April 6, 1865.
Mobley, Edward	Died of measles at Pritchardville in 1863.
Marion, J. Taylor	Captured May 30, 1864.
Milling, Thomas H.	
McCluney, James L.	Wounded June 11, 1864.
McCluney, Thomas	Captured Oct. 1864.
Nickels, Robt. S.	Captured May 28, 1864. d
Osborne, A. Wright	d
Pressly, Jo. Shelton	Regimental Bugler
Pardue, John M.	Captured Oct. 1864.
Pendergast, W. Hughes	
Rawls, John	Died at Pritchardville 1863.
Rawls, T. Wade	Wounded at Fayetteville N.C. 1865. d
Reilly, Meredith	Wounded June 11, 1865.
Reilly, D. Harrison	Captured June 11, 1865.
Sanders, William	Died of wound 1864.
Sweat, Turner	
Secrest, Andrew J.	Mexican War Veteran. Captured June 11, 1864.
Smith, Robert M.	Captured June 11, 1864, died Elmira 1864.
Sterling, J. Calvin	Killed.
Scott, Walter	
Stuart, Joseph A.	
Woods, William Farrier	Died in Va. in 1864.
Walker, J. Lawson	
Wade, Richard	
Wade, W. Martin	
Yongue, John L.	d
Yongue, Joseph	Captured June 11, 1864 and died Point Lookout Md. prison 1864.