

HERITAGE HISTORY OF CHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

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Chester County Court House Built 1852
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the dinner for the soldiers cooked and packed in time if the family dinner waited until after the return from the depot. Of course, all women of the town and country did their duty, but I wish to mention specially a widow woman viz, Mrs. Isiah Mobley. She was a wealthy woman, the mother of several girls and one boy. Her son was delicate, unable to stand the hardships of a soldier's life, but he would volunteer and went with the cavalry and gave up his life for his country. She wrote my father if there were wounded or sick soldiers who were unable to reach their homes, to send them to her house and she would provide for them until they were able to return to duty. This she did and many enjoyed her hospitality. Among the number was a Tennessean by the name of Mockbee who returned after the war and married one of the daughters. This is an inadequate tribute from a daughter to a beloved father. Would I were competent to write it as it should be for the work was a grand one and nobly done as many veterans of today could testify. Mrs. J.B. McFadden

THE GRANT FAMILY by Mrs. A.N. Grant — 1935

The first authentic information we have about the Grant family in this part of South Carolina is that James Grant and John Grant, probably brothers, came before the Revolutionary War, to what is now Chester County, South Carolina, from Virginia. From Courthouse records in 1798 we find James Grant sold land on Sandy river and bought land on Jewel's Fork of Sandy river. This man's wife was named Dorcas. They had two sons, James II and Benjamin, and four daughters, Polly, Phoebe, Sarah, and Tabitha. We have not yet been able to trace the descendants of James II.

As close as we can figure, Benjamin was born between 1790 and 1800. He married Lavina Williams, a sister of Jesse Williams. To them were born six sons and three daughters: (Capt.) Benjamin Andrew, James Henry, Caroline, Neely Marion, Jasper Newton, Gains, Calhoun McDuffie (Mack), Cynthia, and Sarah. There are three headstones in Armenia cemetery made by Benjamin. They are rough rocks with the letters "B.G., L.G., dide 1870; M.C.G., dide 1845." The first stone lay under his house for several years and was placed at the grave after his death. The date was never cut on it.

On the old Walker Mill Pond road, which goes from Mr. John Pressley's store on the Wilksburg road to the road at Sam Grant's that goes past Armenia Church, there are two houses. The first one was Benjamin's. It stood about 500 yards below and on the same side of the road as Walter Simpson's gin house. The second one was James R. (Rock) Grant's who married Benjamin's sister, Tabitha. This house is about 500 yards below and on the same side of the road, and is still standing. It is now owned by Mr. J.J. Dodds. The way I distinguish

these two branches of the family is, the first belonged to the Tribe of Benjamin and the second was founded on a Rock.

Benjamin's oldest son was Benjamin Andrew, born June 16, 1815. He married Sarah McAnulty. They had three sons and three daughters, Francis Marion, of Malone, Florida, now 94 years old; Callie, and Newton. The daughters' names I do not know. This family went to Western Alabama in 1858.

James Henry, born in 1818, married Elizabeth H. Pressley. They have seven sons, one dying in infancy; Benjamin Andrew, James Wesley, Leander Harrison, Lafayette Taylor, Amzi Neely, and Thomas Henry (Dock). They lived in a two-story log house below the present site of Mr. Sam Dove's house. In the early 1850's they built a new house in which Mr. Sam Dove now lives and where, in 1895, Mr. A. Neely Grant was born.

Neely Marion, born in 1826, married Caroline Pressley. They lived where Mr. Ainsley Grant formerly lived, and where Mr. Henry Wilson now lives. To Neely and Caroline were born three sons and three daughters, Ann, Emily and Ainsley (twins), Edward, Martha, and Pierce. His second wife was Mary Hohen. They had two daughters, Jo and Ledgie.

Jasper Newton, born in 1831, married Frances Pressley and lived on Walker Mill creek below his brother, Neely. They had three sons and three daughters, Washington Wallace, Thomas Newton, Jasper Terry, Etta, Phronie, and Alphon (Tid). These three Grant brothers married three Pressley sisters.

Caroline, born in 1820, married John Estes, and lived on Jewel's Fork, and later on the Walker Mill road, just above Mr. John Pressley's house. They had two daughters and two sons, Martha, Rhoda, Neely, and William.

Sarah, born in 1822, married John Grant, one of Rock's sons. She did not live long.

Cynthia, born in 1824, was never married.

Gains married and moved to Georgia. There were no children in this family.

Calhoun McDuffie married Sarah Johnsey. They moved to Georgia and had seven sons and two daughters, Benjamin, Andrew, Quitman, George, Morgan, Albert, Alonzo, Zellie and Ollie. This is the original tribe of Benjamin.

Rock Grant and his wife, Tabitha, had five sons and six daughters, Jason, John, Alex, James (Jimpsey), Ben, Serenna (Rene), Catherine, Mary, Caroline, Betsy and Sally. Ben, Betsy and Sally never married. John, Alex, Jimpsey, Catherine and Caroline each had several children. Jason and Mary each had one son.

Tracing generations is very interesting, but to listen to the reading of names and dates is very tiresome, so we have prepared a chart, showing the Grant generations, as far as possible, from the two brothers from Virginia to the present day. To my knowledge the latest ones are James Melvin Grant, born July 22, 1935, a great-great-grandson of James H. Grant, and son of Olin and Ada Grant, and Ainsley Smith, born July 24, 1935, a great-

grandson of Neely M. Grant, and son of Weldon and Lucille Grant. We have 795 names on the chart and wish to add to it from time to time.

These Grants were industrious, honest and neighborly, working from dawn to dusk in harvest time. Jasper, Neely, and James Henry, who lived close together, went to visit their father Benjamin, very often. The boys liked to go with them because Granddaddy always had sweet cakes and Granddaddy would have, in the big wide fireplace in the fall of the year, plenty of juicy baked sweet potatoes. The young boys were taught to work, but had plenty of fun from all I've been told. They only went to Chester about once a year, and that was when the circus came to town. Uncle Neely (Big Neely) would bring all the boys, Ainsley, Ed and Pierce, Terry, Washie and Tom, Harris and "T", Neely, and Dock, in the wagon to see the parade and the sights but they never went inside the tents. It was a wonderful trip and talked about for months afterwards.

EARLY SCHOOLS

There were very few schools when these boys were "coming up". Each family paid so much toward a teacher's salary. The school term varied in length, but the children stayed from early morning until late afternoon. There was a log school house at the Bonnet Rock, just one room with a big fireplace and no windows, so the door stood open to give light. The benches were made of slabs and there was one big desk where the children did their writing. Uncle Jimmy Carson, Miss Betsy Killian, and Mr. Harrison Grant, great uncle of Mr. J. Martin Grant, were some of the teachers. Just across the road from this school was a blacksmith shop, belonging to Bill Grant, a son of Phoebe Grant and nephew of Benjamin Grant. Bill and his son, Jim, would make and lay plows, make horseshoes, etc. Little Neely and Ainsley would look through the cracks between the logs of the school house and see the sparks fly as the smiths beat the hot iron on the anvil. The beats seemed to say, "Bill Jim, Bill Jim, Bill Jim, Bill, Bill, Bill" to these boys who grew tired of the hard benches and long lists of words in the old "blue-back speller" and longed to be out of doors. The next school was held in the preacher's tent on the old camp ground. Here Mr. Buchanan, first editor of *The Chester Reporter*, and "Humpty-Back" Jim Sanders taught.

The first Armenia school was built between 1876 and 1880. Mr. John Grant whose house still stands just below Mrs. Ainsley Grant's on the Chester road, gave the land. Mr. Taylor Grant supervised the building of it and Mr. Neely Grant and Mr. Zach Roof built the chimney. The next generations went to this school. Miss Molly Lackey, Catty Lucas, Mary Traywick and Mattie Mills taught several years, and boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Neely Grant at the cross roads. Austin Wilks and Miss Lizzie Loury also taught here.

CHURCH AND CAMP MEETING

The lives of these people were so closely associated with the church that we can not speak of one without the other. The first record we have of a church or a preacher

The community was in 1832, when the Chester circuit extended from near Columbia, South Carolina to four miles northwest of Chester. The preacher was J.H. Robinson, a circuit rider. Preaching was held whenever the circuit rider came, regardless of the day of the week.

The first church was organized and built in Armenia in 1843, by one, James Grant, the land was given by Jesse Johnsey and his wife, Mary. The preacher was Rev. John Watts. Mr. Thomas Pressley, grandfather of James H., Neely M., and Jasper's children was the first class leader. He carried a walking stick with a curved handle and when the boys were mischievous he hooked it around their necks and gave it a twist. In 1859, the circuit was divided and east Chester included New Hope, Armenia, and Capers Chapel.

Sometime during the existence of this church, the Bonnet Rock Camp Ground Arbor was built. There were thirty acres in the grounds. The arbor was good size. There were two aisles, crossing in the center, and the seats were made of slabs. Behind the pulpit there were seats for the colored people. Fresh wheat straw was spread around the altar. The arbor was lighted by candles. One large chandelier, holding about fifteen candles, was suspended from the center of the roof. Single candles burned on each post at the edge of the arbor and the grounds outside were lighted by pine knots. Four stobs were driven in the ground, a plank laid on them and then a shovel of dirt. On this the lighted knots were placed.

Each family had a rude cabin or tent. The fathers, mothers, and children would "pack up" and come in wagons and stay a week while the meeting was going on. Some member of the family would go home each day to tend to the stock. Not only the families from the immediate neighborhood, but also people from miles away attended the meeting. Oh what glorious services were held there in "lay-by" time! At night the younger children were put to bed and the others went to service. I have been told that the grand old hymns and fervent prayers of those devout worshipers have never been forgotten. I do not know when the arbor was built, but it was torn down sometime between 1875-80, shortly after the second church was built.

In these early years most people walked to church. Some went in wagons and some rode horseback and the old "upping block" still stands across the road from the original site of the second church. The first buggy in the community, a two wheeled gig, was owned by grandfather Thomas Pressley.

The second church was built in 1872-3. Every family did its share in cutting and hauling logs to the mill and bringing the lumber to the church grounds. The church was built by a Mr. Alexander, from North Carolina, and was a two story structure. The upstairs was used by the Masons and also for entertainment. This man also built the houses of Mr. Wesley Carter and Mr. Jesse Hardin. In and around this church the religious life of nearly everyone who is now living or has lived in this community,

centers. We have prepared a chart showing the history of the churches.

CIVIL WAR

When the call to arms came in 1861, many of the Grants enlisted and served. Neely M. and Jasper served four years. James Henry's son Andrew, went and Harris went first in his father's place and later his own. Perhaps there were others, but I am more familiar with these families. These soldiers were brave, indeed, but no more so than the women who stayed at home and kept things going. They did many heroic deeds when Sherman's army came through the country. When Columbia, South Carolina was burned and the soldiers raided Chester County, grandfather Pressley, who was then ninety years old, died from fright.

A new school and church have been built and the Grants are still public spirited and do their part in all these undertakings. In 1931, Mr. Harris Grant, then 86 years old, lifted the first shovel of dirt for the new church. I can not say that any of them have ever become famous, but they have been the backbone of the community and Chester County.

Some of my information I gathered from tombstones, some from the record books of Mr. Ainsley Grant, and some given by Mr. Neely Grant and Mrs. S.C. Carter. We are all sons and daughters of the American Revolution, as the first James and John were members of Capt. Francis Kirkpatrick's company of volunteer horsemen.

The ever increasing and changing number of the Grant generation have watched and also taken part in the changes from covered wagons on Indian trails to motor trucks on paved highways and aeroplanes in the sky, from spinning wheels and hand looms to cotton mills with electric machinery, from pine knots lights to Mazda lamps, from rough log houses to mansions of stone and from the one room school to the spacious college. Mrs. W.F. White for the A.N. Grant Family

AINSLEY AND MATTIE WHITE GRANT

On June 6, 1875 Ainsley Grant and Martha Jane (Mattie) White were united in marriage. She was the daughter of James McCain White born 1830, and Nancy Lucas White born 1839. He was a son of Neely Marion Grant born 1826, and Caroline Pressley Grant born 1829.

On the land then owned by Mr. Grant was one of the finest rock quarries in this section of Chester County. The large chimney that was built to his home was split from one of these rocks. Lower down, near the falls, is where the granite rock was secured to build many of the curb stones and steps of the streets of Chester.

Of this union came thirteen children, Leila Jane, who died at sixteen, Thomas Marion, 1878, James Graham, 1880, Minnie Estelle died in infancy, Dora Blanche 1883, Emman Ann 1886, Ella Mae 1888,

Nancy Carolina (Nannie) 1890, Effie Azilee 1893, Mattie Pearl 1895, Edna Viola 1898, Virginia Lowry 1900, and Ainsley Weldon 1903.

Thomas Marion Grant was twice married, first to Martha Elizabeth (Bessie) Grant and second to Kate Weaver Wilson. Of this first union four children were born: Maurice, Albert, Mattie Geneva and an infant son.

James Graham Grant was married to Bessie Jane Bell Hudson and they had ten children: Audry, Annis, J.G. Jr., Pauline, Carlisle, Morris, Linduff, Calvin, Thomas, and Irby.

Dora Blanche Grant was married to Samuel Anderson (Jack) Brakefield and had three children: John A. died in infancy, Attrice, died in infancy, and Janie Sue.

Emma Ann Grant was married to John Tracy Walsh and of this union five children were born: Janie Evelyn Harold Tracy, William Carl, Dorothy Frances, and Robert Ainsley.

Ella Mae Grant married Will Jeff Hudson and they had five children: Lola Marie, Willie Mae, Margaret Kathleen, Charles Kelly, and Ellen Wylie.

Nancy Caroline Grant was married to William Alexander Grant and they had two children, Clifford Wendell and Ada Merle.

Effie Azilee Grant was married to James Biggers Atkinson, Jr. Of their union seven children were born: James Carter, Ralph Wylie, Lila Catherine, Edith Azilee, Mary Virginia, Julia Faye and Nell.

Mattie Pearl Grant was married to George Waddell Atkinson. They had two sons George Waddell, Jr. and Robert Marion.

Edna Viola Grant was married to Boyd Lafayette Roberts and they had two sons, one who died in infancy and Boyd Lafayette, Jr.

Virginia Lowry Grant was married to Heber Tilman Hudson. They had three daughters, Martha Helen, Sarah Virginia, and one died in infancy.

Ainsley Weldon Grant married Lucille Hudson. Of this union two sons were born, Edgar Weldon and Ainsley Smith.

After most of the children were married Mr. and Mrs. Grant moved from the rock quarry place to the Armenia cross-roads. Here they operated the Armenia telephone exchange until it was taken over by the Chester Telephone Company.

Ainsley Grant and his family were the "pillars" of Armenia M.E. Church and he reared his family with strict discipline. Many of their descendants are still members of Armenia United Methodist Church.

The most popular place in that community was "Grandpa's Country Store". Every child loved to visit this "magical attraction". They knew that their pennies would turn into nickels when they traded with "Grandpa". The store was within a "city block" of the school and at recess the kiddies hurried to the store.

Christmas Day was a day of celebration by the Ainsley Grant Family. It started when their first child got married. They always were expected "Home" for Christmas Day. This was an annual occasion and all the children, grandchildren and yes, great grandchildren looked forward to

it. Even after Mr. Grant's death Mrs. Grant carried on this wonderful tradition. The family still has its family reunion, but on the Sunday closest to Ainsley and Mattie's anniversary, June 6, 1875.

Survivors are one daughter, Mrs. B.L. Roberts, 31 grandchildren, 74 great-grandchildren, 84 great-great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Grant kept a daily diary of the whole community's action. His diaries date from 1884 until his death in 1927. Many of them burned when the Armenia Church parsonage was destroyed by fire. One quote, "August 31, 1886 a great earthquake was felt as we were attending a revival service at Armenia. Rev. Traywick tried to calm the people by reciting Psalm 24:1 'The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein.'" Many people converted tonight."

On June 6, 1925 Mr. and Mrs. Grant celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Tables were built, under a large oak tree, on the front lawn. All of their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren along with neighbors and relatives attended this gala occasion. A white sheet was draped around the trunk of the Oak tree and on it was pinned two large bluebirds winging together with eleven smaller ones following, all flying upward. Under this affectionate scene were gold numerals 1875-1925.

At noon there was never a more elaborate or bountifully spread table, country cured ham, fried chicken, sandwiches, cakes, stickies and dainties of every description. Many lovely and useful gifts attested to this grand couple's popularity.

Seven of their children lived to celebrate their Golden Anniversaries. They were: Mr. and Mrs. Graham Grant, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brakefield, Mr. and Mrs. J. Tracy Walsh, Mr. and Mrs. Will Jeff Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. G. Waddell Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd L. Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. Ainsley Weldon Grant.

Mr. Grant had a terminal illness and it was his request that, at his death, his body would be carried to the church in a wagon drawn by Bell and Dad, his two gray mules. He ask Lawrence Clack to drive them. He passed away November 11, 1927. The wagon was draped in white and his request was finalized. School children, who loved him joined the procession and walked before the wagon. Barron's funeral home was in charge.

Mrs. Grant lived on in their home with her son Weldon and his family until her death December 21, 1944. They are both buried in Armenia Church Cemetery. This quotation is on their gravemarker "Gone to a brighter home where grief cannot come."

The Grant Family is of Scotch-Irish descent. Early American historical records indicate that many persons bearing this name made great contributions to the development of our country and their descendants today can be found throughout our land well represented in the arts and sciences as well as in the world of business. Edna Grant Roberts, Dorothy Walsh Ferguson



Ambrose A. and Ella M. White Grant.



Dr. Sanders, Armenia. Photo by Terrell Grant.

AMBROSE ALEXANDER GRANT FAMILY

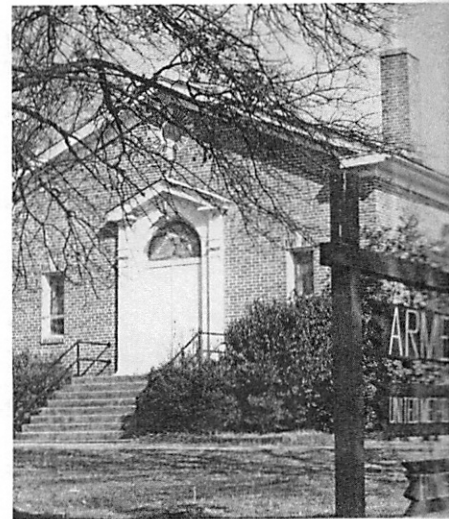
Ambrose Alexander Grant was born in Chester County, South Carolina, on September 27, 1870, and died on March 29, 1954. His parents were Alexander Grant (born May 22, 1831, died September 2, 1899) and Frances Ann Grant (born April 10, 1848, died January 10, 1928). Ambrose was a descendant of Neely Marion Grant (born October 29, 1826, died September 10, 1907).

Ambrose married Ella Myra White (born May 13, 1871; died April 14, 1926) daughter of James McCain White (born 1830) and Nancy Lucas White (born 1839).

Ambrose and Ella had twelve children: Lily Myra born 1892, Pearl Stewart born 1893, Janie Frances born 1895, Samuel Morgan born 1896, James Ainsley born 1898, Fred Alexander born 1900, George White born 1901, Clyde Ambrose born 1903, Bessie Marie born 1905, twins Iva and Ida born 1907, and Willie Leo born 1909.

A striking and unusual feature of the Neely Marion Grant Family is that there are thirteen known sets of twins. Neely Grant had twin sisters, Mary Ann and Susan Grant Gladden; twin daughters, Iva Grant Woods and Ida Grant Hudson; and twin granddaughters, Jane Woods Gibson and Jean Woods Pyatte who are daughters of twin, Iva Grant Woods.

Ambrose Alexander Grant's children married as follows: Lily Myra married Clarence Allen and had two daughters, Lily



Armenia United Methodist Church. Photo courtesy Evening Herald, submitted by Alice A. Bunkley.

Marie and Ella Frances. Pearl Stewart married William Allen, no children. Janie Frances married Palmer Hope, no children. Samuel Morgan married Margaret O'Donnell, no children.

James Ainsley Grant married Ethel Gilliam and had four children, James Ainsley Jr., Elizabeth Eugene, Gerald Hope and Barbara Myra.

Fred Alexander Grant married Aletta Brakefield and had two children, Thelma Allison and Fred Lewis.

George White married Emmie Lee and had two children, Kenneth Lee and Emelyn Gail.

Clyde Ambrose married Irene Cabiness and had four children, Keith, Michael, Ricky, Irene and a son who died at birth.

Bessie Marie married Earle Blakley and had a son Earle Wayne who died at birth.

Ida married James Hudson. They are the parents of Thomas Grier, Harold Lynn and Joyce Ann. Ida married Matthew Woods. They had three children, Ella Myra and twins, Jane and Jean.

Willie Leo married Adlyne Hudson and had one son, Leon Glenn.

The patriarch of this large family, Ambrose A. Grant, spent his entire life as a farmer in the western section of Chester County. The family attended New Hope Methodist Church which was two miles from their home.

In 1926, he became blind but continued to work. He became adept at making corn shuck and hickory split chair bottoms, baskets and axe handles. His senses of touch, smell and hearing became more acute. He recognized family and friends by their voices.

By using a cane and his faithful Canine Companion "Bull Dog" he walked around the community and often to visit his daughters, Lily and Pearl who lived one mile away.

Ambrose Alexander Grant and Ella Mayra White Grant are buried in Armenia Methodist Church cemetery in Chester County. Myra Woods and Marie Gregory

**AMZI NEELY GRANT
AND
WIVES
ELIZABETH GENEVA
GRANT
AND
MARIE LOUISE OLDS**

Amzi Neely Grant, born 1 Aug. 1855, in the Armenia section of Chester County, South Carolina died 15 April 1939, was a son of Elizabeth Harrison Prestlar and James Henry Grant. His first wife was his second cousin, Elizabeth Geneva Grant, born 28 Dec. 1860, died 30 Jan. 1911; she was a daughter of Martha Jane Davis and John Grant. There were nine children of this union.

When Neely and Geneva married, Neely's father gave his land on "Pinckney Ferry Road where Pinckney Ferry Road is crossed by the road leading from Lowrysville to Wilksburg". A two-story house was built and stands to this day at Armenia Crossroads. All of Neely's and Geneva's children were born here.

About 1906, George Brakefield, Neely, Harris and Taylor Grant formed the Armenia Telephone Company. The exchange was installed in Nelly's house and Mr. Bell of the Chester Telephone Company went out and showed these men how to string the line to Chester. Telephones were installed in the homes of several others in the vicinity.

Because of Geneva's ill health, this family moved to Chester in 1910. In 1913 Neely remarried and sold the home place to his first cousin, Ainsley Grant. He had earlier sold his interest in the telephone company.

The children of Geneva and Amzi Neely Grant were: Mabel Holmes Grant born 4 Sept. 1877, died 8 Feb. 1952, married Turner Turkett Lucas, a son of Sara Eliza Turkett and Thomas Jefferson Lucas. They are buried in the cemetery at Liberty Baptist Church and their children were: Edrie Imogene, married J.D. Culp; Denton Cyrus, married Nannie Louise Hudspeth; Nancy Caroline married first H.F. Dove and second John N. Bigham; Mary Wylie married Joe M. Miscovich; Sara Eliza died in infancy; and Turner Turkett, Jr. (TT), married Edna Lucille Jourdan.

Alma Coburn Grant born 7 Aug. 1879, died 26 Oct. 1947, married Clarence Calhoun Brown, a son of Sara J. Omelveny and James Brown. They are buried in the cemetery at Armenia United Methodist Church. Their children were: Blythe McConnell, died age 19; Annie Lou married Jarvis Weir Frazer; Ruby O. married Robert S. McElroy; Hettie Mae married James Brenton Pressley; Robert Neely married

Margaret Kathryn Dove; James Roy married first Frances Wade and second Mary Green; Harvey married Christine Robinson; Clarence Cleburn (CC) married Alice Ferguson; and John married Lois Durham.

Martha Elizabeth (Bess) Grant born 30 Sept. 1881, died 25 July 1945, married Thomas Marion Grant, a son of Martha Jane White and Ainsley Grant and her second cousin. They are buried Armenia United Methodist Church and their children were: Maurice Marion married Bessie Dell Broughton; a son died in infancy; Albert Neely, died age 20 years and Mattie Geneva.

Mary Elise Grant born 7 Oct. 1883, died 14 July 1961, married Ernest Alexander Atkinson, a son of Mary Catherine Carter and James Biggers Atkinson. They are buried in Evergreen Cemetery, and their children were: Ernest Moore married Winnie Matthews and Francis Lansing married Lola Hodge.

Kate Grant born 27 July 1887, died 21 May 1947 married Willie O. Pressley, a son of Mary Ida Hardin and Elias Lytle Pressley. They are buried at Evergreen Cemetery and their children were: Roland M., died in infancy; and Mary Ida married Frank South.

Samuel Leard Grant born 2 Jan. 1889, died 22 Feb. 1964, married Mary Juanita Lee, a daughter of Mary Jane Brakefield and William Richard Lee. Sam is buried at Armenia United Methodist Church and their children were: William Glenn married Mary Louise Romanstein; Samuel Leard, Jr. married Mary Edith Howell; and Henry Lee married Helen Gennette Rousey.

Leon Mills Grant born 13 April 1893 married Janie Ethel Lee, a daughter of Emma Kaziah Hudson and James Griffin Lee. Their children were: Charles Leon married Nellie Flora Oliver; Emma Geneva married Kenneth F. Reid; James Neely married first Faye Rodman and second Helen Pearson; George Mills married Helen Weir Steele; and Ruth Lee married William Robinson Bennett.

John Aubrey Grant born 24 Jan. 1896, married first Katie Margaret Cox, a daughter of Stella Kate Schroeder and James Clarence Cox. Katie is buried Long Cane Cemetery, Abbeville, South Carolina, and their children were: Kathryn Geneva married William Francis White; John Aubrey, Jr. married Janet Caudle; James Cox (JC) married Virginia Aquilla Strickland. J. Aubrey married second Mary Siphronia Lipford Grant, a daughter of Mary Ellen Darby and William H. Lipford. Phronie is buried Charlotte, North Carolina. There was no issue of this union.

Linton Haffey Grant born 9 August 1898, died 27 Sept. 1975, married first Nora Irene Duncan, a daughter of Mamie and F.W. Duncan. They are buried at Evergreen Cemetery, Chester, South Carolina and their child was: Sara Ann, married James Nixon McDill. Haffey married second Zula Mae Sargent Lanier. There was no issue of this union.

In 1913 Amzi Neely Grant's second marriage was to Marie Louise Olds, born 27 July 1880 in Circleville, Ohio, died 14 November 1960 in Hickory, North Carolina. She was a daughter of Emma Gephart and Edward Mather Olds. There was one

daughter of this union, Emma Louise, born 11 September 1915.

Amzi Neely Grant and his wives are buried in the cemetery at Armenia United Methodist Church, Chester, South Carolina. Submitted by The Amzi Neely Grant Family by Mrs. W.F. White

CHARLES L. GRANT

In 1957, Chester-born Charles L. Grant was appointed Director of the U.S. Department of Budget and Finance by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson. Five years later, in 1965, he was honored with a Distinguished Service Award presented by Secretary Orville L. Freeman.

Mr. Grant, whose parents Mr. and Mrs. L. Mills Grant live in the Armenia section of Chester County, South Carolina, was born in Chester County on June 14, 1915. He received his education at the University of Georgia and George Washington University. He entered the Department of Agriculture in 1935 as a clerical worker and soon moved to the fiscal staff of the Weather Bureau which was then in Agriculture.

In 1941, he joined the fiscal management staff of the Office of Budget and Finance and has remained with this office. In 1948, he was promoted to Assistant Director of the Budget and Finance Office, five years later to Deputy Director, and in 1957 to Director.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant and their son Wayne live at 4922 North 27th Street, Arlington, Virginia.

NOTE: Charles L. Grant died July 10, 1974.

His daughter, Phyllis Grant Childers, died Feb. 22, 1982 in Arlington, Virginia; survivors, daughters Darol Lynn born August 22, 1969 and Pamela Elizabeth born April 17, 1971.

His daughter, Betty Jane Grant Kelly has one child, Allison Jane Kelly born December 9, 1971. Anne P. Collins

**JAMES HENRY GRANT
AND WIVES
ELIZABETH HARRISON
PRESSLEY
AND
ELIZA G. DAVIS**

James Henry Grant, born 6 June 1818, died 18 November 1892, was the second son of Levina Williams and Benjamin Grant. His first wife was Elizabeth Harrison Pressley, born 4 March 1820, died 21 October 1881. She was a daughter of Sarah Lea (Lee) and Thomas Prestlar (Presly-Presley-Pressley). James Henry and Elizabeth were the parents of seven sons. His second wife was Eliza G. Davis, born 2 February 1834, died 19 October 1895. She was a daughter of Mary Strange and John B. Davis. There was no issue from this union.

Unlike his brothers who lived in Georgia and Mississippi for a while, James Henry and his family lived all of their days in Chester County, South Carolina. Their home was a large two story house on what is now known as Pressley Road. He was a very large man in statue and very jovial. When his wife, Elizabeth, died he married a sister of one of his daughters-in-law. Thus, James Henry's second wife was step-mother as well as sister-in-law to his son, Benjamin Andrew. James Henry and his wives are buried in the church cemetery at Armenia United Methodist Church, Chester County, South Carolina.

The children of James Henry and Elizabeth Harrison (Pressley) Grant were:

Benjamin Andrew Grant, born 25 November 1839, died 23 September 1893, married Sarah Carolyne Davis, born 20 September 1842, died 22 March 1917. She was a daughter of Mary Strange and John B. Davis. They were the parents of three sons and seven daughters: Andrew Frazier married Lillian Caroline Hoffman; George Foster married Louella Evans; William died in infancy; Elizabeth married Robert Hardin; Alice married Franklin P. Kirkpatrick; Janie married Seabrook Churchill Carter; Ella married John Lucewood Aycock; Ola married Ellie Moore; Claudia Pritchard married Glover Triplett; Ida died in infancy.

Hazel T. Grant, born 5 February 1842, died 6 February 1845.

James Wesley Grant, born 10 March 1844, died 1 February 1915, never married.

Leander Harris Grant, born 16 September 1846, died 19 September 1932. His first wife was Pauline Johnsey, a daughter of Thomas Jefferson Johnson. They were the parents of three children: Thomas Henry married first Lillie Irene Wynn and second Willie Mae Bridwell; Fanny never married; Harris Mitchell married Marie Walsh, a daughter of Johanna Grant and Michael Walsh. Harris Grant's second wife was Sarah J. Omelveny Brown, widow of James Brown. There were three children of this union: William Alexander married Nancy Caroline Grant, a daughter of Martha Jane White and Ainsley Grant; Liles C. married Willie Mae Waters; Floy never married.

Lafayette Taylor Grant, born 4 April 1849, died 21 January 1917, married Emma Williams, a daughter of Jesse Williams. They were the parents of three children: Laura married William Capers Hardin; Beulah married Walter Simpson; Leila Pearl married first John Henry Hardin and second William Holmes Grant.

Amzi Neely Grant, born 1 August 1855, died 15 April 1939, married first Elizabeth Geneva Grant, a daughter of Martha Jane Davis and John Grant. They were the parents of nine children: Mabel Holmes married Turner Turkett Lucas; Alma Coburn married Clarence Calhoun Brown; Martha Elizabeth married Thomas Marion Grant; Mary Elise married Ernest A. Atkinson; Kate married Willie O. Pressley; Samuel Leard married Mary Juanita Lee; Leon Mills married Janie Ethel Lee; John Aubrey married first Katie Margaret Cox and second Mary Siphronia Lipford Grant;

Linton Haffey married first Nora Irene Duncan and second Zula Mae Sargent Lanier. The second wife of A. Neely was Marie Louise Olds, of Circleville, Ohio, she was a daughter of Emma Gephart and Edward Mather Olds. There was one daughter of this union: Emma Louise Grant.

Thomas Henry Grant, born 14 Dec. 1856, died 10 Oct. 1910, married first Martha Ann Hardin, and they had five children: Marvin, never married; John Harvey married Ava Gardner; Myrtle married Jefferson Strait Barton; Ridley married Jesse Camp; Hannah Boyd married Paul Worthy. The second wife of Thomas Henry was Sarah Eleanor Bailey. They had four children: Mason married first Alice Roberts and second Earline Roof; Stewart Earl married Alma Mae Moss; Algar married Patsy Woods; Aggie Dell married Johnie Gaston Weaver. Submitted by The Amzi Neely Grant Family by Mrs. W.F. White

JAMES WYLIE GRANT FAMILY

James Wylie Grant, son of Thomas Lindsay Grant and Rebecca Elizabeth (Knox) Grant, was born 8 July 1924 in Chester County. On 18 July 1948 he married Juanita Belle Chandler of Spartanburg, South Carolina. She was born 16 December 1927.

Children are James David Grant, Linda Gail Grant and Debra Lynn Grant.

James David Grant was born 1 June 1949 in Chester. Linda Gail Grant was born on 20 July 1951 in Chester, was married on 2 June 1973 to William Gilbert Willis of Rock Hill, South Carolina. He was born 14 October 1950 in Rock Hill. They have a son, William Edwin Willis born 29 November 1975 in New Jersey.

Debra Lynn Grant was born 5 September 1957 in Chester. On 2 October 1977 she married Thomas Keith Weir of Chester. He was born 30 March 1956. Ella G. Walker

THE JESSE WYLIE GRANT, SR. FAMILY

Jesse Wylie Grant, the son of Major Johnson Grant, (1885-1952) and Emma Eliza Knox Grant (1885-1946) was born on December 10, 1913, at Knox's Station in Chester County, South Carolina.

He is a descendant of James Grant and his wife, Dorcas, who came to South Carolina from Virginia in the 1750's. They were of Scotch-Irish descent. (see separate sketch)

The next in his direct line of descent is Benjamin Grant, (1790-1870): Jasper Grant (1826) and Thomas Newton Grant, (1854-1928).

His father, Major Johnson Grant, was married on July 23, 1905 to Emma Eliza Knox, the daughter of James Wylie Knox (1852-1927) and Sara Rebecca Gill Knox, (1854-1925). She was a descendant of James Knox who came to America from Belfast, Ireland.

His father and mother, Major Johnson

and Emma Knox Grant, lived in Knox's Station in Chester County for many years. (See separate sketch). They farmed the four hundred acres of land they owned until their deaths. They are both buried at Union Cemetery in Richburg, South Carolina.

At this homeplace, they raised ten children: Wilbur Gill, Mary Emma, Major Jordan, Jesse Wylie, Sara Rebecca, Janie Estelle, Grace Letetia, Hazzie Elloree, Johnny Frances, and Septemia Jordan. Two other children, James Thomas and William Lindsey died in infancy.

Jesse is the only surviving son, along with all of the seven daughters.

After attending Knox's Station Elementary School, Jesse graduated from Oakley Hill High School, near Rodman, South Carolina in 1929.

After his graduation, he worked at Pearce-Young-Angel Company in Chester, South Carolina, until he entered into service for his country in World War II, on June 24, 1941. He was first stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and later at Camp Cook, California; Pine Camp, New York; and Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. He departed from Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, to go overseas to England, crossing the Channel after D-Day.

Jesse fought in five Campaigns in Europe, where he received five Bronze Stars. He, also, was awarded a Bronze Star for service over and beyond the call of duty.

After the war had ended in Europe, he returned from overseas to Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, and on to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he was discharged, on October 17, 1945.

After returning home to Chester, South Carolina, he went back to his former job as salesman for Pearce-Young-Angel Company.

In 1947, he worked as a salesman for G.R. Dawson and Son in Chester, South Carolina.

Three years later, he answered the call again for service to his country. For one year, (1950-1951) he served in the Korean War.

On March 14, 1948, he married Betty Elaine Kennedy, born November 14, 1925, daughter of Robert Ernest Kennedy (1898-1977) and Benny Dodds Kennedy, (1901-1969) of Chester, South Carolina. Her paternal grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kennedy and her maternal grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin H. Dodds of Chester, South Carolina.

Betty is a 1942 graduate of Chester High School and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Commerce from the University of South Carolina in 1946. She is presently the Bookkeeper at Chester Senior High School.

Jesse and Betty reside on Pinckney Street in Chester, South Carolina. They are very active in church and civic affairs. They are active members of Bethel United Methodist Church in Chester, where he has served on the Board of Stewards, Board of Trustees and Chairman of Finance Committee. He is presently President of Men's Bible Class at Bethel United Methodist Church and member of Pastor Parish Relations Committee.

Jesse has served as City Councilman for Chester for sixteen years. He has formerly served as Mayor Pro Tem, and is presently serving as Chariman of the Finance Committee.

He is a member of the Shriner's Club, The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars in Chester.

Betty is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and Friday Gardners in Chester.

Jesse received the honor of being listed in "Who's Who in South Carolina, 1974."

They are the parents of two children: Betty Wylene and Jesse Wylie, Jr. (Buddy). They are both graduates of Chester High School where they were very active in all extra curricular activities.

Betty Wylene, their daughter, was born May 28, 1951, in Charlotte, North Carolina. She is a 1973 graduate of the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina, with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. In 1970, Wylene was selected "Miss Chester" and participated in the State "Miss America" pageant in Greenville, South Carolina.

She is presently a teacher at Edmund A. Burns Elementary School in Charleston Heights, South Carolina.

She was married on July 14, 1973 at Bethel United Methodist church in Chester, to David Bruce Martin, born October 13, 1946, son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Raymond Martin of Charleston, South Carolina. He is a 1971 graduate of the University of South Carolina, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Physical Education. In 1981 he received his Master's Degree from the Citadel College in Charleston, South Carolina. He is presently a teacher and Coach at Garrett High School in Charleston Heights, South Carolina.

They reside in Charleston and have two children: Tradd Alexander, born May 21, 1978, and Brooke Richmond born June 5, 1981. They are members of John Wesley United Methodist Church in Charleston.

Jesse Wylie, Jr. (Buddy) their son, was born July 12, 1955, in Charlotte, North Carolina. After graduating from Chester High School in 1973, where he was quarterback for the "Chester Red Cyclones", he attended Gardner Webb College in Boiling Springs, North Carolina and the University of South Carolina.

After graduation, he owned and operated two convenience stores (Village Pantries) in Chester. He is presently owner of "G. & G. Sports" in Chester, and "G. & G. Sports" in Rock Hill, South Carolina, also Ace Screen Printing and The Odyssey in Chester, South Carolina.

He was married on December 3, 1977, at Bethel United Methodist Church in Chester, to Teresa Collen West, born May 8, 1956, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ezra N. West of Chester, South Carolina. She is a 1978 graduate of Winthrop College in Rock Hill, South Carolina, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. She is presently a teacher at Dora Jones Gayle School in Chester.

They reside on Pinckney Street in Chester, and are active members of Bethel United Methodist Church in Chester, where she is presently serving on the Ad-

ministrative Board of the Church. They have one daughter, Neely Kathryn, born January 12, 1982.

Jesse has had a very interesting life. He enjoys sports of all kinds, especially when the "South Carolina Gamecocks" are involved. He loves people and enjoys helping others when he can.

He has told us of many exciting experiences he had while serving overseas. He was on some dangerous missions and had many "narrow escapes" from death, but kept right on doing his best for his country.

On one occasion, he had a very frightening, as well as exciting experience. He was driving a truck with the General beside him in an area where there was heavy fighting. He was determined to get through to his company but there was a bridge to be crossed. He was really afraid as he approached the bridge but went on anyway. Just as he got to the other side the bridge was blown up and explosions were all around him. He had a narrow escape but kept going until he reached his comrades.

He, now, feels a sense of pride in his service to his country. He knows he had a part in making his country a better place for his family, friends, and his fellowman.

Because of him, and others like him, America is still "the land of the free and home of the brave." Written by Betty Kennedy Grant

THE JAMES GRANT FAMILY

The first authentic information we have about the Grant family in this part of South Carolina is that two brothers, James and John Grant, came, before the Revolutionary war, to Chester County, South Carolina, from Virginia. They were of Scotch-Irish descent.

Almost all of the Grants in Chester County are direct descendants of James Grant, born in 1750, and his wife, Dorcas, who bought land and settled on Jewel's Fork of Sandy River in 1798. They had two sons, James II and Benjamin, and four daughters, Polly, Phoebe, Sarah and Tabitha.

It is from the children of Benjamin and his wife, Lavinia Williams Grant, and sister, Tabitha, who married Rock Grant, that the majority of the Chester County Grants are descendants.

These two families lived very close to each other, and to distinguish between the two family branches, one was called the "Tribe of Benjamin" and the other was the "Founded on the Rock Tribe".

Rock Grant and his wife, Tabitha, had five sons and six daughters: Jason, John, Alex, James, Ben, Serenna, Catherine, Mary, Caroline, and Sally never married. The others married and had families. The Dodds, Lee, and Melton families of Chester County are some of the descendants of the Rock Grant Tribe.

Benjamin and his wife, Lavinia, had six sons and three daughters: Captain Benjamin Andrew, James Henry, Neely Marion, Jasper Newton, Gains, Mack, Caroline, Cynthia, and Sara.

There are three headstones in Armenia Cemetery made by Benjamin Grant. One of the stones, with only the initials "B.G." cut on the rough rock, lay under his house for years. It was placed at his grave at his death, but the date was never carved on it.

Benjamin's oldest son, Benjamin Andrew, married Sarah McAnulty and moved to Western Alabama; Caroline married John Estes and lived on Jewel's Fork. They had four children — Martha, Rhoda, Neely, and Williams; Cynthia was never married; Gains and Calhoun married and moved to Georgia. Gains did not have any children and Calhoun had nine children.

James Henry, Neely Marion, and Jasper Newton all married Pressley sisters, daughters of Mr. Tom Pressley, who later died at the age of ninety years, from fright when Columbia was burned and soldiers raided Chester County.

Many of us in Chester County are direct descendants of these three Grant brothers and three Pressley sisters.

James Henry (1818) and Elizabeth Pressley had seven sons: Benjamin Andrew, James Wesley, Harris, Lafayette, Amzi Neely, and Thomas Henry. One son died in infancy.

Neely Marion, (1826) and Caroline Pressley had six children: Ann, Edward, Martha, Pierce, and twins Emily and Ainsley. His second wife was Mary Hohen. They had two daughters, Jo and Ledgie.

Jasper Newton (1828) and Frances Pressley had six children: Washington Wallace, Jasper Terry, Etta, Phronie, Alphon, (Tid) and Thomas Newton. This is the original "Tribe of Benjamin" and there are many of their descendants now living in Chester County. (Grants, Walshes, Hudsons, Atkinsons, Brakefields, Roberts, Wades, Pressleys, and many others.)

Correct information is not available to me on all of these families, but Thomas Newton Grant, my grandfather, was born May 20, 1854 and died August 6, 1928. He married Mary Anne Wilson who was born November 20, 1855, and died May 10, 1915. They are both buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Chester, South Carolina. From this union eight children were born: Jesse, Lynn, Holmes, Austin, Belle, Virgie, Eunice (still living) and Major Johnson (John), my father. (See separate sketch)

These original Grants of Chester County were industrious, honest, and neighborly — working together during harvest time. Jasper, Neely Marion, and James Henry lived close together, and they went to their father's (Benjamin) house very often. Their children liked to go with them because "Granny" would have sweet cakes for them, and Grand-daddy would have plenty of juicy baked potatoes in the fireplace.

The children were taught to work but had lots of fun, too. They would all load in the wagon and go to Chester, about once a year, when the circus came to town.

There were very few schools when these Grants were coming up. There was a one room log school at the Bonnett Rock with a fireplace and no windows. Mr. John Grant gave the land for the school. Mr. Taylor Grant superintended the building of it, and Mr. Neely Grant and Mr. Zach Roof built

the chimney.

The lives of these people were closely associated with the church. The first church was organized and built at Armenia in 1843 by James Grant. The land was given by Jesse Johnsey and his wife, Mary.

The first preacher was Reverend John Watts. Mr. Thomas Pressley, grandfather of James Henry, Neely Marion, and Jasper Newton's children, was the first class leader. He carried a walking stick with a curved handle, and when the boys were mischievous, he hooked it around their necks and gave a twist!

Sometimes during the existence of the church, the Bonnet Camp Ground was built on thirty acres of land. The family would "pack up" and come in wagons and stay a week while the meeting was going on. I have been told that the grand old hymns and fervent prayers of these worshipers were never forgotten by the young and the old.

When the call to arms came in 1861, many of the Grants enlisted and served. Neely Marion and Jasper Newton served for four years. There are others of other generations, but we are all sons and daughters of the American Revolution, as the first James and John Grant were members of Captain Francis Kirkpatrick's Company of Volunteer Horsemen.

The ever increasing and changing number of the Grant generations have watched and taken part in the changes from covered wagons on Indian trails, to motor trucks on paved highways and airplanes and rockets in the sky; from spinning wheels with hand looms to cotton mills with electricity; from pine knot lights to Mazda lamps; from rough log cabins to mansions of stone and brick; and from one room schoolhouses to the spacious and beautiful colleges and universities of today. Estelle Grant Gibson (Mrs. James A. Gibson)

THE J. GRAHAM GRANT FAMILY

Jimmy Graham Grant born September 7, 1980 the second son of Ainsley Grant 1852-1927 and Martha Jane White Grant 1859-1944.

Graham married Bessie Janie Bell Hudson April 7, 1909. She was born July 31, 1888 the third child of Thomas Jefferson Hudson 1857-1912 and Lucy Jane Brakefield Hudson 1866-1949.

They set up housekeeping in their new home in New Hope Community, now owned by the Gilliams.

My Dad was a farmer, and did other jobs to bring in much needed cash. At one time he was employed at the State Fair in Columbia and opened the gates for President William H. Taft to enter riding in a fine carriage drawn by beautiful horses.

Their first child James Audrey was born August 11, 1910. Audrey was married to Carrie Humphrey of Krotz Springs, Louisiana in 1936. He later entered the U.S. Navy and served as MEI in World War II. They were divorced in 1955. There were no children. Carrie died in Louisiana March 4, 1974 and is buried there.

On October 19, 1957 he married Pauline Roddey Self of Chester, born April 7, 1917. They had no children. His wife Pauline had children from a previous marriage, they are; William Grady Self, Huey A. Self, Norman Lee Self, Alvin R. Self and Retha Ann Self Bell.

The second child a daughter Annis Elizabeth born March 24, 1912. Married Charlie Dover of York, S.C. born January 22, 1902 — married December 2, 1939 at Armenia Methodist Church in a double ceremony with her sister Polly and Henry Thompson. This was the first marriage performed in the new brick church.

Prior to his marriage, Charlie had completed military service at Great Lakes, Illinois. U.S. Navy third class Fireman 3c aboard USS Palmer. Charlie Dover died from illness February 12, 1972, is buried in York.

Their children are Charles Graham born February 26, 1941, William Everett born May 6, 1944, and Dean Lynn born May 18, 1953 all of York.

Charles Graham enlisted in U.S. Army Sergeant E-5 transportation, Fort Polk, Louisiana. After military duty he married Patricia Jan Heath of Lake Charles, Louisiana in 1966. They had one daughter Lori Lynn born January 4, 1967. They were divorced in 1971. Jan re-married in 1974 to David Conrad Arnoldi. He adopted Lori in 1976. She is now Lori Dover Arnoldi. Jan died of cancer February 21, 1980 and is buried in Louisiana.

William Everett (Bill) married November 21, 1975 to Janet Boyd Harper born October 31, 1947 of York. Janet had a daughter by a previous marriage, Angela Elizabeth Harper, born January 5, 1969. Bill adopted Angela and she is now Angela Elizabeth Dover. Bill and Janet have a son William Michael born October 23, 1979.

Dean Lynn married April 9, 1977 to Beth Ashley Bratton born September 17, 1956, all of York. They have a son, Wesley Grant, born Nov. 28, 1981.

A third child, a son of Jimmy Graham Jr., was born September 2, 1913. J.G. met his death on a construction accident in Louisiana February 3, 1938 at age 25, and is buried at Armenia.

In the meantime, Grandpa Grant had moved from the old home place to Cross Roads at Armenia.

My Dad moved his family to old home place and continued farming.

Their fourth child, a daughter Zelma Pauline (Polly) was born November 11, 1915. Polly and Henry Martin Thompson of Anderson County, South Carolina born June 15, 1903, married December 2, 1939 at Armenia Church. They reside in Woodruff, S.C. Henry Thompson died of heart attack May 5, 1976 and is buried at Armenia.

Their children are Robert John III born November 25, 1940 and Jimmy Grant born June 28, 1943. Both live in Greenville, S.C.

Robert John (Bob) served in U.S. Army Reserves, drill sergeant second class also marksman on rifle range. Bob married December 9, 1972 to Shyrell Jeanette Carroll of Conway and Greenville, born March 16, 1947.

Jimmy Grant (Jim) served in U.S. Army

National Guard, Private E-4 Communications also marksman on rifle team. Jim married August 29, 1965 to Phyllis Diane Minor of Woodruff, South Carolina born November 25, 1946. They were divorced June 1970. There were no children. Jim married Carol Jean Chasteen of Anderson, Dec. 19, 1981.

The fifth child, a son born October 1, 1917, Carlyle. He died of whooping cough and diphtheria on September 26, 1920 and is buried at Armenia.

My Dad purchased about one hundred acres of land from E. Lytle Pressley joining Grandpa Grant at Armenia.

The log one room schoolhouse near Armenia Church was manually moved a distance of nearly a quarter mile, by rolling on logs and pulled by mules to be set up at present location of our family home. The other part of the dwelling was built to that.

After moving there, another son Morris Elwin was born April 19, 1920. Morris and Louise Harrington born July 31, 1916 of Taylorsville, North Carolina and Greenville were married April 21, 1945 and live in Greenville, South Carolina.

Another son Linduff Hulton (Joe) was born April 3, 1922. Joe entered the U.S. Army World War II and served as sergeant in the 13th Armoured Tank Division in Germany. After his service discharge, he worked in road building construction and traveled extensively finally making his home in Guatemala City, Guatemala Central America.

There he was married on December 30, 1960 to Bertha Salazar, born March 26, 1929. They have two children Irby Joseph born December 3, 1916 and Kathrine Ann born May 11, 1965. They plan to return to the States in 1982 to make their home.

Another son Calvin Miller was born December 11, 1923. Calvin entered the U.S. Navy 1943. Served on USS Electra — AKA4-Cargo ship also USS Edison DD439 Destroyer, holding rank of third class gunners mate. He was discharged 1946.

Calvin was married March 2, 1957 to Marilyn Isaacs Hicks — born August 14, 1929. They have two sons — Kevin Wayne born September 25, 1960 and Calvin Keith born May 10, 1963. All reside in Chester.

Another son Thomas Ainsley (Tom) born November 19, 1925. Tom served as private U.S. Army in the Korean Conflict until May 1947. On December 13, 1952 he was married to Lillian Joyce Blackmon of Chester, born August 8, 1930. Their children are Ronald Thomas born October 11, 1954, Beverly Graham born April 22, 1957 and Sheryl Almetta born September 25, 1959. All the family reside in Jackson, South Carolina.

Ronald Thomas (Ronnie) married February 2, 1977 to Shelia Gibson born May 25, 1952 in Jackson.

Their tenth child, another son, Irby Taylor was born August 6, 1929. Irby served as sergeant in Transportation U.S. Army in Korean Conflict. He was married January 23, 1953 to Evelyn Muns of Jackson, born December 1, 1933. They reside in Jackson.

Along with farming, my Dad was one of the pioneer dairy farmers in the county. He was among the first milk producers for



O. GRAHAM GRANT FAMILY: **First Row:** Keith Grant, Kevin Grant, Ronnie Grant, Dean Dover, Sherrie Grant, Beverly Grant. **Second:** Calvin Grant, Annis Dover, Mr. Grant, Mrs. Grant, Pauline Thompson, Joseph Grant. **Third:** Marilyn Grant, Audrey Grant, Pauline Grant, Charlie Dover, Evelyn Grant, Joyce Grant, Bertha Grant, Louise Grant, Morris Grant. **Fourth:** Charles Dover, Bob Thompson, Bill Dover, Irby Grant, Jim Thompson, Tom Grant, Linduff Grant.

Borden Milk Company, also did much livestock trading.

We raised lots of vegetables and spent our summer canning, making kraut, preserving fruits, making big corn hominy and preparing for winter. Mom made most of our soap.

In early summer, we would load up in the double seated surrey and return to the old home place to pick tubs full of large juicy blackberries down by the creek bank, to preserve and can for winter.

Most of our clothes were hand-made, made-over, hand-me-downs and patched. My Dad had a shoe last and he kept our shoes in good shape.

Not having electricity, the house was lighted by kerosene lamps and lanterns. At night, after supper, all of us kids would gather around the big table, with the lamp in the middle, and do our school homework.

In the afternoons after school, we all had chores to do, in other words, we had to "do up the turns". Hogs to slop, cows to milk, chickens to feed, pump the water for livestock, washing and house use, gather the eggs, carry in wood for the large fire place and drum heater in winter. Also wood for the large Home Comfort cook stove we used summer and winter. Not to forget ironing all those shirts with flat irons heated by the fire or on the stove.

In later years, we did get electricity and had the conveniences of several appliances.

In the fall after the frost, our Dad would make up a large barrel of locust and persimmon beer that was a real treat. The last of the beer would sometimes sit too long and a dipper of that would give you a nice

kick.

Radios we did not have, so we did lots of visiting and young folks had parties on weekends. Always we had music in our home — Mom played the piano and groups would gather and sing for hours.

Mom would make a chicken-stew or a batch of taffy-pull candy, peanut brittle, brownies, sweet cakes or a large churn of homemade ice cream. We would get our ice from the ice truck which came by once a week.

Some of our happiest times were on Christmas Day at Grandpa and Grandma Grant's home with all their families.

Later on as the families grew so large, we had Christmas at our own home. This we continue to do and all the family members gather at the Big House for Christmas as well as other holidays, always a very close family.

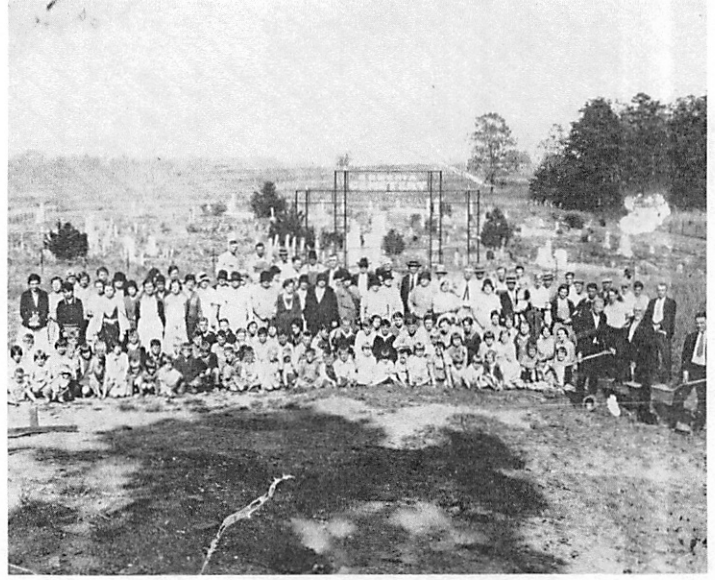
In later years my Dad turned the dairy business over to Audrey. All these years milking cows was done by hand so Audrey installed modern milking facilities and with the help of his wife operated the dairy.

In the meantime, after my Dad retired, he sold the farm to our brother Linduff of Guatemala.

Several years later on March 5, 1966 at age 86 our Dad passed away. Mom died July 3, 1973 at age 85. Both are buried at Armenia.

Audrey and his wife owned part of the farm and lived there after his medical retirement.

Audrey died of heart failure August 25, 1978 and is buried at Armenia. He was a charter member of Highland Ruritan Club, member of the Farm Bureau and director of local office of the Agricultural Stabiliza-



Groundbreaking, Armenia Methodist Church. Photo submitted by Terrell Grant.

tion and Conservation Service. He was president of Armenia Cemetery Association and Armenia Methodist Church Lay speaker.

All the family were active church members, living in a positive faith and being brought up with a Christian foundation, the family continues to build on a solid rock.

Our memories are not so much of what we didn't have, but those wonderful things we did have, love and closeness and sacrifice, those things that are most valuable and have no cost. By Pauline G. Thompson

MAJOR JOHNSON AND EMMA ELIZA KNOX GRANT FAMILY

Major Johnson Grant (1885-1952) and Emma Eliza Knox (1885-1943) were married on July 23, 1905. They owned a farm in the Knox's Station community Chester County, South Carolina, where they had a family of twelve children, seven girls and five boys.

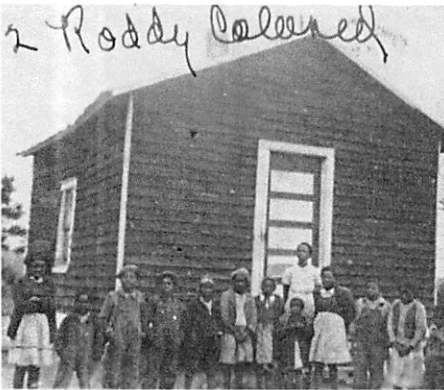
Wilbur Gill (1906-1964) first married Lorraine Turner in 1929. In 1946 he married Belva Jean Funderburke (b. 1913). He served in the House of Representatives from 1935 until 1938 and from 1941 until 1942. He was then elected as Senator of Chester County, in which capacity he served from 1943 until his death in 1964. He is buried in Chester Memorial Gardens. He and Belva have two children: Olin Dewitt (b. 1944) and Wilbur Gill, Jr. (b. 1953). Olin Dewitt married Barbara Jean Calk (b. 1945), and they have two children: Allison Kimberly (b. 1966) and Olin Preston (b. 1969). Wilbur Gill, Jr. married Crystal Fite (b. 1954) in 1972. They have three children: Wilbur Gill, III. (b. 1976) and twins, Shanna Leigh and Corrigan Ray (b. 1978).



Richburg Presbyterian Church. Photo by Robert D. Knox.



Uriel Presbyterian Church. Photo by Robert D. Knox.



Roddey Negro School. Photo by Louise G. Knox.



Piney Grove Negro School. Photo Louise G. Knox.

Mary Emma (b. 1908) married Robert Glenn Garrison (b. 1902) in 1937. (See Separate sketch.) They have two children: Emma Frances (b. 1939) and Robert Glenn, Jr. (b. 1942). In 1960 Emma Frances married Ralph Wayne Roof (b. 1939). They have one child, Jennifer Marie Roof (b. 1969). Robert Glenn, Jr. is not married. He resides with his parents on their farm at Knox's Station in Chester County.

James Thomas (1910-1911) died in infancy and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Chester.

Major Jordan (1911-1972) married Myrtle Jolly Thomas (b. 1917) in 1966. Major was a farmer and merchant. He is buried at Union Cemetery in Richburg, South Carolina, beside his parents Major Johnson and Emma Eliza Knox Grant.

Jesse Wylie (b. 1913) married Betty Elaine Kennedy (b. 1926) in 1948. Jesse served in World War II and in the Korean War. He is also listed in "Who's Who in South Carolina 1974". He and Betty have two children: Betty Wylene (b. 1951) and Jesse Wylie, Jr. (b. 1955). Jesse Wylie Grant, Jr. (Buddy) married Teresa (Terry) West. They have one daughter, Neely Kathryn, born January 12, 1982. Betty Wylene married David Bruce Martin (b. 1946) in 1973, and they have two children: Tradd Alexander (b. 1978) and Brooke Richmond (b. 1981). Jesse Wylie, Jr. married Teresa Colleen West (b. 1956) in 1977.

Sarah Rebecca (b. 1916) first married Hiram Ross Davis (b. 1915) in 1936. In 1965, she married Marcus Wylie McDill (1923-1968). She and Ross have two children: Shirley Ross (b. 1939) and Rebecca Ellen (b. 1943). In 1955, Shirley Ross married Robert Marion McEvee (b. 1938), and they have five children: Robin Ann (b. 1956), Pamela Delaine (b. 1959), Rebecca Elizabeth (b. 1961), Robert Marion, Jr. (b. 1964), and Sarah Rebecca (b. 1975). Robin Ann married Gary Lee East (b. 1954) in 1977. Robin McEvee married Gary Lee East. They have one son, Gary Lee East II, born December 20, 1981. Pamela Delaine married Terry Lee White (b. 1956) in 1976. They have one child, Jonathan (b. 1979). Rebecca Elizabeth married Randy Lawson (b. 1956) in 1979. They have one child, Rebecca Marie (b. 1981). Rebecca Ellen (b. 1943) first married Charles William Layman (b. 1943) in 1966. They had one child, Charles William Layman, III (b. 1967). In 1970, she married William B. Meachum (b. 1941). They have one child James Brannen (b. 1976).

Janie Estelle (b. 1918) married James Andrew Gibson, Sr. (b. 1909) in 1937 (see separate sketch). They have three children: Betty Ann (b. 1938), James Andrew, Jr. (b. 1940), and Cathy Grant (b. 1957). In 1960, Betty Ann married John Newton Bennett, Jr. (b. 1938). They have four children: John Andrew (b. 1961), Jane Marie (b. 1964), Thomas Mark (b. 1969), and Bradley Gibson (b. 1971). In 1963, James Andrew, Jr. married Jacqueline Lamar Dover (b. 1943). They have two children: James Andrew, III (b. 1964) and Charles Grant (b. 1969). In 1980,

Cathy Grant married Randy Dean Lanier (b. 1958).

In 1938, Grace Letetia (b. 1920) married Otto Van Buren Ray (b. 1920). They have six children: Van Buren Johnson (b. 1939), Otto Wylie (b. 1941), Emma Jane (b. 1943), Major Ulysses (1947-1967), Wilbur Gill (b. 1949), and David Glynn (b. 1955). Van Buren Johnson married Betty Joan Walker (b. 1939) in 1958. They have four children: Pamela Letetia (1959-1959), Van Buren Johnson, Jr. (b. 1960), Cheryl Ann (b. 1961), and William Luther (b. 1962). Otto Wylie married Betty Lou Clack (b. 1936) in 1961. They have two children: Angela Elizabeth (b. 1964) and Otto Wylie, Jr. (b. 1967). Emma Jane (b. 1943) married Howard Parnell (b. 1943) in 1963. They have three children: Christopher Tracy (b. 1964), Howard Andrew (b. 1966), and Alice Jane (b. 1967). Major Ulysses (1947-1967) was killed in an automobile accident. He was not married. Wilbur Gill (b. 1949) married Sharon Haltiwanger (b. 1951) in 1967. They have two children: Gill (b. 1970) and Judy (b. 1973). David Glynn (b. 1955) married Karen Thompson (b. 1955) in 1976. They have one child Kristy (b. 1979).

Hazzie Ellore (b. 1922) married Francis Stricker Perry (1921-1978) in 1943. They have one child, Frances Stricker (b. 1947). She married William Larry Oates (b. 1947) in 1974. They have two children: Stephanie Leigh (b. 1976) and William Grant (b. 1977).

William Lindsey (1924-1924) died in infancy. He is buried in Evergreen Cemetery.

Johnnie Francis (b. 1926) married James Earl Page (b. 1919) in 1947. They have one child Johnnie Earline (b. 1948). In 1974, she married Dr. George Melchior (b. 1946). They have three children: George, III (b. 1975), James Ryland (b. 1976), and John Trevette (b. 1980).

Septemia Jordan (b. 1928) married Alfred Hargrove Robbins (b. 1927) in 1951. They have two children: Alfred Hargrove, Jr. (b. 1955) and Ann Elizabeth (b. 1958). Estelle Grant Gibson and Mary Emma Grant Garrison

MAJOR JOHNSON GRANT FAMILY

Major Johnson Grant, better known as John Grant, was born in Chester County on October 17, 1885 and died on July 6, 1952 at his home at Knox's Station in Chester County, South Carolina. He was the son of Thomas Newton and Mary Ann Wilson Grant.

He is a descendant of James Grant and his wife, Dorcas, who came to South Carolina from Virginia in the 1750's. James Grant fought in the Revolutionary War. He and his wife had six children: James II, Benjamin, Polly, Phoeba, Tabitha, and Sarah.

The next in his direct line of descent is Benjamin Grant (1790-1870), his great-grandfather. He and his wife, Lavenia, had nine children: Benjamin Andrew, James Henry, Caroline, Sarah, Cynthia, Neely Marion, Jasper, Gains, and Calhoun.

Jasper Grant, his grandfather, was born

1826. He married Frances Pressley. (Three of the Grant brothers married three Pressley sisters). They had six children: Washington Wallace, Thomas Newton, Jasper Terry, Etta, Phronie, and Alphon.

Thomas Newton Grant (1854-1928), his father, married Mary Ann Emma Wilson (1855-1915). They had eight children: Jesse, Lynn, Holmes, Austin, Belle, Virgie, Eunice, and Major Johnson (John). Eunice is still living in the Rossville community, Chester County.

Major Johnson Grant attended Red Gate School near Rodman, South Carolina, later known as Oakley Hall School. On July 23, 1905, he married Emma Eliza Knox of Knox's Station in Chester County, who was born on September 7, 1885 and died on June 13, 1946. She was the daughter of James Wylie Knox (1852-1927), and Sara Rebecca Gill Knox (1854-1925). She was a descendant of James Knox, who emigrated to America from Belfast, Ireland, and settled in Chareston, South Carolina.

After James Knox, her direct line of descendants were James Knox, Jr. (b. 1771), who was killed in his own corn crib by the Tories while at home on furlough; William Knox (Irish - Billy) and Margaret Knox (b. 1790); William Knox (b. 1810) and Elizabeth Wylie Knox; James Wylie Knox (b. 1852) and Sara Rebecca Gill Knox (b. 1854).

Her father, at one time, owned all the land in a section of Chester County, which was called Knox's Staion in his honor.

She attended the one room Hicklin Elementary School in Knox's Station and Chester High School in Chester, South Carolina. Her brothers and sisters were: James Gill, Samuel Jordan, William Green, Ella, Frances, and Jane Knox.

After their marriage, John and Emma Grant purchased four hundred acres of her father's estate and built a home. They farmed this land and in this house, they raised ten children: Wilbur, Mary Emma, Major, Jesse, Sara, Estelle, Grace, Hazzie, Johnnie, and Seppie (see separate sketch). Two other children, James Thomas and William Lindsey, died in infancy. The house still stands at the old homeplace as a reminder to us of the past. It and the land are still owned by family members.

John and Emma Grant were Methodists and attended Pleasant Grove Methodist Church, near Rodman, South Carolina. They were both buried at Union Cemetery in Richburg, South Carolina.

"Their children rise up and call them blessed." Mary Emma Grant Garrison and Estelle Grant Gibson

NEELY MARION GRANT

Neely Marion Grant was born in 1826 to Benjamin Andrew Grant and Lavina Williams Grant. He was twice married, the first to Miss Caroline Pressley in 1829. Of this union eight children were born: Frances Ann, Ainsley and Emily (twins), Martha, Edward, Pierce, Susan Ellen, and Acruder.

His second wife was Miss Mary J. Hohen. Their two daughters are Joanna

and Ledgie.

Frances Ann married Alexander Grant. They had five children: Ambrose, Susan and Mary (twins), James, John, Alexander, and Caroline.

Ainsley married Martha Jane White and they had thirteen children: Leila Jane, Thomas Marion, James Graham, Minnie Estelle, Dora Blanche, Emma Ann, Ella Mae, Nancy Caroline, Effie Azilee, Mattie Pearl, Edna Viola, Virginia Lowry, and Ainsley Weldon.

Emily married Obediah Roberts and they had ten children: William Neely, Thomas Henry, Edward, Ida, John, Anna, Belle, Della, Mary Nonnie, Cornelia Frances and Martha Ann.

Martha married John Thomas Clack and they had four children: Johnson, Lawrence, Eunie, and Drella.

Edward married Mary Ann White and they were parents of nine children: Beulah, Milton, Foster, Lonnie, Furman, Boyce, Willie Wardell, Leila, and Pryor.

Pierce was twice married, first to Mary A. (Molly) Darby. They had three children: Arthur, Clarence, and Ruth. His second wife was Anna J. Darby and they had three children: Annie E., Boyd, and a son who died in infancy.

Susan Ellen and Acruder died early in life.

Joanna married J. Chalmers Lee and they had four children: David Carlisle, William Joseph, Ruby Marion, and Dorothy.

Ledgie Forrest married Charles Timme and their children are Charles, Jr. and William Grant. Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Timme are survivors.

Mr. Grant was a man of the most industrious habits. He followed farming all his life, and by his energy and attention to business was signally successful. He and his sons operated a sawmill. Ainsley was in charge of the sawmill and kept the books. Pierce was engaged in the cotton gin and Edward operated a grist mill. Mr. Grant was upright in all the details of life, a God fearing man who treated his neighbors as himself. He and his family were earnest and loyal members of Armenia Methodist Episcopal Church.

As a Soldier, Mr. Grant was one of the bravest and best who went forth at the South's Call. He served throughout the struggle as a member of Captain O. Barber's Company of Cavalry. At Trevillian's Station when the fight was hottest and the ammunition of the Confederates became exhausted, a volunteer was called upon to run the gauntlet of screaming shells and flying minie balls and procure a fresh supply. Mr. Grant stepped forward without hesitancy and not only made his way to the place where the ammunition was to be had, but distributed it along the line. This incident was witnessed by those high in command, and it was not forgotten.

Mrs. Grant was a courageous lady and needs to be commended for the part she played during the absence of her husband.

We are grateful for a Christian ancestry, a heritage to be proud of. We are glad for their great faith, a faith that braved the difficulties of war, and were still able to

"Praise God from whom all' blessings flow".

It is believed that the Grants came from Scotland and that many settled in Virginia, while others came to Chester County, South Carolina.

One of our Grant Clan members, Walter Ervin Grant, who works in the Pentagon Building in Arlington, Virginia (son of Mr. and Mrs. Asa Boyd Grant) visited in Scotland in October 1979.

Ervin, member of the Department of Defense, was called to Brussels, Belgium to attend a NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) meeting. After the meeting he and his wife visited in London and Scotland.

While in Scotland they visited the ruins of Urguhart Castle, Loch Ness Inverness-shire. The residential tower at the northern end of the elongated site above Loch Ness was built by the Grants in the 16th Century.

This is one of two areas in Scotland where the Grant Clan lived. Some Grants are still there.

Ervin and Helen were privileged to register their names and addresses in this Castle's directory. Mrs. Edna Grant Roberts, Mrs. Dorothy Walsh Ferguson

THOMAS LINDSAY GRANT FAMILY

Thomas Lindsay Grant born 6 July 1880, died 14 August 1957 in Chester County. On 14 January 1907 he married Rebecca Elizabeth Knox. She was born 9 January 1887, died 19 March 1978 in Chester County.

Their children are Thomas Theodore Grant, Ella Mae Grant, Gladys Elizabeth Grant and James Wylie Grant. Ella G. Walker

THOMAS THEODORE GRANT FAMILY

Thomas Theodore Grant of Chester County was born 20 March 1912, died 7 May 1979. On 2 November 1935 he married Hazel Marie Poole who was born in Kinston, North Carolina on 2 February 1916, died 15 November 1957. Their three children are Thomas Poole Grant, Edmond Hughes Grant and Gretchen Ellina Grant.

Thomas Poole Grant born 20 June 1937 married Elaine Chandler on 12 April 1974. She was born 25 October 1947 in Rock Hill, South Carolina. They have one son, Thomas Poole Grant II born 30 April 1976 in Chester.

Edmond Hughes Grant was born 11 May 1939 in Chester. On 6 April 1979 he married Beverly Hilton of Charleston, South Carolina. She was born 5 December 1934.

Gretchen Ellina Grant was born 13 August 1943 in Chester. On 5 July 1970 she married Allen Leonard Wright of Kings Mountain, North Carolina. He was born 16 July 1937. Children of this couple are Donna Marie Wright born 13 March 1965 and Leonard Grant Wright born 8 February 1972, both born in Chester. Ella G. Walker

SENATOR WILBUR GILL GRANT

Wilbur Grant was born in Knox Station, Chester County, South Carolina, May 20, 1906, son of John and Emma Eliza (Knox) Grant. His father was a farmer.

Wilbur attended Oakley Hall School and Chester High where he was an honor graduate. After receiving his preliminary education at public schools in his native town, he studied at the University of South Carolina where he sold newspapers to help pay his way.

Wilbur Gill Grant worked in cotton mills in Great Falls, South Carolina, in 1925, and Lando, South Carolina, in 1926-27. He was employed in 1928 to work in E.A. Johnson's Restaurant in Chester, South Carolina, he remained in that work until 1930. Then he went in business for himself opening up a service station and grocery store in Chester, South Carolina. His business expanded, and in 1940 he established in Chester the Better Beverage Company for wholesale distribution. Ten years later he added to his holdings the Southern Coal & Oil Company, Chester, South Carolina. He owned these businesses until his passing in June 1964.

In addition to those interests, Wilbur Gill Grant was always interested in all that would make for the betterment of his community, county, state and nation.

He represented Chester County in both houses of the South Carolina General Assembly, serving during 1935-38 and in 1941-42 in the House of Representatives, and from then on until his death in the Senate. He was assigned at various times to twelve Senate Committees. Wilbur Gill Grant was Chairman of the Social Security, Rural Electrification, and Aviation Committees, Vice-Chairman of the Medical Affairs and the Fish, Game and Forestry Committees, Banking and Insurance, Education, Finance, Highways, Interstate Cooperation, Invitations and Rules Committees. Senator Wilbur Gill Grant, a Democrat, participated wholeheartedly in the affairs of the local party organizations, as well as State and Nation, and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1936, 1944, 1956 and 1960, and prior to his death was elected to the 1964 Convention.

Senator Wilbur Gill Grant was an advocate of fiscal responsibility. He was a leader in a campaign to assign State surpluses to counties for use in the support of schools. He was responsible for the piping of water from the Catawba River to Chester and Great Falls, and he was writing a book on the theme of the Catawba River at the time of his death. In addition, he was author of legislation for a farm-to-market road program in South Carolina, which has been appropriately referred to as South Carolina's Road Revolution. Senator Grant was Chairman of this Committee, which resulted in a very successful program.

Senator Wilbur Gill Grant was very active in civic affairs. He served on Chester County's Board of Commerce and Development and its General Election Commission aided in bringing much in-



SENATOR WILBUR G. GRANT 1906-1964

dustry to Chester, South Carolina. He served on the Chester Metropolitan Water District, the Chester Sewer Commission, and the Great Falls Service District, and he worked diligently toward the 1963 expansion of the Chester County Hospital. He was instrumental in organizing a single-unit countywide school district.

During the Second World War period Senator Grant served in the United Service Organizations War Fund Campaign. He was a charter member of the Chester County Historical Society.

Among some of the honors of Senator Wilbur Gill Grant was his appointment as Lieutenant Colonel on the Staff of Olin DeWitt Johnson, Governor of South Carolina.

Senator Grant was a member of the South Carolina Independent Merchants Association (President 1939-64), Knights of Pythias, BPOE, Improved Order of Red Men, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, IOOF, and Loyal Order of Moose. His religious affiliation was with the Methodist Church. For recreation he enjoyed fishing and football.

Senator Wilbur Gill Grant was married at Historic "Mayfields" Aiken, South Carolina, December 26, 1946, to Belva Michael Funderburk, daughter of Orion Jones Funderburk of Pageland, South Carolina. Senator and Mrs. Wilbur Gill Grant had two sons: Olin DeWitt and Wilbur Gill Grant, Jr.

Senator Wilbur Gill Grant passed away in Chester, South Carolina, June 15, 1964. He was noted as living daily in an atmosphere of love, gratitude and service and leaving the world better than he found it. Belva F. Grant Beaver

WM. GRANT FAMILY

The earliest date we have been able to establish our family in Chester County is 1819 with one, William I. (Ira?) Grant born here. He married Anna R. and they had three children. For the next six generations the Grants were born in and near Chester. We are still trying to trace his grave and that of two of his children. We know that the first child, James Alexander born here 1843 married Mary Elizabeth Hudson 1848 and they had one son, Wm. Holmes born 1873. James was a blacksmith and operated as a Smithy for many years. He served in the Hampton Legion as a

blacksmith in the Cavalry for two years during the Civil War. He is buried at Capers along with his wife and only son Wm. Holmes who died 1946. Wm. Holmes married Hannah May Varnadore 1877-1913. He farmed on the S.J. Ferguson land and later on the John Hemphill estate. Their union resulted in three children all born in Richburg, Mary Elizabeth 1894, Wm. Frank 1896-1979 and Lydia Janie 1899-1981. Mary Elizabeth married Milton E. Bailey and they had two boys Malcolmb and Charles and two girls Myrtle and Martha still living in Chester County. Wm. Frank married Janie Mable Bailey also of Chester 1898-1975 and they had five children all born in Chester County. Wm. Frank Jr. 1918, Chalmers Wylie 1920, Lucille Hannah 1922, Aubrey Lynn 1924 and Evelyn ? 1926. Wm. Frank Jr. married Virginia Athlee Campbell 1918-1967 and their children were — Wm. Clark 1938 who married Marjorie Mayo, they had no children; Linda Athlee 1941, married Herbert Pettie Jr. of Fort Lawn and they have two sons Bryan Kevin age 10 and Greig Allan age 8 yrs. Herbert Pettie is a Deputy Sheriff in Chester County. The youngest child is Lari Aubrey 1943 married Phyllis Kelly of Great Falls and they had one son Joahua David now 15 years old. Lari married Carroll Phillips and they had a daughter Allison age four years. Wm. Frank Jr. served in the Fourth Marines in the battle of Iwa Jima. He lives in Michigan where he has a Dental Laboratory. Chalmers Wylie is a machinist and lives now in Great Falls. He married Minnie Howell of Union and they have a daughter Priscilla and a son Joel. Priscilla married Rev. John Griffith and they have two sons and one daughter and live in Saluda, S.C. Joel lives in Charlotte, N.C. and has twin daughters age two years. Chalmers served in Trinadad in the Navy in World War II.

Lucille Hannah Grant 1922 married Eugene Knight of Great Falls and they had two sons Eugene Jr. 1937 now living in N.C. and Michael 1940 now living in Greenville, S.C. Aubrey Lynn Grant 1924 married a Joanne ? and they live in Tulsa, Oklahoma where their two daughters Susan 1950 and Barbara 1952 were born. Aubrey is an accountant with an Oil Refining Co. During World War II he served in the Navy aboard the Aircraft Carrier U.S.S. Franklin.

Evelyn the youngest of the Wm. F. Grant family 1926 now lives in Norfolk, Virginia with husband Robert Howell of Charlotte, N.C. They have three children all born in Norfolk. Stanley recently married ? and Robert Jr. who is married and has two young children. They have one daughter Lisa 22 years old and is a dental assistant. Velda B.C. Grant

NANCY STINSON ANDERSON GREEN

William Anderson and his bride, Nancy Stinson, came to Chester County, then Craven County, South Carolina in 1773 with the Conventer Colony of the Reverend William Martin from County Antrim, Ireland. With them came James,

William and Elizabeth Stinson, brothers and sister of Nancy. They were also accompanied by an orphan, Lizzy Craig, a niece of William Anderson and his only relative who came to America. The land he selected lay about two miles to the east, half a mile from what is now Roosville near Great Falls.

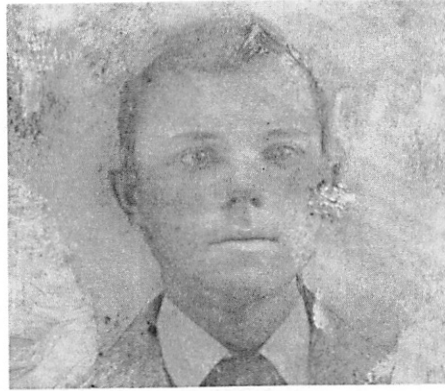
The family lived in a tent until the Meeting House was completed. William then built a log cabin for his family and cleared ground to plant Indian corn. William prospered and three children were born Mary, Robert and William.

By 1780 the revolution had reached such proportions that the Reverend Martin preached such a stirring sermon against the British that the men of the congregation joined Land's group. William Anderson joined the forces of Sumter under Capt. John Steele in 1780. William was killed two months after he joined the Army at Neelys and was buried where he fell.

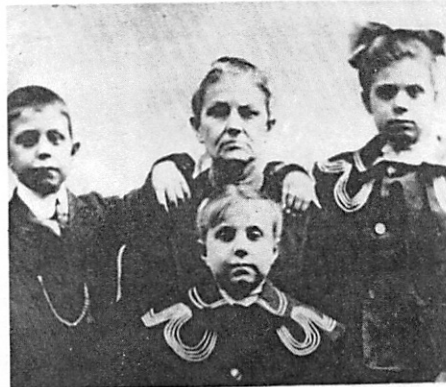
William's death left Nancy a young widow with three small children. The British had burned the meeting house and taken the horses and cows except one horse and one cow. Nancy struggled to feed and care for the family with only the help of Lizzy Craig. The children were ill with smallpox and needed constant care. The child Nancy was caring for when William joined the army died at birth.

Daniel Green, a Pennsylvania joined the Marines under Captain Biddle. While in the Charleston harbor he exchanged places with a soldier and enrolled in a regiment of Continental Regulars. He was taken prisoner May 12, 1780 and placed on a prison ship in March 1781. Seven of the prisoners over-powered the guard and escaped. They made their way to the plantation of Colonel Pinckney. Mrs. Pinckney although alone and dependent on the Negroes for food shared with these men. From this place the fugitives made their way to "Buckhead", the residence of Mrs. Motte. They were lodged in an out house and food brought to them at night. It was there that they learned that the Scotch Irish of Chester, Lancaster and York, South Carolina, had refused British protection and were defending themselves. Mrs. Motte arranged with a young guest to make it possible for the men to escape and two days later Green and Morris, another of the escapees, were sheltered in the home of Isabelle Ferguson. The next day Green started out to find a house and in his walk came on Nancy Anderson. As soon as he saw her he walked directly up to her and asked if she knew where he could secure a horse. Nancy replied in the negative and invited the stranger into her home. At the widow's invitation Green joined the family at dinner. After leaving Nancy, Green went back to the Fergusons but could not get the image of the lovely lady out of his mind. The next day Lizzy Craig came to the Fergusons to shell corn and Daniel Green assisted her on her horse and offered to go to the mill with her but Lizzy refused his offer since Nancy had told her to go alone.

Green continued to see Nancy and when he asked her if she would marry a soldier she replied, "If I ever should marry none



WILLIAM HOLMES GRANT



William Frank Grant, Hannah V. Grant, Mary E. Grant, Lydia J. Grant.

but a soldier would I have."

Daniel borrowed a horse from Ferguson and with Nancy mounted on her sorrel mare, rode to Justice John Gaston and were married. Nancy's friends were scandalized that she had dispensed with formalities prescribed by the church.

Daniel Green treated the Anderson children as his own. After the war Green prospered. He then built a large house for the family.

Nancy Green died in 1827 in her 77th year. Daniel Green lived only a few weeks longer. As Nancy lay on her death bed there came a torrential rain and washed up the bones of William Anderson. Nancy's son Colonel William Anderson had his father's bones buried in the family grave where only a few days later his mother was laid to rest. At Daniel's death he was buried on the other side of Nancy. In 1936 the U.S. Government had markers placed at William and Daniel Green's graves.

A marker has been placed on Nancy Green's grave. She sleeps between her two husbands. Submitted by Anne Pickens Collins

BENJAMIN PICKENS GREGORY

Benjamin Pickens Gregory, son of Benjamin Franklin Gregory and Leah (Wilkes) Gregory was born 22 December 1843 in Union County, South Carolina. He died on 23 June 1913, at his home on Center Street, Chester, South Carolina, and he was buried in the cemetery of Calvary Baptist Church.

tist Church.

Mr. Gregory was a veteran of the War Between the States. When only 17 years of age, he obtained his father's permission to join the Confederate forces. He enlisted in Union County as a private in the Johnson Rifles, a part of Jenkins' Sharpshooters, but later he was assigned to Company E of the 5th South Carolina Infantry Regiment, when a reorganization of forces took place. He served until the surrender at Appomattox on 9 April 1865, and was then paroled with the remnant of General Lee's army of Northern Virginia. Mr. Gregory stated that he was in 27 real battles, and was promoted from private to lieutenant. He was the acting adjutant of his regiment for some time. He used to tell how kind the Yankees were to them after the surrender, dividing rations with them and otherwise aiding them. He often told of the rough journey home of nearly 600 miles, wearing worn-out shoes and having blistered feet. He finally arrived home toward the end of April, to learn that his brother Tom had been dead about four weeks.

After the war was over and Mr. Gregory returned home, he married Elmira Smith, the youngest daughter of John Smith and Harriet Drusilla (Mobley) Smith, at Baton Rouge, South Carolina, on 3 August 1865. Following their marriage, they moved to Mississippi, and lived there a few years before returning to South Carolina and settling down on a farm near Baton Rouge. Later they moved to Chester, South Carolina.

He was a loyal and faithful member of Calvary Baptist Church. Elmira was educated at Limestone College, Gaffney, South Carolina. The following children were born to this family: William Thompson Gregory, Eugene Howe Gregory, Leila Belle Gregory, Edward T. Gregory, Augustus Mobley Gregory, Vivian Elmira Gregory, and Benjamin Pickens Gregory, Jr.

William Thompson Gregory. William Thompson (Thomas) Gregory, son of Benjamin Pickens Gregory and Elmira (Smith) Gregory was born in Chester County, South Carolina in 1866. He died in January 1913 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, and is buried there. He was engaged in construction work. Mr. Gregory married Etta Meador in Chester County, South Carolina, on 15 March 1896. Mrs. Gregory died on 10 July 1958 and is buried in Tuscaloosa. The following children were born to them: Bernard Meador Gregory, born 20 August 1897; Leah Elizabeth Gregory, born 4 August 1901; Auburn Mentor Gregory, born February 1903; Vivian Elmira Gregory, born 12 July 1905; Jnaie Mae Gregory, born 16 January 1907; Mettie Marguerite Gregory, born 6 May 1908; and B.P. Gregory, died as a baby in 1899.

Eugene Howe Gregory. Eugene Howe Gregory, son of Benjamin Pickens Gregory and Elmira (Smith) Gregory was born in Baton Rouge Township, Chester County, South Carolina, on 13 April 1868. He was a farmer by occupation. He died near Lowrys, South Carolina, on 20 February 1936, and is buried at the cemetery of Calvary Baptist Church near Baton Rouge.