

BDATA.017 CONTRADICTION ON THE GENEALOGY OF THOMAS WOODWARD
KNOWN AROUND FAIRFIELD CO., S.C. AS "THE
REGULATOR."

Compiled in October 1988 by Robert R. Hill, a descendent of Thomas Woodward, known as "The Regulator" through his son Reverend William Woodward and wife Nancy Elizabeth Barrett and their daughter Jemima Woodward, who married Thomas Hill.

While doing research on my family genealogy on the Hill-Woodward Families, it has come to my attention that a very serious problem or error exists in the genealogy on Thomas Woodward, known as the Regulator.

This genealogy apparently has been excepted for several years and was generally believed by just about all persons, including myself, to have been researched and proven, but apparently such was not the case.

About a year ago, Mrs. Ann B. Willis of Clarksville, Md, who was also researching Thomas Woodward's Family, called to my attention a serious problem and convinced me that indeed an error existed in a genealogy that was more or less "Engraved in Stone," in other words it has been written up and excepted for so long that great difficulty will exist in disproving it. Never the less, I will submit to the readers the evidence at hand and let them see for themselves the difference in the long accepted story and what the actual facts show.

I will "Enhance" the genealogy that has been accepted for years, that is "Engraved in Stone" (so to speak) BUT IS WRONG! Then statements will be made to show the true facts.

THE SOURCE OF THE FOLLOWING IS FROM NONE OTHER THAN THE GRANDSON OF THE REGULATOR, THOMAS SIMPSON WOODWARD, WHO'S FATHER WAS ALSO A THOMAS WOODWARD, THE FIRST CHILD OF THOMAS (REGULATOR) WOODWARD AND HIS 2ND WIFE ELIZABETH STOKES MAY.

Briefly, Thomas Simpson Woodward was the grandson of Thomas (Regulator) Woodward (b. ca. 1729 - d. 12 May 1779) and his 2nd wife Elizabeth Stokes Mays, the widow of John May. The father of Thomas Simpson Woodward, was also named Thomas Woodward (B. CA. 1764-65, D. 23 MARCH 1800) and was the first child born of the Regulator and his second wife, Elizabeth Stokes May.

Thomas Simpson Woodward was born on 22 February 1794 in Elbert County, Georgia. He was left as an orphan at a very early age of 12, and despite the fact that his uncle Howard offered him a home and education, he ran away from home, and was often a vagrant that hung out at military outposts, trading posts, and who often heard and exchanged stories with

the soldiers and led a rather restless life, moving from one place to another while serving in the military. He also let himself become well acquainted with the life style and customs of the Indians.

After several years of adventure all around the nation from the Carolinas, into Florida, Georgia, Thomas Simpson Woodward moved westward into Autuga County, Alabama, later to Dallas County, Alabama. He lived in and around this area for twenty years and on 3rd August 1820, he married Sarah Ann DeBose. They moved into Arkansas and finally Louisiana where he died in 1861.

Upon reaching a rather old age, for reasons unknown, he often wrote letters to friends about his life's adventures and also gave a "brief genealogy" on his grandfather, Thomas (Regulator) Woodward.

Thomas Simpson Woodward's letters to his friends were wrote in the mid to late 1850's and was printed in a Montgomery Newspaper as a series of articles, and later into the book entitled "Reminiscences of the Creek-Muskogee Nation."

It is from this book that I believe the problem in the Woodward genealogy originated. It appears that this was the original source of the Woodward genealogy, that is pertaining to the Regulator, and apparently having originated from a grandson, most researchers accepted the statements as facts and it appears that no research was done in Virginia or Maryland to either prove or disapprove the stated fact, until Mrs. Willis noted the error and proceeded to research the area around Fairfax & Prince William Counties of Virginia as well as Maryland information.

WIDELY ACCEPTED BUT INCORRECT GENEALOGY: It is stated that The Regulator's father was also named Thomas Woodward, who was born and raised in and around Annapolis Maryland. Most people who have searched for the father of the Regulator have assumed it was Thomas Woodward, a son of Abraham Woodward.

Now supposedly the father of the Regulator, Thomas Woodward Sr., married in Maryland, raised a family. This wife died and Thomas Woodward Sr. came to Fairfax County Virginia, and remarried ELIZABETH SIMPSON, daughter of a Scotsman.

The incorrect genealogy goes on.... Thomas Woodward (Sr.) & Elizabeth Simpson had a son, THOMAS WOODWARD, who later was the famous "REGULATOR." The father, Thomas Sr., died and the widowed wife (Elizabeth Simpson) remarried to John Robertson.

Now here the accepted genealogy states that THOMAS WOODWARD SR. had gone back to Maryland to bring his Maryland children to Virginia, but died suddenly in Maryland and his Maryland children did not join his second set of children in Virginia.

Thomas (Regulator) Woodward served in the French-Indian War under Colonel George Washington, and after the war was ordered to South Carolina. He left his wife, JEMIMA COLLINS and children behind and came to South Carolina.

His wife Jemima Collins died, he returned, brought his widowed mother & his half brothers, along with his own children to South Carolina, where he remarried ELIZABETH STOKES MAY and had six more children.

Now some of the above is an impossibility for the following reasons.

Reference: "Annapolis Maryland Families," by Robert Harry McIntire, page 782. (taken from Parish records). Now the birth of the Regulator seems to have been established by Andrea as ca. 1719, but based on a military roll call (or a voucher) in 1775, gives the ages of the individuals, and shows Thomas Woodward as age 48 and therefore a birth of ca. 1729.

The above Thomas Woodward Sr. (said to be father of the Regulator) was not born until March 10, 1732 and he married only once, to Margaret (Watters) Ijams on February 21, 1778, which was just one year before the Regulator was killed in S.C. (May 12, 1779).

Notice that the mother of the Regulator was supposed to be a second wife of a Thomas Woodward. She is said to have been named Elizabeth Simpson, daughter of a Scotsman.

This is partly true. Based on the Will of Thomas Simpson, Prince William County Virginia, in WILL BOOK C, page 16, dated 13th October 1734...From the information in this will, it is very obvious that the mother of the Regulator was MARY SIMPSON, a daughter of THOMAS SIMPSON. The daughter Mary Simpson Woodward, along with her son Thomas (Regulator) Woodward and a daughter (unknown until now) Ann, are named in the Will of Thomas Simpson as grandchildren.

Further proof lies in a transaction recorded in Fairfax County Virginia DEED BOOK D1, pages 351-352, an Indenture dated 8th November 1756, showing THOMAS WOODWARD (later known as the Regulator) sells to JOHN ROBERTSON (his step-father) for 5 shillings 100 acres... This shows that the 100 acres was part of 425 acres "taken up and patented by THOMAS SIMPSON, deceased, and willed & bequeathed by said THOMAS SIMPSON, to his daughter MARY WOODWARD, who is now espoused to the said JOHN ROBERTSON." This document was signed by Thomas Woodward and his (1st) wife Jemima (Collins) Woodward.

This document is vital in showing the error of the Woodward Genealogy for the following reasons.

First of all, in the genealogy that is in error but generally has been accepted, it states that after the Regulator's father (said to be Thomas Woodward Sr.) died, his said to be mother (Elizabeth Simpson Woodward) was remarried to John Robinson. (The correct spelling is Robertson).

The above Indenture clearly shows it was MARY SIMPSON, who married a Woodward then remarried John Robertson and not ELIZABETH SIMPSON as is indicated.

It also shows that we indeed have the same and correct Woodward Family, that of Thomas Woodward, later known as the Regulator. It shows that his 1st wife, was named Jemima and indicates that data showing her as Jemima Collins is probably correct. (She signed by mark and as Jemima Woodward). General Thomas Simpson Woodward also gives her name as the 1st wife to his grandfather, Thomas (Regulator) Woodward.

Now researchers of the Simpson Family (whom I have been in contact with personally) have stated that Thomas Simpson was definitely a "Scotsman," as was his father, John Simpson.

Now in regards to the supposed father of the Regulator (Thomas Woodward Sr.), a search of wills, & land deeds of Fairfax County and the surrounding area has failed to reveal or show the location of any adult by the name of Thomas Woodward, who might be the so called Thomas Woodward Sr. or the supposed father of the Regulator, BUT there was a John Woodward, who was a blacksmith, and who lived in Prince William County (formed from Fairfax County and adjacent to Fairfax County).

For what ever reason, it appears that John Woodward became heavily indebted to a John Mercer and had to sell his tools, stock etc.. BUT he did not sell land and a inspection of the will of Thomas Simpson seems to show that it was because the land was left to Mary Woodward by her father Thomas Simpson, and while we cannot determine for sure, it may be that she would not sign her rights of dower to be released.

After this sale of tools, crops, and stock, this John Woodward disappears. Perhaps his indebtedness, which was strongly frowned on in these times, caused John Woodward disgrace and he moved away or he died, but he does not show up again in any records. Perhaps he did return to Maryland, but I suspect he went to New Kent County, Virginia, place of his suspected birth and died.

REFERENCE: PRINCE WILLIAM CO. VA. DEED BOOK B, PAGE 426, DATED 21ST OCTOBER 1732... This shows that a John Woodward, listed as a Smith, sold to JOHN MERCER of Stafford County Virginia, his tools, crops, money and household goods to over

his apparent indebtedness. (SEE DOCUMENT AT END).

It appears that this JOHN WOODWARD may have been the father of the Regulator instead of Thomas Woodward (Sr.) son of Abraham Woodward. The mother of the Regulator was obviously MARY SIMPSON and not ELIZABETH SIMPSON.

To add support to this theory, the Regulator (Thomas Woodward Jr.) named his first son JOHN and not Thomas, which usually was the custom of these times, to name the first born male after the paternal grandfather.

Now some of the other problems that has been found to exist in the generally excepted Woodward genealogy or in the book "Reminiscences" are....

1. The son, William Woodward, who was born in 1762 is said to have been born in Fairfax County, Virginia, however a conflicting piece of evidence comes from a son of his, JOSEPH A. WOODWARD. In the 1880 Census of Talledaga County, Alabama, Joseph Woodward stated that BOTH his father (William Woodward) and his mother (Nancy Barrett), whom one source said was born in France, were born in S.C.

This is very important to Woodward researchers as it would indicate that Jemima Collins, the first wife of the Regulator, actually died in S.C. and not Virginia as is generally accepted.

So far to date, there has been no evidence found that shows that Jemima ever came to S.C. or died in S.C. and it is believed that Joseph Woodward, being quite old by the time of the 1880 Census was made, took a simple easy way out when asked where his parents were born. His memory perhaps was bad or the fact that his parents had lived in S.C. since 1763 (which was some 118 years before) thought they were born in S.C. What ever the situation was, it is believed that Jemima Collins died in Virginia and William Woodward, their youngest child was born in Virginia and not S.C.

Now Thomas (Regulator) Woodward received his first land grant (200 acres) in S.C. in 1758, clearly showing his presence in that state as early as 1758. The question is why was a daughter (Nancy, born 1760 and son William, b. 7 October 1762) both said to have been born in Virginia, when land grant records show that the Regulator was in S.C. by 1758. At this point we must return to the statements made by Thomas Simpson Woodward in his book "Reminiscences."

Thomas (Regulator) Woodward left his family behind (meaning in Virginia) when he came to S.C.

In the minds of this compiler this can be explained by the fact that perhaps the Regulator went back and forth on visits

to Virginia between 1758 and 1762 (October 7th) when the youngest child William was born.

What ever, the wife Jemima Collins apparently died very shortly after the birth of William because in 1763, the Regulator received a much larger land grant in S.C., thus indicating that Thomas had a much larger family in South Carolina than he did in 1759. (S.C. land grants were based on age and ability to clear land, size of family).

CONCLUSIONS

It appears that Thomas (The Regulator) Woodward (b. ca. 1729 - d. 12 May 1779 in S.C.) was the son of Mary Simpson, daughter of Thomas Simpson. They were of Scotch descendents. The surname of the 1st wife of Thomas Simpson is unknown for sure but very strongly believed to have been named Elizabeth Baxter.

The father of the Regulator is not known for sure but he is strongly suspected to have been named John Woodward, who was the blacksmith of Prince William County in 1732, and who may have been the son of George Woodward, of New Kent County, Va.

Thomas (Regulator) Woodward obviously went to South Carolina ca. 1758 and is believed to have left his family behind in Virginia but traveled back and forth on visits. His wife was Jemima Collins who died in late 1762 (After October 7th).

Thomas Woodward then moved his family, including his (said to be) widowed mother and his two (three?) half brothers (John; William & Henry Robertson) with him, to Fairfield County S.C. in 1763. It is a proven fact that Thomas (Regulator) Woodward remarried to Elizabeth Stokes May and had 6 more children. Their marriage is believed to have been ca. 1763-1764.

Below is a letter that I have wrote to Banner Publishers regarding the book Woodward's Reminiscences and the reason why I think the General made mistakes regarding the above genealogy, along with supporting documents from Virginia, showing the mistakes.

631 S. Echo Drive
Brandon, Florida 33511

PROPOSED LETTER TO PUBLISHER THAT WAS NOT MAILED & PROBABLY WILL NOT BE MAILED...

Head Publisher of Banner Press
P. O. Box 20180
Birmingham, Alabama 35216

Dear Sir,

I am about to begin a very difficult project, regarding a book that I have just learned is being republished by your company. The book as I knew it was "Woodward's Reminiscences" by General Thomas Simpson Woodward but I understand has been republished under the name of "A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE CREEK NATION IN GEORGIA AND ALABAMA," which originally was a series of letters wrote by General Thomas Simpson Woodward back in the 1850's.

I am a descendent of this Woodward Family and have a personal interest in the book and have studied the Woodward Family for the past 10 years or so. I find it necessary to inform you that the genealogy that the General states on pages 124 through 126 is partly wrong and I feel it is wise to inform you of the error and show you what I consider to be correct and why as well as account for the reasons for the mistake.

As we know this book was based on a series of personal letters that the General wrote to friends, (not intended to be published) but they were so interesting that a newspaper in Alabama printed it as a series of articles. Later it was put into book form, I believe by a publishing company that contained the name of BARRETT in it. Barrett may have been a relative.

Please bear with me in a little background. General Thomas Simpson Woodward, was the son of Thomas Woodward (b. ca. 1765-68? - died 23 March 1800 in Franklin County, Georgia. The mother of the General was Mary Howard, b. ca. 1774 in Union County, South Carolina, the daughter of Nehemiah Howard & his wife Edith Smith.

The grandfather of the General, of who he speaks of on page 124 of the book, was also a Thomas Woodward (b. ca. 1729 in Fairfax County, Virginia). This particular Thomas Woodward was labeled with the name of THOMAS (REGULATOR) WOODWARD, due to his leadership in the "Regulator Movement in South Carolina in the early 1760's

Thomas (Regulator) Woodward was killed during a battle in the Revolution on 12 May 1779, time and place correctly stated by the General on page 126 of the book.

Now in the book, when the General speaks of his grandfather, he was speaking of this Thomas (Regulator) Woodward, who was a Captain. When he speaks of his grandmother, he was speaking of Elizabeth Stokes Mays, widow of John Mays, who was remarried to the Regulator ca. 1763/1764 in South Carolina.

For years the genealogy of this Woodward family has had several articles giving an INCORRECT genealogy and I am now

convinced that the source of these errors comes from the statements the general makes on pages 124 through 127.

The incorrect genealogy goes more or less like this, just as the general says: His (the General's) great grandfather was raised in Maryland and his name was THOMAS WOODWARD. He came to Fairfax County, Virginia and remarried a 2nd time to ELIZABETH SIMPSON, daughter of a "Scotsman."

This Thomas Woodward had a son named Thomas Woodward, and it is this 2nd Thomas Woodward that is the grandfather to the General. He was born ca. 1729 and you will note on page 125 of the book that the General states his grandfather served with General Washington in the French-Indian War and states on page 125 QUOTE: "MY grandfather was a Captain in that service, AND WAS MUCH OLDER MAN than General Washington." END OF QUOTE. This, in a sense seems, ok as General Washington was born in February of 1732, but shows only a 3 year difference between the ages of the two.

Now for the problem (a step at a time) REFERENCE PAGE 124 of the book ...

PROBLEM # 1. A computer copy of the Will of Thomas Simpson of Prince William County, Virginia is enclosed for you to look at and you will find that his daughter was named MARY and NOT ELIZABETH SIMPSON. IT WAS MARY THAT WAS THE MOTHER OF THOMAS (REGULATOR) WOODWARD, Born ca. 1729, and who was the GRANDFATHER to the General.

PROBLEM # 2 (DEALS WITH THE SUPPOSEDLY FATHER NAMED THOMAS WOODWARD, OF MARYLAND).

Over the past several years, most people have (I think) due to the General's statement on page 124 of the book, claimed that the so called great grandfather to the General was the Thomas Woodward, son of Abraham Woodward (of Annapolis) and his 2nd wife Priscilla (Ruley) Orrick. THIS IS WRONG! Not only that, I do not believe the great grandfather was named Thomas but was a John Woodward.

The reasons & I think the proof... Reference is made first of all to the birth of the Regulator which was ca. 1729. In a book entitled "Annapolis Maryland Families," by Robert H. McIntire, page 783, a copy of the Parish records is listed. This Thomas Woodward was not born until 10th March 1732 OR ABOUT 3 YEARS AFTER THE GRANDFATHER OF THE GENERAL WAS BORN.

Another thing is this... The so called Great grandfather to the General (Thomas Woodward) was said to have REMARRIED a 2nd time in Fairfax County, Virginia to ELIZABETH SIMPSON, daughter of a "Scotsman." Even if he had a 2nd marriage, his birth was 3 years after the Regulator was born, thus IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO BE THE FATHER.

General Woodward goes on and states at the bottom of page 124, that QUOTE: "my great grandmother remained a widow for some years, when she married a man by the name of ROBINSON and raised two sons, William & John, both of whom I have seen, as well as their mother." END OF QUOTE.

The General was actually speaking about MARY SIMPSON, who was his great grandmother and who had married a Woodward (but not the so named Thomas Woodward of Maryland as the General indicates). Again the evidence at hand shows that it was MARY (NOT ELIZABETH) that remarried to a JOHN ROBERTSON (NOT ROBINSON). Reference Fairfax Deed Book D, Part 1, Pages 351-352, dated 8th November 1756.

This particular deed is vital as it shows the following facts..

1. Thomas Woodward, known as the Regulator, signed the deed with his 1st wife Jemima Collins (as stated by the General on Page 125), which confirms that we are speaking of the same man.
2. His mother, Mary Simpson, signed with her husband JOHN ROBERTSON, thus confirming it was not a ELIZABETH SIMPSON who was the great grandmother to the General but MARY SIMPSON who married an unknown (but suspected JOHN WOODWARD). More on this later.

The Parish records of Maryland, shows NO SECOND MARRIAGE FOR THIS PARTICULAR THOMAS WOODWARD, of Md. They also show that this Thomas Woodward did not even marry until 21 February 1778, just 15 months BEFORE the grandfather of the General (Thomas "Regulator" Woodward) was killed (May 12, 1779). These same records show that Thomas Woodward (of Maryland) died in April of 1799, long after his said son (The Regulator) had died. Remember, the General states that his great grandfather had remarried a 2nd time to Elizabeth Simpson and they had a son Thomas, his grandfather. (He was born ca. 1729 thus it is impossible).

Now this said Thomas (so said great grandfather to the General & his grandfather also named Thomas) was supposed to have died and his widow (the so called Elizabeth Simpson) was supposedly remarried to a Robinson (Robertson)..

These facts prove it was not the Thomas Woodward of Maryland, as stated by the General on page 124 and which most people accept.

PROBLEM # 3... (DEALS WITH WHO IS THE FATHER OF THOMAS (REGULATOR) WOODWARD AND THE GREAT GRANDFATHER TO GENERAL THOMAS SIMPSON WOODWARD.

In and around the area of Fairfax County, Virginia, between

1700 and 1750 there can be found only one record of a male adult with the surname of WOODWARD and that was a blacksmith named JOHN WOODWARD, of adjacent Prince William County, Virginia.

I STRONGLY SUSPECT (BUT HAVE NOT PROVED) THAT THIS WAS THE GREAT GRANDFATHER TO GENERAL THOMAS SIMPSON WOODWARD, AND NOT THOMAS WOODWARD, OF MARYLAND, AS STATED BY THE GENERAL ON PAGE 124.

Reference to a Bill of Sale by John Woodward to John Mercer on 21 October 1732 in Prince William County Deed Book B, Page 426... John sells his tools, household goods, stock etc, to settle a debt.... and is never heard from again. (Note the General said he (Thomas) returned to Maryland and died). I think it was John, who went back into New Kent County, Virginia, where his birth is suspected, and died. In any case, he is not heard from again and his suspected widow (MARY SIMPSON WOODWARD) remarried to John Robertson (not Robinson as stated by the General)..

Supporting evidence is as follows: In the times of the late 17th and early 18th century there was a very popular tradition of naming a first born son AFTER THE PATERNAL GRANDFATHER. You will note that Thomas (Regulator) Woodward, grandfather to the General, named his first born son JOHN WOODWARD, which suggest HIS FATHER was John and not Thomas.

At the bottom of page 124 and onto 125 of the book, the General states that the Robinsons raised two sons William & John (Woodward). Naturally he was speaking of John Robertson and his 2nd wife (also her 2nd husband) MARY SIMPSON WOODWARD. The General should have added also four girls, all born between the sons. They were Margaret married James Nelson; Rebecca married Phillip Raiford Jr.; Nancy married Robert Rabb and Priscilla married James Andrews. The General names these husbands on page 126 but does not name the wives or the above named daughters. They were all children of his grandfather, Thomas (Regulator) Woodward and his 1st wife Jemima Collins, of Fairfax County, Virginia.

The oldest child and son was John Woodward (b. 1747), while the youngest child and son was William Woodward, (my 4th great grandfather). He was born on the 7th of October 1762. All four of the girls were born between these two sons.

Now very shortly after the birth of William, his mother Jemima Collins Woodward died late 1762 or 1763. Evidence seems to indicate that just as the General states on page 125, his grandfather (Thomas Regulator Woodward) had been assigned to South Carolina and had left his family behind in Virginia. After the death of Jemima, he moved his family, along with two half brothers and his (said to be) widowed mother Mary Simpson (Woodward) Robertson, to Fairfield County

South Carolina ca. 1763.

In South Carolina, he met the widow Elizabeth Stokes Mays and married her. These are the grandparents that the General mentions on pages 124 and 125 of the book.

The above information is given to better understand the background on the General and his family. It is also intended to show you that the General was confused in giving the genealogy of the Woodward Family. Why? I think I have the answer.

I think what actually happened was this... remember this was originally a series of letters to friends, not intended to be published. The letter that this information was originally wrote was dated in December of 1858 and the General was (he states) 65 years of age. The above stated events were long ago in the General's time, before and during the 1720-1740 period. This was over 100 years before he wrote about the Woodward genealogy. Time plus an aged memory, along with a tendency of the old General to brag somewhat, had caused him to get confused on the names of his great and great great grandparents. He got them mixed up or someone else got confused reading his letters.

In my mind, I am sure this is where the ORIGINAL WOODWARD GENEALOGY ON THE REGULATOR CAME FROM! Data from Virginia shows part of the genealogy to be wrong and I really think the ole General had got his paternal great great grandparents confused with his maternal great grandparents.

Now in the book, (Page 124) General Thomas Simpson Woodward states that HIS GREAT GRANDPARENTS WERE THOMAS WOODWARD & ELIZABETH SIMPSON. (I SAY HERE IS THE MIX UP). HE WAS CONFUSING HIS PATERNAL GREAT GRANDPARENTS WITH HIS MATERNAL GREAT GRANDPARENTS. HE WAS ALSO GETTING CONFUSED WITH THOMAS SIMPSON'S 1ST MARRIAGE TO ELIZABETH BAXTER WITH THE MARRIAGE OF HIS GREAT GRANDMOTHER, (THEIR DAUGHTER) MARY SIMPSON TO THE UNKNOWN BUT SUSPECTED JOHN WOODWARD.

THUS JOHN WOODWARD AND MARY SIMPSON WERE THE GREAT GRANDPARENTS TO GENERAL THOMAS SIMPSON WOODWARD, AND I CONTEND, HE ACCIDENTALLY SKIPPED OVER THEM.

I suggest that the readers be referred to a book that is entitled "Nehemiah Howard & His Family" (a paperback book) compiled by Rebecca Echols Terry in 1983, who's address is listed as P.O. Box 206, Huntsville, Alabama 35804. I do not know her nor have I ever corresponded with her but the book reveals a lot about the old General and his mother's family.

It is simply my desire to see that correct data be given in the book, and this is difficult since it's source (a series of letters) was wrote back in the 1850's and the book has

been republished quite a few times.

It is for this reason that I am enclosing computer copies of the photo copies of the data that I have in my possession, along with comments. They were obtained from court records of Prince William County and Fairfax County Virginia. Naturally I am not enclosing the photo copies but they can be obtained by you if desired. I have typed them word for word and have enclosed notes etc... to support my claim..

Naturally I do not expect any changes to the text but would not an "Addendum" be appropriate in this case? I will patiently await your comments (if any) and if I can be of any help in this matter please call upon me.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Hill Sr.

INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THE ERRONEOUS GENEALOGY OF THOMAS WOODWARD, KNOWN AS THE "REGULATOR" AND AS STATED BY GENERAL THOMAS SIMPSON WOODWARD, HIS GRANDSON IN THE BOOK "WOODWARD'S REMINISCENCES." THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH LETTER THAT IS ON THIS SAME DISK.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE SIMPSON FAMILY, OF VIRGINIA. THOMAS SIMPSON WAS THE MATERNAL GRANDFATHER OF THOMAS (REGULATOR) WOODWARD (B. 1719-D. 12 MAY 1779), GREAT GRAND FATHER TO HIS SON THOMAS WOODWARD (M. MARY HOWARD) AND THE GREAT GREAT GRANDFATHER TO GENERAL THOMAS SIMPSON WOODWARD, WHO WROTE THE BOOK "REMINISCENCES."

THIS INCLUDES THE WILL OF THOMAS SIMPSON, DATED 13TH OCTOBER 1734 (PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VIRGINIA WILL BOOK C, PAGE 16).

SOURCE: Simpson Family History was provided to me by Mrs. Thomas E. Meeks, 1905 Radford Drive, Woodbridge, Virginia 22191 in November of 1986. The Will I obtained photo copies from Prince William County, Virginia County Courthouse.

SIMPSON FAMILY

JOHN SIMSON (SIMPSON), "SCOTSMAN" died post April 1705; married Mary ___?, died post April 1705.

John Simson Sr., and his wife Mary, were in Virginia as early as 1678. Records show that he and John Carr received a patent for 627 acres on Great Hunting Creek for transportation of 13 persons to Virginia. Those transported were: Mary Simson, Richard Owen, Eliza. Ball, Mary Thomas,

George Attwood, Jno. Pitts, Hanna Barnes, Ja. Hornesby (or Hornsby), Tho. Smith, Mary Mosse and Giles Brent. (Reference "Cavaliers and Pioneers-Abstracts of Va. Land Patents and Grants" by Nugent, Vol. 11, 1666-1695, page 194).

Although John Simson had a grant on Great Hunting Creek, evidence is that he and his wife Mary, raised their family in Stafford County, near Aquia Creek. Records show that at least one daughter, Elizabeth, born July 27, 1695 and died March 14, 1698, was buried near Aquia Creek. Her tombstone now stands in the churchyard of the Aquia Episcopal Church on Jefferson Davis Highways (Route # 1 at Aquia in Virginia).

Many of the Stafford County records were destroyed but enough remain to tell us that John Simson Sr. had at least six (6) children, four sons and two daughters.

In addition to the six children named below, I believe there may have been a son named William, who in 1730, became the guardian of George Simson, "orphan" (Stafford Co. Court Records, Liber M, Page 24). This George may have died about 1750 as records show in July 1750, the estate of George Simpson was appraised (Stafford Co., Liber M, Page 112).

NOTE: The William Simpson who became George's guardian made his mark (x??).

children:

- a. John Simson Jr., b 1680; d 1756;
m 1st Mary --?--, d. Jan. 15, 1739;
2nd, Aug. 17, 1740, Silent Johnston.
- b. Thomas Simson, d. 1734, Pr. Wm. Co., Va.
(Simpson) m. 1st ___?___ Baxter (?) Suspected to be
named Elizabeth Baxter, thus (if true)
by marriage became ELIZABETH SIMPSON.
m. 2nd Jane ___?___.
- c. George Simson, d. abt. 1730
- d. Ann Simson, b. 1689; d. post 1769, Loudoun Co., Va.
m. John Gist.
- e. Elizabeth Simson, b. July 27, 1695; d. March 14, 1698.
- f. Richard Simson, d. 1762, Fairfax Co., Va.
m. Sarah (Barker?), d. 1764, Fairfax Co.

- A. JOHN SIMPSON JR., b. 1680; d. 1756;
m. 1st Mary ___?___, d. Jan. 15, 1739;
2nd Aug. 17, 1740 Silent Johnston (widow).

John Simpson Jr. was the eldest son of John Simson, "Scotsman," and his wife Mary. His will, dated May 20th 1756, was admitted to probate in Stafford County Virginia on August 10th, 1756. (Stafford Wills, Book O, Page 321-322).

Children:

ALEXANDER SIMPSON, m. July 17th, 1743 Catherine Fant.

Alexander Simpson's inventory is listed in the index of the Stafford County Virginia Court Records in Liber Y, 1793-1804, page 39, but the book is missing.

Children:

- a. Elizabeth, b. Jan. 14, 1746.
- b. Mary, b. Dec. 10, 1747.
- c. Sarah, b. Dec. 13, 1750.
- d. Franky (dau). b. Nov. 13, 1755.

GEORGE SIMPSON, d. ca. 1730.

Little is known of George, son of John Simson, "Scotsman," and his wife Mary, other than he probably died ca. 1730, leaving an orphan son named George, who was placed under the guardianship of William Simpson in 1730. For sometime I have believed that this William was either the son of John Simson, the "Scotsman" or the son of Thomas Simpson. I now believe he was most likely a son of John, the "Scotsman," as his mark was different than that of William, who administered the estate of Thomas Simpson Jr. in 1740, in Prince William County Virginia and whose mark was (). ???

children:

- a. George This son may have been married to Margaret ___?___, Overwharton Parish. If so, they had children:
 - Priscilla, b. Sept. 26, 1744 and
 - Susannah, b. Jan. 28, 1748.

It is possible that this George died ca. 1750 as Stafford Co. records show George Simpson's estate appraisal, July 10, 1750 (Liber O, 1748-1763, Page 112-113).

THOMAS SIMPSON SR., b. post 1680; d. 1734;
m. 1st ___?___Baxter (?); 2nd, Jane ___?___.

On June 6, 1717, Thomas Simpson was granted 423 acres on Sandy Run (NN 5:141). This land was later willed to three of his children, William, Baxter and MARY WOODARD (WOODWARD).

Thomas Simpson was a carpenter by trade. By 1727, he was living on a plantation and operating a fish house, for salting and packing fish, on land which originally belonged to Thomas Baxter, near Belmont Bay. Thomas Simpson is believed to have been the builder of the 1 and 1/2 story brick house which is standing on Belmont Blvd. and it is believed to be the oldest standing structure in Fairfax County today. It has been restored and has a large frame

addition, which is in keeping with the original lines and style of the house.

His will, written October 13, 1734 and admitted to probate in Prince William County Virginia on Feb. 19, 1735, names his wife Jane and five children: William, Baxter, Thomas, MARY WOODWARD and Ann and grandchildren, THOMAS WOODWARD and Ann Woodward. His property on Sandy Run was divided between sons William and Baxter and daughter MARY WOODWARD. He left the 386 acres on Chopawamsic Creek to son Thomas. (Prince William County Wills, Book C, Page 16-17).

Many descendents of Thomas Simpson lived in the area of Henderson Road, Fairfax County Virginia. Some married into Fairfax, Stone, Cofer and Richard Simpson line.

children:

- a. William
- b. Baxter Little is known of Baxter other than he provided for his son James (under persuasion) and deeded to him his 200 acres on Sandy Run.
- c. Thomas Jr. d. 1740.
- d. MARY, m. Mr. Woodward, had children (Mary?? Believe this should be Ann) and THOMAS WOODWARD, later known as the Regulator in S.C.
- e. Ann

NOTE: Except for clothes and a few personal items, the inventory of Thomas Simpson (1741) compares closely to that willed to Thomas Jr. by Thomas Sr. (1734) Ref: Prince William County Va. Will Book C, page 269 (bond) page 322 (inventory).

RICHARD SIMPSON, d. 1762;
m. Sarah Barker, d. 1764.

Richard Simpson, youngest son of John Simson, "Scotsman" and Mary, his wife, purchased 100 acres, a portion of which lies within what is now Burke Lake Park, Fairfax County, Va., from John Parsons, "Tailor." The land was described as "all that tract or parcel of land situated lying and being on the upper fork of the South Run of Pohick," April 8, 1724 (Stafford Co. Deeds, 1722-1728, page 99). In 1730/31, Richard Simpson received a grant of 188 acres just north of where he was living. Although he owned, bought and sold much property, I believe he lived out his life on the combined tract of 100 acres, purchased from John Parsons and the 188 acre 1730/31 grant.

Richard Simpson stated in his will, dated Sept. 19, 1761, (Fairfax Co. Va. Wills, Book B, Page 397), "I give and bequeath unto George Simpson, the land I now live on it being part of two tracts to him and his heirs forever." This land

was the 100 acres bought of John Parsons and the adjacent 188 acre 1730/31 grant.

Richard's wife Sarah, whose will was dated say, 1764, (Fairfax Co., Va. Will, Book B, Page 418) also had a son, William, by her previous marriage to ___?___ Barker.

children:

- a. George d. 1782; m. Susannah Wheeler.
- b. Moses d. Jan. 1787.
- c. Richard m. Mary Kincheloe.
- d. Elizabeth b. Nov. 8, 1717; d. 1785; m. James Halley
 b. June 14, 1707.
- e. Sarah m. Thomas Windsor.
- f. Mary m. 1st ___?___ Canterbury;
 2nd ___?___ Cleveland.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VIRGINIA WILL BOOK C, PAGE 16, DATED
13TH OCTOBER 1734.

WILL OF THOMAS SIMPSON

In the name of God AMEN, the 13th day of October in the year of our Lord 1734, I THOMAS SIMSON (SIMPSON) of Prince William County, Carpenter, being very sick and weak of Body but perfect in mind and memory, thanks be to Almighty God, for it and calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, I do make and ordain this my last will and Testament, that is to say principally and first of all I give and recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it and for my body I recommend to the earth, to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner at the discretion of my Executor, nothing doubting but at the general resurrection I shall receive the same again by the power of God, as touching such worldly (worldly?) estate where with it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life, I give desire and dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

ITEM, I give and bequeath unto my oldest son WILLIAM SIMSON (SIMPSON) one hundred and twenty three acres of land, where he is now living on both sides of Sandy Run.

ITEM, I give and bequeath unto my son BAXTER SIMSON (SIMPSON) Two Hundred acres of land, lying on both sides of Sande (Sandy) Run and adjoining to the other land aforesaid of my son WILLIAM SIMSON (SIMPSON), on the upper side??? one breeding mare my bullet gun, one bed bolster, one rug and two blankets, one iron pot, six plates and six spoons.

ITEM, I give and bequeath to my son THOMAS SIMSON (SIMPSON) Three Hundred and Eighty Six Acres of land, lying on the South side of Chapamamsik?? Creek likewise one breeding mare,

one feather bed bolster, rug and two blankets, one iron pot,
six plates and six spoons.

ITEM, I give and bequeath unto my daughter MARY WOODARD
(WOODWARD) one hundred acres of land, where she is now seated
and lying on the north side of Sandy Run, to her and the
heirs of her body forever.

ITEM, I give and bequeath unto my daughter ANN SIMSON
(SIMPSON) after her mother in laws (Stepmother) decease, one
(lamb?) and calf, one feather bed boulder, rug and two
blankets.

ITEM, I give and bequeath unto my beloved grandchildren, the
son and daughter of MARY WOODWARD, THOMAS WOODWARD AND ANN
WOODWARD, one ewe a piece.

ITEM, I give and bequeath unto my ever loving wife JANE
SIMSON (SIMPSON) my plantation and liberty of one hundred
acres of land where I now live (for) her life and after her
decease, to fall to my son BAXTER. I also give her the
privilege of the whole (tract) for timber for the use of the
plantation. I also leave my wife all my moveable estate
except the legacies herein before mentioned, and leave my
wife whole and sole executor of this my last will and
testament and further, I leave my three children, BAXTER
SIMSON and THOMAS SIMSON, to be brought up till they come to
the age of 18 years and likewise my daughter ANN till she
comes of age by my wife JANE SIMSON. I further leave my
daughter ANN TO MARY WOODARD (WOODWARD) in case her mother
dies before she comes of age. I further give unto my wife,
two Negroes during her life and after her decease, for (them)
to be equally divided among my children and I do hereby
utterly disallow, revoke and disanoul all and every other
former testaments, wills and legacies, bequests and executors
by me in any ways before this time named willed and
bequeathed ratifying and confirming this and no other to be
my last will and testament in WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto
set my hand and seale the day and year above written. Signed
Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of us.

I desire my movable estate maybe inventoried and returned and
not appraised.

THOMAS FORD

JOHN ROBERTSON SIGNED THOMAS (T) SIMSON (LS)
MARY (+) EVANS his mark
her mark

At a court held for Prince William County, the 19th Day of
February 1734..

This will was presented into court by Jane Simson, Executrix
therein named, who made oath thereto and being proved by the
oaths of Thomas Ford and John Robertson, two of the
witnesses, thereto it is admitted to record and on the motion

of the said Jane and her performing what is usual in such cases, certificate is granted her for obtaining a Probate thereof in due form.

Test. Catesby Corke (Clerk)

JANE SIMPSON BOND TO ADMINISTER ABOVE WILL AND ESTATE

KNOW ALL MEN by these presents that we Jane Simpson, John Ferguson and Job Carter are held and firmly bound unto ROBERT JONES, the first Justice in the Commissioner of the Peace for Prince William County for and in behalf and to the sole use and behoof of the Justices of the said County and their successors in the sum of two hundred pounds, to be paid to the said ROBERT JONES his executors, Administrators and assigns to which payment will and truly to be made, we bind our selves and every of us our and every of our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators jointly and severally firmly by these presents. Sealed with our Seals dated this 19th Day of February 1734.

THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION is such that if the above bound JANE SIMPSON, EXECUTRIX of the last will and testament of THOMAS SIMPSON, deceased, do make or cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased, which have or shall come to be the hands possession or knowledge of the said JANE SIMPSON or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for her and the same so made---do (exhibit?) into the County Court of Prince William at such time as she shall be thereunto required by the said court and the same goods, chattels and credits and all other the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased which at any time after shall come to the hands possession or knowledge of the said JANE SIMPSON or into the hands and possession of any other person or persons for her? do well and truly administer according to law and further do make a just and true account of her abiding and doings therein when these do require by the said court and also shall well and truly pay and deliver all legacies contained and (specified?) in the said testament as far as the said goods chattels and credits will thereunto is bind and the law shall charge THEN--this obligation to be void and of none effect or else to remain in full force and virtue.

SIGNED JANE (W) SIMPSON (LS)

her mark

JOHN FERGUSON (LS)

JOB CARTER (Clerk)

SEALED & DELIVERED IN THE PRESENCE OF
THOMAS ROBINSON

NOTE: It appears that Jane Simpson, widow of Thomas Simpson & also his executrix, remarried to JOHN FERGUSON sometimes

between 19th February 1734 when she made signed affidavit as Executrix and 15th October 1735 when she signed the Inventory as Jane Ferguson.

A BILL OF SALE OF A JOHN WOODWARD TO JOHN MERCER FOR STOCK, TOOLS HOUSEHOLD GOODS ETC..DATED 21 OCTOBER 1732 IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VIRGINIA. THIS JOHN WOODWARD IS SUSPECTED TO BE THE FATHER OF THOMAS (REGULATOR) WOODWARD. (FILED IN PRINCE WILLIAM. CO DEED BOOK B, PAGE 426 DATED 21 OCTOBER 1732).

Note: It is suspected that John Woodward, who was a blacksmith, had got himself in debt and was forced to sell his possessions. It is believed that his wife was Mary Simpson, who apparently owned the land, obtained from her father Thomas Simpson. John Woodward disappears after this transaction and is not heard from again. It is believed that he went back to Maryland, where he is believed to have been born, and died. Mary, the suspected widow, remarried to John Robertson.

KNOW ALL MEN, by these presents, that I JOHN WOODWARD, of the County of Prince William, Smith (Blacksmith) for and in consideration of the sum of SIX HUNDRED POUNDS of Tobacco, to me in hand paid by JOHN MERCER of the County of Stafford, Grant? the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, have bargained and sold and by these presents, do bargain and sell unto the said JOHN MERCER all and Sundry the Horses, Cattle, Hogs, Tools, Money and Household Goods mentioned and contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD all and singular the said Horses, Cattle, Hogs, Tools, Money and Household Goods to the said JOHN MERCER and his heirs and assigns forever to his heirs and their own proper use and behoof. IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 21st day of October 1732.

JOHN WOODWARD (LS)

Sealed in the Presence of us, the above JOHN WOODWARD, having first delivered to the above named JOHN MERCER, a Pistol hereby to say the said JOHN MERCER in full and Peaceable possession of the thing, above mentioned.

CATSBY? COCKE
JOHN GREGG

The Schedule or Inventory of the Horses, Cattle, Hogs, Tools, Money and Household Goods aforesaid to the above BILL of SALE....

2 feather beds
2 bed spreads
4 blankets5
2 rugs
(2 horses

(one whole horse (branded) DP on the fore buttocks and the
other a black horse

1 branded cow & calf bought by the said Woodward of John
Graham

11 hogs marked with a slit in the fore ear and a slit in the
near ear, the under side of the _____??? ear chopped as low
as it is (possible??)

6 hog chains

1 Smith's Bellows

1 anvil weighing 3 lbs 2 oz-4???????

1 _____???not legible

7 hammons (josted?) and 1 sledge hammer

6 dishes

12 _____???? Iron pots ???

7 chairs, 7 poles???, 3 hand vicarson files, one weighing 113
pounds)

(SIGNED) JOHN WOODWARD

Witnesses:

CATSBY ? COCKE

JOHN GREEG

In (open?) Court confirmed and held for Prince William County
the 12th day of March 1734, JOHN MERCER, Gentleman, presented
the above Bill of Sale from JOHN WOODWARD with the schedule
or Inventory (amount) which was proved by the oaths of the
witnesses hereto subscribed and on the _____?? of the
said MERCER admitted to record.

(SIGNED) JOHN CROSBY (C.C.)

NOTE: The generally accepted genealogy states that the father
of Thomas (Regulator) Woodward had returned to Maryland to
get the rest of his children by a first marriage, but died
suddenly and never returned to Virginia. There has been no
documents found to support this claim. I submit that this was
the father of the Regulator, but went broke, had to sell all
he possessed and left in disgrace. He apparently died as his
suspected widow remarried, as will be seen later.

Note that in these times, land was the most valuable
commodity a person had and it would appear that he would have
sold land to pay for this indebtedness.

It is my contention that John Woodward could not sell the
land he lived on as it was actually the inheritance of his
wife Mary Simpson, who had inherited the land from her
father, her dowery rights protected her land and thus John
could not sell the land.

Robert Hill Sr