

> Pelham - What I've found is a 2/25/1936 letter from AD Miller (from
> the War Department?) concerning the Rev War records of brothers Joseph
> Kerr and Robert Carr. AD wrote that Joseph Kerr first drew his
> pension in NC (no county shown) starting 3/4/1789 and transferred
> 9/4/1813 to Fairfield Co, SC. They had no further information on him
> because of a fire in 1800 or 1814 which destroyed those files. He was
> pensioned "on account of a disability incurred in the service."
>
> Robert Kerr/Carr stated that he was born in 12/25/1754 in Ireland,
> immigrated 1775 aboard the Alexander from Derry to Philadelphia. He
> was hired as a farmer by James Mathews in Bucks Co, PA. Enlisted from
> Bucks, was captured, escaped, and re-enlisted. After the war he moved
> to Philadelphia.
>
> Until June 1834, Robert was living with his daughter Mary, wife of
> Daniel Green in Philadelphia. Mary died and he moved to Fairfield Co,
> SC to live with his son Daniel H Kerr. Your information shows Polly
> Kerr m _____ Green, so we now know that his name was Daniel Green.
>
>
> Your information shows that Joseph is buried in the Presbyterian
> Cemetery in Winnsboro. His broken tombstone said that he was born in
> Ireland and "emigrated to America at an early age..." His will can be
> found in the online SC Archives. He made reference to his brother
> Robert of Philadelphia, niece Mary Green, and nephew Daniel H.
>
> It would seem likely that they share common ancestors with the Augusta
> to SC Kerr/Carrs, since they didn't leave Ireland until 1775, that
> relationship would be before at least 1700.
>
> I've found that it's just as important to know who isn't in your
> immediate line as who is.
>
> Marcia
>
>
>
>
the Abbeville Co. Kerrs, and along with that,
> trying to
> figure out their connections both to the Augusta Co., VA, Kerr family from
> which
> they stemmed, and to some groups of Kerrs who seem to have come down from
> Pennsylvania into old Rowan Co., NC. These Kerrs all appear to be
> related--and
> we think the ones in Fairfield Co. may have been related to them, too, as
> Marcia
> says.
>
> It does seem as if the family with that name in early Fairfield Co.
> records may
> have come from Northern Ireland to Pennsylvania later than the ones who

> migrated
> to Augusta Co., VA, and then to Abbeville Co., SC. That group of
> Kerrs--the
> ones who came to Long Cane--seem to have been part of the very first wave
> of
> Scotch-Irish settlers to PA, and the first wave of those same folks to
> move down
> into VA.
>
>
> I find a parallel case of two branches of one family coming from Northern
> Ireland at two different points with my Bryson family. My branch of that
> family
> came to Pennsylvania, as the Kerrs did, prior to 1740. They then moved to
> old
> Rowan (later Iredell) Co., NC, and after the Revolution to Pendleton
> Dist., SC.
>
> Meanwhile, a related set of Brysons came later directly from Northern
> Ireland to
> Laurens Co., SC.
>
> It often seems to me as if some of the families who emigrated directly
> from
> Ulster to South Carolina, and who ended up in areas of the upcountry with
> many
> Scotch-Irish families, had kinship ties already existing in the SC
> upcountry,
> which accounted for their choice to leave Ireland and settle in the
> upcountry.
> One source I've found, which appears to confirm that, is the journal kept
> by
> South Carolina Loyalist Alexander Chesney. In it, he says he was born at
> Dunclug near Ballymena in Co. Antrim, Ireland, in 1756, and came to SC
> with his
> parents in 1772, landing in Charleston and claiming land on the Pacolet.
>
> But the journal says Chesney's aunt Martha had already settled with
> husband
> Matthew Gillespie in SC, and he also already had two other aunts in
> SC--Sarah
> Fulton, who married John Cook and lived on the Pacolet, and Martha Fulton
> Nisbet, who lived in the Waxhaws settlement up on the SC-NC border.
>
> William D. Lindsey
>