

LEMMON - LAUDERDALE REUNION

Outline by Kathleen Lemmon, Historian
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THE HISTORY OF THE LEMMONS-LAUDERDALES AND CLANSMEN

Rev. David T. Lauderdale and his son Chapman went to Scotland some years ago and brought back interesting facts about the Lauderdals. We are hoping some members of the clan will make the trip to Scotland and glean some facts about the Lemmons.

I shall begin in 1641 when seven Lauderdale brothers emigrated from Scotland to Ulster, Ireland and settled in County Down.

Thomas Lauderdale was born in County Down in 1726 and died there in 1796. His son William, born April 1762, married Jane Milling, who was born in 1771, and who was also Scotch in blood, her people having emigrated from Scotland to North Ireland.

This couple with their four children: Thomas, William, David, and Mary Ann sailed from Belfast, September 17, 1817 and landed at Charleston, S. C., Nov. 1, 1817. From there they came to Fairfield County, S. C., and first lived on the farm then owned by Capt. Hugh Milling.

Jane Milling Lauderdale was the niece of Capt. Hugh Milling who emigrated from Drumbo, Ireland and became one of Fairfield's noted citizens. He was a Captain in the American army and fought through the Revolutionary War. The court unanimously elected him in 1798 as sheriff of Fairfield County. He died on May 7, 1837 at the age of 85 years.

It was upon the invitation of Capt. Hugh Milling that his niece, Jane Milling Lauderdale and her husband William Lauderdale and their four children immigrated to America and settled in Fairfield County.

William and Jane Milling Lauderdale were members of the Old Jackson's Creek Rock Presbyterian Church and are buried in the old cemetery. The successor of this old Church is Lebanon Presbyterian Church. William Lauderdale died Sept. 17, 1835 and Jane Lauderdale died Aug. 20, 1827.

Dr. David Lauderdale writes of his mother: "My mother was eminently disposed to charity. The year we left Ireland, as well as previous years, was a hard one on the poor. A continuous stream of needy persons called at our door for alms, and seldom was anyone sent away without aid.

The four children of William and Jane Milling Lauderdale, as I said before, were William, Mary Ann, Thomas, and David.

William was born Jan. 20, 1808. He went from Fairfield to Texas and lived there and died near Prarieville, Texas, Aug. 1869.

Mary Ann was born Dec. 3, 1801. She was married to James Lemmon, Sr., who was also born in County Down, Ireland in 1797. He immigrated to Fairfield County, S.C., and was a large landowner.

The two sons and three daughters born to Mary Ann Lauderdale were as follows: John Montgomery Lemmon, James Thomas Lemmon, Mary Ann Lemmon Owings, Elizabeth Lemmon Turner and James Lemmon Yongue.

James Lemmon, Sr. was an elder in Jackson's Creek Presbyterian Church and so were his two sons, John and James. His two sons were also Confederate soldiers.

Thomas Lauderdale was born Jan. 20, 1793 and died at the age of 88 years in 1881. He was one of the most outstanding citizens of Fairfield County. For fifty years he was ruling elder in Salem Presbyterian Church and not only read the Bible through 113 times but read many commentaries on the Bible. He was married to Miss Mary McMullen, who like himself was of Scotch decent. They had no children.

Dr. David Lauderdale was born December 16, 1805. He practiced medicine in Alabama where he owned nearly 2000 acres of land. Moving back to Fairfield, he married Mrs. Jane Russell Lemmon, widow of Montgomery Lemmon. She was born in County Antrim, Ireland, May 14, 1822, the daughter of George

Russell. Her mother also a resident of Ulster, Ireland, was of Scotch descent, and was a McMaster before her marriage to George Russell.

Mrs. Jane Russell Lemmon with her first husband, Montgomery Lemmon, emigrated from Ireland and landed at Charleston in 1844. They settled in Winnsboro where they ran a large store, the oldest in Winnsboro.

Mrs. Jane Russell Lemmon Lauderdale and her husband Dr. David Lauderdale were the parents of six children: an infant, Thomas William, George Russell, Jane Milling, Rachel Euphemia, and Emma Isabelle.

We do not know as much about the Lemmons in Scotland as we know about the Laurerdales. However, there is much to be said about the Lemmons in Fairfield County. James Lemmon, Sr., the husband of Mary Ann Lauderdale Lemmon, was one the wealthiest men of the county. He was an extensive landowner, an excellent builder and cabinet maker, successful planter and owner of much property in Winnsboro. Some of the houses he built are still standing today.

Immediately after purchasing land from Mr. Trapp in 1829, he constructed the house and made it the seat of his large estate. Before he died he gave each child, a home, the home site being given to his son James Thomas Lemmon. His daughter Lily resided there for years. She is now in a rest home.

In all of the Lemmon houses (and I am sure in the Laurerdales homes as well) God was revered. Bible verses were recited by each one at the breakfast table each week day as well as on Sundays, and each evening family prayers were held.

Ministers of the gospel were always welcome visitors and were entertained often.

All of the clansmen here today are descended from Jane Russell Milling Lauderdale and William Lauderdale. All can claim kin to Capt. Hugh Milling, an uncle. All are descendants of either Mary Ann Lauderdale Lemmon or Dr. David T. Lauderdale.

George S. Lauderdale, our Chaplain for many years, is making trips to different parts of the world in the interest of our Lord. Recently he visited Korea and reports on the growing strength of Christ's church there. Christians in Korea have pre-dawn prayer meetings daily in their churches. They often pray all night on Friday. Silent prayer precedes worship and even social visits. Many parts of the Bible are being written in poetic form by George S. Lauderdale. Here is part of this poetry written by George and we hope to have him at our next reunion to tell us of his witness:

With fellowship and daily food
The converts liked to pray,
Delight in apostles' doctrine good,
Following Christ, the Way.

Revered by all the populace..
For at the leader's hands
Wonders and signs were taking place--
Saints even shared their lands!

Scripture Acts II, Vs. 42-44

42. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

And all that believed were together, and had all things common.

Clansmen, we have a goodly heritage. Our ancestors were God fearing people. They were industrious, honest, generous, and good citizens.

As we read their history, let it be a challenge to us.

Kathleen Lemmon Historian