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The Lauderdale

Written by David T. Lauderdale.

The Lauderdale are by blood Scotch and by faith Presbyterians. Their place of residence: Scotland then North Ireland then Fairfield County, S. C.

Their family name originated in Scotland. The name was "Maitland" until 1624 when John Maitland, the 2nd Lord Maitland of Thirlestoun, was made Earl of Lord of Lauderdale for military services for his country, and a landed estate was given him with the title. He was the first of the Lauderdale. James Maitland was the grandfather of Isabella Marr, who married Robert Bruce, King of Scotland; and Helen Marr, Isabella's sister, who married Sir William Wallace. (Library of Congress)

From 1624 through today, there has been an unbroken family line of Earls of Lauderdale in Scotland, members of the British House of Lords, some of them very bad, others good, and many illustrious. Among these have been a noted author, a secretary of State, an Admiral in the British navy, the Keeper of the great seal of Scotland, and a Commissioner to the noted Westminster Presbyterian assembly. The Earls of Lauderdale are hereditary standard bearers of Scotland. (Encyclopedia Britannica)

In 1714 the first Lauderdale emigrated from Scotland to America, and settled in Pennsylvania, and then in Botetourt County, Va. Three of these: John, James, and William served as commissioned officers of the American Army in the Revolutionary War. About 1794 James Lauderdale moved to Sumner Co., Tenn. Five of his sons served as commissioned officers under Gen. Andrew Jackson in the Indian War and American Army in the War of 1812. One of these, Lieut. Col. James Lauderdale, fell at the Battle of New Orleans while gallantly leading his regiment against the British. He was a brave Commander, and his death was lamented throughout the Army. Four states: Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas have Counties named "Lauderdale" in honor of these heroes. (Library of Congress)

In 1641 seven Lauderdale brothers emigrated from Scotland to Ulster, Ireland, and settled in County Down, some near Lisburn, and some near Drumbo. 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 by blood, her people having emigrated from Scotland to North Ireland. This couple with their four children: Thomas, and William, and David, and Mary Ann, sailed from Belfast Sept. 17, 1817 and landed at Charleston, S. C. Nov. 1st., 1817. From there they came to Fairfield Co., 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 immigrated from Drumbo Ireland and became one of Fairfield's noted citizens, who fought through and was an officer in the American army in the Revolutionary war, and was unanimously elected by the court in 1798 as sheriff of Fairfield, and who died at his house, the "Old Stone House" in Fairfield May 7, 1837, aged 85 years. It was upon the invitation of Capt. Hugh Milling, that his niece, Jane Milling Lauderdale and her husband, William Lauderdale and their children emigrated to America and settled in Fairfield.

After living three years on Capt. Hugh Milling's farm, William Lauderdale bought and moved to the farm owned by Zachariah Trapp, which lies back of the farm now owned by the heirs of James T. Lemmon on the east side of Little River.

William and Jane Milling Lauderdale were members of the old Jackson's Creek Rock Presbyterian Church, and are buried in the old cemetery there. This old church was abandoned years ago, its successor being Lebanon Presbyterian Church. William Lauderdale died Sept. 11, 1835, and Jane died Aug. 20, 1827. William had a strong literary taste and love for books. Dr. David Lauderdale writes this of his mother, Jane Milling Lauderdale: "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. I have often been impressed with the conviction that the protracted lives of three of her children out of four, who came to this country and who have been blessed with long life and surrounded by comforts, is a realization of the words of the Psalmist: "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

William and Jane Milling Lauderdale brought with them to Fairfield some Irish broom, a part of old Ireland. This they planted, and it is still growing at the homes of their grandchildren, John and James Lemmon, Sr., homes where Misses Janie and Belle and Lillie Lemmon now live.

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(The four children of William and Jane Milling Lauderdale:
William, and Mary Ann, and Thomas, and David.)
1. William was born Jan. 20, 1808. He went from Fairfield to Texas
and lived there and died near Prairieville, Texas Aug. 1869.
11. Mary Ann was born Dec. 3, 1801. Married James Lemmon, Sr., who
was also born in county Down, Ireland in 1797. He emigrated to Fair-
field Co., S.C. and was a large land owner.) He 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.) (See History
of the Lemmon family for write up of this couple and their descendants)

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

111. Thomas Lauderdale was born Jan. 20, 1793. Died 1881, aged 88 years. The Fairfield News and Herald of that date says: "Thus has passed away one of the most prominent landmarks of Fairfield. Mr. Lauderdale was successful in business, and became one of the staunch citizens of our county". For more than 70 years he was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church. For some 50 years up till his death he was a ruling elder in Salem Presbyterian Church. He married Miss Mary McMullen, who like himself was of Scotch descent. He was a farmer and owned a large farm and dwelling on Pocomo Branch where they lived. They had no children. His wife died June 30, 1866, age 75 years. He then made his home the rest of his life with his nephew by marriage, Dr. W. K. Turner who married Miss Elizabeth Lemmon. He preserved his faculties unimpaired until the time of his death. He was eminently pious, a life member of the American Bible Society, and an earnest student of the Bible. At the time of his death he had nearly concluded reading the Bible through 113 times, besides having read through Scott's Commentary on the Bible which is in 5 large volumes, nearly 113 times. He owned and read many other books, chiefly of a religious nature such as "Calvin's Institutes", and "Danbighes History of the Protestant Reformation." He and his wife are buried in old Jackson's Creek cemetery.)

He was a close friend of the scholarly minister Rev. James Boyce, D.D., then pastor of New Hope A.R.P. Church, and later professor in Eskins Theological Seminary, editor of "The Christian Magazine of the South," and associate editor of "The A. R. Presbyterian".

Henry Johnson, colored, whose people were owned by the Lemmons before the Civil War, said that when "Uncle Tommy", as he was fondly called by relatives and friends alike, would visit the Lemmons; he would often go off alone into the woods and spend many hours in prayer and reading God's Word.

David R. Coleman, who served as elder in old Salem Church with, "Uncle Tommy" said that Uncle Tommy was always in his place in the Lord's house on the Sabbath day; that he always sat in the same place, the "Amen Corner", and would rest his bald head against the wall; and that years after Uncle Tommy died, you could go to the old Church and see on the wall the mark that he left.

Back in those days elders in the church took their duties seriously. The old minutes of the Salem session show that Uncle Tommy was faithful as an elder in attending; and that many of these meetings were taken up in trying and disciplining church members for conduct considered by the session as unbecoming.

William J. Lemmon, grandnephew of Uncle Tommy, says that it seemed to him, he was a boy then, that Uncle Tommy's public prayers at Church and his prayers in the home around the family altar were over 20 minutes long.

Uncle Tommy, as did the other Church elders in those days, visited the homes of the church members and there read prayer with the families, and catechised the children in the Shorter Catechism, Russell Milling, a relative of Uncle Tommy's and who when not over 15 years old ran off from school, joined the Confederate army and had his legs shot off in

battle, was a very mischievous lad. Often he was at the home of John Montgomery Lemmon, when Uncle Tommy would come, and would call all the children in to question them in the catechism, Uncle Tommy was then old and deaf. He would ask a question, and, all unseen by him, "Russ" would have the catechism open at his side. "Wait, Uncle Tommy", he would say, "let me think." All the time he was turning the pages to the right answer, and would then read off perfectly answer after answer. Uncle Tommy was greatly pleased with Cousin Russ's proficiency in the catechism and would say "That's wonderful, Russ! Wonderful!"

IV. (Dr. David Lauderdale was born Dec. 18, 1805. He died at Winnsboro Aug. 21, 1879. He practiced medicine in Alabama and possibly in Mississippi, and then up to his death at Winnsboro, S. C. He owned 1,929 acres of land in Alabama and Mississippi, the deeds to which bear the signatures of Presidents Andrew Jackson and Martin VanBuren. These show that his place of residence, when in Alabama was Dallas and Perry Counties. Moving back to Fairfield from Alabama he married June 8, 1832 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 also of Scotch Descent, and was a millster before her marriage to George Russell. Mrs. Jane Russell Lemmon with her first husband Montgomery Lemmon, emigrated from Ireland, landing at Charleston, S. C. Jan. 2, 1844 and settled at Winnsboro, and ran a large store there. This store established in 1844, and run continuously through today, is the oldest store in Winnsboro. It was run by Dr. and Mrs. David Lauderdale until their deaths, then by their sons, Thomas William and George Russell Lauderdale, and now by George Russell Lauderdale, the son of the latter.

Mrs. Jane Russell Lemmon Lauderdale died April 2, 1900. She and her husband Dr. David Lauderdale, were members of the A. R. Presbyterian Church at Winnsboro, and are buried in the A. R. P. cemetery there.)

Dr. David Lauderdale was well educated; had a keen mind was a writer of poetry, and was intensely fond of reading. In addition to his medical books, some of the many books he owned and read were: Footprints of the Creator, Nineveh and Its Remains, Chambers Cyclopedia of English Literature, Chambers miscellany of Entertaining Knowledge, Pickett's History of Alabama, Woodward's Reminiscences of Alabama, Butler's Analogy, Nelson on Infidelity, Pictorial Illustrations of the Holy Land, Ten years of a Preacher's Life by Milburn, Pastor's Sketches, Bacon's Essays, Strong's natural History, Irving's Sketch Book, essays by McCauley, The End by Cummings, and History of the Inquisition.

He was a stockholder in the South Carolina Railroad Company, and attended its meetings in Charleston.

When the Civil War broke out, being too old for active service in the army, he did all he could for the Confederacy by putting his life savings in Confederate bonds, all of which was swept away, and by rendering needed medical aid to the women and children left at Winnsboro and in Fairfield when most of the men of the County were in Virginia in Lee's army.

When Sherman's army came to Winnsboro, Dr. and Mrs. Lauderdale had sent some goods from their store to their relatives in the Country, the Lemmons, to hide these goods from "the Yankees". However, their large home and store, kitchen and smoke house, and nearly all their goods on Feb. 21, 1865 were burned to the ground including Dr. Lauderdale's fine medical and general library; and nearly all their other belongings were either burned or carried away by Sherman's soldiers. Dr. and Mrs. Lauderdale had come from Ireland with very meager financial resources, but by years of hard work and economy had accumulated wealth. And now in an hour it was swept away by the vandals of Sherman's army. They were left homeless and almost penniless. without any food for

her little children, Mrs. Lauderdale went out into the street and picked up, grains of corn, unintentionally dropped in the dust and dirt by Sherman's soldiers; and she cooked it to save her little ones from starvation.

Dr. Lauderdale had to hide from Sherman's invaders to save his life or to save himself from being taken prisoner by the northern soldiers. William J. Lemmon says that the father of Mrs. Kate Milling Macfie was found by the Northern soldiers, and was hung up by them as were many other Southerners. William J. Lemmon tells of a skirmish between Wheeler's men, who were stationed at John M. Lemmon's, a nephew of Dr. Lauderdale, and some of the Northern soldiers who had gotten across Little River by tearing up the floor of the old Brick A. R. Church and making of it a bridge across the river. The Northerners were driven back. Some of Wheeler's soldiers were wounded; and Dr. Lauderdale and his niece by marriage, Mrs. John M. Lemmon, whose husband was away in Wheeler's cavalry, dressed their wounds. Finding this out the Northern soldiers were so enraged they would doubtless have killed Dr. Lauderdale could they have found him. They burned Mr. Lemmon's barn, and gin, and some 50 or 60 bales of Cotton took away or killed all his mules, all his cows, and everything they could find. Mrs. Lemmon unafraid appealed to the northern officer to spare the home, the beautiful old colonial home now owned by Misses Janie and Belle Lemmon, and strange to say he did so. How she did it I don't know, but after the "Yankees" left, Mrs. Lemmon planted some cotton and made a bale which she sold for \$1.00 per pound.

When the Northern soldiers were looting the Lauderdale store at Winnsboro, before they burned it; and Mrs. Lauderdale saw them openly robbing her of her hard-earned goods; it "got her Irish up." She seized a tobacco box and came down with all her might with it upon the head of one of the robbers. She attacked this "Yankee" at the risk of her life. She had no human protection. Had he become enraged and killed her nothing would have been done about it. But evidently because of his own conscience condemning him for his robbing a helpless woman, or because of his admiration of her heroism, he left her unmolested.

She was a member of "The Ladies' Relief Association of Fairfield" which functioned during the Civil War. These Ladies knit socks and made other clothes for the Confederate soldiers, as gifts of their love and patriotism. (See "S. C. Women of the Confederacy," page 36, etc., written by Mrs. A. J. Smythe ^{and others;} this ch. written by Mrs. R. E. Ellison of Winnsboro.)