

Slaves from the Peay Plantation Daddy George

He was an old butler who had served the generation before, was the oldest man servant and was chief of all about the mansion. He moved with great dignity and ease. His manner was founded upon the best society in which the family moved. He was an authority on table etiquette and had the privilege of teaching the small children manners. He had young servants under him in training, but he reserved for himself the duty of receiving guests. Maum Nannie, his wife was the nurse. She had the love and confidence of every member in the family.

There was one servant whose only duty was to open and close windows. Another was the fly brush. The Coachman was a most important person. He had hostlers under him who cared for the horses and hitched them to the carriage, for he must keep himself immaculate and not have any stable odors about him when he took the mistress's and the young ladies out.

He sat on the high seat dressed in livery, proudly holding the reins. The footman sat by him. His duties were to open and close the doors and place the footstool. On long trips there were out riders who repaired harness or any mishap.

The Coachman also taught the young boys in the family to ride and in this he took great pride.

A History of Fairfield County
by Fitz Hugh McMaster