

NORTH OF THE BROAD RIVER

The Land and the People

Volume 2

Buford S. Chappell, M.D.

North of the Broad River

The Rawls, Powell, Woodward and May Families on Little Cedar Creek.

On Saturday, September 3, 1825, Samuel and Charlottè Rawls were received by experience into the Twenty-Five Mile Creek Baptist Church (later Sandy Level), and they were baptized on September 11, 1825. Malachi Rawls was received by experience into this church on Saturday, February 3, 1826, and was baptized on February 10, 1826. John Rawls was received on Friday, September 29, 1826, and was baptized on the following day. Samuel Rawls asked for letters of dismissal on February 4, 1827. Sarah Rawls was received into this church June 2, 1827, and was baptized on the following day. Elizabeth Rawls was received by experience on October 5, 1827, and baptized the following day. 20
The listing of the Rawls joining Twenty-Five Mile Church serves to identify several members of the family, where they lived, and the generally the time that they lived as adults.

THE POWELLS

There is no certain record of where, or when, the first Powells came to Fairfield County, or settled on, or near, Little Cedar Creek. On September 30, 1794, William Powell and his wife Mary sold John Finley 150 acres of land for 100 pounds, sterling. This land lay north of Broad River, on Buckhorn Branch, and was the southern half of 300 acres of land that had been granted Thomas Williams on August 13, 1756. Thomas Williams sold this land to William Witherspoon on January 14, 1758, and he sold the southern half to Thomas Sing-or Ling- and his wife Martha, and they, in turn, sold this

20- M.S. Minutes, Twenty-Five Mile Creek (Sandy Level) Baptist Church,
South Caroliniana Library.

North of the Broad River

The Rawls, Powell, Woodward and May Families on Little Cedar Creek

tract of 150 acres to John and William Powell on January 15, 1761. William died intestate and apparently without wife and children. His oldest brother and heir-at-law, John Powell, inherited the land. John Powell died without a will and his oldest son William inherited the land. Adam and Jacob Free, and Phil Pearson witnessed the sale of the land to John Finley. ²¹

John and Mary Powell sold James Phillips 100 acres of land on the Middle Fork of Beaver Creek, Fairfield County, for 200 pounds current money, on September 25, 1785. At the time of the original survey, this land was bound on the north by the lands of Jacob Barker. ²²

William Powell, presumably the son of John Powell who had died prior to September 30, 1794, died intestate in Fairfield District just prior to July 3, 1803, the date upon which Mary Powell, John Finley, and Thomas Powell signed the administrative bond for the widow Mary Powell. The heirs were not listed. Jacob Free, Isham Dansby, and Thomas Powell appraised the estate on August 13, 1803. ²³ Later land transactions named William Powell's sons Baxter and James.

The 1790 census showed William Powell as living in Fairfield County with two white, free males over sixteen years of age, one under sixteen, and two white, free females in his household. Baxter Powell, eldest son of William Powell, sold his younger brother James 250 acres of land for 50 pounds on May 13, 1802. William Powell had survey for 150 acres of land that on resurvey

21- F.D.B, Bk I, P-228, 1794.

22- Ibid, Bk. A, P-102, 1785.

23- F.P.C., Apt. 27, file 400, 1803.

North of the Broad River

The Rawls, Powell, Woodward and May Families on Little Cedar Creek

showed 355 acres. Baxter Powell inherited this land and out of it sold his brother James the 250 acres. James Powell sold his 250 acres of land to Charles Montgomery for 100 pounds, sterling, on January 4, 1804.²⁴

Mary Powell, presumably the widow of William Powell, gave James Davis a mortgage, November 26, 1804, on all her household goods, furniture, a dark bay mare, a cow and calf, two feather beds, and her dowry rights on a piece of land leading down to Strother's Ferry, to cover the sum of \$55.23. Baxter Powell was a witness.²⁵

THOMAS POWELL died intestate in Fairfield District sometime prior to January 25, 1819, the date his wife Mary applied for letters of administration. The distribution of his property took place on February 19, 1819, and the following heirs were named: the widow Mary, William Powell, Joseph Powell, Thomas Powell, James Powell, and Melinda Powell.²⁶

Thomas Powell sold the widow Gracey Wood 173 acres of land for \$400 in 1810 or 1811. Of this land, 100 acres had been granted to Elizabeth Shirer and was bound on the east by Isham Dansby, north on Francis Palmer, west on Ballard Day, and south on Phillip Pearson. The 73 acres was bound southeast on Thomas Willingham, southwest on Isham Dansby Sr., west on Elizabeth Shirer, and north on Paul Porcher. Nancy Powell signed a release of her dower.²⁷

CALEB POWELL lived across the district from Thomas, William and John Powell. They lived on Broad River and Caleb Powell lived on, or near, Little

24- F.D.B., Bk.O, Pp-219, 411.

25- Ibid. Bk.P., P-151, 104.

26-F.P.C. Apt. 28, file 418, 1819.

27-F.D.B., Bk. T, P-303, 1811.

North of Broad River

The Rawls, Powell, Woodward and May Families on Little Cedar Creek

Cedar Creek. Caleb Powell died sometime prior to January 28, 1828, the date his will was proven. To his wife Dorcas, he left, in lieu of dowry, the home place and home, and the slaves Minza (boy) and Sarah. After his wife's death, the land to go to her daughter Rebecca Stanton, and the slaves to go to her son Caleb. He left Caleb 50 acres of land south of the home place and the slaves George and Hannah. Hannah to go his son John after the death of his wife Dorcas. The Waggon (sic) and blacksmith tools to go to his son Caleb. He left his son Aaron the slave Chancy; to his daughter Tabitha Broom he left the slave Tena; to his daughter Rebecca Stanton, he left the slave Toney and his wife Minda, and daughter Beck. Beck to go to his granddaughter Martha E. Stanton after the death of Rebecca Stanton; to his daughter Jane Mitchell, left the slave Marma; to his son Jacob, he left the slave Jack; his son John to have the slave named Tom. His daughter Mary Miles was dead; to her son John Miles some land in lieu of anything else to his grandchildren, the children of Benjamin Miles and his deceased daughter Mary Miles. He named his friend William Strother and his son-in-law Charles Broom as executors. William Strother, Jonathan Stanton, Henry Laws and Rebecca Laws witnessed the will

28

The family of Caleb Powell Sr.: Wife Dorcas; sons, Caleb Jr, John, Jacob, Aaron Powell; daughters, Rebecca Stanton (wife of Jonathan Stanton?), Tabitha Broom (wife of Charles Broom), Jane Mitchell, Mary Miles (deceased, wife of Benjamin Miles)

DORCAS POWELL made her will seven years after the death of her husband Caleb Powell Sr. To her daughter Tabitha Broom, she left three feather beds,

North of the Broad River

The Rawls, Powell, Woodward and May Families on Little Cedar Creek

a trunk, some furniture, and all of her wearing apparel. To her granddaughter Dorcas Broom, she left her sidesaddle; her son Caleb to have the residue of her property. John Stanton was made her executor. Her will was proven on
29
December 21, 1835.

Caleb Powell Sr. was quite active and quite wealthy. The 1790 census showed one white, free male over sixteen years of age, four under sixteen, and one white, free female in his household. There were no slaves.

John Bagwell and his wife Rachel, Fairfield County, sold Caleb Powell 131 acres of land for 50 pounds, lawful money in November 1795. This land had been originally granted to Richard Yarborough and lay on Cedar Creek.
30
Thomas Hill, Jesse Sibley and Jacob Summerland witnessed the sale.

Jesse Sibley sold Caleb Powell 58 acres of land, actually already in the possession of Caleb Powell, for 55 pounds, lawful money, on November 11, 1795. This land lay on Rocky Branch of Cedar Creek, and was bound by the lands
31
of Luke Rawls, Elisha Haygood and Benjamin Owens.

On March 3, 1798, Caleb Powell sold William Strother this same 58 acres of land, that he had bought from Jesse Sibley, for \$58. On this same date William Strother sold, or traded, Caleb Powell 58 acres of land that was
32
part of 414 acres that had been granted Luke Rawls in 1786.

Leonard Miles, planter of Fairfield County, sold Caleb Powell 100 acres of land on a dry branch of Little Cedar Creek for 20 pounds, sterling, on

29- F.P.C, Apt. 62, file 250, 1835.

30- F.D.B, Bk.K, P-389, 1795.

31- Ibid, Bk.L, P-235, 1795.

32- Ibid, Bk.L, P-228, 1798.

North of the Broad River

The Rawls, Powell, Woodward and May Families of Little Cedar Creek

February 7, 1798. This land was part of the 414 acres that had been granted to Luke Rawls on April 3, 1786. Mary, wife of Leonard Miles signed the
33
release of her dower.

William Miles sold Caleb Powell 25 acres of land on Rocky and Dry Branches of Little Cedar Creek for \$50 on February 3, 1804. This land was part of 390 acres granted Daniel Faust. Barnaby McKinley Pope and William
34
Strother witnessed the sale.

The tax returns for 1822 showed Caleb Powell Sr. as the owner of 214
35
acres of land and 10 slaves.

CALEB POWELL JR. bought 42½ acres of land from Mary and Lee Arick, Fairfield District on May 17, 1826. The land lay on Sibley Branch and other drains of Cedar Creek, and was part of 640 acres of land granted John Arick. The 42½ acres of land was included in 84½ acres of land that Caleb Powell Jr. sold John Laws for \$388.60 on February 24, 1836. The rest of the 84½ acres made up out of land that had been granted John Copeland
36
(Copeland?)

Caleb Powell Jr. sold George Simpson 10½ acres of land for \$42 on September 17, 1836. The land lay on Little Cedar Creek and was bound by the
37
lands of George Simpson and George Murphy.

Caleb Powell Jr. according to the 1822 tax returns owned 258 acres of
38
land but no slaves.

33- F.D.B., Bk N, P-7, 1798.

34- Ibid., Bk AA, P-138, 1804.

35- Tax Returns for 1822.

36- F.D.B., Bk.HH, P-51, 1826; Bk.MM, P-221, 1836.

37- Ibid., Bk.NN, P-76, 1838.

38- Tax Returns for 1822.

North of the Broad River

The Rawls, Powells, Woodward and May Families on Little Cedar Creek

JACOB POWELL ,son of Caleb Powell Sr., bought a nine year old gray mare
39
from George Swett for \$94.25 on April 22,1805.

Jacob Powell and his wife Eliza(Elizabeth) sold Madan A.M. Leggo 100
acres of land for \$304 on September 23,1818. This was part of the 414 acres
that had been granted to Luke Rawls: bound northeast on the land of Roling
Williamson, northwest by the land of William Strother, south by land of William
Cloud, and lay on Little Cedar Creek. Thomas Keith and Tyrus D.Bell witnessed
40
the sale.

AARON POWELL ,son of Caleb Powell Sr., had six white,free persons in
his household according to 1829 census. According to the 1822 tax returns,
41
he was the owner of one slave but no land

Mary Walker, of Fairfield District,on March 4,1824, for the love and
affection that she had for her sons-in-law,Aaron Powell and John Shed(Shedd),
and for \$25 paid her,left them the slaves Gracey and Jack, to be inherited
42
after her death.

The widow Mary Powell, John Shedd and his wife Jemima, sold Aaron
Powell their one-third part in the real estate of Henry Walker(deceased) for
\$275 in 1824. This real estae was made up out of 50 acres of land originally
granted Michael Kinsel(Kinsler?) in 1784, an adjoining 50 acres that was part
of 400 acres of land originally granted to Thomas Franklin on February 28,
1775,and an adjoining 42 acres of land granted Henry Walker on August 2,1802.

39- F.D.B.,Bk.Q,P-10,1805.

40- Ibid, Bk.AA,P-14,1818.

41- McMaster,History Fairfield County, P-182. Tax Retrurns for 1822.

42- F.D.B., Bk EE,P-359,1824.