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GENERAL RICHARD WINN'S NOTES—1780

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*Tennessee Historical Commission*

All too few of the Southern officers of the Revolutionary Army left memoirs, or even memoranda, of their activities in the struggle for independence. One such about twenty years after the war's close did reduce to writing his "Notes" on one year's contests—those in Upper South Carolina in the crucial year of 1780. Those engagements, while on a comparatively small scale, were of great importance in that they seriously embarrassed and impeded Lord Cornwallis in his attempt to invade North Carolina and Virginia before the Americans could consolidate and strike adequate counter blows. To his memoirs General Winn gave the same caption as the one appearing above. He continued in the struggle until the war ended, and it is regrettable that he did not treat of events that happened in 1781-1782.

No sketch of Winn is here attempted. A brief one by Anne King Gregorie appears in the great *Dictionary of American Biography*; and a full-length sketch by the present writer has just appeared in the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Vol. I, No. 1. In the preparation of the latter account, Winn's "Notes" were uncovered in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. There they had remained unused by any historian. This, doubtless, is to be accounted for by the fact that the document was misfiled in the "Georgia Collection" instead of among the South Carolina documentary material.

The "Notes" are in the beautiful script of General Winn. The spelling has been followed. He, like Thomas Jefferson and others of the period, did not use capital letters in the beginnings of sentences. For the sake of readability and clarity, a change in this respect has been made, as, also, in the punctuation at places.

The writer considers the "Notes" a valuable contribution to the history of the Revolution in the South. Winn as a soldier was methodical and devoted, and at times he was brilliant in strategy. His career in civil life was one of real distinction and unusually varied: Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Southern Department, congressman, and lieutenant-governor of his state.

The Notes

May 12th 1780. Charleston fell. May 29th '80. Col. Buford cut to pieces.<sup>1</sup> About the middle of June the British took a strong post at Shiroes Ferry, on the east side of Broad River opposite to the Dutch Fork, and the inhabitants summoned to come and take the oath of allegiance to the King and those that did not was treated as enemies. Capt. Richard Winn, living in that part of the country and finding that the enemy was fast advancing and that he could not raise one single person to oppose them, set out himself for the New Acquisition to see if he could not raise men by the help of Cols. Lacey, Bratton and Nelson. In the course of the day they collected 100 militia and immediately marched for Gipson's Meeting House in Moberleys settlement<sup>2</sup> where we found a large body of Tories strongly posted under the command of Col. Ch. Coleman. As Capt. Winn was well acquainted with the strength and situation of the place, it was left to him to bring on the attack and in a few minuits this body of Tories was drove from a strong house, which answered for a block house, and totally defeated with a small loss of killed and wounded. The Whig party lost nothing. This body of Tories two or three days before their defeat had plundered the Hamptons on the road of about thirty negroes, two or three wagons and teams and thirty valuable horses and a large quantity of household furniture, besides many other things. They also made prisoners of Capt. John and Henry Hampton, which, the day before the action, they sent under a strong guard to Camden, the British headquarters. Their property was recovered by us. This was the first fight after the reduction of Charleston. Gipson's Meeting House is twelve miles above Shiroes Ferry on the same side of the river the British was posted as first mentioned.

When Capt. Hampton got his release from Camden, he informed Winn [news of] this action got to Camden as soon as he and his brother did, and when they was taken before the British commander that Winn was grossly abused by him for the damnest ruffin and scoundrel that ever disgraced human beings. Immediately after this, set out for the Northward on foot, for the Tories had taken all his horses, with a determination to travel until he could meet men that he could depend on to fight. He had not got more than twelve miles when day came on; stopped at John Lee's, where he was well acquainted, tho this man was a well-wisher of the British.

<sup>1</sup> Col. Abraham Buford in marching his command towards Charleston was intercepted in the Waxhaw district and completely defeated by Lt. Col. Tarleton and his cavalry. It is said that Tarleton refused to give quarter to the Americans after they had laid down their arms. This British officer was feared and hated ever afterwards.

<sup>2</sup> This action is usually referred to as occurring at Moberley's Meeting House, but Gen. Winn knew the locality well and is more specific. A map of the battleground is in the Draper Collection, Madison, Wis., supplied by Joseph Johnson, of Charleston. The initiative is attributed to Winn.

*who is it appears K.W.'s writing about his experience of Capt. Hampton making his way from Camden to Charlotte*  
 GENERAL RICHARD WINN'S NOTES—1780 203

He gets this person out who informs him there were three hundred Tories just ahead. I then told him he must let me have a horse and pilot me into the Catawba Nation through the woods. He informed me he had but two horses, being plundered of the rest, but he immediately brought them up and let me have one, and we in a few minuits set out for the Nation. The next day arrived at General Rutherford's<sup>3</sup> [camp] near Charlotte in No. Carolina where I found forty-four So. Carolinians in the same situation of myself. We got together and held a consultation. Notwithstanding the smallness of our number, it was unanimously agreed on to oppose the British and Tories under expectation when the panick of the people was over many would join us. The next question rose, who should command. Capt R. Winn was chosen without a dissenting voice. Capt. Winn observed that Col. Sumter was on the ground, an old experienced officer; he surely was the most proper person to take the command. For the moment this was objected to; however, it was agreed that Col. Patton and Capt. Winn should without delay consult the Colonel on the subject. After some conversation and explanation, Col. Sumter accepted the nomination, and the next day set out with his party on horseback and made a forced march to reinforce Col. Lock<sup>4</sup> in order to attack a body of about 1000 Tories who had collected at Ramsower's Mill<sup>5</sup> in No. Carolina under their leader Colo. Moore.<sup>6</sup> However, Col. Sumter did not arrive until the action was over, but was so near as to be in hearing of the guns. Moore had selected (notwithstanding his defeat by a handfull of men) as fine a piece of ground for defence as could be chosen: on his rear the river and hills, on his right an open plantation with a high fence, on the left very steep, the hills full of trees and clear of undergrowth. The death of Capt. Falls in this action was greatly lamented; he was a brave, daring officer. This action was fought some time in the last of June, 1780. This same Col. Moore after his defeat, absent a year, was taken up as a spy in So. Carolina, tried as such and convicted and hung ten miles below Granby, on the Congaree River. At the same time another person by the name of Fonderson was condemed also, but pardoned under the galloes by order of General William Henderson. After the battle of Ramsower Col. Sumter with his party set out for Charlotte and encamped that night in a few miles of the battleground. A small party of Georgians had joined him. Among them was

*gathered near Charlotte with 44 So. partners  
 elected + Capt. the  
 refers to  
 TS*

*Ramsow Mill fought in late June 1780*

<sup>3</sup> Brig. Gen. Griffith Rutherford of the Salisbury, N. C., district forces. After the war was over, he removed to Tennessee.

<sup>4</sup> Francis Locke, of Rowan County, N. C. North Carolinians claim that he was "the hero of the battle of Ramsour's Mill."

<sup>5</sup> Ramsour's or Ramseur's. The place of the battle was near present-day Lincoln, N. C.

<sup>6</sup> Col. John Moore of North Carolina.

*ret. John Hampton?*

a man by the name of Paddy Carr.<sup>7</sup> After he had taken up camp, this same Paddy and another man went to a house about one or two miles off, inquired of the man of the house if he had not joined Col. Moore. Answer, yes; but that he, after being made prisoner, was set at liberty by General Rutherford and had just got home to his wife and children. By this time it became duskish. Paddy inquired the way to camp; the man told him the path forked in half a mile, and you take such a hand. Carr tells him, you must get up behind me and show me the path I must take. He did so. When they came to the forks the man jumped off and told him this is your path; then Paddy, Judas like, shot him dead on the spot. On the story being related to Capt. Winn by the man who was with him, I ordered Carr to be delivered over to the civil magistrates, which was accordingly done. But he was found in camp next morning.

Col. Sumter after this took post on Clem's Branch fourteen miles below Charlottee in the neighbourhood of New Providence. About the seventh or eighth of July, being informed that a body of British was on their march from Camden towards the Waxhaws, went with his whole force to meet them. But after passing the Waxhaws, finding the information not correct, retreated, and on consulting his officers, both officers and men was disbanded for a few days to recrute. By this time Capt. Winn began to rank as a colonel<sup>8</sup> tho, with his party, [he had] filled every station from a private up, well knowing the situation of his country.

When Sumter disbanded his men, Winn and Charles Mills, then a lieutenant, was the first to reach the Catawba old nation ford on the east side, and being informed that a considerable force of British horse and Tories had this day, the 11th July '80, passed up on the other side of the river on their way to Hill's Iron Works and knowing that most of the officers and men would pass this way, determined to stop and see if they could get as many men as would fight Huck<sup>9</sup> and his party. Both officers and men

<sup>7</sup> For an interesting account of the noted and reckless Patrick (Paddy) Carr, see L. C. Draper, *King's Mountain and Its Heroes* (New York, 1929), pp. 125-126, 340.

<sup>8</sup> At Gipson's Meeting House Winn was a major. In referring to himself in his Notes he jumps his rank from captain to colonel, without mentioning his majority. In a note appended at the close of the Notes he states: "Shortly after the battle of Gipson's Meeting House, by the British and Tories Capt. Winn had all his houses burnt to the ground, and every negro plundered, together with every other property he possessed in the world. His wife was plundered of her clothes and she was drove off with two infant children. When this was made known to me, my answer was. It is no more than I expected."

<sup>9</sup> Really Huyck, pronounced Hook. Capt. Christian Huyck was originally in Lt. Col. Emmerich's corps of chaceurs (provincial forces). He had been sent out by Lt. Col. Turnbull from Rocky Mount with this order: "You are hereby ordered, with the cavalry under your command, to proceed to the frontiers of the Province, collecting all the loyal militia with you as you march, and with the said force to push the rebels

seemed loth to engage the horse as they had cut Buford's men to pieces so shortly before; but about 130 agreed to follow and try the business. (Col. Sumter had gone to No. Carolina.) And so we set out and marched all night. About two hours before day, stoped at John Price's, a respectable man, to gain information of Huck and his party, and was informed they had stopt there a little before night but had gone on to Col. Bratton's on the main road where I would find them. In this I was mistaken. I found them at Williams' plantation,<sup>10</sup> which adjoins Col. Bratton's. | Cols. Lacey, Hill and Bratton being present, it was agreed on as Winn had been in the regular service that he should take command and dispose of the men as he thought best. When we got in a mile of the enemy, it was then one hour to day brake. Here Col. Winn ordered the party to file off to the left of the road and dismount, and immediately had the whole paraded. Then Capt. Read, a bold, daring officer, was ordered to pick out twenty-five men and file off to the left of Col. Bratton's plantation and, as soon as the action began in front, he was to attack the enemy's rear and take all stragling parties. At the same time Capt. Read received his orders, the remaining part of the men commenced their march to bring on the action (being the 12th July). On coming to the fork of the road, was informed by two Tories in search of their horses that Col. Ferguson<sup>11</sup> with his party lay in the edge of a field which was in advance of the British horse about three hundred yards. Capt. Huck, who commanded, posted himself in a strong log house, two stories high, with his horses around him, prepared to mount in a moment if required. You must understand that when I took the two Tories I had halted a short time and sent Capt. McClure with his company round Williams' plantation to attack the enemy as soon as he heard the first firing. The sun was about to rise and notwithstanding I marched in 10 or 15 steps for at least 200 yards of Col. Ferguson's party, I was not discovered until they were fired on. Col. Ferguson and some of his men were killed the first onset; the rest run and chiefly left their horses tho sadled and ready to mount. Here we did not stop one minuit, but went on to commence an attack on the British horse

as far as you deem convenient." Gen. Winn added a note, at the close of his manuscript, in regard to Huyck: "This same Huck with his party had burnt Hill's Iron Works, and on their way burnt the meeting house of Rev'd Mr. Simpson who was at the head of a large Presbyterian congregation. The people in that quarter, Fishing Creek, immediately cried out they wanted no protection from such a set as burnt churches and the word of God. . . . The consequence of this was, Mr. Simpson and about eighty of his church took up arms and joined Sumter."

<sup>10</sup> Some writers name the plantation "Williamson's" but Gen. Winn repeatedly wrote it "William's plantation."

<sup>11</sup> Not to be confused with Lt. Col. Patrick Ferguson, of King's Mountain fame.

TS not at Huck's defeat. RW in co

July 7<sup>th</sup> '80

Winn's acct. Battle Bratton's Huck's def.

in a clear open old field. We was paraded in about one hundred yards from them. Capt. Huck, by the time he was mounted, was shot dead, with several of his men killed or wounded. Chiefest part of the rest run off; left behind them horses, saddles, pistols, &c. We was in full possession of the field in five minuits without the loss of a single man, either killed or wounded. As I am well convinced, the enemy during the action never fired a single gun. As they run by Capt. McClure<sup>12</sup> he gave them a fire but was not near enough to do them much damage. He had the misfortune to lose one man, being a little advanced before the rest was, I was informed, killed by one of his own party. And I do believe had I not lost the service of Capt. Read but few of the British or the Tories would have been able to have escaped. Lieut. Hunt of the British horse, in trying to escape on his horse received a wound and, finding that he could not get off, raised a flag and delivered himself up to me, a prisoner to Winn. The British had taken several of the Whig party, which was retaken by us. The enemies' loss, killed, wounded and prisoners, was considerable; besides, about one hundred horses, saddles, bridles, pistols, swords and many other things. After the close of the action, Col. Winn ordered the whole to be got together and divided among the officers and men, much to their satisfaction; but Winn did not take to himself a copper's worth of whole spoil. The day being extremely hot and dry, Col. Winn had as many of the wounded as could be found taken and put in a house. A list of the names of the wounded was taken. Lieut. Hunt gave his own parole and was also bound that the men should not take up arms during the war or untill exchanged, after Lieut. Hunt's applying and getting an order for three wagons to carry his wounded to Rocky Mount which was the nearest British post. Thus ended a glorious day for So. Carolina as it put what few men we had in high spirits, as many often told us they had rather fight the horse than the foot. I can say that on this day both officers and privates behaved brave in defence of their country.

This same Huck was one of those that cut Buford's men to pieces. Col. Winn, the night before the action at Williams', made prisoner of one Owens which was major to Col. Ferguson's Regiment of Tories, and took the Major on with him, which was a witness to Huck's defeat; and before he left the battleground gave Owens a parole and employed him as a spy without fee or reward to go to Rocky Mount, count the number of men and report the state and strength of the place and to meet him on such a day. All this Owens faithfully performed, which I reported to Gen'l Sumter.

As the laws of the State had subsided about this time, it was thought necessary to call a convention of the people, which met in or near the

<sup>12</sup> Capt. John McClure. He was wounded a few days later in the battle at Hanging Rock and died of his wounds on the 18th of August following.

Catawba Indian land. When the business of the meeting was opened it was thought necessary to chose a President, when Col. Richard Winn was called to the chair.

The first thing that was taken under consideration was the critical situation of the State; and here it was solemnly agreed on by the convention that they would support the laws, both civil and military, by every means in their power, and called upon the good people to aid them in this undertaking.

Secondly, that they would oppose the British and Tories by force of arms, which arms was never to be laid down untill the British troops was drove from the State of So. Carolina and the independence of the United States acknowledged. It was then moved and seconded that Col. Thomas Sumter<sup>13</sup> should be appointed a brigadier-general and that the President be directed to make out a commission to that effect and sign the same in due form, which was accordingly so done by R. Winn, Pres't.

Several other officers being promoted, moved, seconded and agreed to. That all such persons as would oppose the common enemy under the command of Gen'l Sumter should enlist for six weeks under proper officers, sign an attestation and take an oath for their faithful performance of the office. (In a few days Gen'l Sumter found himself at the head of four or five hundred men.)

Moved, seconded and agreed to that all property of the enemy taken in the field of battle or elsewhere shall be divided among the officers and men who shall serve as above, but it shall be clearly understood that no such property shall be divided until first condemned by three commissioners, which is hereby appointed for that purpose, which said commissioners shall keep books and make regular entries of the property as aforesaid.

The people then directed the President to adjourn their convention (to meet again.)

Owens, who was a major in the Royal Militia, reported that Col. Turnbull commanded at Rocky Mount and had about 300 men and was posted in a strong blockhouse, two stories high, properly prepared for defence, with abattis. This information I got about the 20th July. Gen'l Sumter was still in No. Carolina. On my communicating this information to him, he returned to the State and marched with his force to Landsford on the west side of Catawba River, 18 miles above the Mount. Here a council was held by the officers and finally it was determined to make an attack on Rocky Mount on Sunday, 31st July. Accordingly, we left our encampment the evening before and marched all night and at day was ready for action; and should have completely surprised the place had it not been for a Tory

<sup>13</sup> Anne King Gregorie, *Thomas Sumter* (Columbia, 1931) is an exhaustive treatment of this excellent officer's life.

*RW admits of the plunder of the spoils following Huck's defeat*

*Winn  
I wonder if SW was one of these officers*

*RW's acct. of the election of TS as Brig. Gen.*



colony by the name of Black, with about 100 Tory militia, from Broad River to reinforce the Mount. They, getting to the place late, encamped out with intention of going on early in the morning. These people we had no knowledge of until we were among them. Winn, being in advance, gave them a fire and they ran and left many of their horses and cloathing. This gave the alarm to the Mount. However, in a few minuits the place was attacked. Colonels Winn and Neil,<sup>14</sup> marched up in front of the abbattis and sustained a heavy fire for some time from the blockhouse, which was returned. Here Col. Neil was killed, Col. Winn, being in a clear old field and finding his men much exposed, ordered a retirement for a small distance. In the meantime, Cols. Bratton, Lacey and Hill attacked the enemy to the right, but Gen'l Sumter, finding that nothing could be done, thought it best to refresh his men for a short time and bring on the attack from another quarter by marching round the place. And under the cover of large rocks he got with his whole in about 50 yards of the blockhouse. From this point the enemy was prevented from firing on us as they dare not come to their port holes. It was here Gen'l Sumter directed Col. Winn to demand a surrender of the place:

Summons.—31st July, 1780.

Sir: I am directed by Gen'l Sumter to demand a surrender of Rocky Mount. therefore, you will surrender this place with the men, &c., under your command, which will be considered as prisoners of war.

R. Winn.

To this, Col. Turnbull<sup>15</sup> required that hostilities should cease for one hour for consideration. Granted. Meantime, returned the following answer:

Sir: I have considered your summons and return for answer, that duty and inclination induce me to defend this place to the last extremity.

31st July, 1780.

Turnbull, Colo. Command't

In consequence of this, Sumter commenced a heavy fire on the house, having nothing but small arms, which could make little or no impression on the building. Notwithstanding, this place would shortly fall into our hands, as the house could have been easily set on fire had it not been for the powerful rains that fell one after another. As we had failed in all our efforts to reduce the place, Gen'l Sumter in the evening retreated about 8

<sup>14</sup> It is regrettable that Col. Neil's full name was not given by Winn. Wheeler in his *Historical Sketches of North Carolina* (Philadelphia, 1851) wrote: "Andrew Neal of South Carolina."

<sup>15</sup> George Turnbull was a seasoned soldier; he had served in America during the French and Indian War. He was now lieutenant-colonel of the Loyal New York Volunteers.

miles on the road leading to Landsford. The rains continued to fall in great abundance.

August 1st, Col. Winn with 100 men returned to Rocky Mount and fell down below on the main road leading to Camden; fell in with a body of Tories he shortly dispersed, making several prisoners and releasing some of our men, one or two of which was to be hung the next day at the Mount; then returned to camp.

On Tuesday, the 2nd of August, Rocky Mount got a reinforcement from Hanging Rock of eight hundred men and two field pieces. Gen'l Sumter could not move from his encampment until the 3rd on account of high water in Rocky Creek. This day at eleven o'clock he crossed the creek and halted. The men turned out their horses and scattered about in search of roasting ears and green peaches, for this in fact was the most we could get to eat. In this situation, the first thing we knew the enemy to the number of eight or nine hundred men and two pieces of artillery was in a mile of our rear. Col. Winn immediately called out for one hundred men and officers that could first get their horses to join him with intention to hang on the enemy until Gen'l Sumter could move off. Col. Winn halting the enemy often gave time for the General to make his retreat good. Col. Winn kept two men ahead of him to watch and give notice of the enemy's motions. One of these men was a Capt. Coleman from Midway in Georgia, the other by the name of Stroud of this place. These two men ventured too near the British; both were made prisoners, stript naked and immediately hung up by the side of the road. Col. Winn, finding the enemy on retreat back to the Mount, persued without delay. Gen'l Sumter at night took possession of his old encampment near Landsford.

The day after the battle at Rocky Mount Col. Harthorn [Hawthorn] was sent with a flag to bury Col. Neil. He says that from the best information he could gain the enemy's loss, killed and wounded, was twelve or fourteen men. We had one man wounded: Col. Neil was killed.

In finding the reinforcement sent from Hanging Rock still at Rocky Mount, it was finally determined by Gen'l Sumter and Col. Winn to attack the British at Hanging Rock, Sumter being reinforced by Maj'r Davie<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> The great North Carolina lawyer, soldier, and statesman. He became a brigadier-general in the Revolution, governor of North Carolina, and minister to France. William Richardson Davie was named for his uncle, Rev. William Richardson, who as a Presbyterian minister had been stationed as a missionary to the Overhill Cherokees at Fort Loudoun on Little Tennessee River in 1759. On leaving that mission he located in the Waxhaw district; and he left his estate to this nephew, the proceeds of which were used in organizing the battalion of cavalry which was in action at Hanging Rock. It was therefore fittingly in action in Upper South Carolina. On the uncle see S. C. Williams, *Dawn of the Tennessee Valley and Tennessee History* (Johnson City, 1937), ch. 18.

2 pa  
change  
by  
Tories

from Mecklinburgh in No. Carolina with two troops of horse. On Saturday the 6th of August, crossed at Landsford, Catawba River; marched all night; about two hours of daylight halted for the coming of two spies sent into the enemies' camp. Those men shortly arrived and reported they left the British camp at the middle of the night and their force did not exceed 300 men and that their reinforcement sent to Rocky Mount had not returned. Here a disposition was made of the men, 500 in number, 200 without guns. Col. Winn, supported by Maj'r Davie's horse, was to bring on the attack on the British; the rest of the men was divided into four parts and, commanded by Colonels Lacey, Bratton, Hill, and I think the other colonel was Harthorn or Moffet—say both, in this order. We marched up and dismounted, and left the men without arms to care for the horses, but if we drove the enemy they were to follow us and take the arms of the killed and wounded and to join their respective commands, which was obeyed. It was now fully light, near sunrise. At this place we took two Tories. They informed us that the reinforcements sent to Rocky Mount had returned between twelve and one at night; and on this, Gen'l Sumter and the field officers being present, a council was held for a few minuits. The officers divided, some for fighting, others for retreating. As no officer was willing to be outdone by the others in bravery, the action immediately commenced.

Gen'l Sumter with the main body wheeled to the left, Col. Winn with his command to the right to attack the Prince of Whales [Wales] Regiment; but his pilot, not knowing where Col. Brian's [Bryan's]<sup>17</sup> Regiment was posted which was composed of about 500 men, Winn with his party was within thirty steps of them before they was discovered by Maj'r Davie who was in front. He was ordered<sup>18</sup> to move on and make room for

<sup>17</sup> Col. Samuel Bryan of the upper Yadkin country in North Carolina, where he embodied many Tories in a command to which was given the high-sounding title: "North Carolina Royal Militia." Towards the end of the war he was captured and sentenced to death, but for reasons of policy in the matter of exchange of prisoners of war he was never hung. This nest of Tories was most pestiferous from the early stages of the war.

<sup>18</sup> In Davie's own account of the battle of Hanging Rock, he does not even hint that he was under the immediate command of Col. Winn. Indeed, the only reference to Winn is that "Major" Winn, of South Carolina, was wounded in the action. He even degraded Sumter to "colonel" in the battle. There can be no doubt that Maj. Davie played an efficient part in the action, but one cannot read his account without being impressed that he gave himself over-credit, and without giving any to his immediate superior in rank and actual commander, Winn. A comparison with the account of Winn, in this regard, must be in favor of the Colonel. Davie's account, from a manuscript left by him, appears in Wheeler's *Historical Sketches of North Carolina*, p. 194 *et seq.* To give only one example: Davie wrote that he himself "led the column on the right composed of his own corps . . . and some detached companies of South Carolina refugees." The South Carolina troops were not "refugees." They were fighting on the soil of their own state and under their own Gen. Sumter.

the foot. Here we received a most tremendous fire from Brian. The enemy, being on the top of a high hill, overshot us; and, before they could load again, Winn's party was ordered to put up the Indian hollo<sup>19</sup> and rush up the hill before they discharged their pieces. This took place in an instant. At the same time the horse was ordered to charge. Brian's men gave way immediately, after suffering much damage in killed and wounded. Notwithstanding so heavy a fire from the enemy, here we lost but one man killed and two wounded. By this time Gen'l Sumter got to the ground he ment to take, and as Brian's men went by him he gave them a severe fire. I have been well informed that many were so frightened they never stopt until they got into Georgia. To return, Winn so soon as Brian gave way marched with his party to the British camp which we found in an open old field about half a mile from where Brian was posted. The British immediately commenced firing from behind some bush tents. Winn's men, according to custom, set up the Indian hallo, rushed and fired on their enemy as they went, with bullets in their mouths and powder in their pockets, and to load as they run up but by no means to take a tree even where trees was. The British at this place, finding such a charge made on them, retreated leaving behind them field pieces. This time Winn, hearing a considerable firing to his left, repaired to the place as quick as possible and came immediately on the back of the British, who a party of our own men were in action with. I directly ordered my men to commence firing as usual. The British, between two fires, gave way. Here I was an eye witness to the British taking trees to defend themselves. On hearing severe firing to my right, I ordered my men to repair to the place; this was a short time before the action. Eendeed here Col. Winn received a most dangerous wound, but never quit the field until Gen'l Sumter had gathered his men. And for victory three cheers was given by the true friends of America. This action commenced about the appearance of the sun Sunday, August seventh, and lasted until nine o'clock. The British force including Tories was, from the best information, about 1400; their loss, the Prince of Whail's Regiment almost destroyed,<sup>20</sup> the Tories totally defeated with a great loss of killed, wounded and prisoners, besides a vast quantity of arms, &c.,

<sup>19</sup> It seems certain that this "hollo" so frequently used by the American forces during the Revolutionary War was the "ancestor" of the celebrated Rebel "yell" so effectively used by Gen. Nathan B. Forrest and other Confederate generals in the War Between the States.

<sup>20</sup> Confirmation comes from a British historian of the war, Gordon, who says: "The Prince of Wales Regiment which defended the place was nearly annihilated, and the arms and ammunition taken from the British who fell were turned against their associates." It is said that just before he was wounded Winn remarked to Maj. Davie at his side: "Isn't this glorious!" His part in this battle marked the high-tide of his military career.

RW comments  
on British  
using trees  
for cover

RW wounded

Hanging  
Rock  
500 Tories  
vs.  
500 patriots  
at only  
200 patriots  
were armed

and 300 horses. The loss on the part of Gen'l Sumter was 40 killed and wounded. The American and British flags was hoisted on the 8th for each to bury their dead and take off the wounded.

I can safely say the fights at Williams', Huck's Defeat, Rocky Mount and Hanging Rock was great days in favor of the American cause, for the enemy, as soon as they could get away, evacuated Rocky Mount and Hanging Rock and put us in possession of the country from a few miles above Camden to Charlotte in North Carolina. The consequence was this: a number of good men from Waxhaws, as well as from other parts of the State, joined the American standard. N. B. The Maj'r Davie mentioned above is the same person afterwards sent as a minister to France.

*(To be continued)*

## MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM THE CITY GAZETTE OF CHARLESTON, S. C.

Contributed by ELIZABETH H. JERVEY

*(Continued from July)*

Married, in New-York, on the 29th ult. Mr. James Taylor Goodwin, of Columbia, S. C. to Miss Anna R. Sterry, of Providence, R. I.

Married, at Bergen, N. J. Mr. John Graham, of the New York Theatre, to Miss Catherine Ann Gray.

Hail Hymen! whom the Fates obey,  
Thy magic torch e'en Time beguiles  
For Catherine-Ann, no longer *gray*  
A bride, in youthful beauty smiles.

Died, on the evening of the 6th inst. the Right Rev. Theodore Dehon, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of South Carolina.

The Congregations of the Protestant Episcopal Churches, particularly that of St. Michael's, the Clergy of the City, and generally the Friends and Acquaintances of the late Right Rev. Theodore Dehon, D. D. Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of South Carolina, are invited to attend his Funeral This Morning, at eight o'clock from his late residence in Mazyckborough. In consequence of the warm season, the mournful procession will move precisely at the hour appointed.

The Friends and Acquaintances of Mr. and Mrs. Imrie, and of Broadfoot & McNeel, are invited to attend the Funeral of Mrs. Imrie, This Morning, at 8 o'clock precisely, from her late residence, No. 16, Lynchs lane. (Friday, August 8, 1817.)

Married, in Cambridge, Mass. on the 24th ult. by the Rev. Dr. Gardiner, Mr. Ebenezer Flagg, to Miss Margaret P. Belin, both of Charleston, S. C.

Died, in this city, on Thursday, Mr. George Andrews, of Great Britain, aged 29 years.

Died, yesterday morning, Mr. William Gerty, of Dublin, Ireland, aged 28 years. (Saturday, August 9, 1817.)

Died, in this city, on Thursday last, 7th inst. Mrs. Imbrie, and on the following day, her husband, Mr. W. Imbrie, both of the prevailing fever. They were natives of Scotland, and had been residents of this city for about 18 months past. They have left behind them two helpless Orphans. (Tuesday, August 12, 1817.)

Died, at Georgetown on the 7th inst. after a few days illness, in the fifty-



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THE SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 CHARLESTON, S. C.



GENERAL RICHARD WINN'S NOTES—1780

Edited by SAMUEL C. WILLIAMS

(Continued from October)

Winn not at Fishing Ck. bec. he is laid up with a wound.

TS just south of Charlotte on McAlpin's Ck. at 9/26/1780

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TS forms camp at Biggers Ferry on the Catawba

18th August. Colo. Tarleton defeats Gen'l Sumter at Fishing Creek by surprise, owing to the inattention of his patrols and rear guard, commanded by Maj'r Crofford. At this time Colo. Winn lay wounded above Charlotte. Gen'l Sumter calls to see the Colonel and after relating to him the occasion of the defeat says, "had you been there I should not have been defeated." At this time things looked very gloomy, Generals Gates and Sumter both defeated and their men dispersed. Notwithstanding this, Gen'l Sumter forms a camp just below Biggers Ferry on the Catawba River and begins to collect his men. A convention of the people is called. Colo. Winn, the president, advertised for the people to meet in convention in Gen'l Sumter's camp, on the 26th of September, 1780. On the day before, Colo. Winn arrives at the camp to preside in convention. At this time Gen'l Sumter lay with about one thousand men below Charlotte on McAlpin's Creek. Colo. Winn had not been in camp more than one hour when he received an express from Gen'l Sumner<sup>1</sup> that Cornwallis with the British army was fast advancing towards Charlotte and that he [Sumner] had begun to retreat before him. Gen'l Sumter not being present, it was natural for Winn to conclude the camp was in great danger and immediately ordered that the men should cross the river, which together with the baggage wagons was by sundown completed and strong guards placed at the ferry and ford. Winn sent an express to Gen'l Sumter notifying him what was done, but as the Gen'l was unwell he did not come to camp until the next day. The morning of the 26th before sunrise, Colo. Tarleton with the British horse, each having a British infantryman behind him, surrounded the ground we left the evening before. Had this precaution not been taken, I leave the world to judge what would have been the consequences. Here we were, the British on one side the river, we on the other. The people came in agreeable to the advertisement and met; Colo. Winn took the chair. After taking several weighty matters into consideration, it was unanimously decreed that Colonels Winn, Thomas and Capt. Henry Hampton should without delay proceed on to Hillsborough and use their best means with the Board of War, Governor John Rutledge<sup>2</sup> and Gen'l Gates in procuring arms, ammunition, camp utensils and cloathing, &c., in order to enable us more fully to prosecute the war in South Carolina. Notwithstanding the necessity and urgency of the demand, not a single

- Winn says nothing about JW

- Winn says he chaired the convention at which it was decided that Winn, Thomas and Henry Hampton shd. go to Hillsboro to lobby the NC d. of War for supplies. Hill says he chaired this meeting.

- Winn says that, since TS was in Hillsboro at this time, JR confirmed TS's rank as BG

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<sup>1</sup> Gen. Jethro Sumner, of North Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> Now forced out of South Carolina by adverse conditions there.

article could be obtained. Gen'l Sumter being present, Governor Rutledge confirmed the General in his command; and we returned immediately to South Carolina, where in the meantime Colo. Lacey had been left in command. Lacey being informed that Maj'r Ferguson with a large party of men was on their march for Charlotte to join Ld. Cornwallis, was determined to give him battle, tho not having more than 300 men. But on approaching the enemy he found . . . (See Gordon's or Ramsay's History) in this action.<sup>3</sup> I am well informed that no men in the world could behave more brave than the South Carolinians, which was the case with the officers and men from other quarters. I was well informed that after Ferguson had taken his encamping place many of his Tories said, "we have got to the King's ground at last and for the honor of our King we will support it or die in the attempt." Some time after the fight, Colo. Winn took a view of King's Mountain for the purpose of seeing which party had the advantage of the ground. The British officer had made the same mistake in the selection of his encampment as Colo. Brian had done at Hanging Rock.

Gen'l Sumter returns from Hillsborough to the New Acquisition and forms his encampment at Stallion's plantation high up Fishing Creek, in order to collect his men and get supplies. As soon as this was done, Sumter with his party, consisting of about 400 men, began their march for Fishdam Ford on Broad River. At this place he was reenforced by Colo. Clark, Few, Chandler [Candler], Maj'r James Jackson and other officers, and about 100 men from Georgia. As Gen'l Sumter and Colo. Winn were together day and night, they conversed together on all confidential points, as well as other matters as respected war measures. Gen'l Sumter previous to leaving Stallion's communicated to the Colonel the object of his intended movement and wished his opinion. Lord Cornwallis's headquarters were at Winnsboro. Sumter goes on to say, "it has been agreed that I shall march as near to Winnsboro as can be done with safety; this will draw Tarleton and a large body of infantry after us; this will weaken Cornwallis so much that Gen'l Smallwood, with the continental troops and, what North Carolinians could be collected, was to fall on Cornwallis." Smallwood failing on his part, as I was afterwards informed, was due to the fact that Gen'l Greene was expected every day to take the command. If he miscarried in this enterprise he would be highly blamed. To return to the Fishdam:<sup>4</sup> Gen'l Sumter arrived here on the ninth of November in

<sup>3</sup> The reference here is to the battle of King's Mountain, Oct. 7.

<sup>4</sup> McCrady in his *History of South Carolina in the Revolution, 1775-1780* (New York, 1902) gives the credit to Winn (pp. 820-23) for the strategy which saved Sumter's forces in this engagement. A tradition recorded by another writer gives the credit to Col. Thomas Taylor. These Notes should put the matter to rest in accord with McCrady's statement.

the evening. Colo. McCall with some of his men from Long Cain [Cane] joins him; the General takes post immediately at the ford; Colo. Winn to his left directly on the bank of the river; Colo. Taylor on a square to the left of Colo. Winn, and Lacey, Bratton and Hill in front about three or four hundred yards. On the morning of the 12th of November, Colo. Taylor with fifty men was ordered to fall down the road towards Winnsboro to make what discoveries he could about the enemy; returned about twelve o'clock at night and reported none. Gen'l Sumter on the same day called a council of field officers, about eighteen in number, to see what was best to be done, being altogether in a Tory country—Lord Cornwallis to our left with the British army at Winnsboro in 27 miles, a strong British force below at Shiroe's Ferry and a large British force in our front at Ninety Six under the command of Colo. Cruger. In this situation of things, it was the opinion of every officer present that Gen'l Sumter ought to cross the river without delay, and particularly so of Colo. Winn who was well acquainted with the people and country. However, after this Gen'l Sumter thought otherwise. Colo. Winn being so sure of an attack made his men keep up good fires and sleep with their guns in their arms and shot-bags under their heads; and on the very spot they rose on they were to fight and not to fire a single gun until the enemy came up to the fires. Two hours today the picquets fired alarm guns, and, by the time I had my men in order, the horse made a violent charge; they too put up the Indian hollo. My men strickly obeyed my order and as soon as the enemy came up to the fires they halted with surprise. My people poured in on them a well-directed fire, which they did not stay to return. As well knowing that I would be immediately attacked by the foot I, drawing my men in close order, took the advantage of a fence. By this time, the enemy was within 50 yards of me, crying out, "G.D. your souls; who are you?" One of my captains by the mane of Kirkland, a big spoken man, answered and said, "G.D. your souls and who are you?" The fire from both sides in a twinkling commenced; the British charged with the bayonet; my men having the advantage of the fire stood the shock and made the second fire. I had only one man bayoneted, through the arm. Major Winess<sup>5</sup> their commander being badly wounded, the enemy began to retreat. Colo. Winn's party fell back. Colo. Taylor gave the retreating party two or three fires; but, it being dark and too far off, could not have done very great damage.

Gen'l Sumter's markee was about forty yards from me, directly where the road enters the ford. At the first onset five or six horsemen, piloted by a Tory, strained down to make prisoner of the General, which they

<sup>5</sup> Maj. James Wemys (pronounced Weems) was shot through the thigh and taken prisoner of war.

TS surprised  
at Fishdam -  
charges on horse  
back

nearly effected owing to the orderly serjeant not giving notice of the alarm in time. Before he could put on his cloaths, they were up with him. By jumping a fence and running through a briar patch he saved himself, but his service was entirely lost. I do believe had this accident not happened and the General could have got with Lacey, Bratton and Hill, but few or none of the British would ever have got back to the Borough. Notwithstanding the force of Lacey, Bratton and Hill was upwards of three hundred men, they did not fire a single gun. When I met Lacey, I asked him, "Why did you not fight?" Answer, "I was afraid of killing some of you."

Next morning after the sun got up, Gen'l Sumter from a hill took a view; found his men were in possession of the battleground; he also discovered our horses in the field to the number of 500 and the baggage wagons standing. He went to the camp and found the ground strewed with killed and wounded, and the commanding British officer in his power, without the loss of a single man except Capt. Carr of Colonel McCall's regiment who was wounded. Wading the river chilled his blood and he died on the bank. It is true a young man by the name of Sealy had been taken as a Tory in arms; this day his arms was restored and he taken from under guard. The next day his messmate told me that, as the British horse made their charge, this man dashed down his gun and cried out, "I am a prisoner." They cut him to pieces.

On the thirteenth, Sumter crossed the river and encamped at Nixon's plantation on the Enoree River to give his men time to join him. When Gen'l Sumter and myself met at Nixon's he informed me that when he was cut off, being in his shirt sleeves, he verily believed he would have perished from cold had he not have got a horse; getting on him horsebacked and hugging his neck. He also assured me that from the manner in which the British brought on the attack, he did not expect to hear a single gun fired from you, and concluded to provide for his own safety; but said, "If ever a man deserves the thanks of his country, it is you." In fighting the above action, Winn had about 125 or 130 men, Taylor about fifty. The action lasted about 15 or 20 minuits. The British doctor coming to the ground expressed himself, "I have not seen such damage done by so few men in so short a time since I have been in America." This I had from Colo. [John] Winn, who was on the spot with the doctor.

Sumter moves from Nixon's down to Shiroe's Ferry and gives a challenge to the British at that station to come out and fight him. They decline the invitation. Sumter moves up the country; arrives at Blackstock's on Tyger River 16th of November, leaving Colo. Taylor in his rear with fifty men and their wagons to collect and bring in flour. Colo. Taylor with his party and wagons just passed the piquets when they fired on the enemy; and, as Tarleton meant a surprise, Colo. Taylor's party and wagons and the British horse all run in together, which made a great noise

as they had to pass over a poled cosway [causeway] for two or three hundred yards. All this took place in such a hurry and unexpected, we had only three or four minuits to make disposition of our men. The Georgians were on the left under Cols. Clarke, Few and Chandler; Colo. Lacey to the right, Colo. Bratton, Hill and Taylor in front; also a Colonel Hampton from high up Broad River was thrown into a log house with his party.<sup>6</sup> Colo. Winn was in a small distance from the noll on the top of Blackstock's hill. This hill is high and steep and makes down to the road which passes at its base; and from this situation it was soon discovered by the Colonel it would be impossible for the horse to make any effectual charge on him. On the first onset, the enemy made a violent charge on the Georgians which they sustained manfully for some time; but their ground being open and level they fell back over the river. Colo. Lacey's being posted in a thick woody ground gave him a great advantage. When the British made an attempt to attack the front Lacey, firing on them, jumping on their horses rides out of site, loaded, mounted their horses, rode in gun shot, discharging in like manner, and so off again. In this way he kept the enemy at bay for at least two hours, tho they had in the mean time made several attempts to dislodge the front which was immediately under the command of Gen'l Sumter.

The General in attempting to lead on his men received a bad wound in his shoulder. Colo. Winn was soon made acquainted with this by Capt. Henry Hampton, one of his aides. Winn requested Hampton to have the General taken off the field and carried across the river and to say nothing about it. In a short time after, Maj. James Jackson, afterwards a Major-General of Georgia, came to me and gave me to understand that our men in the front was giving way, and "Sir," says he, "I will tell you the salvation of this country depends on this single fight." I told him we must try it. In above fifteen minuits after this information from Maj. Jackson, the firing ceased from every quarter; my men was all fresh, as they not being engaged, in a line on top of the hill, I made them set down to prevent discovery about five yards from each other to make the greatest shew possible, and when I gave them the word they was to jump up, set up the Indian hollo and run down the hill on the enemy and to fire as they run, at the same time have bullets in their mouths and powder in their pockets. In a few minuits the British horse advanced, as appeared with great caution at the foot of the hill; and when they got to the far end of our line I gave the word. The officers and men obeyed, and at the instant the

<sup>6</sup> Ramsay says: "A considerable part of Sumter's force had been thrown into a large log barn, from the apertures of which they fired with security. Many of the 63rd regiment were killed. Tarleton charged with his cavalry; but, being unable to dislodge the Americans, retreated and Sumter was left in quiet possession of the field." *History of the American Revolution*, (Charleston, 1789) II. 179.



horse wheeled right about and it did appear to me whose horse could run fastest was the cleaverest fellow. Thus ended the battle, and the enemy began to retreat. I sent a small party after them to watch their motion. On their return they reported Tarleton had taken up camp in two miles of the battleground. I then moved the men from the hill to where the first attack began, collected what of them I could and had them paraded. By this time night was coming on and it was beginning to rain. I ordered a party out to examine the ground, collect as many of the enemy as could be found and take them to Blackstock's house, and requested they might be well treated. From the position Tarleton had taken I was convinced he meant to try the business again. I left a party on the ground with orders to make a long row of fires, and marched off to where Sumter lay; found that the doctor had just extracted the ball. I got one of the men to light a torch and immediately wrote to Gen'l Smallwood and acquainted him of what was done here and at the Fishdam, which he received by my express, Capt. Andrew Love. Sumter wounded, the officers and men worn down with fatigue and hunger, it was thought advisable to move up the country,<sup>7</sup> cross Broad River and halt in the New Acquisition to refresh. But to return to Colo. Tarleton: I could wish I had it in my power to say as much of his humanity as he has done of ours. This officer makes his retreat good to Winnsborough,<sup>8</sup> but on his way he hangs Esq'r [John] Johnston, a respectable citizen with a large family. What was his crime, I know not, unless taking up arms on the American side. He took every old man and stout boy he could find, carried them to the Borough, there reported and made them prisoners at Blackstock's. These unfortunate people was sent and confined in Camden goal except some of them discovered to be Tories, where they lay for a considerable time without friends or money.

In this action at Blackstock there was not a prisoner on either side carried from the ground. The Americans had five or six wounded, but not a man killed. The loss on the part of the British was considerable. See Gordon's History.

I must here mention the Catawba Indians. At the commencement of the Revolutionary War, the Catawbas had a king of their nation by the name of Haghler.<sup>9</sup> When they found that the Americans were about to

<sup>7</sup> Gen. Sumter was carried in a litter suspended between two horses.

<sup>8</sup> The Winn house in Winnsboro, it is said, was occupied by Cornwallis as his own quarters.

<sup>9</sup> King Hagler had long been unpopular with the Catawbas. He was finally killed. In 1780 he was of an advanced age. The tribe was itself in decay and the decay continued. Gen. Winn gives here an interesting phase of Catawba history—the tribe's faithfulness to the American Patriots in a time of great need.

shake off their king these Indians exiled King Haghler and appointed a native Indian by the name of New River to be their general. When we took the field after the fall of Charleston, we often encamped on their lands for days together. Those friendly Indians drove us beef from their own stocks and several times brought out their whole force and encamped near us; and, after the defeats of Gen's Gates and Sumter, those Indians were so afraid of the British that they deserted their country, men, women and children, with a few exceptions, and moved on towards Virginia. And as we began to make head against the enemy, they returned with joy to their own land.

When Gen'l Smallwood received by letter and after reading it, he summoned his officers to attend him among them Gen'l Morgan and Colo. Washington. The letter was again read to them. On talking over the subject they said the letter could not be correct, for it was impossible for our party to defeat the British horse. Love, being present, said, "I will tell you gentlemen I will be damned if every word in that letter is true, for I was an eye witness of the whole." This I had from Capt. Love himself. Had Gen'l Smallwood fell on Lord Cornwallis at Winnsborough at the time Colo. Tarleton followed Gen'l Sumter to Blackstock, Cornwallis must have fallen an easy prey to Smallwood, as he at that time had only about four hundred men with him; no horse. Cornwallis for his safety depended on the Tories which in the end did him much more harm than good.

This information I got from Capt. J. Milling who had been in the regular service, then a prisoner on parole and who lived near Winnsboro and was in the British camp almost every day; and had Gen'l Smallwood availed himself of this advantage he would have done himself immortal honor and retrieved Gates' defeat.

Cornwallis' retreat in October, 1780: At the time Cornwallis was advancing towards Virginia to join the British force in that State, a person was sent to inform them of Cornwallis' movements and intentions. That was when their forces were concentrated. They intended a line of forts up the Roanoke, and the three Southern States was then to be considered British provinces. The above mentioned person, being suspected, was taken up and examined and not being able to give a good account of himself his things was searched and in a part of the saddle a musket ball was found and from the lightness led the party to open it. The inside being scooped out, they discovered a paper containing the aforesaid account which was written on silk paper. This information I had from an officer in North Carolina.

On my return from Hillsboro, at this time, our affairs were at the lowest ebb, as we scarcely knew of men anywhere in arms. However, the defeat of Ferguson at King Mountain put a stop to the British schemes and drew

RW asserts that Cornwallis could have been defeated at Winnsboro had Smallwood attacked when TS engaged Tarleton at Blackstock

Ld. Cornwallis out of North Carolina to Winnsborough and General Leslie with a strong British force from Virginia to Charlestown and from thence to Winnsboro to reinforced Cornwallis. I am of the opinion this statement is worthy of remark as it shews at once the good effect the battle of King's Mountain had in favor of the friends of Congress in the Southern States and gave them time to collect a strong force and procure arms and ammunition.

The following took place in December, 1780: Colo. Richard Winn, after the fight at Blackstock in November, 1780, returned to the New Acquisition and whilst there was informed that his brother, Colo. John Winn, was under sentence of death at Winnsboro, the British headquarters. Colo. Winn enquired into the cause and was informed that a certain Spencer Tyler, one of Colo. Rich'd Winn's men, had left camp and went to see his family who lived in the neighbourhood of J. Winn. This man on getting down was informed by some person that at such a house was two British soldiers. Tyler and another man that was with him made prisoners of the two soldiers. After tying them with intention the next day to bring them to me, it now being night; the other man left Tyler with the soldiers. By some means or other they untied themselves and ties Tyler and carried him before Cornwallis. Tyler, as he had before taken protection, finding his life was to pay for his conduct, places Colo. John Winn between himself and the gallows by giving evidence that this Colo. Winn informed him of the soldiers and advised him to go and take them. Tho Colo. Winn knew nothing of the business, and Tyler knowing that a trifling character would not save him, pitched on Colo. Winn, who was immediately secured, tried and convicted by a false witness, and a day appointed for him to be hung. On getting a full information of the facts Colo. R. Winn sent word to Lord Cornwallis that if he hung Colo. J. Winn, he would hang the first 100 British officers and soldiers that fell into his hands, and at that time he had several. When the day came that the Colonel was to be hung, Capt. John Milling, who as well as Colo. Winn had taken parole, went to the Borough to see the last of his friend and neighbour. On seeing several officers at headquarters, he went near them as he had often done before and heard one of the officers say, "We have a right to believe that this Winn will carry his threat into execution and that it would be better to save the life of this man than to cause the death of a hundred of ours." So Colo. Winn was pardoned, as well as I can recollect, under the gallows. This I had from Capt. John Milling himself.

In December, 1780: In a few days after, I received a letter from Colo. John Winn by a man by the name of Tindale, a Tory who lives on the border of the New Acquisition, saying that he was pardoned and that he was instructed by Ld. Cornwallis that if I would give up and come in, my

property should all be restored and my losses paid and many other things should be done for me, not particularly pointed out, and that my life and property should be protected. Answer was: I dam'd him and his protection too, and as to my property, it went in the manner I expected.

On the same day I got this letter I received one by express from Gen'l Morgan, then lying at Grindall Shoals on Paco River. The General mentioned he had a great desire to see me. I repaired to his camp about thirty miles from where I lay. He summoned his principle officers, Colos. Washington, Howard and Major Taliaferro who commanded the Virginia militia. After talking about the British headquarters and the situation of the country and people, and as Gen'l Morgan had been intimately acquainted with me from a small boy,<sup>10</sup> he conversed freely with me on every point respecting the war in the Southern States, as he was well satisfied but few men could give him a better account.

Question, Do you believe I shall be attacked by the British? Answer, I do and by a strong force from Winnsboro.

Question, Can you inform me the manner Colo. Tarleton brings on his attacks? Answer, I can. Tarleton never brings on the attack himself. His mode of fighting is surprise. By doing this he sends two or three troops of horse, and, if he can throw the party into confusion, with his reserve he falls on and will cut them to pieces.

However, in looking into Gordon's *History* I see Tarleton brought on the action at the Cowpens himself. I think that, upon a strict scrutiny, this will be found to be a mistake. I rather suppose he was with his reserve of horse that took through the woods, when it was found that Morgan kept the ground. My own opinion of Tarleton as an officer was that he was more civil than brave. In a day or two after the battle, I met with Gen'l Morgan who gave me a statement of the action. Gen'l Morgan was well apprised that Colo. Tarleton was persuing of him, but when or where he would overtake him was uncertain. When the General got to the Cowpens he halted and took up his encampment and say, "on this ground I will defeat the British or lay my bones," and picked out the place for his grave. Curiosity led me afterwards to view the ground, and I can say it would not have been my choice. In the first place, it was even enough to make race-paths, covered over with a small growth of midling trees, open without underwood, and nothing to defend either in front, rear or flank. With the force of the British horse and the advantage of the ground they had, the advantage over Morgan was as two to one.

Myself, I was in the war from the beginning to the end. Shortly after the British evacuated Charleston, I was made a brigadier-general, which

<sup>10</sup> Gen. Morgan was a Virginian from the same section where Winn had been reared and had known Winn there.



commission I held for some time; then made a major-general, which commission I resigned the seventh day of June, 1811. I commanded the second division which composed all the lower part of South Carolina, including five brigades.

I have been in Congress from the year 1793, all except three years. After what I have stated I leave it to the people and you if I have not discharged my duty to my country.

*The end*

MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM THE CITY GAZETTE  
OF CHARLESTON, S. C.

Contributed by ELIZABETH H. JERVEY

*Continued from October*

Married, on Sullivan's Island, on Thursday, the 4th. inst. by the Rev. Mr. Gadsden, Maurice Simons, Jun. Esq. of Daniel's Island, to Miss Eliza Capers, youngest daughter of the late Major Gabriel Capers of Christ Church Parish.

Died, on Saturday, the 30th ult. in St. Stephen's Parish, Mrs. Mary Ann June, the amiable consort of Mr. John Stephen June.

Died in Savannah, on the 29th. ult. after a short illness, Miss Louisa Pierce, late of New York, aged 15 years.

Departed this life, in Savannah, on the 31st. ult. in the bloom of youth and health, Frances Ann Deveaux, fourth daughter of Major P. Deveaux, aged fourteen years and ten months.

Died, at Savannah, on the 3d. inst. after a few days confinement, in the 39th. year of his age, Mr. John Davidson, (of the firm of Palmes & Davidson, of that place) a native of East Haven, Conn.

The Friends and Acquaintances of Miss Sarah C. Tebout, are invited to attend her Funeral This Morning at 8 o'clock, from her late residence No 21 Bull-st. (Monday, September 8, 1817.)

Died, on the 3d. inst. after a long and painful illness, deeply lamented by a large circle of relations and friends, Mrs. Eliza White, wife of John B. White, Esq. . . .

Died, in this city, on the 29th. ult. of the prevailing fever, Mr. Henry Childs, a native of Buck's County, (Penn.) He resided here nearly two years. . . .

Departed this transitory life, on the 4th. inst. after a short illness of two days, which she bore with resignation and submission to the will of her Creator, Miss Margaret Curtis, in the 13th. year of her age. . . .

Died, on Sunday morning, after an illness of 5 days, Miss Martha Elizabeth Bounetheau, aged 8 years, 6 months and 18 days; second daughter of Mr. Edward Weyman Bounetheau.

Died, suddenly, at Haddrell's Point, on Friday, the 5th. inst. Mr. Henry Hunt, a native of New Orleans; his death is supposed to have been occasioned by a fall. (Tuesday, September 9, 1817.)

Died, on the 4th. instant, in the fifteenth year of her age, after an illness of five days, Miss Ann S. Nichols, a native of Vermont. . . .