

## Bolling Wright Notes May 2015

From Charles Stewart Carmel, IN

County Marriages -- Elliott, Page 135 A History of Fairfield - William Edrington Fairfield County Deeds - Book NN, pp. 270-71, 320-21. Rev. Pension File of Bolling Wright, Brunswick Co., Va Wright, Bolling - Milley VA W5183 BL. Wt 26982 - 160 55 GA 2753 - Milley WRIGHT, widow of Bolling WRIGHT, VA ser Rev War as Pvt - inscribed on roll at rate of \$36.66 per annum to comm 4 Mar 1848; Cert of Pens issued 3 Jan 1849 SC 27814 - Bolling WRIGHT, Fairfield SC - pvt in Co comm by Capt Oliver in VA for 11 mo; cert pens issued 31 Mar 1834 1787 - Wright, Bolling & Milly Saunders, 30 July 1787, John Feagins sec. Note from John Saunders, father of Milly. Source: Mecklenburg, Virginia Marriages, 1765-1810 (Ancestry.com database 2012). Original source: The Marriage License Bonds of Mecklenburg County, Virginia from 1765 to 1810 page 56 1790 - Boland Wright and family were enumerated in the Camden District, Fairfield County, SC Census, probably living not far from William Mote, Jr., and several of the Mobleys and Hills.

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1830 - Boling Wright (50 - 59, 1771- 1780, incorrect) and family members (one male 20 - 29, one female 30-38, and Milly) were living in Fairfield Co., SC. Again the Mobley folks were living nearby - same neighborhood as in 1810.

The following was copied from Ancestry.com tree: \_Brian Brooks' Family Tree\_ Updated: Aug 25, 2001  
Contact: Brian Brooks By Mary Dickey Boulware:

Bolling Wright was born May 12, 1759, in Brunswick County, VA, a son of Solomon Wright. He was a Revolutionary War soldier and served four tours of duty with the 2nd Virginia Militia. In a deposition made in 1834 when he applied for a pension, he stated that he had been a resident of Fairfield County, SC, for some 45 years, having left Virginia five or six years after the peace of 1783. Listed as his neighbors who could testify as to his character and truthfulness were David R. Coleman, Thomas Lyles, Jacob Feaster, Robert Coleman, Andrew Feaster, John Feaster, Samuel Fant and Isaac Means.

He described his military service as follows:

First Tour: When called into service he was living in Brunswick County, VA. He was called out in January and marched to Portsmouth, where the troops were stationed throughout this tour. The houses were used as barracks. There was a small fort above the town on the north side, mounting eight cannons, which were manned by some of the troops. Bolling Wright was stationed in the town. General Weadon commanded the whole militia. Asap Gregory was orderly sergeant. Bolling Hair and Lugar Sinclair were privates. Solomon Wright, father of Bolling, served as a private on this tour. There were no regular troops along for this tour and no engagement with the enemy.

Second Tour: He was living in Mecklenburg County when this and the following tours were served. He was called this time during the month of December and served under Capt. Oliver. Arthur Fox was first lieutenant. He was marched through Petersburg on to a place called Pitch Landing. He remembers the company stopping and getting turnips on the march above Petersburg. When the company arrived at Pitch Landing it was placed under the command of Col. Fleming, who was under Gen. Mecklenburg. There were some regular troops under his command. John Bolling was adjutant to Col. Fleming's regiment, and Jacob Beasley was orderly sergeant to the company Bolling Wright was attached to. Capt. Graves also commanded one of the militia companies. There was no serious engagement with the enemy. Bolling Wright volunteered along with about 50 men under Col. Fleming to reconnoiter the enemy and drive in their regiment guard in the old field near Portsmouth. One of the party was wounded in the thigh by a ball. The troops had temporary huts erected at Pitch Landing and were stationed there during the tour of Three months. The object was to protect the country against the inroads of the enemy from Portsmouth.

Third Tour: This tour started in the spring, and the weather was very warm before he got home. Capt. James Harrison was the commanding officer, and William Lewis was first lieutenant. Bolling Wright's company was marched to Cumberland Court House, VA, and was joined by another militia company. They then were marched to Purity Creek on the James River and joined General Stuben, who had about 900 regulars under his command. Some of his men were blacks. Gen. Stuben had command of the combined companies. The British were on the opposite side and fired cannon rounds. A horse belonging to Maj. Cunningham was shot. Gen. Stuben had no cannon and retreated to Willis Creek. The regulars and militia separated, and the militia fell under the command of Gen. Lawson for the rest of the tour. Tarleton was said to have been with the British at the James River. Bolling Wright became ill and had no knowledge of the movements of the enemy during the remainder of the tour, which lasted three months.

Fourth Tour: The fourth tour was in the year 1781. He remembers the year because it was the one in which Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown. The company, commanded by Capt. Stephen Marberry with Edward Kensington as first lieutenant, was marched to the Mattaway River, River James Bridge. The bridge, he believes, was in Amelia County, VA. They marched on, crossing the Mattaway River at Hey Island, thence through Williamsburg Town, thence to the Mattaponi River, one being of Little York River, crossed at Ruffries, thence over the Pawmunki until the company joined Gen. Lafayette before Yorktown. They were joined at Yorktown by another company in the march between the Appomattox and James Rivers. Bolling Wright's company was placed under the command of a militia colonel. Graves was the major. General Washington commanded the whole American force and was on the other side of the river from General Lafayette, who was commander on [Bolling Wright's] side. Nineteen days after Wright's arrival in Yorktown, the enemy, under the command of Cornwallis, surrendered. Capt. Mayberry and company remained in Yorktown for some time after the surrender until arrangements were made to secure the captured property. Afterwards, they assisted in escorting the prisoners. The tour was for three months. Wright kept no written record of his service at the time, and now (1834) due to his age and consequent loss of memory is unable to state months or years in which the service was

rendered. But he can clearly remember the tours and the length of time served in each tour. He served 11 months as a private soldier.

From Virginia to South Carolina: On July 30, 1787, Bolling Wright and Millie Sanders, daughter of John Sanders, posted their marriage bonds in Mecklenburg Co., VA. They were wed Aug. 4, 1787. At this time Bolling was 28, and Millie was 15. Shortly thereafter, they left their families, friends and neighbors and embarked on a journey southward to establish a home. What an arduous trip it must have been over rough, rutted wagon roads. At day's end, the evening meal would have to be prepared without any of the comforts of a house. At their journey's end they settled in upstate South Carolina in the hill country of northwestern Fairfield County. In October 1788 their first child was born, a daughter they named Elizabeth. Their next surviving child was born eight years later, a son named William. The babies who did not survive the harsh life of the back country were the first to rest in the family burying ground, located on a gently sloping rise within sight of the house. Over the years Bolling and Millie became the parents of six more children, Jones, Uriah, Mary (Polly), Lucinda, Nancy and David.

All of the children were given their mother's maiden name, Sanders. Edrington's "History of Fairfield" states that of the eight children, William and Uriah were the most notable. William was "a Baptist preacher of the old school." Uriah was a home doctor, and his services were in great demand in three counties. He was called by almost all "Doctor Wright." William married Gemima Mobley, daughter of Micajah (Cage) Mobley and later moved to Georgia. David and Mary also went to Georgia. On December 27, 1826, Mary married Sion Hill. David Wright and Elizabeth Ann Beddingfield were wed on Feb. 11, 1841, in Walton County, GA. On Jan. 12, 1824, Uriah Wright and Pinckney Ackland Smith were united in marriage. Pinckney was the second eldest daughter of John Smith. Edrington depicts Uriah as an avid fox hunter who was justly proud of his pack of hounds. The three most outstanding of the pack were named Jolly Wright, Holly Clowney and Ring Smith. According to Edrington, Uriah was eccentric and erratic. Despite these characteristics, he had some redeeming qualities -- he was generous and hospitable. He played the fiddle. Three of Uriah's grandsons, Randal, William and Henry Jenkins, also were known to be accomplished fiddlers.

The Final Move: Bolling and Millie lived in Fairfield for 53 years. In January 1840 Bolling Wright sold his land (185 acres) to Uriah Wright and 55 acres to Meredith Meador. This was done in preparation for a move to Georgia. At that time he had reached the age of 81. This rugged old pioneer uprooted himself from neighbors and friends of long standing and, leaving the red hills of South Carolina behind, moved to Jackson County, GA. He died Jan. 12, 1841, at Jug Tavern (now Winder), GA. What a proud heritage he left his descendants. He lived a full and honorable life and had an active part in the shaping of our country's history. His courage, fortitude and perseverance should ever shine as a beacon to guide us.

References: Pension file of Bolling Wright, National Archives, Washington, DC. Mecklenburg County Marriages -- Elliott, Page 135 A History of Fairfield - William Edrington Fairfield County Deeds - Book NN, pp. 270-71, 320-21. Rev. Pension File of Bolling Wright, Brunswick Co., Va Wright, Bolling - Milley VA W5183 BL. Wt 26982 - 160 55 GA 2753 - Milley WRIGHT, widow of Bolling WRIGHT, VA ser Rev War as Pvt - inscribed on roll at rate of \$36.66 per annum to comm 4 Mar 1848; Cert of Pens issued 3 Jan 1849 SC 27814 - Bolling WRIGHT, Fairfield SC - pvt in Co comm by Capt Oliver in VA for 11 mo; cert pens

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