

BULLETIN

THE CHESTER DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. Box 336, Richburg, S. C. 29729

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Dues \$10.00 per Calendar Year

Regular Meetings

First Sunday 3:00 P.M.

Feb. 1, 1987 Chester County Library - Chester, S.C.

Mar. 1, 1987 Richburg Town Hall - Richburg, S.C.

Apr. 5, 1987 Richburg Town Hall - Richburg, S.C.

No Meeting, December, January

With this issue of the "Bulletin", we bring to a close our 9th year of activity. We are still South Carolina's largest genealogical society - and we're looking forward to an increase in growth and activity next year, so "stay with us".

-- Regular Society Meeting Changes --

In order to accommodate changes recommended by many of our members - we will not have all our meetings at Richburg Town Hall. Instead some of the meetings will take place in our surrounding counties. We will publish the meeting place, date and time on the inside cover of the Bulletin - three months in advance - so please mark your calendar. For example: February 1 meeting will be at the Chester County Library, Chester at 3 p.m. March 1 meeting will be at Richburg Town Hall, Richburg at 3 p.m. April 5 meeting will be at Richburg Town Hall, Richburg at 3 p.m. May 3 meeting will be at Waxhaw, N.C. - more details in the March "Bulletin".

*** 1987 Membership ***

We have tried to keep membership dues as low as possible, but things beyond our control have forced an increase. As many of you know, we have no paid employees, no officer or director has ever submitted an expense account. We are a non-profit organization and we intend to remain one. But we have to pay printing, typing, postage (which has increased twice this year), postal permit, zeroxing, paper, miscellaneous supplies and an occasional book we need in our library, all of which have increased considerably.

All we want is to be able to pay our bills and to continue to do this, we must increase dues for individuals from \$10 to \$12 and for couples to \$15. The membership - surname book will remain \$4. We hope that with this increase and other changes made by the staff it will be many years before we have to ask for another increase.

Several of our members have already renewed for '87 at the former rate. We have accepted these checks, but must ask you to send the difference. Thanks.

We are enclosing a form for you to list up to 8 surnames per individual or 16 surnames per couple. This is free and we encourage all members to fill-out this form with your surnames whether you intend to order the membership book or not - so those who do order the book will have a complete list.

Please send your renewal promptly so we can complete setting up our records within the next month. We all are volunteers and with other duties just as you have, so please help us to help you to reduce our work load. Would not now be the time to renew?

---- For Our Library ----

I would like to thank Robert (Rob) Crowder for giving the society several boxes of genealogical materials of his mother's. After review, the editor will publish some of this material and/or make it available to our members.

----Note----

It is strange that I will not have Mr. Coy Stroud (past president) to lean-on due to his untimely death on Sept. 4th. He was a great leader, organizer and founder of this society. After

I became president, I had many questions on the operation which Coy gave me excellent and timely advise. I will miss him, his passing has left a void in my life. He was a true friend. Mr. Stroud was actively working on his lines at his death - and now he will be able to complete them. Something Mr. Stroud talked to me about was from words spoken by Rev. Gary R. Gabel of North-west, Iowa.

"We keep forgetting those who lived before us. We keep forgetting those who lived, and worked, and prayed, and sang, and built long before we were born.

We commit the sin of assuming everything begins with us.

We drink from wells we did not dig.

We eat from farmlands we did not develop.

We worship in churches we did not organize or build.

We enjoy freedoms we have not earned.

We should be grateful for our heritage and turn our minds in grateful appreciation to those who lived in another day, and under vastly different circumstances, so we can live a better life today."

George

Coy F. Stroud - 1905-1986

We were saddened in September when our good friend and past president died suddenly. Coy was our leader and one of the main organizers of our society. He devoted many, many hours writing letters advertising our society, and encouraged all of us to work a little harder to make our society the largest in the state. Coy addressed, stamped and mailed our publications for years without any help; he copied vital records at the library and courthouse for use in our bulletins, and he organized our workshops and out of town meetings. Coy was always willing to do any task that others had failed to complete and never refused an invitation to tell others of the society and how they could benefit from it. One of his greatest enjoyments was the "birthday party" each year for our society when he got to meet so many of our friends and members from out of state. I miss our telephone conversations planning our new publications and what to add to the bulletin to interest our members. I feel very fortunate to have had Coy for a friend and he will be remembered fondly by me, for his passing has left a real void in the lives of all of us who worked so closely with him.

Your editor (J.N.)

Items needed for our library:

"Scotch Irish Migrations" by Jean Stephens

"Cemetery Inscriptions of Marion County, Illinois"

A DAUGHTER OF BENJAMIN CROXTON
OF LANCASTER COUNTY, S.C.

By Harry W. Atkinson
Flowery Branch, Ga.

Accounts of the family of Benjamin Croxton who was born in Essex County, Virginia in 1742 and who probably arrived in Craven County, South Carolina about 1763 generally list five males as his children. Viola Caston Floyd in her book, Caston and Related Families of Lancaster County, South Carolina, quoted Mrs. Edward Caston Croxton as writing that Benjamin and Mary Croxton had children: Lewis, John, James, Allen and Elijah, but named no daughters. Now we have a deed in which Sarah, wife of Isbon Ingram, was named as a daughter of Benjamin Croxton.

The story of Benjamin, as researched by Mr. Kenyon Stevenson, and retold by Mrs. Floyd, is that twelve-year-old Benjamin Croxton, son of one James Croxton of Essex County, Virginia, deceased, and grandson of a John Croxton, Senior, was apprenticed to Glass Castone, carpenter and wheelwright until he was 21. This item, dated 12 or 17 December 1754 (she gave both dates) is in Essex County Deed Book 27, page 74. Born, then in 1742, Benjamin Croxton would have been 21 in 1763.

But Glass Caston and his family, presumably accompanied by his apprentice Benjamin Croxton, moved first to Orange County, North Carolina. Then, by 8 December 1763 both Glass Caston and his brother John Caston were in South Carolina, having bought lands on Lower Camp Creek in Craven County. This would be near present-day Heath Springs, southeast of Lancaster.

Benjamin Croxton may have married about 1770 for in the 1790 census of Lancaster County he was shown as living close to Glass Caston and had two other males, both under 16 and four females in his household. Twenty years would have allowed time for the births of seven children. Moreover, in 1800 Benjamin had a much larger household of 11 males, including himself, 10 females and six slaves. Mrs. Floyd conjectured that the three males and three females, all aged 26 to 45 years, represented two sons of Benjamin Croxton and their wives and a daughter of Benjamin and her husband. She made no comments as to names of the females.

1800 Census

Males		Females	
45 and over	1	45 and over	1
26 to 45	3	26 to 45	3
16 to 26	2	16 to 26	1
10 to 16	2	10 to 16	1
Under 10	3	Under 10	4

One of the females, probably the one aged 10 to 16, may have been Sarah Croxton.

In the early - 1900s, Theresa Asinath Ingram McAdory, then in Jefferson County, Alabama, and a grand-daughter of Sarah, quoting from an old Bible in her handwritten family history notes, wrote: "Sarah Croxton, wife of Isbon Ingram, was born April 2, 1790 -- Died Dec. 11, 1869 and is buried beside her husband (In Tuscaloosa County, Alabama). Isbon Ingram and Sarah Croxton were married Sept. 19, 1820." Sarah Croxton would have been ten years of age when the census taker came by in 1800 and recorded ages as of the first Monday in August of that year.

In Lancaster County Deed Book F, pages 350-351, in a deed dated 21 October 1847, Isbon Ingram, et ux, grantor, to Milton B. Vaughan, grantee, it says: ".... that we, Isbon Ingrem and Sarah Ingrem his wife do grant unto the said Milton B. Vaughan three hundred and twenty-nine acres of land, more or less, the same being the tract of land whereon the said Isbon Ingrem and Sarah his wife now resides and the said tract of land being the land inherited by the said Sarah Ingrem from her father Benjamin Croxton's estate...."

The following article is continued from the June 1986 Bulletin. It is taken from the September 2, 1886 issue of the Chester News & Reporter.

Personal Reminiscences.

BY REV. J.H. Saye.

Number Six.

On page 422 of the first volume of Howe's history of the Presbyterian church in South Carolina the name James Crawford stands among the names composing the Fairforest congregation in 1776. From various incidents in early life the writer has felt more than a common interest in this James Crawford and his posterity. -- He served as a captain in the war of the revolution directing the movements of a company of the Fairforest men through the perilous scenes of that bloody conflict. Soon after the war he moved from his home on the Fairforest Creek in Union county and made his home on the plantation near Cedar shoal owned and occupied for years past by Mr. Irwin White. Here Capt. Crawford served the Richardson church as a ruling elder. His posterity is dispersed widely over the land. Two of his sons Edward and Alexander have been elders of the Fishing creek congregation within the knowledge of the writer. The settlements on Fishing creek increased so that about 1770 a church was organized at the present site of the Fishing creek church. This is situated on the ridge between the South fork and the main stream about two miles above their confluence, - a section no doubt very attractive in the eyes of a Pennsylvania farmer and herdsman, as the soil was well adapted for the growth of wheat and other grains. The grass, cane and peavine, rich and abundant for the raising of stock. Among those known to have made settlements here at an early period were families named Neely, Lusk, Latta, McClure, Gaston, Wherry, Gill, Morrow, Johnston, Knox. And it is said that John Thomas who subsequently commanded the Spartan regiment in the war of the revolution was among the early settlers on Fishing creek though his home had been in Spartanburg for years before the revolution. Most of these immigrants were from Chester county, Pennsylvania. Hence their settlement was called Chester, which has fastened since on the county. - Fishing creek church was organized about 1770. Its first elders were Samuel Neely, John Latta and Robert Lusk.

In 1772, Mr. John Simpson, a licentiate, was directed by the Synod of New York and Philadelphia to perform a mission in Virginia and the Carolinas. He spent about seven months in this work, most of the time in the region of Fishing creek. On the 26th of November, 1773, he arrived with his family in the Fishing creek congregation and made his home within half a mile of the present site of the church. In consequence of a call to the pastoral office he was ordained by the Presbytery of Crange on the 6th of April, 1774.

Here now in the providence of God, we see a young minister settled with a large and increasing population around him. He applied himself with diligence to the work both of a pastor and evangelist, preaching stately at the three churches, upper and lower Fishing creek and Bethesda, and in addition to this supply-

ing places of worship among the population on Rocky creek and all that region extending west to the Savannah river. He continued here to 1791 and then removed to congregations in Pendleton, whether a considerable number of his people had removed.

If it be asked, what of him? We reply that at all times and in every condition he was a faithful and able minister of the gospel; that his labors were blessed in the conversion of many souls and in the comfort and edification of God's people. His residence at Fishing creek included the years of the struggle for independence. In this struggle he took an early part. He is mentioned by the Rev. William Tennant, one of the commissioners sent out by the council of safety in Charleston to the back country to induce the people to stand up for their liberties in 1775. Tennant mentions Simpson as favoring the common cause. (See Gibbs' Documentary His. S.C.)

He not only encouraged the men of his charge to enter the army, but took his rifle and went in himself. The first successful resistance to the British troops in their advance in the up-country was made by the men of his congregations, at the old field above Rocky Mount, Mobley's meeting house and the defeat of Capt. Hugh at Williamson's. Besides they were with Sumter in various engagements in this region. And Mr. Simpson was present at Sumter's defeat on Fishing creek where Capt. Pagan was killed. And here, by the way, I think Maj. Pagan in his reminiscences lately published was mistaken in calling Mr. Richardson "the Fighting Preacher." I think the term had been applied to Mr. Simpson instead. He made his escape from the battleground with great difficulty, but he got home and back into the army. I was told by the late Samuel Davidson, of Union county, that Mr. Simpson, was a member of the Council of Safety in Sumter's camp. Of the men of his charge who were officers may be mentioned Wm. Bratton, Edward Lacy, John McClure, John Steele, John Mills and Capt. Pagan; also Col. Moffett, Mr. Simpson and also a liberal share of the sufferings of the occasion. Early in the morning of 1780 a party of Tories came to the Fishing creek church expecting to find Mr. Simpson and congregation assembling for worship. Nobody came. Their avowed purpose was to fasten all up in the house and burn all together. But they began looking around for business and found a young man named Strong reading the Bible, and they shot him dead. Presently they went to Mr. Simpson's house. Mrs. Simpson seeing their approach retired with her children to a secret place where she remained concealed while they remained, but heard their oaths and imprecations while they were plundering the house of such valuables as they thought proper to appropriate. The feather beds were ripped open and the feathers poured out and the ticking taken for their own use. Finally they set the house on fire and went off. Mrs. S. came to the burning house and saved an apron or two full of such books as she could reach, but was badly burned in her efforts to save a part of the valuable library which was mostly consumed. She also gathered up of the scattered feathers enough for one bed out of the four destroyed. This done she took refuge with her children at the house of a neighbor. - This was, however, not the only occasion in which Mrs. Simpson was plundered by the tory thieves. But the war ended and Mr. Simpson was restored to his family and regular work. And his work was not only that of the ministry proper, but in every department where human effort is needed to procure the comforts of life. The writer was told some forty years ago by an old gentleman in Georgia who grew up in one of the congregations of Mr. Simpson in Pendleton, that in his boyhood Mr. Simpson was a number one hand at all gatherings of the neighbors to work at particular jobs such as house raising, reapings, log rollings, etc.

But we cannot leave Mr. Simpson and the Fishing Creek congregation without paying our respects to the ladies. We do not know how to form an opinion of a community without taking the character and condition of women into consideration. In 1780 an association of the young ladies of Fishing creek congregation was formed for the purpose of reaping and garnering the wheat of every man who would remain in the army and do his duty as a soldier. The names given are Mary, Margaret and Ellen Gill, Isabella and Margaret Kelso, Sarah Knox, Margaret, Elizabeth and Mary Mills, Mary McClure and Nancy Brown. "These young women went day after day from one farm to another and reaped the crop with the assistance of the matrons and a few old men. The question they asked was, "Is the owner out with the fighting men?" Thus for five or six weeks they toiled on and the state of the atmosphere being favorable, gathered in the crops of 'the fighting men'." Perhaps at the head of these noble women stood the widow, Mary McClure, the wife of the gallant Col. John McClure, who received his mortal wound at the battle of the Hanging Rock. But I might here add the testimony of the late Maj. Samuel Morrow of Spartanburg to the virtue of the Fishing creek establishment in 1780 and 1781 Samuel Morrow belonged in the congregation and was just grown up in 1780. He went into service and among other actions was at Sumter's defeat and even there did some shooting, but made his escape. Just after the war joined the church, was married by Mr. Simpson to Jeanette Nelson recently from the Emerald Isle, and settled on Dutchman's creek in Spartanburg county. He was soon an elder of the Fairforest church. I became his pastor in 1840 and in 1842 saw his body deposited in the grave. He bore a noble testimony to the worth of Rev. John Simpson and all his Fishing creek people. Samuel Morrow himself in the estimation of all I ever heard speak of him was a noble specimen of manhood and a truly devoted Christian.

In 1849 his widow, Jeanette Nelson, died. Just as the famous snow storm - April 15, 1849 - was falling I was preaching in the pulpit of the Fairforest church and her coffin was brought in and placed before me. As the doors were opened for the purpose of admitting the corpse and its attendants the snow was blown across the house. But Jeanette Nelson was a woman of a warm heart as long as its pulsations continued. A worthy helpmeet for a husband whose tongue uttered no guile and whose hands were always ready for a good work.

I may remark in conclusion that the young ladies who made up the famous association of reapers mostly had sweethearts in the army and became wives at the close of the war. Their descendants have been among the good people of the county. Mary Gill was married to Col. John Mills and was the mother of the late R.C. Mills whose virtues as a citizen have been excelled by few natives of the county. A man of intelligence, industry and great public spirit. A tombstone in the Fishing creek cemetery marks his place of rest near that of his wife, Selena Neely, and also near that of his father, Col. John Mills.

Missing Items From The Library.

Would you please check among your research material to see if you have any books or material belonging in the library. Several are on loan, we know of, but there are still others listed in the card catalogue which are missing. We are glad for you to use them, but if kept too long, they may accidentally be packed away or forgotten.

Thank you!

THE FIRST GILLS IN CHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

By Elmer Oris Parker

The family ties that existed between the first members of the Gill family who came to present Chester County in the 1760s has been a matter of much speculation and uncertainty since the demise of those who could have provided the answers. The solution to this puzzle has now emerged.

The eminent antiquarian Dr. Lyman Copeland Draper of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin visited South Carolina in 1871 in his quest for documents and information relating to the American Revolution in the South, and in particular to the battle of Kings Mountain, and General Thomas Sumter and his men. When Draper returned to Madison he continued his efforts by engaging in extensive correspondence with any and all elderly persons believed to possess information in the form of recollections with old participants in the war. It was his desire to produce a

definitive history of the battle that proved to be turning point in the war and a life of the great partisan commander Sumter. The former came to full fruition in his *King's Mountain and Its Heroes* (Cincinnati, 1881), and it has proved to be the best account of the battle and the events that led up to it. Unfortunately, his life of Sumter never was completed but the raw data which he had collected for its preparation is now available on microfilm in many large libraries and in state archives for reference use by any interested researcher.

One of Draper's correspondents provided the solution to the Gill mystery. Mrs. Lucinda Jane Morrow, widow of John Alexander Morrow (1797-1869), of Plantersville, Dallas County, Alabama, wrote in part in June 1877: "I was born & raised & married in So. Carolina. My maiden name was Gill. I am the daughter of Abraham Gill who lived & died on Fishing Creek 10 miles northeast of Chesterville. My mother's maiden name was Agness Walker--her Father was wounded in the Revolutionary War & died from the wound at last. Col. John Mills' wife & Col. George Gill was (sic) cousins to my Father. Col. [William] Bratton lived five miles from Father's near where there was a Battle ground [Huck's Defeat] but I was only 15 years of age when my



Lucinda J. Morrow

Father and Mother died in six weeks of each other so what I know about the incidents of the Revolutionary War are mostly from History." In April she had written Draper, "I am 76 years of age. My husband has been dead 8 years. He has only one brother living. I would like to oblige you but my frame is fast sinking away."

A word of clarification seems appropriate--in this period the use of the term "cousins" meant first cousins. Col. John Mills' wife according to contemporary records was Mary Gill (1758-1841), daughter of Robert Gill (1720-1804) and his wife Eleanor (1721-1801). Col. George Gill (1761-1844) was a son of John Gill (c.1727-1797) and his wife Sarah Duncan. Capt. Abraham Gill (1765-1815) was a son of George Gill (c.1730-1795), a clockmaker and silversmith by trade. Hence, it is readily apparent that if Mary Gill, Col. George Gill, and Capt. Abraham Gill were all first cousins, then their Gill fathers were brothers.

It is generally accepted that the Gills emigrated from Northern Ireland and settled first in New Jersey. If Hugh Cooper (1720-1793), a weaver, was a native of County Armagh, and settled in Somerset County, New Jersey, and as alleged was a brother-in-law to Robert Gill, then it is likely that the Gills followed the same route. The Gills by the early 1760s had removed to eastern Pennsylvania.

John Gill migrated to present Chester County before April 1767, when he was granted 500 acres by North Carolina on Croft's Branch of the South Fork of Fishing Creek, west of present Highway 72 and a mile south of the York County line. He became a planter and eventually sold part of this grant to Hugh Cooper's brother-in-law Christopher Strait (1739-1816), and to his own son-in-law Josiah Porter (c1750-1814). The younger of the brothers, George, migrated to present Chester County before April 1768, and settled on land on Gum Log Branch of the South Fork of Fishing Creek that he bought from Robert and Mary Morris. He followed the trade of clockmaker and silversmith. The older of these three brothers, Robert, arrived before May 1770, when he bought a grant from Robert Glover and his mother Susannah, widow of George Glover, located where the old Saluda Road, now Hwy 72, crosses the South Fork of Fishing Creek, and on which he opened a blacksmith shop. His two-storied log home stood south of the creek and west of the road. Abraham Gill, father of Lucinda, and son of George Gill, later acquired the Glover tract and a part of an adjoining tract granted to his uncle Robert Gill in 1771. He resided there until his death in a old log house constructed before the Revolution that was still standing in 1958.

It is not within the scope of this paper to give details or treat fully the families of these three Gill brothers. Robert and Eleanor are known to have had Thomas (married Agnes), John (married Nancy Agnes Dick), Margaret (married James Crawford), Robert Jr. (married Elizabeth Kelsey), James (married Mary Louise Gaston), Archibald (married Mary Mills, Catherine ---?---, and Agnes Denton), Mary (married Col. John Mills), and Eleanor (married Samuel Kelsey Jr.). Two other children--a Jane and a William--have been claimed, but not proven. John and Sarah were parents of Thomas (married Hannah Cresswell), Rachel (married Josiah Porter), James (married Mary Ann Fox), Col. George (married Margaret Strait, and Jane Cooper, John (married Elizabeth Wallace), Robert, Sarah (married John Porter), Nancy Agnes (married Thomas Jenkins), and William (married Sarah Wallace).

Lucinda Jane Gill, who provided the answer to the Gill question, was the youngest of the children of Abraham Gill and Agnes Walker. The others were: Robert Walker (married Eliza ---?---), Mary N. (married William Wylie Bradford), Eli (married Mary ---?---), and Josiah Henry (married Mary Bradford). Lucinda's maternal grandfather Robert Walker, according to his commanding officer Col. Edward Lacey, was at the battle of King's Mountain "shot through the body, near the heart, by one in his view, and having his gun loaded at the time, he after this took deliberate aim and shot his opponent dead." He survived the war and lived until 1793, but according to Lucinda his wound was a contributing cause of his death. From Lucinda's statements we may deduce that she was born late in the year 1800. She was baptized in Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church on September 6, 1801, when about a year old.

We wish to thank Mr. George Fain Black of Houston, Texas, for sharing, this valuable "find" with us. The original pamphlet of 8 pages was lent to Mr. Draper by Gen. Daniel Harvey Hill of Charlotte, N.C. who was Corps Commander in Lee's Army in Northern Virginia. Taken from "Calendar of The Tennessee and Kings' Mountain Papers of the Draper Collection of Manuscripts."

"Proceedings of a Celebration of Huck's Defeat, at Brattonsville, York District, S. C. July 12, 1839
Published by Request of the Committee of Arrangements."

Dr. John S. Bratton, inheriting his father's (Col. Bratton's) residence, and being the owner of the field of Huck's defeat, situated within a few hundred yards of his house, determined to celebrate the anniversary of this triumph of the Whigs. With this object he called to his assistance a few of his neighbors, when it was resolved that Col. W.C. Beatty be requested to deliver an address on the occasion. G.W. Williams, Esqr., Col. J.D. Witherspoon, Col. J.A. Alston, Capt. John Blair, A. Moore, Esqr., Col. J.M. Love, and Messrs. J.A. Murphy, and F.A. Irwin, were appointed a committee on toasts; and Messrs. Samuel Moore, R.M. Love, J.W. McNell, and Wm. A. Irwin were nominated a committee of arrangements.

The day of the celebration was clear and unclouded. Four military companies, and a large number of citizens, amounting in all, as was generally supposed, to fifteen hundred persons, attended by invitations. The military and citizens formed a procession at the house of Dr. Bratton, Col. Witherspoon acting as Marshall of the Day. From thence they marched to the battlefield, attended by a splendid band of music from Chester, under the command of Maj. Gaston. Several rounds of musketry were fired by the military in honor of the event of the battle. The procession then repaired to the stand. The Rev. Mr. Walker opened the Services by a neat and appropriate prayer. G.W. Williams, Esq. read the Declaration of Independence, and the annexed address was pronounced by Col. Beatty. The Chairman of the Committee of Toasts then read the toasts as hereafter given, each being accompanied by a discharge of musketry, and a fine air from the band of music. When the proceedings closed, the company partook of a fine barbeque, prepared gratuitously by Dr. Bratton. The best feelings and greatest harmony prevailed the assemblage, and the finest order was everywhere observed. The whole ceremony closed without the occurrence of a single circumstance to mar the pleasure of the occasion.

ORATION.

Fellow Citizens: -- Increase of sovereignty and accumulation of territory were the moving impulses of Roman ambition. Thirst for war and a spirit of wild enterprise alone excited the energies, and promoted the exertions of the hardy Spartan. But fellow citizens, unlike Rome and Sparta, your American Revolution was undertaken by her patriots and statesmen from no desire of conquest or love of glory. It was a contest for the inestimable blessings of liberty and independence; a struggle for freedom and political existence. Though an insignificant tax on teas was the immediate cause of hostilities, yet other considerations involving principles of the deepest, greatest interest, combined with the momentous principle of taxation, induced our

forefathers to arms and to trust the event to the mighty Ruler of battles. To enumerate here all the causes of difference between the two countries, would be impracticable - nor is it deemed necessary.

The Declaration of Independence has made them familiar to every mind. Above all other considerations, however, America regarded it as indispensable to her liberty and happiness, that she should be taxed by representatives, chosen only by her people - representatives having common and similar interests, views and feelings, and believed that she could neither be free nor happy, if the property and the rewards of labor of her citizens were wrested from them without their consent. On the other hand, Great Britain, by her parliament, in whose deliberations we had no voice and no representation, claimed and exercised the right to impose taxes upon our people, and the property of our citizens, without their consent. Hence the Doctrine of Parliamentary taxation was the grand and moving cause that led to the American Revolution, and eventually to American Independence.

It may be safely asserted that no people ever asserted their independence at so great an odds, and under so many difficulties and disadvantages, as the American people. Great Britain was then in the zenith of her greatness. Her immense fleets, covered every sea, and reigned emphatically queen of the ocean. As was expressed by one of her poets:

"Her march is o'er the mountain waves,
Her home is on the deep."

She held at her command large armies of disciplined and veteran troops. She had an abundance of all of the finest of war - mind, men and money; and was unquestionably the most formidable nation in the world.

The situation of America was almost the reverse of this. With no ships of war to guard her shores, and no trained soldiers to maintain her rights - with a small population thinly scattered over an extensive territory, and even that population divided and arranged on opposite sides - destitute of men and money, she had only that other essential ingredient for carrying on a successful war - mind - the capacity to direct, to bear her through the conflict. Though thus unequal the contest, and direful the consequences of defeat, our forefathers went forth like David of old, with a sling and a stone, against the Goliath of British might determined to contend to the last for their rights and liberties. Through peril and disaster, amidst victory and triumph, in toil and danger, they marched onward with high, firm, and unshaken resolve, until the invaders of their homes were beaten back to the sea, whence they came, their footsteps dyed deep with their own blood, and liberty and independence were secured to our beloved country.

South Carolina suffered much in our Revolutionary struggle. She had not only to contend with this formidable foreign foe; but many of her own citizens joined the standard of the enemy, and committed frequently the most horrid and revolting deeds. The year 1780 was a dark and gloomy period for the Whigs of Carolina. On the 12th of May of that year, Charleston surrendered to the British forces, and Gen. Lincoln and the American army were all made prisoners of war. The return of the prisoners, transmitted by Sir Henry Clinton to his Government made the number upwards of five thousand. Immediately after this disaster, armed garrisons were posted throughout the entire State, to overawe and control the inhabitants, and cause them to return to their

former allegiance. Our armies and troops had been either taken or dispersed, and for six weeks all military opposition to the British had ceased. South Carolina lay at the mercy of the conquerors; and it was fondly believed, and proudly boasted by Sir Henry Clinton, that, in South Carolina at least, the American Revolution had ended. He forgot that to conquer freemen, you must conquer the mind.

The British commander, by proclamation, denounced vengeance on all who should dare to appear in arms and oppose his authority, and offered with a few exceptions, to those who would accept British protection, and acknowledge British authority, a free pardon for past offenses, and re-instatement in the possession of all those rights, and immunities which they had heretofore enjoyed under the British Government, exempt from temptation, except by their own legislatures. A few individuals who were excepted from the benefits of this specious proclamation, and some others, from an unconquerable love of liberty, fled from the State, and took refuge in North Carolina; but the great body of the people of the State, remained at home and believing resistance hopeless and unavailing they accepted British protection, or were parolled as prisoners. History, however, that faithful chronicler of events, records the fact, that the inhabitants of York District, to their imperishable honor, were never parolled as prisoners nor took protection as British subjects - preferring rather exile and resistance, than tame submission and a dishonorable peace. Thank God! That such a spirit animated their bosoms. It was that spirit that rekindled the flame of liberty in our State, and eventually caused her citizens to throw off the shackles of their oppression. Others might despair, but with them

"Still did the mighty flame burn on through chance and change, through good and ill, like its own God's eternal will, deep, constant, bright, unquenchable."

As the British marched to the upper country, the Whigs of York, Chester and some of the other Districts bordering on North Carolina, fled to that state. They soon organized themselves into companies and bands, and under their gallant leaders, Sumter, Bratton, Winn, Moffit and others, they returned to their State, and took the field against the victorious British. These efforts were made at the very time when the people generally had given up all hope, and notions of independence and resistance - at the very gloomiest period of the whole Revolution for South Carolina. What mortal firmness - what love of liberty - what noble daring is here displayed! The State was unable to pay, feed, clothe, or arm the troops. They had to depend on their own exertions for everything necessary to carry on their warfare. They tabernacled in the woods and swamps with the wolves and other beasts of the forest, and were frequently destitute of food and clothing.

To carry British measures into execution, officers and troops were dispatched, in various numbers, to every nook and corner of the State. These marauding parties, selected as fit instruments for the work, were directed to furnish with the utmost vigor every whig, and to embody the tories to assist in the work of carnage and death. Among others, a Captain Huck was sent out from Rocky Mount by Col. Turnbull, the commander of British forces at that point, with the following order in his pocket:

"You are hereby ordered with the calvary under your command, to proceed to the frontier of the Province, collecting all the royal militia with you in your march, and with said force to push the rebels as far as you may deem convenient.*"

To Capt. Christian Huych.*

Sometime during the month of June, 1780, a party of whigs from this (Brattonsville) neighborhood, under the command of Col. Bratton, Maj. Winn and Capt. McClure, learning that a body of tories were assembled at Mobley's meeting house, in Fairfield District, attacked and defeated them. The report of this tory disaster being conveyed to Rocky

* In York District the name of this individual was pronounced Hook. Ramsey, the historian, has it Houck - Whilst the manuscript that I saw containing the above order has it as here written. It is said on the authority of a Revolutionary Officer, that Huck was by birth a Philadelphian.

Mount, and the great complaint of the boldness of these whigs was the immediate cause that Captain Huck was sent to this neighborhood - the object was to inflict vengeance on these daring whigs who thus braved the British power.

On the 12th of July, 1780, the battle was fought which we have assembled to commemorate. Huck's army was defeated and routed, and himself slain on the battlefield. He lies buried where he fell, and his dead soldiers sleep around him. For victory, he met with defeat - for triumph, death. In number the army of the enemy was greatly superior to that of the whigs. The latter consisted of only seventy-five men whilst the former amounted to four hundred British cavalry, and a considerable body of tories - all well mounted. Thus the odds were great and fearful; but the whigs, animated by a sense of all that was dear, fearlessly attacked the foe - resolved on victory or the grave. Nobly did they sustain the cause of their country on that memorable day - manfully did they battle for their country's rights, and gratefully, proudly should we remember their deeds, and commemorate their services. No sculptural marble or monumental stone points us to this battlefield, and tells of the exploits and triumphs of the men, who gained this glorious victory; but they are not forgotten - this everlasting hill is their proud monument - the liberties we enjoy, the chronicle of their glory. Who would not rather be the victor on such a field, than to have gained those of Agincourt and Cressy? They were fought for empty fame - this for liberty and political existence.

The evening preceding the battle, Huck arrived at the house of Col. Bratton, and demanded of Mrs. Bratton, where her husband was? She replied that he was in Sumter's. We then proposed to her, if she would get him to come to, and join the Royalists, he should have a commission in the Royal Service. She with heroic firmness answered, that she preferred his remaining and dying in Sumter's army. For this patriotic boldness, a soldier of Huck's attempted to take her life, and she was only saved by the interference of the officer second in command. It was at the house of Col. Bratton, that Huck captured the three old men, James McRandle, Thomas Cledenin, and Robert Bratton, who with John Moore, who had been captured during the day, were confined in a crib, until released by John Moore, Jr. during the engagement.

Huck and his officers slept this night in Williamson's house. His troops lay encamped around it. A road, enclosed in a lane, passed the door, and sentinels were posted along the road. The guard kept negligent watch, and the troops lay in fancied security - undreaming of tomorrow's scenes - unknowing that they were already marked for defeat and death. On that same day, Col. Bratton with

one hundred and, principally his neighbors, left Mecklenburg county, N. Carolina, under the conviction that some Royal force would shortly visit their neighborhood to avenge the defeat of the Tories, at Mobley's Meetinghouse. During the march, about fifty of the men dropped off, and thus only seventy-five were left to attack the enemy. With this force, Col. Bratton arrived that night near their encampment. Intelligence of their having passed up, and their number, had been received during the day. After concealing their horses in a swamp, the whigs impatiently awaited the dawn of day to commence the attack. At length it came, and with it victory. One half the men led by Col. Bratton, and Capt. Moffit came up the lane; the other half commanded by Capt. McClure, of Chester, a brave and daring officer, were sent round to come down the lane. Thus the enemy were enclosed, speedily omitted and conquered. When the attack commenced Huck and his officers were in bed, and were aroused from their slumbers by the roar of the American guns. Huck quickly mounted his horse, and attempted to rally his men. This he several times effected but all his efforts were unavailing - the determined spirit of the whigs carried all before them - and so soon as Huck fell, his men threw down their arms and fled. Huck, Col. Ferguson of the British army, and thirty five or forty men, lay dead upon the field or were wounded unto death. How many perished in the woods is not known - the rest escaped. Of the whig ranks only one was killed.* The rest, though in the thickest and hottest of the fight, escaped unscathed to fight other battles, and do more service for their beloved country. The battle is believed to have lasted one hour, and it is well recollected as having been said by some of the actors in the glorious scene, that the waters of the spring below us, that now gush forth so clear and transparent were on that occasion completely crimsoned with the blood of the tories and British soldiers.

The victory gained here was not only brilliant and glorious in itself, but it had the most salutary and important effect on the destinies of our State. It was the first check given to the British troops since their landing in Carolina in 1780 - the first time after the fall of Charleston, that any power dared to meet the hitherto victorious enemy. This victory re-animated the drooping spirits of our countrymen. They were buoyed up with new life and fresh hopes. It brought them confidence, and taught the enemy to dread the vengeance of freemen fighting for their liberties, their lives and domestic altars. It had the direct and immediate effect of embodying the whigs, and in a few days afterwards, six hundred new troops joined the army of Sumter. Thus reinforced, on the

*Old Col. Gill says that the name of this individual was Campbell.

30th of the same month, he made a spirited attack on the British forces at Rocky Mount, and in eight days afterwards gained a complete victory over the enemy at Hanging Rock.

One or two more incidents connected with the battle. When Huck called at Col. Bratton's and demanded of Mrs. Bratton that supper should be prepared for him and his troops, she determined to play a Roman's part, and take a deadly revenge upon the enemies of her country. There was poison in the house, and she resolved to mix it with the food, and give it to them to eat. This resolve she was about to execute; but reflecting on the brave spirit of her husband and neighbors - that they even now might be dogging the footsteps of the invaders of her home - knowing that, in that event, they would attack the enemy - and fearing that they too, from some mishap might eat of the food, she gave up her first intent. What strange presentiment!

But this good woman was not only brave and daring, she was also grateful and merciful. When the soldiers of Huck's threatened her life, as I have before have remarked, the officer next in command interposed in her behalf. Huck being killed, the command of the troops devolved on this officer, and he was among the prisoners, who surrendered to the whigs. They determined to put him to death. He begged to be lead to the presence of Mrs. Bratton before he was executed. She plead for his life with all the eloquence of a grateful woman, and procured his deliverance from the death that then awaited him. In distress and danger she was bold and resolute - in victory and triumph, merciful and kind.

Of the individuals who on that day so manfully contended for their and our liberties, perhaps, only four remain among the living - the rest have died and "gone to that home whence no traveller returns."

The gallant Bratton is no more. Throughout the war he nobly did his duty... At Mobley's, at Williamson's, at Ramsour's, at Guilford, at Hanging Rock, and at Blackstock's, he fought with the most determined bravery and courage. In the darkest period of the struggle, he stood firm to the cause of his country. By his influence and exertions he left alive the spirit of the whigs in this section of the State, and in the most gloomy hour bid them hope for better and brighter days. In this battle (Huck's defeat led) he particularly distinguished himself - so say the histories of the time - so said his fellow soldiers and neighbors. On the night before the battle, he reconnoitered the enemy's encampment, and advanced entirely within their line of sentinels. This knowledge was of incalculable advantage to the whigs, and aided them greatly in achieving the victory. Bratton, Sumter, and a few other resolute and determined spirits in South Carolina, took the field, when hope had almost deserted our cause, and our State lay at the unconditional mercy of British power. They kept it until victory perched upon their banners, and Carolina became a free, Sovereign and independent State. It is unnecessary to pronounce in eulogy on such a man as this - his actions are his best eulogium. His monument is neither brass nor marble column or tablet, but his own heroic deeds enshrined in the hearts of his admiring countrymen.

John Carroll was the individual who had the honor of taking the life of Captain Huck. He shot him dead - two balls entering his head whilst endeavoring once more to rally his men. This Carroll, as well as his brother Thomas, fought bravely throughout the war - was in a variety of engagements, and always acquitted himself with as a brave and daring soldier. It is said that his valor was of the most impetuous order, being usually ahead of all his comrades when going into battle. Perhaps I could not give you a better description of him than that which is given of another Revolutionary hero - he was a whig from the first, he was a whig to the last; he didn't believe in the Tories, and he made the Tories believe in him.

There were others in this battle whose services I would gladly recite, but where every man did his duty, it is difficult to discriminate. I could tell you of five brave Williamsons, all brothers, one of whom, Samuel Williamson, killed the first man who was killed on that day - a sentinel who was asleep on duty. Williamson was left with the sentinel for the purpose of dispatching him as soon as the firing commenced at the house. I could name three Raineys, who acted here with the same determined spirit with which Thomas Rainey expressed himself at Mobley's, "that he came there to fight, and he would do it." I could point you to a McConnell, Capt. John, who did glorious service throughout the war, and who with John Carson and Col. Bratton were the last to fly from their homes, and take refuge in North Carolina. I could tell you of a

host of Moores, a Wallace, a Love, a Hemphill, a Hanna, a Manahan, a McElwee, a Burris, a Partin, a Sadler, a Dennis, a Chambers, an Ervin, and tho' last not least, a brave and heroic McClure, besides many others, who on this and every other occasion did their duty manfully and faithfully. Some lived to see peace and prosperity smile upon their country - others died amid the storm and struggle of the Revolution. They all live in our recollections - our hearts do homage to their courage and virtues.

"Rest, ardent spirits! till the cries of dying nature bid you rise."

Ye few Revolutionary soldiers! who remains with us to grace this occasion, and enjoy the works of your labors, soon, too soon, for your country, from the destiny of our nature, will you join your compatriots in arms, in a land where the sound of war and strife will no more be heard; but living or dead, you have nation's gratitude, and the memory of your services will be forever.

More than half a century has passed away since America was recognized among the nations of the Earth as free and independent. The storm and tempest of battle have long since ceased, and prosperity and peace rest on our happy country. The patriots and sages of the Revolution have not lived in vain. America is rapidly advancing to greatness and power. Her sway is ever happy and peaceful subjects - her dominion extends from ocean to ocean - her flag floats proudly on every sea, and her power is known and respected in every quarter of the earth. Science and knowledge scatter their rich blessings in our midst, and a wise and efficient system of government renders our citizens intelligent, virtuous and happy. The inheritance bequeathed to us by our sires, still remains in our hands. They fought for freedom and liberty - we enjoy them. They contended for a free and liberal government - its blessings rest upon us. Thus based on the affections and intelligence of the people, our government must stand secure, unchanged by time, unshaken by the storms of Revolution. May we prove fruitful to the trust committed to our hands, and guard with vigilance our free institutions.

REGULAR TOASTS

1. The day we celebrate - the 12th of July, 1780, should long be remembered in the Revolutionary history of South Carolina. The victory then gained reanimated the desponding hopes of her sons, and gave confidence and success to the cause of liberty. Honor and gratitude to the men who here risked their lives in defense of their country's rights. This battleground is their proud monument - in our hearts and affections still live the remembrance of their heroic deeds.

2. The memory of Col. Wm. Bratton - a patriot without blemish; a soldier without fear. At Williamson's, Ramsours's, and Hanging Rock he gained for himself distinguished reputation, and proved his devotion to his country's cause. No bribes could corrupt; no menaces deter; no dangers conquer him. In his youth he swore eternal hatred to oppression; undying devotion to liberty and freedom, and faithfully, honestly did he keep the oath.

3. The memory of Capt. Fugh McClure - He fought with distinguished bravery in many battles; in this, he commanded one half of the American forces, and led them to victory and triumph; he died amidst the storm and strife of the Revolution, but left behind him a distinguished name for courage and boldness. Well may Chester be proud of her son, and glory in his fame.

4. The Memory of John Carroll. By the deadly rifle of John Carroll fell the monster Huck. He always proved himself the gallant and fearless soldier; none loved his country better; none ever fought with more courage and bravery in defense of her rights; well might the Tories fear his prowess and bravery. To the Whigs he was a tower of strength and safety.

5. The Memory of Maj. James Moore - In peace he contended for his country's rights; in battle he fought for them with courage and bravery, here he did his duty to both friends and enemies.

6. The Memory of Colonel Moffett. He was always found at the post of danger, and in the very fore-front of battle.

7. The Memory of Capt. James Mitchell and Capt. James Wallace -- They were always to be found where duty called them; they feared no danger - they knew no fear.

8. The Memory of Capt. John McConnell and James Hemphill - No braver, truer men ever unsheathed the sword in the cause of freedom; they declared themselves friends to liberty, their heroic actions proved it; they said they were opposed to British oppression - Huck and his army would be good witnesses to prove the truth of the assertion.

9. The Memory of Capt. Chambers, Col. A. Love and John Vidd - brave, fearless and daring soldiers, who had "hearts for freedom's cause, and hands for freedom's blow" - they fought well here, nobly and bravely on all occasions.

10. The Memory of Alexander Moore, Wm. Moore, Wm. Guy and Charles Curry. They were raised up to love liberty and hate oppression; and here and elsewhere showed, by their gallant actions, unconquerable devotion to the cause of their country. The citizens of York District should never forget their deeds, but remember with pride their courage and virtue.

11. The Memory of John Carson, William Hanna, James Hanna and Robert Howie, sworn, tried friends of liberty; others may talk of patriotism and bravery - the heroic deeds of these men answer for their love of country.

12. The Memory of Wm. Davidson, David Leech, James McClure and Hugh Bratton - as true to their country as the needle to the hole, they fought for liberty and independence when hope had well nigh bade farewell to their cause. May we long remember their services, may we never forget at what price were purchased our liberty and freedom.

13. The Memory of Gen. Wynn and Capt. Smith - gallant patriots and brave soldiers. Driven by the enemy from their homes in Fairfield District they joined the whigs here, and shared in the dangers and triumphs of this battle. Fairfield may well be proud of her gallant sons and cherish with grateful remembrance their deeds in the cause of liberty.

14. The Memory of Thomas Rainey, Samuel Rainey, Benjamin Rainey and Samuel Kelsey - devoted patriots, brave and fearless soldiers; they were always willing to perform their duty - they always did perform it. They were whigs from the first; they were whigs to the last.

15. The Memory of Thomas Carroll, Charles Miles, James McElwee, and Robert Gill - men of brave hearts and strong arms; they were able to fight and willing to do it; they were never found missing in the hour of danger; their backs were never seen by the enemy.

16. The Memory of Thomas Bratton, John Swann, Robert Brown and Robert Ashe -- they were ever to be found under the banner of freedom, with the swords of freemen in their hands, resolved on liberty or death. In this and other battles they showed themselves gallant soldiers and undaunted patriots.

17. The Memory of Wm. Burris, John Miller, James Ross, and Wm. Ross - They had arms in their hands; they knew how to use them; their friends loved, their enemies feared their courage; they did their duty as became honest, fearless freemen, fighting for freedom and liberty.

18. The Memory of Joseph Gaston, Wm. Lewis, James Adair and William Adair - faithfully, gallantly did they fight for freedom and liberty; they never shrank from duty or danger; they never took British protection, but protected themselves by their own arms and their own courage.

19. The Memory of John Moore, Sr. and his four sons, John, Samuel, William and Nathan - about these men and their patriotism there can be no doubt - there can be no mistake - they were full blooded, whole-souled whigs. At the commencement of this battle, John Moore, Sr. was confined as a prisoner in the corn-crib, situated directly between the contending armies; he was thus exposed to danger and death, but he well knew that his four gallant sons were fighting for his rescue, and he patiently awaited coming events. His son, John Moore, Jr. gallantly advanced amidst a shower of bullets, and gave liberty to his father and the other captives. No five men were of more service to their country than these; they loved her well; they fought gallantly and bravely in defense of her liberty and rights.

20. The Memory of James Williamson, Sr., and his five sons, John, Adam, Samuel, George and James. The father was too old to take the field in the days of the American Revolution, but he made a present to his country of his five gallant sons - an offering more precious than treasure, or more value than gold. The first man who fell in this battle was killed by Samuel Williamson. Here and elsewhere, the sons proved themselves brave soldiers and fearless patriots; they were always to be found in the front rank, nearest to the enemy, and amidst the very thickest of the fight.

21. The Memory of John McCaw, John Martin, John Dennis, and Wm. Manahan -- the whigs and Tories of the Revolution could both tell that they could fight, and that they did fight for liberty and freedom.

22. The Memory of Wiley, James Gill, Thomas Gill, and Arthur Gill - Freedom was their mistress, and gallantly and faithfully did they serve her.

23. The Memory of Capt. Jamieson, Capt. John Nixon, and Thomas Boggs - faithful in the cause of liberty - never willing to submit - already ready to fight.

24. David Sadler - one of the few survivors of this battle; one among the cast of the gallant band whose bravery and courage have hallowed this spot to American freemen. He has lived to see the cloud and the storm of Revolution swept from his country, and sunshine and peace rest upon her. May he yet long live to tell us of past deeds, and to remind us of scenes and events dear to American hearts - sacred to every love of liberty.

25. Henry Ray, John Wallace, Francis Wiley, and Wm. Carson - on this spot, fifty nine years ago, they battled for their country's rights. How proud to their hearts the recollection that they have not lived and fought in vain.

26. The Memory of Capt. James Martin, Thomas Black, Thomas Carson, Samuel Bratton, Reuben McConnell, Thomas Wallace, Samuel Feely, David Given, Wm. Henry, and his four sons, William, Malcolm, John and Alexander - true patriots, brave and fearless soldiers. They were always willing to face the enemy - always willing to give him battle.

27. The Memory of Joseph Palmer, John Murphy, James McNeel, Thomas Neely and Joseph Steele; John Harris, William Berry, John Cooper and James Meek -- every breath they drew was in freedom's cause - every blow they struck was for freemen's rights.

28. The Memory of William Erwin, Christopher Strait, Edward Meek, Edward Byers, Capt. Jamieson, Col. Watson, Col. Hill, James McElhany, Jonathan Kuykendall, Samuel Kuykendall, Capt. John Mills, John Anderson, David Jackson, and John Peters -- To the Whigs, they were friends; to the Tories and British, sworn determined foes; Liberty has never truer, braver friends.

29. The Memory of Thomas Clendenin, James McRandall, Robert Bratton, and Edward Martin -- they were married to liberty and faithful, honest husbands did they make.

30. The Memory of Richard Sadler - he was too young to take the field as a regular soldier, in the days of our Revolutionary struggle, but he gallantly stood by the side of his brave brothers - shared in his toils and triumphs, and showed by his conduct that he had within him the unconquerable spirit of a freeman.

31. The Memory of the other Whigs who fought in this battle -- Their names are not remembered, their service will never be forgotten.

32. The Memory of John Walker and son. On the very day of this battle these men, whilst engaged in the cause of liberty in another section of the country, were taken prisoners of war; they were carried on board of a man of war, and subjected to every insult and depredation that tyranny and power could devise. These sufferings were borne without a murmur and with the greatest courage and patience. At the end of twelve months, they were released from captivity, and restored to their friends and liberty. Their names are not forgotten, their services are still remembered.

33. The Memory of Mrs. Martha Bratton. In the hands of an infuriated monster, with the instrument of death around her neck, she nobly refused to betray her husband. In the hour of victory she remembered mercy, and, as a guardian angel interposed in behalf of her inhuman enemies. Throughout the American Revolution, she encouraged the Whigs to fight on to the last - to hope on to the end. Honor and gratitude to the woman and heroine, who proved herself so faithful a wife - so firm a friend to liberty.

34. Mrs. Mary Rainey, Mrs. Ann Ash, and Prudence Curry - the heroic mother of brave sons; may they long live among us to remind us of the Revolutionary greatness and glory.

35. The soldiers of the American Revolution -- to whom, under the blessings of God, we owe the liberty we enjoy; to them belongs a nation's gratitude -- a world's applause.

36. The Revolutionary soldiers who are present today - they fought for liberty and independence in the stormy days of the Revolution; their blessings now rest in peace upon themselves. They had the courage to defend their country's rights - that country remembers their deeds with gratitude.

37. The descendants of the late Col. Wm. Bratton: Their conduct testifies that they inherit the patriotic spirit of their heroic parents, of which the celebration of this day is in honorable evidence.

Toast sent by Henry Moore, of Fairfield District, a Revolutionary Soldier:

"May every whig of freedom, still enjoy its fruit,
And may the Tories never more again recruit."

The persons named in the 2nd to the 25th toasts inclusive, are believed to have been in this battle. The other persons were not, as the Committee have been informed, but were engaged in other battles.

The cool spring of the battlefield furnished the only drink used on the occasion, and none other appeared to be desired.

END

Written on the cover:

Please return this:

Thomas Bratton

Guthrieville, York Co.

Mem - David Sadler Sr. (See toast 24th) was living in 1840, in Anderson District, S.C., 78 years of age - Ice Census of Pensioners p. 143

Wm. Carson, age 77, and Henry Rhay, 81, of York District, were living and pensioners; and Frs. Wylie, of Chester District, 90 years old, in 1840: See Census of Pensioners, p. 144 L. C. D.

Thomas Hughes was an active Whig and so obnoxious to the Tories that he was killed by them in 1777. He was born in Whales.

Joseph Hughes (1760-1834) enlisted at fifteen and served under Sumter at Rocky Mountain, Hanging Rock, Musgrove Mills, Kings Mountain and Cowpens. He was born in Chester County, S.C., removed to Ala., 1825, was placed on the pension roll of Green Co. 1832, for service of Captain in the S.C. Militia.

Thomas Hughes married Martha Tucker Jolley

Joseph Hughes married Leonard

Joseph Hughes married Jane Giles

William Giles Hughes married Elizabeth Morgan Mayhew

Joseph Kershaw (1728-1791) served at the seige of Charleston, where he was taken prisoner and carried to the Bermudas. He was born in Yorkshire, England and died in Camden, S.C.

Joseph Kershaw married Sophia Mathis

John Kershaw married Harriet DuBose

Joseph Brevard Kershaw married Lucretia Douglas

Rev. John Kershaw married Susan DeSaussure

Marion Kershaw married Lawrence Scott Carson

This Indenture made the 3rd day of Sept. 1771, between Abraham Dye and Sarah his wife, of the County of Craven, Providence of S.C., and William Leard of the county and Province aforesaid, by a certain grant bearing date, 7th April 1770, by the honorable William Bull, Governor, did grant unto Abraham Dye a tract containing 300 acres situated in Craven County, on a branch of Rocky Creek, now the said Abraham Dye and Sarah, his wife, for the sum of 100 pounds, current money, paid by the said William Leard, did bargain grant, and convey unto said William Leard, a tract of land containing 150 acres at the lower end of the aforesaid 300 acres.

Wit:

Rice Hughes
Thomas Garrat
Elisha Garrat

Abram Dye
Sarah Dye

(Mr. Lucian Proctor of North Charleston, D.C. and Chester, S.C. shared this information with us) - The article on the Mills by Mr. Ford told of Mr. Samuel McAliley's Mill, and the death notice of Mr. John Proctor told about his building the mill for Mr. Samuel McAliley. (This is what makes genealogy so much fun, the sharing of info. J.N.)

John Proctor's Death
Copied from Chester Reporter
By I.M. Ford

Another veteran has crossed over the river and now rests with the great host of Confederates who have gone before.

On account of a general collapse incident to old age, John Proctor ceased to live on the evening of August 27, 1910, in his eighty-seventh year of life. On the afternoon of the day he was laid to rest in Union Cemetery at Richburg, S.C., Rev. R.A. Iummus conducted the funeral services.

The pallbearers were: W.M. Drennan, D.W. Drennan, S.W. Orr, J. Henry Gladden, Henry Bailey, and Frank McNinch.

During his life, he was a good citizen, loyal to his church and true to his friends.

In the late 50's, he built a mill on Rocky Creek for Samuel McAliley at the cost of about ten thousand dollars, which was the finest mill in the county at that time. In 1860, he built the first store ever erected in Rock Hill, S.C. William Roach was the proprietor.

After an absence of more than forty years he could not locate where it stood.

To him was born eleven children: Margaret (Iizzie), Amos Osburn, John Brown, James P., Joseph H., Robert P., Samuel T., Mary B., Nancy J., Martha H., Sarah S., six of whom survive, as well as thirty six grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren.

He served in the Confederate war, in Company T., 61st S.C.I.

In whatever condition he had found himself, John Proctor knew his duty.

Thomas Cureton Steele, born Nov. 23, 1823 in S.C. (He was probably named for Thomas K. Cureton who lived near the Steele family). He bought a tract of land from John Steele first in 1808 and was one of the witnesses to the will of Jane Carnes, mother-in-law of Col. James Steele in 1824, married Elizabeth Sollars on Aug. 5, 1847, in Pittsfield, Illinois. She was the daughter of Azariah and Mary Wagoner Sollars and was born on March 14, 1827 in Ross Co., Ohio. (Inez Marens Malthy has a certified copy of the marriage certificate of Thomas Steele and Elizabeth Sollars and also Azariah Sollars and Mary Wagoner). Thomas and Elizabeth were married by James Burbridge, elder of the Christian Church.

John James Conner Steele born Oct. 18, 1831, Union Co., N.C., was captain of Co. B., 26th Regt., N.C. Inf. C.S.A. He enlisted June 5, 1861, and his regiment was known as the "Waxhaw Jackson Guards". He married Margaret Nelly Wilson, a widow, on Sept. 17, 1867. She was the daughter of William and Eliza Gaston Neely and was born March 13, 1837, in Chester Co. She had two sons, Hall and Hugh Wilson by her first marriage.

ART. IX.
TRAGIC INCIDENTS AMONG THE WHITES

Robert Robertson, Rocky Mount, stood on the "Round Rock" at the falls and dipped for fish. He left this stand and waded toward the bank. Before reaching it he was drawn into a swirl or "suck hole." He was never seen of or heard of again. This was about 1808.

Two Hall brothers and Susan Wall, a negro, made an effort to cross the river at the mouth of Rocky Creek in a boat. All three drowned. This was 1821.

Isaac Meek and Jacob Heck, both of whom were workers on the canal, were drown from a boat at the public dam in the 30's. The public dam was built above the falls to divert water into the canal.

John Montgomery, a young man of Lancaster County, was drowned while bathing in the river at Rocky Mount ferry in 1833.

A young Owens who was playing leap frog with a companion, accidentally pitched into the creek and was drowned. This occurred in Rocky Creek near the mouth of the Hagues branch sometime in the 30's.

An infant which had been murdered and thrown into the Rocky Creek was caught in Fickett's Mill Dam in the 30's. Diana Sweat was supposedly its mother.

John Reynolds was killed with his own pistol by Charles Lewis near the mountain gap in the 30's.

Capt. Charles Thorn was killed and his body was thrown into the river above the falls by his slave, Bob. This was in 1835. For this crime Bob was tried, convicted and executed. The hanging took place near the residence of the late W.D. McCullough. Bob's head was then cut off and stuck on the end of a pole and the pole stuck in the ground on the roadside near the place of hanging and remained there until it was thoroughly decayed.

Thomas Fickett was killed by John Sweat with a pocket knife. This occurred in Link's tavern on the Hill Island in the 30's. Mrs. John C. Gunthrape while on her way on horseback from preaching at Catholic Church, was killed by the limb of a tree falling on her. A storm was in progress at the time. This was in the 40's.

Robert Gunthrape rode on a horse back to what is now Old Rossville. His horse became unmanageable there and ran under a horse rack and Robert was killed. This occurred in the 40's.

James Barkley was returning from Camden in a gig. His horse became frightened and ran off. He was thrown out of his vehicle and killed. This was in 1847.

Timothy Connor was killed by a tree falling on him. As he was alone the circumstances attending the accident can only be conjectured. He cut the tree down that killed him. His body was not found for several days. This occurred near Camp Welfare about 1856.

Willie D. Scott, son of Dr. I.S. Scott, was killed by an accidental discharge of his gun while hunting near Rocky Mount Ferry in 1868.

Tillman Dixon was drowned while seining in Gladden's Mill pond in 1887.

Lansel Hollis, son of A.A. Hollis was killed by an accidental discharge of his gun while hunting near his father's house in 1891.

A young Gregory was killed by an accidental discharge of his gun in a boat in the river near the "Point of Rocks" about 1894.

John Turner and four of his sons went out in a boat to fish near the Hill Island. They got into rough water and could not manage the boat. They were thrown out into the water. Turner and one son were drown, the other three were rescued. This occurred about 1894.

J. Rinaldo Massey was killed by an accidental discharge of his gun in a boat near the Hill Island in 1895.

Stark Perry Martin was called to his back door in the night and shot by Henry Nettles, a negro, in 1900.

Fred Habenicht, of Winnsboro, was drowned while bathing near the "Point of Rocks" in 1903.

TRAGIC INCIDENTS AMONG THE BLACKS

Peter Allen rode a horse into the river to fish the traps at Pickett's Ford. The horse went into some quick sand and Peter dismounted to assist the horse. The horse, relieved of Peter's weight, came out but Peter was unable to extricate himself and consequently drowned. That the horse could not be caught for some days was regarded with awe by the superstitious. This occurrence was in the 20's.

A man and woman, names not remembered, while walking a log across Rocky Creek near its mouth, fell into the creek and were drowned. This occurred in the 20's.

Joe Adams was shot on his horse and killed near "Stinking Pond" by George Gibson, a white man, in the early 40's.

Scipio Doig was crushed to death in the machinery of his owner's (John Doig) mill at the head of the falls in 1846.

Green Dunn was killed by lightning on the home place of the late Jesse A. Gladden in 1865.

George Perry, Peter Perry, and Edith Perry were drowned from a boat at Benson's Landing in 1870.

David Tillman, a small boy, was drowned while bathing in the river near Pickett's Island in the early 80's.

Blount Hagood, an expert swimmer, was drowned in an effort to cross the river at Rocky Mount Ferry in 1886.

Lewis McMillwain was killed by the derrick while at work rebuilding the pillard under the bridge at Gladden's mill in 1888.

Joe Watson and John McDowell, a white man, occupied a boat which they allowed to get into rough water. John McDowell jumped into the water and was rescued. Joe Watson clung to the boat and was drowned. His body was caught on Johnson's fall trap at Rocky Mount some weeks later. This occurred at the falls about 1892.

Allen Tidwell, while walking a log across Debutary, fell in and was drowned about 1898.

ART. X.

SOME OF THE MEN OF ROCKY MOUNT

Miles Farrar, in the early year of the last century, ran the falls in a boat and came out uninjured. We have heard of no other ever making the effort.

In the early settlement of Rocky Mount, Drs. Edwards and McCullough were the practicing physicians. Dr. Edwards was a very wealthy man and of cultivated manners. He died at Rocky Mount and left a large estate which did his children but little good. The old people of that vicinity could have unfolded a story of great wrong had they been disposed to do so.

Dr. Briggs of a later date had very great social wrong practiced upon him. In consequences of this he drank to such success that he died in a few months.

Thomas Minton, was by far and at long odds the most useful man of this day in his section. He repaired clocks, etc., manufactured tin vessels of all kinds, made furniture of every description, did any smithing needed, and built the machinery of all the cotton mills of every character. All this was done in a way

when every piece used was taken from the forest, prepared, dressed, and shaped to fit the place for which it was designed by hand. After his death his tools were thought to be worth \$1,000. He left no one who knew how to use many of them.

Berry Montgomery was a surveyor, auction cryer, merchant, mechanic of small import, and often called upon to treat the sick though he was no M.D.

When a boy the writer saw a wagon which this old man made after he was seventy years of age probably. It looked well and did good service. At each meal he took his brandy and at no other time. He used tobacco also, yet he lived more than ninety years.

Timothy Connor was a master mechanic. He built the first residence of any pretension in all this country. It was erected for one McCrarey at Beckhamville in the 20's. This house was the residence of Dr. W.C. Cloud for many years. It was burned in the early 90's. His next large house was built for Laban Hall. It was erected in the 30's. The family of the late Jesse A. Gladden now owns it and part of them live in it. He made the model of the first bridge across the Congaree River at Columbia. The strips of this model were thinner than a table knife. Yet it would hold up the weight of any man. It is said that he sold this model very cheap to John McCullough, the contractor of the Rocky Mount Canal, who built the bridge by it. Timothy Connor's death was a tragic one and has been mentioned.

Barney O'Neals has left his imprint on many plantations around and about. His favorite work was digging and walling up water springs. A specimen of his hand-craft may be seen on the "Sweat Place." This work may have been done by order of Col. Senf, as this place was his home for several years previous to his death. On account of the character of his work, Barney O'Neals was known everywhere as the "Spring Lizzard".

John Gunthrape, a twelve year old boy, secretly entered a vessel at an English port and concealed himself until well out at sea. He was landed at Charleston, S.C. This was shortly after the Revolution. He remained at Charleston some time and then came up and settled on Rocky Creek. Here he spent the remainder of his life which was full of years. He reared a large family. He was good and useful as a citizen and died esteemed and respected by all. As he never communicated with his relatives in England, they never knew what became of him.

William Montgomery is said to have been a very eccentric man. Many amusing anecdotes are told of him. He lived to be quite an old man and it is believed that he never took a dose of medicine in his life.

ART. XI.

MEMORIES, TRADITIONS AND HISTORY OF ROCKY MOUNT AND VICINITY

Tacitus Cassidy was an Irishman and a man of very great strength and endurance. He overcame each and every antagonist in his many fisticuffs. On one occasion he was subpoenaed as a witness in a lawsuit. He knew his evidence would greatly injure the cause of a warm friend, whom he esteemed very highly. When the day of trial came Tacitus filled himself well with red liquor, the kind that makes men bold. When called up and sworn he took the stand and said with a loud voice, "Nolus, bolus, bull and inusns; Judge, I am a horse." The Judge told the sheriff to "stable that horse and carry him off with a ten dollar bill." Tacitus had accomplished his object and his friend paid his fine. This occurred in the 30's at Winstboro. Judge O'Neals probably presiding.

William Bowles was a native of Connecticut and taught in this community in the 30's. In that day the pupils voiced their studies or, as it was then called, "studied out loud." Mr. Bowles would stretch himself out at full length on his back on a bench and close his eyes. If any pupil made a mistake, it was corrected; if any one was not studying, he was ordered to work; the name of the delinquent was called on each occasion. His schools were large and he was a man after Solomon's own heart, as he spared not the rod. In figures he was a prodigy, as no problem was stated to him that the solution was not given as soon as heard without making a figure or giving the least mental concern apparently. His mind was a regular encyclopedia of recollections. He could give the date of frivolous and insignificant happenings for years afterward. He owned a mule (Tommy) which was his constant companion and faithful dependence for locomotion in his journeyings and meanderings, which were not few. In the heat of summer and the iciness of winter, he wore an overcoat made of buffalo skin. He was never known to sleep on a bed, but always on a pallet, which he wanted before the fire in the winter. He suffered greatly with asthma and for relief would take ground red pepper stirred in honey. After returning to his home he kept up a correspondence with an old pupil, until the beginning of the war.

John G. Totton taught a singing geography school in 1843. The lessons assigned were sung to some tune and the singing continued until the lessons were learned. As the tune "Old Dan Tucker" was familiar to the school, the lesson for it was soon learned and brought forth the greatest volume of music. Each lesson had a separate tune. The patrons were well pleased with the progress made and the knowledge gained.

Dr. Ira Seaborn Scott graduated at the Medical college, Charleston, in 1843. He commenced at once the practice of his profession. His career of usefulness was one seldom attained by a country physician. His practice extended from Beckhamville down the river to Kershaw line and eight miles below. To see him leaning on his crutch and staff, one could scarcely believe him able to such an extensive practice. He was cripple from childhood. His practice extended over a period of more than forty years.

Years ago, when the typhoid fever raged in this county he lost not more than three percent of the cases he treated. In obstetrics his patrons believed him to be without an equal. He died in 1888, esteemed and lamented by this whole community.

William Dixon Benson was a physical wreck and scarcely a week ever passed without his taking medicine. He kept a small shop near Gladden's mill where he worked upon watches, clocks, and almost anything made of leather, wood or iron. During the war his skills were well directed. He made a machine with which he manufactured buttons of horn and bone. He also made spinning wheels and hand looms, by means of which these people could spin thread and weave cloth, which was made into wearing for both races and sexes. He thus enabled our girls to sing with truth and in spirit that song about "The Homespun Dresses."

He made a pistol which could be set in a house or field and the cone causing it to fire, when so arranged, would certainly receive the contents. He made a shooting lock for a house door. When properly set, it could not be unlocked without an explosion, which again fasten the door with another bolt. He also made a burglar catcher. When this was set, any one stepping on an unnoticeable platform in front of the door, would be jerked up by an unseen iron loop and held hard and fast until relieved.

The men carried all kinds of farm tools and the ladies their jewelry, watches, etc., to him for repairs and all were accommodated alike. His work always left his hands in good shape and was a fine specimen of workmanship.

He was a harmless and innocent old man and scarcely left his shop except to fish, of which sport he was very fond, and occasionally to hunt. He died in 1885, respected and beloved by all.

Dr. William E. Hall was the wealthiest man of this community. He was his own manager and attended to the slaves on his five plantations in South Carolina. He also owned two places in Georgia, which he frequently visited. His crops were paying ones. He was the best of neighbors and a very benevolent man. No one ever went to him for favor and came away empty handed. His slaves loved him devotedly and some of them, even after emancipation could not speak of him without tears coursing down their cheeks. He was a strong pillar in Bethesda Church. This was broken by his death and his place has not since been filled. Not a dollar's worth of the large property left at his death is in possession of any of his descendants now.

William Robertson was probably the best financier of antebellum days. He incurred a debt of ten thousand dollars for a plantation and his only resources were a few horses and his family, (he had several children). He paid the debt, built several thousand dollars worth of houses on the plantation, and owned a considerable number of slaves before his youngest child was neat grown. He was quite energetic and an excellent manager.

William Nickels was boat-write for the rivermen. He built all the boats used in navigating the river in his day. When boat building was no longer a business, he opened a shop at his home to repair wagon and all kinds of vehicles. This he did as long as he was able to do the work. He died in 1887 nearly 91 years of age.

Mansel Hollis, probably, performed more manual labor than any man, white or black, in the country. He began as soon as he was able to do anything and continued until his death at about eighty years of age. To recount the amount of labor done in one day by him on several occasions would almost stagger belief. His health was excellent until the last few years of his life. He died in 1899. And left a considerable estate.

Robert S. Nickels, was the best manager in a small way among us. He made the best living in the community on very slender resources and without much manual labor on his part. He worked and managed to get eighteen bales of cotton ahead when it was worth about one hundred dollars per bale. After his death in 1899, his funeral and current farm expenses were settled sixteen bales could still be seen lying around. Since his death the oldest cotton ever sold in the county. His practice was to sell a bale when he needed some money and only then.

Thomas Bradshaw Lumpkin undoubtedly possessed the greatest mental caliber of any one in the community. With a collegiate training and such environments as would be most conducive to the greatest literary effort, it is difficult to conjecture what manner of man he would have made. With scarcely any education he enjoyed reading good literature and his companion was fairly good.

He was a poet in the rough; he knew how to make the lines jingle at their ends and to put sense in their middle. He wrote two poems which were notable; one was about a neighbor, which caused much anger, the other was on a meeting of Flint Hill Masonic Lodge, in which a stanza was devoted to each officer and member present. The most prominent frailty of each was ridiculed most unmercifully. This was taken in the spirit of fun and caused no little merriment. No copy of either is now in existence or of any of

his many squibs in doggerel. The old story of "Is it shelled", which went the rounds of the press many years ago, was the product of his brain. His voice was the strongest I ever knew in a human being. On one occasion he stood on the platform of Robert Ford's gin-house and called Fred, a negro boy, two or three times and told him to come to Mr. Ford's gin-house and drive the gin. In the course of a half hour up walked Fred. He was asked, "why he came." His reply was "Mas Brad called me to drive the jin," and said he was gathering chinqua pins at the "wash hole" when he was called. This was more than a mile on an air-line. Dr. I.S. Scott says he heard him once five miles, and it is said that he "hollered" once in the middle of the river and was heard ten miles down stream.

Many of his quaint and witty sayings are still quoted and will be for days to come. He had an inexhaustible supply of anecdotes and no man ever told one in his presence that he could not tell one to match it and very likely a little better.

He lived to be an old man.

(Lafayette to Aunt Susan Wylie)

La. Grange Chester, So. Ca.
Nov. 13/52

Aunt Susan

I take this opportunity to answer your kind letter. I was really sorry to hear of Aunt Molly's illness. It is really a great pity of her indeed to think that she has to enjoy your visit in that way but it is the lot of many persons and we have put up with natures decrees. GrandPab has certainly enjoyed a limited degree of good health since you left. You aware of his being sick. I wrote to you before about him having two or three spells. He had a spell of the Cholic last week. He was very sick for a day or two but is now better. He was in very low spirits a few days since and had been for a good while previous. At this time he is in tolerably good spirits. Grand Mah was sick a few days ago but she is tolerably well at present, the rest are well. The Negroes have escaped sickness exceedingly well so far. There has been scarcely any sickness among them this summer. You know that is something extraordinary. Uncle DeKalb's Family have been a little more unfortunate. He had a spell himself but was not very bad. Peter had several attacks of the croup. Antonia made two or three chills to keep from going to school. The rest have been well. The rest of the Families have been well. All our Family are, something a little uncommon. There is but little sickness in the country at present. But take care when matrimony comes into consideration and you will find that fever pretty tolerable high. Almost everybody is getting married and all those that have not got married and all those that expect to get married are in a tremendous notion or would like very much to get in one. I will mention a few who have recently married, Col. John B. Lewis to Miss White, daughter Parson White, Miss Margaret Lewis, daughter of Col. J. Lewis to a Mr. William Moore, John Seely's Widdow Polly to a Mr. Howell not worth a continental d,n. G.A. Pagan to Miss Sicily Atkinson daughter of John Atkinson a runaway match. She was at the Limestone Springs at school. His Company was Thomas Mills and Wife, Mr. William Coleman, Mr. J.N. Lewis and Br. E. Crawford a nice set of gentlemen if God had done right he would have caused an opening in the Earth and swallowed the boys up.

I believe I have written about all I have to write at present. I will draw to a close as Mother wants to write a few lines. Oh! I entirely forgot to tell you Aunt Catherine is very mad and also very much disappointed because Miss McClure did not invite her to her wedding. Consolation is very necessary if it could be given but I really think have treated her very ungentlely indeed. Aunt Hannab is invited. Harrison Gill is also invited. Our Family are also, Laura is too but Uncle Mobley and Aunt Mary are not. No more. Excuse bad writing, all mistakes and interlines. Your Nephew

Lafayette Strait

FAMILY RECORDS
William Thompson

b. 1762
d. Fairfield Dist. S.C. 1842
m. 1784, Elizabeth Martin b. 1761, d. Starkville, Miss., 1851
Res. Little River, Fairfield Dist., S.C.

Service: He was a private in Capt. George Liddell's Co. in Col.
William Thompson's 3rd S.C. Regt.

His widow came to Oktibbeha Co.

Children:

John T. b. 1786, d. 1868, m. 1819, Nancy Montgomery (1783-1839)
Harriet m. Rev. J.C. Kenny
Charles m. Nancy Mobley
William m. (1) Margaret Williams, (2) Martha McCrory
John
Margaret Euren m. 1841, Robert Middleton, b. 1820, d. 1870
Nancy m. Newton Cannon
Mary m. Robert Williams
David b. 1837
Sallie m. (1) James L. Graves, (2) _____ Freeman
Martha d. unm.

William B. S.C.

Martha b. S.C. d. Starkville 1872 - m. Fairfield Dist. 8 Aug. 1811,
David Montgomery b. Fairfield Dist. 1787, d. Starkville, 1872

MISSISSIPPI REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS

William Milton Montgomery m. Sarah I. Nason. She m. (2) T.F. Archibald
Charles P. Montgomery b. 1814, d. 1868, m. Greensboro, Ala., Caroline Shivers b. 1824 d. 1869
James A. Montgomery m. Aseneth R. Williams
Elizabeth b. 1816, d. 1906, m. William R. Glenn b. 1817, d. 1903
Emma m. 1842, James Bardwell b. 1820, d. 1854
Margaret Montgomery b. 1827, d. 1888, m. Cecil Bardwell b. 1824, d. 1902
John Montgomery m. _____ Dunlap

Elizabeth m. (as his 3rd wife) Charles Montgomery brother of David and Nancy

William Montgomery
David Montgomery
Charles Montgomery
Harriet Montgomery

John Montgomery
Sam Montgomery
Charles Montgomery
Nancy Montgomery

A Day in the Life of Alabama

(Taken from "The Birmingham News" - March 24, 1985)

Pioneer preachers started church more than 150 years ago -
By Clarke Stallworth

It was 1821 and Christopher Vandergrift - a farmer and circuit-riding Methodist Minister in Chester County, S.C. - thought the grass was greener farther west.

So Vandergrift and his wife, the former Rebecca Amberson, gathered their children together and told them the news. We are going to Alabama, the new state to the southwest.

One of his daughters, Ellen, talked with her fiance, a farmer and sometime Presbyterian preacher named Peter Harden, and they decided to get married immediately.

In September of 1821, the Vandergrifts and newly married Hardens sold their land and headed west in a covered wagon.

They slogged through the wintry woods of North Georgia, rumbling along the makeshift roads of the frontier. They shot wild turkeys for meat and gathered berries from the woods.

It was December when they came to the Coosa River, which blocked their path. But one of them found some shoals, shallow places in the river, and they wrestled the wagon across the river.

A few days later, they set stakes in the ground and claimed some land near a place called Walnut Grove, near present-day Oden-ville. Later it was called Jones Cut. Today the Seaboard Railroad runs through it.

The Vandergrifts built a log cabin and the Hardens built a cabin close by. Then they joined their neighbors in building a small log church.

The bearded Vandergrift preached a Methodist sermon every other Sunday in the little log church, and his son-in-law, Peter Harden, preached a Presbyterian sermon every other Sunday.

In between farming and preaching, the Vandergrifts and Hardens had occasional run-ins with the Creek Indians who lived near by.

In 1835, the little church was organized as the Liberty Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Rev. James S. Gunthrie was the first minister. By now, the Indians were being moved to Oklahoma, by order of President Andrew Jackson.

The church grew, and in 1850, the log cabin was replaced by a white frame building which now stands at the intersection of Alabama 411 and Liberty Road.

Rev. Peter Harden, who had married a Vandergrift and gone west with the family, preached the first sermon in the new building.

On Dec. 18, 1852, James Lovell and his wife Martha gave land to the church for a "public burying ground, a schoolhouse and a place for preaching."

In 1985, members of the tiny congregation met for the church's 150th birthday, a Sesquicentennial Memorial in the white frame building that was built in 1850.

The oldest gravestone - George Vandergrift, who died Sept. 15, 1833, probably a son of Christopher and Rebecca Vandergrift. Another is Robert Hardwick, born May 29, 1825, died Nov. 9, 1859. These ancient tombstones testify to the history of this church.

(Note - if any of you have more information on the early members of this church, would appreciate your sharing with us, thank you.)

Deed Book A
Chester County
By Jean C. Agee

Page 315-316

Mary Hambleton, of Chester County, S.C. in consideration of the sum of one hundred pounds Sterling paid by John McGlamary, of the same county and state, yeoman, Did Bargain sell to John McGlamary, one sorrel horse, one Black mare, one Bay Mare and two, year old fillys, ten head of neat Cattle, two head of sheep, twelve head of hogs, one woman's saddle, one case of bottles, one pannelled chest, four pots, one bedstead, three beds and bed clothes, pewter, one plow and gears, two spinning wheels, and other household furniture, one Riffle gun, one saddle, onecheek---, one hand saw, one gown patton, two axes, about seven acres of corn to have and to hold the said bargained premises unto the said John McGlamary for 100 pounds with lawful interest on the first day of May next ensuing the date hereof for the redemption of the hereby bargained premises, then these present and every called article and thing herein contained shall cease, determine and be utterly void anything herein before contained to the contrary thereof in anywise, notwithstanding - In witness whereof Mary Hambleton hath hereunto set her hand and seal this eighth Day of September 1787 -- and in the 12th year of the Independency of the U.S. of North America --

witnesses:
Daniel Cooke
Thomas White

Mary (X) Hambleton
her mark

Court held for Chester County 3 Oct. 1787 -- The within Bill of Sale for Mary Hambleton to John McGlamary was proved by Daniel Cooke and Thomas White

Richard Taliaferro, Clk

316-317

South Carolina -- Camden District - This indenture made this 25th day of June 1787 -- Between John Grisham of state and District aforesaid, planter, of the one part and Isaac Taylor, planter of the other part -- John Grisham for the sum of 350 pounds, old south currency, to him paid by Isaac Taylor his heir and administrators hath sold a certain tract of land lying and being in Camden District on a branch of Broad River, called Sandy Creek or otherwise Stone's Creek --- This land bounds northwest on land surveyed for Lucy Collins all other sides bound by vacant land, at the time of Running out. Begins at a whiteoak at Lucy Collins corner -- Runs N.E. 30-31-61 to a hickory thence S.E. 62/31/62 to a stake thence S.W. 30/31/62 to a stake and from this stake to first corner - The tract contains 100 acres as shown on grant dated 1st May 1772. This grant made by Charles Granville Montague, Gov. of S.C. The plat is recorded in Secretary's Office. The grant was made to Phillip Grisham and is sold to Isaac Taylor by special deed

In presence of
William X Grissom
his mark

John X Grissom
his mark

(The difference in spell above was copied from deed original - J.A.)

At a court continued and held for Chester County 4 Oct 1789 - The within indenture of Conveyance from John Grisham to Isaac Taylor proved by John Bile and Thomas B. Franklin and ordered recorded
Richard Taliferro - Clerk

South Carolina - Chester District - 3 Oct. 1787 Between Patrick McGriff, planter, of the one part and James Lay, of the other part - both of the state and District aforesaid - Patrick McGriff for 100 pounds Sterling paid by James Lay has sold all that tract of land of 100 acres - This tract is in the same district and was a patent to Patrick McGriff 2nd Oct. 1786 - The land begins at a white oak thence west 90-31.62 thence to a hickory thence N.E. 81 to a white-oak thence to a pine S.E. 90 to a white oak 31-62 to a south branch of Sandy River corners on a red oak thence to the beginning - The rest of deed in regular form.

Witnesses are not shown

Pat. McGriff (I.S.)

At Chester Co. Court 4th Oct., 1788 this deed acknowledged in open court

Richard Taliferro, Clk

319-322 Pages

South Carolina - This indenture made the 22nd of Sept. -- In the year of Our Lord (year is omitted - J.A.) Between Alexander Brown and Samuel Brown, his son, planters, both of Chester County of the one part and George Gill, Jr. of the said county of the other part -- for 106 pounds Alexander and Samuel Brown have sold to George Gill, Jr. a tract of land containing by estimation 150 acres. This tract situated in Chester County lying on South side of the South Fork of Fishing Creek - Beginning at south bank of the creek on the said Alexander Brown's line thence along said line S 15 W 95 poles to a Red Oak on George Craig's line thence North 75 W 100 poles to a pine on Henry Culp's line thence with Culp's line N 33 W 120 poles to a pine on William Millen's line Thence N 30 E 59 poles to an Ash on the Creek thence S 50 E --- along the creek 44 poles to the turn of the creek thence N 47 E 20 poles to the fence thence S 44 # 38 poles to the Creek and from thence the various courses of the creek to the beginning - This tract being part of a tract of 290 acres of land granted to Alexander Brown by Patent April 29, 1768 by the governor of N.C. -- Alexander Brown by deed of gift transferred this land unto his son Samuel Brown Jan. 13, 1783 -- The deed to Samuel Brown is recorded in Records of Chester County - Rest of deed regular form -

Witnesses:

Willie J. Brown

Alexander Brown (seal)

William Wylie

Samuel Brown (seal)

Samuel H. Dickson

At a Court of Chester County 4 Oct. 1787 This deed was proven by the oaths of William White and Samuel Dickson and ordered recorded.

Richard Taliferro, Clk.

Note: William White did not sign as witness; however, the above is the way the original reads - J.A.

Page 322-323-324

South Carolina -- Indenture made 2nd Jan. 1780 - Between Thomas Huston and Agness, his wife, of Camden District, S.C., planter, of the one part and Samuel Weir, of the same district and state, planter, of the other part - By a grant bearing the date 13th August 1762 and in the second year of reign of King George III - This grant made by

Thomas Boone, Governor of the state of South Carolina. The grant was made to Hugh McDonald and was for a tract of land containing 150 acres -- Situated on both sides of Rocky Creek in Craven County -- Bounded on all sides by vacant land when surveyed. This land by lease and release was transferred from Hugh McDonald to George Weir on 31 March 1764 -- George Weir transferred the tract to Thomas Huston by lease and release 7 and 8 of Jan. 1773 - The present indenture witnesses that Thomas Huston and Agness Huston, his wife, for 700 pounds current money of the state of S.C. paid by Samuel Weir have sold the tract of land to Samuel Weir -- Rest of deed in usual form.

Witnesses:

William McCaw
James Greer
Elinor Huston

Thomas Huston (L.S.)
Agness X Huston (L.S.)
her mark

Page 325-326

South Carolina

Camden District -- 31 Aug., 1700, and in the Seventh year of American Independence

(This is a clerk's error, but is the way the original reads - J.A.)

Between Patrick McGriff, of the one part and Thomas McGriff of the other part -- Both of same state and District aforesaid -- Patrick McGriff in consideration of 50 pounds Sterling paid by Thomas McGriff does sell a tract of land containing 100 acres -- The tract situated in state and district aforesaid being a patent to Mr. Kirkpatrick, Sept. 1, 1768 --- Land begins at a pine and running thence S.S. II -- 31.62 to a Red Oak thence to a stake thence N.W. 79 - 31.62 to Creek thence to a pine thence to a stake N.E. II - 31.62 to a pine thence to a stake S.E. 79 - 31.62 to the creek thence to the Beginning -- Rest of deed in Regular form.

Witnesses:

Edward Lacey
Rich--Miles
Hugh Stuart

Pat. McGriff (L.S.)

Court Oct., 1788, this deed was acknowledged in open court and ordered recorded

Richard Taliferro, Clk.

Page 327

Indenture made 10 December 1783 -- Between Kathrine Brown of S.C. of Camden District, widow of the one part and William Brown of same state and District, of the other part. Katherine Brown in consideration of 100 pounds Current Money paid by William Brown Hath sold a tract of land containing 116 acres --- being part of a tract of 350 acres granted to Katherine Brown by patent 23 Jan. 1773 - The tract of 116 acres is laid off the west end of said tract by line running from N.W. to the N.E. parallel to line running N 25 e-- Rest of deed in regular form

Katherine Brown (signed with mark)

Witnesses:

James Adair
Turner Kendrick

Deed acknowledged in open court 4 Oct. 1787 and ordered recorded

Richard Taliferro, Clk.

Indenture made 5 Jan. 1788 - Between Richard Taliferro, of Chester County and state of South Carolina, of the one part and William Britain, of the same County and state, of the other part -- Richard Taliferro in consideration of 20 Shillings sterling paid by William Britain, has sold one acre of land whereon the said Britain's Grist Mill stands. Beginning at the North corner on a post oak tree and by joining the said Britain's Line on a Post oak, which is one of his corner trees - Rest of deed in regular form.

Richard Taliferro

There are no witnesses given for this deed

Indenture made 2 Jan. 1788 Between Thomas Crosby, of Chester County, S.C., planter of the one part and Thomas Lewis, of Greenville County, S.C. - Thomas Crosby for 50 pounds has sold to Thomas Lewis a tract of land containing 93 acres - This tract is situated in Camden District part in Chester County and part in Fairfield County, on the South side of Sandy River. This tract bounded S.E. on James Dillard's land - Southward and S.W. on land of the heirs of Amos Davis (deceased), N.W. on Richard Crosby's land -- This tract of land was granted to Thomas Crosby 21 Jan. 1785.

Thomas Crosby

Witnesses:

Allen de Graffenreid

Indenture made 5 Jan. 1788 -- Between Richard Davis, Chester County, S.C., planter, of the one part and Allen De Graffenreid, of the same county and state, merchant, of the other part. For 5 shillings from Allen DeGraffenreid paid to Richard Davis the said Davis does sell a tract of land of 300 acres - This tract begins at a small hickory sapplin thence N.E. 19.52 chains 74 chains - it crosses Sandy River thence 65 chains to hickory, thence 73.65 chains to a scrub oak thence S.W. 20.50 chains to the beginning (being half of Tract of 600 acres originally granted to John Hitchcock, from the state of N.C. on 3 Feb. 1754 (Recorded in Auditor General's Office Feb. 23, 1754 --) John Hitchcock to Ann Davis (wife of Richard Davis) by his last will and testament - the one half of the said 600 acres --- Rest of deed in Regular form.

Witnesses:

John Pratt

Richard Davis

Thomas Crosby

Ann Davis

(both signed with mark)

This is the lease for this property.

This is a release for the above land and the price paid was 100 pounds.

3rd of January 1788 - Between James Neely, of Chester County, S.C., Yeoman, of the one part and Thomas Neely, of the 2nd part, yeoman, of the same county and state -- By a grant bearing the date 26 July 1774 under the hand of William Bull, Esq., Governor of the Province

of S.C. James Neely did receive a grant of a plantation of 220 acres in Craven County, on a branch of Fishing Creek -- This land is bounded S.W. & N.W. and N.E. by the lands of said Neely - Bounded N.W. by William M. Riney's (This is probably William M. Rainey's land and the clerk spelled Rainey Riney - J.A.) Witnesseth that James Neely now in consideration of the sum of 10 pounds Sterling does sell for one year and a day to Thomas Neely the said tract of 220 acre plus 67 acres which bounds N.W. on William McKinney

There are no witnesses signatures

James Neely

Pages 339-340

Aug. 16, 1787 Between Mager Grisham, of Chester County, S.C. of the one part and Thomas Baker Franklyn of the same state and county of the other part. Witnesseth that Mager Grisham and Fanny, his wife hath sold to Thomas B. Franklyn all that tract of land containing 50 acres which was granted by Patent to Grisham 20 Aug. 1786 by William Moultrie, Gov. of the state of S.C. - Did give to Grisham a tract of 50 acres situated on Sandy River in Chester County - It binds on the land of Thomas B. Franklin and James Huey's land - James Dougharty's land and the land of Nolly Castles.

Witnesses:

Pat. McGriff

Edmond Nunn

James Nunn

Mager (M) Grisham
his mark

Fannay (U) Grisham
her mark

Pages 341-342

16 August 1787 Between Mager Grisham of Chester County, S.C. of the one part and Thomas Baker Franklin of the same County and state, of the other part - Witnesseth that the said Mager Grisham and Fannay Grisham, his wife for the sum of 10 pounds sterling have sold to Thomas Baker Franklin a tract of land containing 100 acres which was granted to Grisham 2nd of Oct. 1789, by William Moultrie, Gov. of S.C. This land is situated in Chester County on a branch of Sandy River. Binding on the land of Thomas Baker Franklin and on all other sides on vacant land.

Witnesses:

Pat McGriff

Edmond Nunn

James Nunn

Mager (M) Grisham
his mark

Fannay (U) Grisham
her mark

Pages 344-345-346

2 June 1788 - Between Hugh Kelsey, of S.C. and Chester Co., Shoemaker, of the one part and Robert Kelsey, of the same state and county, Wagonmaker, of the other part. By a certain grant bearing the date 6 Feb. 1773, by Lord Granville Montague, Gov. of the Province of S.C. did grant to Thomas Kelsey, deceased a tract of land containing 100 acres of the branches of Rocky Creek Craven County. This tract of land is bounded S.W. by the land of Henry Smith and all other sides are vacant. The above named.

Thomas Kelsey, deceased intestate and Hugh Kelsey above mentioned is his elder brother and heir to the aforesaid tract of land -- Hugh Kelsey for the sum of twenty pounds sterling hath sold this tract to Robert Kelsey.

Hugh Kelsey

BOOK REVIEW

"Our Hinson Heritage in N.C. and S.C." by Mary Hinson Whittaker, 3416 Tom Starnes Rd., Monroe, N.C. 28110. It sells for \$25.00 and will be mailed for \$26.00 from the author. A large hardback book of 207 pages, plus an index, containing pictures and copies of vital records. A lot of research has been done on this family and other related lives in the two states. This book is a valuable addition to our library and we appreciate the author sharing this with us.

"Smalls and Allied Families of North and South Carolina" by Otha Burris Small, 605 Craig St., Monroe, N.C. 28110. The price is \$12.50, plus \$.63 sales tax for N.C. residents, also plus \$1.00 postage, can be ordered from the author. This book contains 77 pages, plus an index, beginning with John B. Small, born 1770, his family and allied families. It contains family photos, census records, war records and land transfers. We appreciate this book for the library to help in the research of these Lancaster area residents especially.

"The Wise Family Chronicles" by Ronnie W. Wise, 105 South Second Ave., Cleveland, Miss. 38732. The price is \$15.00, plus \$1.00 for postage. It contains 186 pages, plus 27 pages of photos, maps, etc., for a total of 213 pages. It begins with George W. Wise and William Henry Harrison Wise of Blount Co., Ala. Some of the allied families are Graves, Gunter, Wilson, Gilmer, Proctor, Rodens, Kidd, Holly and Bailey. It contains quite a lot of material that researchers have been asking about when using our library.

"A Colonial Gregory Family" by Ben T. Gregory, M.D., 1717 "E." St., Suite 304, Pensacola, Fla., 32501. Prepublication cost - \$35.00, afterwards \$40.00. (Publication date was Nov. 15, 1986, but I did not receive this in time for our Sept. issue). It begins with Isaac Gregory 1797 of Union, S.C. Some allied families are: Coleman, Lowery, McCafferty, McCreight, Mobley, Wilkes, Smiths - these 3 of Chester Co., Stokes, Young and Tate, plus many more.

Available Now!

"A GUIDE to FAMILY HISTORY SOURCES in the WINTHROP COLLEGE ARCHIVES"

The Winthrop College Archives in Rock Hill, South Carolina, has issued "A Guide to Family History Sources in the Winthrop College Archives", a comprehensive listing of 700 family surnames for which information is available. Also included in the guide are record groups containing family history information available in the Archives.

The guide is available for \$6.00, including postage. To order, please write to: Archives, Dacus Library, Winthrop College, Rock Hill, SC 29733 or call (803) 323-2131 (Ext. 28).

The Archives is open for research to the public. Normal hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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Q U E R I E S

McDONALD - ROGERS -- Ellen Byrne, 8566 Lancaster Dr., Rohnert Park, CA 94928 seeking parents of HUGH McDONALD and REBECCA ROGERS married 1778 in Fairfield Co., SC.

HINKLE - KNIGHT -- Drena Hinkle, 18 Northcliff, Northport, Al 35476 - Seeking the parents of JOHN HINKLE born CA 1770 N.C. Moved to S.C., then Ga. Wife SARAH WEAVER. Also seeking parents of DAVID or DANIEL K. KNIGHT born 1810 in S.C. Moved to Ga. then Al. Second wife MINERVA KNIGHT married 1848 in Morgan Co., Ga.

GUNTARP/GUNTORPE, NEWBY, WADE, BOONE. Jean Wooten 38485 Hawthorne Scio, Or 97374. MARY NEWBY b.? Charleston, S.C. d. 12 Jan. 1842. M. JOHN GUNTORPE, Chester Co. S.C. B. CA. 1770 England d. 14 April 1837, both are buried at Rocky Mount, S.C. in Gunthorpe Burial ground. Who were her parents? WILLIAM GUNTORPE (son of John & Mary) b. CA. 1795 Chester Co. S.C. d.? Married SARAH WESTBROOK, daughter of JACOB & NANCY WESTBROOK. What happened to William and Sarah after leaving Chester Co. S.C. CA. 1835? JACOB GUNTORPE/GUNTARP, (son of William & Sarah) b. CA. 1813 Chester Co., S.C. d. 15 April 1863 while serving in the Confederate Army in Ga. Md. CATHERINE (LIVY) WADE of S.C. b. CA. 1827 d. 1864-68 while living in Marshall Co., Ala. (apparently). After the death of their parents, the six (6) children of Jacob & Catherine moved themselves to Ravenden Springs, Ark. to live with relatives on Nov. 25, 1868. Who were Catherine's parents and where did she die? MARY BOCNE HOGENCAMP/HOGANKEMP b. CA. 1870 d. 1863. Daughter of STEPHEN BOCNE of Vermont. Md. MARTYNES HOGANCAMP/HOGENKEMP of New York. (1790-1833) She may have had a brother named Stephen. Who were her parents and where were they from? Mary died in Carlisle Co. Ky. Will gladly exchange info. and pay for copies and postage.

OMELVENEY - McANULTY - McCULLOUGH - MORROW -- Virginia (McAnulty) Martino, 1602 Tannehill, Houston, Texas 77008 - Would like to correspond with anyone who is working on the above families. I would like to know who ABRAHAM/ABRAMS McCULLOUGH's father was. His mother was MARY (KELSO/KELSEY) MORROW. His half brothers and sisters were: Mary, Sarah, David and Robert Morrow. - ANN CMELVENEY married ABRAM McCULLOUGH in Chester S.C. ca 1812. Their daughter, ELIZA McCULLOUGH married JOSEPH McANULTY on the 23 Sept. 1838. Would like to know who Ann Omelveney's and Joseph McAnulty's parents were or any information would be greatly appreciated.

BLACKWELL - OSWALD - YARBOROUGH -- Virginia B. Oswald, 2245 S.E. 7th St., Ocala, FL 32671 -- Seeking information on PFNELOPE VICTORIA BLACKWELL born circa 1846 in S.C., married HIRAM OSWALD & lived in FL.; SAMUEL OSWALD born circa 1799 in S.C., married Elizabeth, moved to Al-FL circa 1828; GREENBURY YARBOROUGH born circa 1800 in NC, lived in Chester Co., SC, married Mary and moved to FL prior 1850.

REA/RAY -- Desire to correspond with anyone researching Rea/Ray. FRANCIS RAY & wife SARAH arrived in Charleston 1772. Settled first in Chester Co. SC Children William, Alexander, Francis, Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah, Andrew. Have information to share. Minta Hardin Erbele, Rt. 2, Box 348, Groveland, FL 32736

PUBLICATIONS IN OUR INVENTORY

(All prices include postage.)

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1 - Back issues of 1978 through 1985 Bulletins | \$12 Per Year |
| 2 - Alphabetical index of '78, '79, '80, '81, '82, '83 Bulletins | \$ 3 Each |
| 3 - Hopewell A.R.P. Church Cemetery Inscriptions, pictures, list of Elders from 1787 to date, brief history of church | \$10 |
| 4 - Records of Session Meetings of Hopewell A.R.P. Church, 1832-1892 | \$ 8 |
| 5 - Dr. Robert Lathan's "History of Hopewell A.R.P. Church" (published in 1879) | \$12 |
| 6 - Alphabetical index of above book (item 5) | \$ 3 |
| 7 - Revolutionary Soldiers (65), families (900), individuals (2700) of Old Catholic Presbyterian Church & index | \$17 |
| 8 - Cemetery inscriptions of Old Catholic Church | \$ 4 |
| 9 - Minutes of Old Catholic Presbyterian Church, 1840-1884, with index, never before published | \$12 |
| 10 - Dr. Robert Lathan's "Historical Sketch, Union A.R.P. Church", Richburg, S.C. (published 1879) | \$10 |
| 11 - Surname index of above book (item 10) | \$ 2 |
| 12 - Survey Historical Sites in York County with pictures | \$ 8 |
| 13 - Old Purity Presbyterian Church Cemetery inscriptions | \$ 5 |
| 14 - Minutes of Providence and Hopewell Baptist Churches, 1826-1876, 131 pages | \$10 |
| 15 - Dr. Chalmers Davidson's 1977 address to American Scotch-Irish Soc., "The Scotch-Irish of Piedmont Carolina" | \$ 5 |
| 16 - 1825 Mills Atlas of Chester County - Small size (8½" x 11") \$2; larger size (20" x 30") | \$ 5 |
| 17 - Book listing location, picture, inscription, and brief story of all Historical Markers on S.C. Highways | \$ 4 |
| 18 - List of visitations of Rev. John Simpson while pastor of Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church, beginning December 12, 1774 | \$ 1 |
| 19 - Rose Hill Cemetery Inscriptions (2200 stones) in York, SC | \$ 8 |
| 20 - Wardlaw's "Genealogy of the Witherspoon Family" | \$16 |
| 21 - "A McFadden Chronology" by William T. Skinner, begins with Candour McFadden in 1710 and continues thru 1900 | \$12 |
| 22 - "Captain Bill", Volume I and Volume II | \$13.30 Each |
| 23 - Historical Sketch of People & Places of Bullock Creek - by Rev. Jerry West | \$12 |
| 24 - Roster of Cemetery and Historical Sketch of Bullock Creek Church | \$ 5 |