

B U L L E T I N

THE CHESTER DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 336, RICHBURG, S. C. 29729

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EDITOR

Mrs. Barnette F. Nichols  
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Meetings

January, 1992, No Meeting  
3 Feb 92, Chester, SC - 3 PM  
March Meeting Unknown At Present

## President's Page

This marks the close of our 14th year as a society. I hope we have been of a service to our members in helping them solve their genealogical problems.

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### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

The membership dues will continue to be \$12.00 per individual; \$15.00 per couple; Membership/Surname Book \$4.00. Enclosed in this issue of The Bulletin is a form we want you to use in listing your surnames. It will greatly help us if you will use this form when you renew your subscription. Some of you have already paid your 1992 dues - and we ask that you please send the form filled out. If you have any comments about what you like and/or dislike about the society please use the back of this form to list them.

For those who want a copy of the Membership/Surname Book the cost is \$4.00, and I hope you will order this book along with your renewal. There is no better way to contact others interested in the same surnames you are working on than through this service. Over 500 members ordered the membership book in 1991.

We had trouble with members receiving their Bulletin on time this year. For example The September Bulletin; has taken from the last of September till the first week in November for members to receive them. We are working with the Postmaster to solve this problem.

We ask that if you correspond with the Society for information, please enclose a long SASE. This will be greatly appreciated by the staff.

The officers and staff of The Bulletin wish all of our members a **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

George

\* \* \*

We are saddened to hear of the recent death of one of our earliest members - Judge James P. Coleman, a retired Judge of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals and former Governor of Mississippi.

## Letter From Our Editor

Hello Members:

I want to thank each of you who have contributed articles for our publication this past year and to those who have sent copies of their family histories for our library.

This has been a busy year for Jean Agee and myself, both of us have returned to work and Jean has been sick quite a bit during the year, so we have been slow in answering letters. We also miss getting to visit with all of you who visit our area, we don't have the time to spend with you that we once did. We are hoping next year that we will both have more free time, but for now our library is open by appointment only. Please let us know when you plan to visit so one of us can make arrangements to meet you there.

We have lost so many of our active members this year, by death and some moving to nursing homes. We desperately need new members close by that can help with our library and correspondence.

Thank you again for your understanding and trust that all of you have a wonderful holiday.

Your Editor,

Jean

\* \* \*

### A Collection of Stories by Thomas Moore Patrick.

They began as simply as they are written by a farmer, a teacher, a textile mill administrator, a hunter, a poet, a prankster, a husband and a father. Since his birth in 1907 in the small community of Woodward, S.C. (actually in the even smaller community of White Oak) T.M. Patrick has been all these things -- and more! Out of his 84 year life in this unique state of South Carolina comes an equally unique set of short stories and poems. The cost is \$13.95 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling for the attractive, softbound, 118 page book. Thomas Moore Patrick, 803 Botany Road, Greenville, S.C. 29615.

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## A PRAYER FOR GENEALOGISTS

LORD, help me dig into the past  
And sift the sands of time  
That I might find the roots that made  
This family tree of mine.

LORD, help me trace the ancient roads  
On which my fathers trod  
And led them through so many lands  
To find our present sod.

LORD, help me find an ancient book  
Or dusty manuscript  
That's safely hidden now away  
In some forgotten crypt;

LORD, let it bridge the gap that haunts  
My soul when I can't find  
The missing link between some name  
That ends the same as mine.

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P.O. box 701  
North Wilkesboro, NC 28650

\* \* \*

We were happy again to see our old friend Jane Smith from Illinois, even though, we did not get to spend a lot of time with her. On her return home, she called back, said on her last day, Mrs. Dorothy Mayes took her to visit Mrs. Harriette Stringfellow where they had tea --- this was the original Combest property. Jane was so thrilled to get to walk on her ancestor's property. She has given a copy of her book Samuel Combest and His Descendants to our library, a very welcome addition.

Samuel Combest and His Descendants is a biographical history and genealogy of Samuel Combest and his ten children with all known descendants to date. It also includes a record of Samuel Combest's wife Sarah "Sallie" Dick and her parents and grandparents who came from Ireland on the ship, Earl of Donegal, to S.C. They are John and Margaret "Peggie" Wylie (Sallie's parents) and James and Sarah Wylie (Sallie's grandparents) who both fought in the Revolutionary War.

Samuel Combest and His Descendants is 500 pages long with a 75 page surname index. It is hardbound in a beautiful red and gold binding, printed on acid free paper and has over 100 photographs, maps, etc. Cost is \$48.00 including postage from H. Jane Smith, 817 Murray Ave., Elgin, IL 60123

**GENEALOGICAL SKETCH OF THE DESCENDANTS OF HENRY AND  
ELIZABETH NEELY, OF LANCASTER, CHESTER, AND YORK COUNTIES, SC.**

by

**William Boyce White, Jr.**

**1991**

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Henry and Elizabeth Neely were a part of the great 18th-century Scotch-Irish movement from Northern Ireland to Pennsylvania and then to North and South Carolina. Since Henry Neely did not receive Royal land grants for all the acreage he came to own, it would appear that he possessed sufficient money to purchase the land that he desired. This circumstance is so unusual that it calls for mention here. Most of the immigrants to the Carolina Piedmont were lacking in the funds with which to buy land; and, consequently, these pioneer settlers were wont to petition the King of England for land grants - and these were usually forthcoming, following a stated time for ripening of the grant. Henry Neely, it seems, was an immigrant of more than the usual wealth.

He and Elizabeth, his wife, settled on lands that were thought to be in North Carolina (Anson County, then Mecklenburg). Later the area was found to be in the Province of South Carolina. We know the section today as the Bethesda section, located about 10 to 12 miles southwest of the city of Rock Hill.

The Neelys first came (about 1755) to the Waxhaws region, a large part of which is known today as Lancaster County, South Carolina. Then they crossed the Catawba River, going west and south, and moved to the Bethesda section of York County. One of the major creeks of York County - Neely's Creek - was named for Henry Neely, according to the word of the eminent 19th-century historian of Upper South Carolina, the Rev. Robert Lathan, D.D. Also, Henry Neely is recorded as the first ruling elder of Bethesda Presbyterian Church, organized in 1769. There had been worship services for the people in the Bethesda neighborhood since the late 1750's, but the formal organization of the Church was not effected until 1769.

Henry and Elizabeth Neely lived until after 1778. Their names were mentioned in the last will and testament of their son William Neely in that year. They were buried in the cemetery at the original site of Bethesda Church, about one mile to the east of the present church building. Henry's tombstone did not survive the ravages of time, but the marker for his wife and the one for his son and daughter-in-law

(William and Mary [Miller] Neely) have survived even until today. These stones were moved several years ago to the present Bethesda Cemetery, and an explanatory stone was erected nearby for the instruction of future generations.

Because Henry and Elizabeth Neely left no estate records owing to the unsettled condition of the area during the American Revolution, there exists no early list of their eight children. The list as given herein was assembled by using many sources. (In this sketch, the names of these children are designated with Roman numerals.)

By a most remarkable coincidence, this same list of names appeared in a query published some time ago in the Chester District Genealogical Society Bulletin. The inquiry was sent in by Mrs. Maud Ann Paulus, of Houston, Texas. Since Mrs. Paulus and I had never exchanged information, the latter wondered where Mrs. Paulus obtained her list. Herewith is Mrs. Paulus' reply, dated November 30, 1990:

My list of the Neely siblings of Samuel Neely (1726-1803), shown in CDGS Bulletin query, did not come from any one person -- but from research in our Clayton Genealogical Library in Houston, Rock Hill Library, Chester County Courthouse and Library--plus "Early Records of Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church" by Brent H. Holcomb & Elmer O. Parker, henceforth referred to as FCPC for brevity.

John Neely - b. 1722, d. 1783, buried in FCPC Cemetery. Since our Samuel Neely was born 1726, and buried in FCPC, John was in the right time and place.

Thomas Neely - had a land grant of 300A in 1753 in York County on Stony Creek, branch of Fishing Creek, and 250A in 1764 in Chester County, adjoining Samuel Neely's land grant. (Shown on "Map of Early Land Surveys in the Vicinity of White's Mill and Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church," published in Chester District Genealogical Society, Vol. IV, June, 1981, #2).

Robert Neely - had a land grant of 96 1/4 A in York County in 1774 (Robert Neely, a husband of Margaret White was only 6 years old). His land is a few miles above Samuel Neely's 400A in Chester County and Thomas Neely's grant of 1764.

William Neely - land grant in 1758 of 400A, asking for land "adjoining my brother Samuel." Cannot find this deed, but the plat is shown on the map.

Margaret (Neely) McCance - wife of Samuel McCance. Both are buried in FCPC Cemetery, page 154. Margaret shown "alias Neely," died January 1772, aged 36 years. Samuel died November 1792, aged 54 years. This makes both of them born in 1736, making both of these born about the time of our Samuel.

James Neely - his will dated 1793 does not mention Samuel Neely, just wife Martha, sons George, Thomas and Isaac. On page 136 of FCPC in the home visits of Rev. John Simpson, February 1776, are listed James and Martha Neely, with George, Margaret, Thomas and Isaac. Again, right time and place.

After reading Mrs. Paulus' reply, I was confident enough of my own list to send this article to be published in the Bulletin. (Mrs. Paulus omitted from her list the name of Henry and Elizabeth's youngest daughter, Jane Neely, who married Capt. John Anderson, of Bethesda. With this exception, the two lists are identical, and, it must be emphasized, were arrived at by two different researchers working independently of each other).

To the best of my knowledge, the list of Henry and Elizabeth Neely's children as given herein is being published for the first time. Additions and corrections are coveted, and may be sent to me at 1273 Marydale Lane, Rock Hill, SC 29732.

A word of gratitude is spoken here to Mrs. Maud Ann Paulus for her generosity in sharing the fruits of her many years of genealogical research.

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Henry Neely was born c. 1690-95 either in Scotland or in Northern Ireland. Elizabeth, his wife, was born in 1695 either in Scotland or in Northern Ireland. She died in York County, South Carolina, in 1785, her husband having already died. Issue:

- I. John Neely. Born 1722. Died October 11, 1783. Buried at Fishing Creek Presbyterian Churchyard, Chester County, SC. Married Elizabeth\_\_\_\_\_. Born 1741. Died May 4, 1774. Issue:
  - A. Thomas Neely. Born 1763. Died September 17, 1793.
  - B. Samuel Neely. Born c 1766. Married Mary\_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. Charles Neely. Born November 9, 1775. Died November

23, 1832. Married (1) Eleanor\_\_\_\_\_. Born 1777.  
Died September 25, 1804. Issue:

1. Nancy Neely. Born c. 1800. Married John Drennan.
2. John Neely. Born April 21, 1802. Died 1845. One source states that John Neely was born on June 28, 1801, and died on November 9, 1845. Married Mary C. \_\_\_\_\_. A second source says that John Neely married (1) Mary Crow, and (2) Mary Clarissa Hunt. Another source says that John Neely married Mary Cooper Hartness. Born September 2, 1815. Died July 28, 1853. She was the daughter of John Smith Hartness (1784-1840) by his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of John Cooper (c. 1755-1804) and Elizabeth Walker (1765-c.1804), daughter of Lt. Robert Walker, son of Alexander Walker and Esther \_\_\_\_\_ (not to be confused with Esther Gaston, who married another Alexander Walker). Issue of John Neely and Mary C. \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Elizabeth Eleanor Neely. Born July 16, 1834. Died October 14, 1838.
  - b. John Murphy Neely. Born December 13, 1837. Died May 19, 1839.
  - c. Alexander P. W. Neely. Born December 17, 1839. Died June 22, 1862.
  - d. Hyder Ali Davie Neely. Born January 13, 1843. Died April 29, 1909. Married Martha Mae Neely, daughter of Samuel and Mary Melissa (White) Neely. Martha Mae Neely was born August 6, 1851. Died July 2, 1928. Buried at Rose Hill Cemetery, York, S.C. (See below).
3. Jane S. Neely. Born July 29, 1806. Died October 9, 1879.
  4. Thomas Jackson Walker Neely. Born September 24, 1814. Died December 20, 1853. These last two children of Charles Neely were born to his second wife. Mary \_\_\_\_\_. Born 1785. Died March 8, 1843. Charles and Mary Neely were married c. 1805.  
Also, Mary C. Neely, widow of John Neely (See above), married (2) Jeremiah Howell. Born 1828. "Jerry" Howell moved to Mecklenburg County, N.C., after the death of his wife. He served in the Confederate Army.

- II. Thomas Neely, Born c. 1724. Died before February 3, 1774, without wife or issue. He received a Crown grant of land in Anson County, N.C., on the west side of Fishing Creek, on September 24, 1754. At the death of Thomas Neely, the grant then passed to his elder brother, John Neely (see above).



III. Samuel Neely. Born 1726. Died September 9, 1803. One of the first ruling elders of Upper Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church, Chester County, S.C. Married c. 1751 to Sarah Ferguson. Born 1731. Died December 28, 1806. She was a sister of Elizabeth Ferguson who married Peter Culp. Issue:

- A. Thomas Neely. Born August 3, 1752. Died November 17, 1815. Married c. 1772 to Prudence Latta, daughter of John Latta (1727-January 9, 1795) and Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ (c. 1730-after 1775). Prudence (Latta) Neely was born c. 1751 and died in 1832. Issue:
1. Thomas Neely, Jr. Born c. 1778. Married Mary (Polly) Jordan, daughter of Henry and Frances (Rives) Jordan of Chester District, S.C. Thomas Neely was known as "Thomas Neely, Jr." Polly (Jordan) Neely was born c. 1780.
  2. Samuel Neely. Born c. 1780. Married Mary \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. John Neely (known as "Capt." or "Major" Neely). Born 6-30-1782. Died 1832. Married Rachel Dunlap, daughter of George Dunlap and Nancy (Craighead) Richardson Dunlap. Born c. 1785. They were married in 1806. Issue:
    - a. George Harvey Neely. Born September 5, 1807. Died November 13, 1890. Married on October 28, 1832, to Margaret Rose Moore Chambers. Born c. 1815.
    - b. Prudence Selena Neely. Born 1809. Died 1841. Married Major Robert Gill Mills, of Chester District, S.C. Born 1786. Died 1842.
    - c. Thomas Amzi Neely. Born c. 1812. Died c. 1864.
    - d. James Alonzo Neely. Born c. 1816.
    - e. John Leroy Neely. Born c. 1820.
    - f. David Dunlap Neely. /Born c. 1822.
    - g. Agnes Jane Neely. Born c. 1827.
  4. Mary Neely. Born c. 1785. Married Thomas McFadden.
  5. Sarah Neely. Born c. 1788. Married John McFadden.
  6. Elizabeth Neely. Born c. 1790. Married Andrew Bradford. Issue:
    - a. Andrew James Bradford. Born and baptized in 1817.
  7. William Neely. Born May 7, 1792. Died February

11, 1852. Married October 1, 1816, by Rev. John B. Davies, to Eliza Gaston, daughter of Joseph Gaston (1763-1836) and Jane Brown (d. June 20, 1858). Eliza (Gaston) Neely was born September 20, 1794. Died June 7, 1845. Issue:

- a. John Newton Neely. Born August 18, 1817. Died November 8, 1894. Married on December 5, 1844, to Mary E. Crawford.
- b. Thomas Latta Neely. Born December 20, 1818. Died January 18, 1846. Married on May 9, 1844, to Jane Gray.
- c. Jane Clementine Neely. Born February 10, 1821. Died November 18, 1870. Married (1) August 5, 1851, to John Goudelock. Married (2) August 16, 1859, to Matthew S. Lynn.
- d. Esther Atwood Neely. Born March 7, 1823. Died February 2, 1901. Married March 11, 1847, to James Ferguson Wherry.
- e. Prudence Paulina Neely. Born February 20, 1825. Died December 14, 1905.
- f. Mary Narcissa Neely. Born January 16, 1828. Died April 4, 1857. Married November 6, 1855, to Robert Davidson.
- g. Martha Eliza Neely. Born February 14, 1830. Died May 16, 1860. Married January 24, 1853, to John Leroy Neely.
- h. Sarah Elizabeth Neely. Born January 10, 1832. Died April 9, 1910. Married October 22, 1878, to David Hood.
- i. Margaret Ann Neely. Born March 13, 1837. Died June 21, 1913. Married March 14, 1861, to Hugh Wilson. After his death, she married (2) John Steele.
- j. James Hall Gaston Neely. Born April 25, 1839. Died April 23, 1862. Married on September 12, 1857, to \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Samuel Neely, Jr. Born 1753. Died September 19, 1769. Buried at Fishing Creek Churchyard.

C. William Neely. Born c. 1755. Died after 1797. He was a blacksmith. Married \_\_\_\_\_. Issue.

D. Mary Neely. Born July, 1756. Died September 9, 1779. Married Joseph Brown. Issue:

1. Sarah Brown.

E. Margaret Neely. Born c. 1758. Died August 30, 1842. Buried in Maury County, Tennessee. Married on January 1, 1782, to John Latta, Jr., son of John Latta (1727-1795) and Elizabeth. Born c. 1756. Died January 19, 1819, in Tennessee. Issue:

1. Samuel Latta.
2. William Latta.
3. Sara Latta.
4. Alexander Latta.
5. Jane Latta.

F. Elizabeth Neely. Born July 17, 1760. Died April 5, 1808. Married John Chambers. Born December 15, 1749. Died September 9, 1824. Issue, if any, unknown.

G. Martha Neely. Born November 23, 1765. Died February 18, 1847. Buried at Springhill Cemetery, Nashville, Tennessee. Married c. 1788 to Thomas Latta, son of John Latta (1727-1795) and Elizabeth. Born in Ireland on November 4, 1763. Died November 14, 1807. Issue:

1. John Latta. Born February 23, 1790. Married on January 24, 1815, to Jane Starr, daughter of John Starr and Martha Moore. Jane Starr was born September 17, 1793. Died July 20, 1854. John Latta died at Fort Smith, Arkansas, on October 2, 1861. Issue:
  - a. (Son). Born December 3, 1815. Died the same day.
  - b. Thomas Starr Latta. Born December 6, 1816. Died April 5, 1842.
  - c. Margaret (Peggy) Ann Latta. Born February 19, 1818. Married to Eli Kelly on September 19, 1839.
  - d. Samuel Neely Latta. Born December 20, 1819. Married to Tennessee Gray on November 26, 1844.
  - e. John Stewart Latta. Born November 4, 1821. Married to Mary J. Shannon on November 2, 1848.
  - f. William Ramsey Latta. Born May 26, 1823. Married to Anna Janes on November 20, 1851.
  - g. Robert Hall Latta. Born February 20, 1825.
  - h. James Eudorus Latta. Born January 9, 1827. Married to Hattie A. Sheldon on June 15, 1858.
  - i. Andrew Jackson Latta. Born May 7, 1829.
  - j. Eli Chambers Latta. Born April 8, 1831.
  - k. Martha Jane Latta. Born August 10, 1833.
  - l. Francis Marion Latta. Born March 11, 1836.
  - m. Sara E. Latta. Born January 6, 1839. Married to James Mitchell on January 31, 1860. Issue:
    1. Samuel Latta.
    2. Sarah Latta.

3. Elizabeth Latta.

H. Robert Neely. Born 1768. Died 1811. Married Margaret White, daughter of Hugh White, the renowned miller of Fishing Creek (before, during and after the American Revolution), and his wife, Elizabeth. Issue:

1. Simpson Neely. Baptized on August 11, 1799. Died 1886.
2. Thomas McCullough Neely. Baptized November 15, 1801. Died 1854.
3. Hugh Neely. Born 1792. Died 1821.
4. Samuel Ferguson Neely. Born 1794. Died 1815.
5. Mary Neely. Born 1796. Died 1845. Married (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Whitesides, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Higgins.
6. James Neely. Born 1804.
7. William Neely. Born 1806. Died 1831.

I. James Neely. Born 1770. Died October 26, 1804. Married Jane Simpson, daughter of Rev. John Simpson, first pastor of Upper Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church, Chester District, S.C. She was born October 8, 1775. Died October 6, 1858. Issue:

1. John Simpson Neely. Born September 28, 1800. Died March 16, 1838. Married to Mary Strait Wherry. Born March 17, 1802. Died October 27, 1855.

IV. William Neely. Born c. 1727. Died December 8, 1778. His will is recorded in old Camden District, S.C.; these papers are today housed at the Kershaw County, S.C., Courthouse, Camden. Married (1) Margaret \_\_\_\_\_, who died after 1770. Married (2) Mary Miller. Born 1742. Died October 16, 1815. She and William Neely were buried in the cemetery at the original site of Bethesda Presbyterian Church (about one mile to the east of the present church site). The marker for William and Mary Neely has survived the passage of time and has now been moved to the present Bethesda Churchyard. Issue by the first wife:

- A. Jane (Jean) Neely. Died before October 10, 1778.
- B. Elizabeth Neely. Died after 1778.
- C. Mary Neely. Died after 1778.
- D. Isaac Neely. Died before October 10, 1778.
- E. William Neely, Jr. Born 1770. Died February 8, 1842.
- F. Samuel Neely. Born c. 1773. Married Margaret Murphy.

Issue by the second wife, a sister of James Miller of 96 District:

G. Catherine Neely. Born c. 1777.

V. James Neely. Born c. 1729. Died 1792. Received a Royal grant of land in what is now South Carolina on November 26, 1754. Married Martha \_\_\_\_\_. Issue:

A. George Neely. Born c. 1752. He served as a captain in the American forces during the Revolution.

B. Agnes Neely. Born c. 1754. Married (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Horton, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Coland.

C. Thomas Neely. Born c. 1756. Married Mary

D. Jane Neely. Born c. 1758. Married \_\_\_\_\_ Lee.

E. Isaac Neely. Born c. 1760.

F. Elizabeth Neely. Born c. 1763. Married John Morrison.

G. Margaret Neely. Born c. 1765. Died before 1792.

VI. Robert Neely. Born c. 1730. Died 1804. Married (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Born c. 1730. Died after 1754. Issue:

A. David Neely, Sr. Born c. 1750. Died 1835. Married Agnes (Nancy) \_\_\_\_\_. Issue:

1. David Neely, Jr. Born c. 1775.

B. Matthew Neely. Born c. 1752. Married Mary ("May") White, sister of Hugh White, the miller of Fishing Creek. She was born c. 1752. Issue:

1. Jane Neely. Born 1775. Married Joshua Sturgis, son of Daniel Sturgis and Jean (Bratton) Sturgis, of York Co., S.C. Joshua Sturgis was born in 1761. There are many descendants of Jane and Joshua Sturgis.

2. Hugh Neely. Born c. 1777. Married Mary

3. Nathan Neely.

4. William Neely.

5. (Daughter, name unknown).

C. Samuel Neely. Married \_\_\_\_\_. Issue:

1. Thomas Neely.

After the death of his first wife, Robert Neely, married (2) Sarah \_\_\_\_\_. Died after 1804. Issue:

1. William Neely.
  2. David Neely.
  3. Thomas Neely.
- E. Andrew Neely. Born c. 1772. Married Agness
- F. James Neely. Born c. 1774. Married \_\_\_\_\_.
- G. John Neely. Born c. 1776. Married (1) Mary \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Married (2) Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_. In  
 Maury Co., Tenn., in 1813.
- H. Robert Neely. He was known as "Little Robert."  
 Born February 14, 1782. Died April 22, 1847.  
 Married Martha \_\_\_\_\_. Born August 25, 1787.  
 Died September 13, 1861. Both husband and wife  
 are buried at Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church-  
 yard. Issue:
1. John Ferguson Neely. Married Jane \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. William Henry Neely. Born May 16, 1810. Died  
 October 3, 1823.
  3. Samuel Neely. Born August 17, 1815. Died  
 January 4, 1866. Married Mary Melissa White,  
 daughter of Peter and Martha Randall (Rives)  
 White, of the Tinker's Creek section of  
 Chester District, S.C. Born April 24, 1830.  
 Died September 19, 1904. Issue:
    - a. Martha Mae Neely. Born August 6, 1851.  
 Married Hyder Ali Davie Neely. (See  
 above). Issue:
      - (1) John Alexander Neely. Married  
 Elizabeth (Bessie) Kee.
      - (2) Eleanor Jeanette Neely. Born  
 November 7, 1875. Died unmarried on  
 March 18, 1921. Renowned teacher in  
 the public schools at York, S.C.  
 Buried at Rose Hill Cemetery, York.
      - (3) Edith Neel. Born February 12, 1883.  
 Died November 18, 1896.
      - (4) Hyder Arthur Davie Neely. Born  
 October 14, 1894. Married Mary  
 Barnwell.
    - b. John G. R. Neely. Born c. 1853. Married  
 Mary McFadden. Born August 30, 1852.  
 Died June 7, 1898. Daughter of James  
 McCalla and Amelia Eleanor (Crawford)  
 McFadden.
    - c. William Robert Neely. Born September  
 23, 1856. Died February 5, 1921.  
 Married (1) Margaret Agnew. Born  
 October 3, 1857. Died June 25, 1887.

Issue:

- (1) Samuel Clarence Neely. Born October 16, 1882. Died October 12, 1894.
- (2) Margaret Gill Neely. Born September 29, 1887. Died March 17, 1951. Married Addison Alexander McKeown. Born April 13, 1887. Died December 10, 1938. Both buried at Laurelwood Cemetery, Rock Hill, S.C. Issue:
  - (a) Susan Norwood McKeown. Formerly a member of the faculty of Winthrop College, Rock Hill. Now a resident of Sharon Towers, Charlotte, N.C.

William Robert Neely married (2) Susan S. Drennan. Born February 28, 1854. Died without issue on March 14, 1924. Buried at Fishing Creek Churchyard.

- d. (Infant son). Born November 13, 1849. Died December 25, 1849.
- e. Samuel Marion Neely. Born 1859. Died 1906. Buried at Fishing Creek Churchyard.
- f. Susan Jane Neel. Born October 20, 1862. Died October 19, 1937. Married John Harvey Drennan, who was born April 23, 1871, and died August 28, 1934. Buried at Laurelwood Cemetery, Rock Hill, S. C. Issue:
  - g. J. F. H. Neely. Born August 12, 1864. Died September 10, 1875.
4. Robert H. Neely. Born March 10, 1818. Died without issue on November 27, 1890. Married Nancy Elizabeth Erwin, daughter of Francis James and Letitia J. (Smith) Erwin. Born c. 1837. Died January 9, 1904. Buried in Bethesda Presbyterian Churchyard, York County, S.C.
5. Elias M. Neely. Born December 9, 1821. Died January 6, 1888.
6. Matthew James Neely. Born January 24, 1824. Died March 22, 1847.
7. Minerva A. Neely. Born c. 1827. Living unmarried in 1870.

VII. Margaret Neely. Born 1736. Died 1772. Married Samuel McCants (McCance). Born c. 1735. Died 1792. If there were children of this marriage, their names

are unknown to this writer.

- VIII. Jane Neely. Born 1742. Died 1816. Married Capt. John Anderson, son of William and Rebecca (Denny) Anderson, of Spartanburg District, S.C. Born 1737. Died 1814. Buried at Bethesda Presbyterian Churchyard, York County, S.C. Issue:
- A. Rebecca Anderson. Born c. 1761. Died after 1814. Married in 1782 to Capt. Joseph Steele. Born 1760. Died 1795. Issue.
  - B. Nancy Anderson. Born c. 1764. Died after 1814. Married \_\_\_\_\_ Lewis. Issue, if any, unknown.
  - C. William Henry Anderson. Born 1767. Died without issue in 1843. He was named for his father's father and his mother's father.
  - D. Elizabeth Anderson. Born 1768. Died 1856. Married William Wherry. Born 1771. Died 1850. Issue.
  - E. Sarah Anderson. Born 1775. Died 1856. Married Dr. Thomas Stewart Starr. Born c. 1770. Died 1806.
  - F. Samuel Anderson. Born c. 1780. Died after 1814.
  - G. John Anderson, Jr. Born 1785. Died 1845. Married in 1820 to Elizabeth Neagle. Born c. 1800. Died 1829. Issue.

(For a detailed account of the descendants of Capt. John Anderson and Jane (Neely) Anderson, please see Genealogy of Revolutionary Soldier of York County, South Carolina: Capt. John Anderson, 1969, by this writer.)

Please Note Carefully: The writer readily admits that his list of descendants of "I. John Neely (1722-1783)" and of "VI. Robert Neely (c. 1730-1804)" is based on slim evidence. Records for these two early families are almost nonexistent. In one or two instances, names were placed in these two families as the result of what might be charitably called educated guesses.

\* \* \*



## "Harris Notes"

\*"In June 1780 ... in a Regiment commanded by Colonel George Alexander General Griffith Rutherford ... we went from here ... to South Carolina and was in Battle of Camden August 16, 1780. Again volunteered ... under Col. (George) Alexander ... until August 1781 was discharged by Col. (George) Alexander."

Martha Harris Alexander died February 28, 1819.

Children of Martha Harris & George Alexander: \*\*

C 1 Jane Harris Alexander "oldest daughter"

C 2 Charles Edward "second son" Alexander

B 5 Jane Harris, daughter of Charles & Jane

McElhenney (Harris) was born in the "Mill Grove" Estate of her father in what is now Concord, Cabarrus County. This estate is extremely beautiful. It overlooks the valley below for miles. It is now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Carl Propst of Concord, N.C. They permitted this Author and Cousin Jane Nierenburg to admire it, a beautiful memorial to a great family.

B 5 \*\*\* Jane Harris was four years of age when her Mother Jane McElhenny Harris died leaving five children. She was then taken into the home of Reverend John Thompson and his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, a widow of Samuel Baker.

Jane Harris spoke afterward of her happy days in the Thompson home. She had said that they were the happiest days of her life.

Charles Harris naturally became well acquainted with Mrs. Elizabeth Baker so that in 1758, the year Mrs. Charles Harris died, Charles Harris Esq. married Elizabeth. Both had children.

---

\* "Harris Letters" by H.M. Wagstaff "Jas. Sprunt His. Pub."  
"Catawba Frontier" 1775-1782 Memories of Pensioners" by  
Mary Elinor Tazenby. Pub. 2333 Nebraska Ave. Wash. D.C.  
1950 PP 1 & 2.

\*\* "Will of Charles Harris Esq." 1776. Mecklenburg Co. N.C.

\*\*\* "His. of Poplar Tent Ch. "Will. Shak. Harris 1873;  
"Colonial Ch. in N.C. J.K. Rouse 1961 Kannapolis pp. 72,  
78-9.

Charles Harris naturally became well acquainted with Mrs. Elizabeth Baker so that in 1758, the year Mrs. Charles Harris died, Charles Harris Esq. married Elizabeth. Both had children.

When Jane Harris was 14 years old Thomas Reese was a neighbor who was attending Princeton. This was in 1768 and they were attending Popular Tent Church in Concord.

In 1773 Thomas Reese was chosen pastor of Salem Presbyterian Church in Sumter County South Carolina. This is on the Black River and it still stands today a beautiful picture covered with moss.

Thomas Reese married Jane Harris to take her to the new position after their marriage probably in Poplar Tent Church or "Mill Grove". Jane Harris was then nineteen years of age.

Only after 20 years of service in Salem Church did Dr. Thomas Reese resign for reasons of health in that cold damp climate of Black River. He was then offered a pastorate at Old Salem Presbyterian Church in Pendleton, S.C. where he died after four years. He was the first person buried there, his grave chosen by General Pickens and General Robert Anderson his close friends. Dr. Reese died in 1796 beloved by all as pastor and physician.

B 7. Dr. Charles Harris, eminent surgeon and physician of Cabarrus County, N.C., son of Charles Harris and Elizabeth Baker, born on November 23, 1762. \*He was a full brother of Dr. Samuel and half brother to Robert Harris Esq.; Major Thomas Harris of the Continental Forces in the Revolution; to James Harris who died young, to Jane Harris (Reese) wife of Dr. Thomas Reese, eminent writer during the Revolution; and half brother to Martha Alexander, wife of George Alexander.

Dr. Charles Harris was married twice; his first wife was Sarah Harris, his first cousin. They had two sons:

- C 1 \*\*Dr. Stanhope Harris, second son unknown. One daughter.

---

\* "Harris Letters" by Henry McGilbert Wagstaff in "The Jas. Sprunt Hist. Publications" N.C. Historical Soc. Chapel Hill N.C. 1916.

\*\* "Hist. of N.C." by J.H. Wheeler in "Wheeler's Remin." p. 274 & 68 & Letter from Brevard Erwin Harris to Author Feb. 1962.

C 2 Harriett Harris (Cash). She was born on 1793, died 10-17-1823, aged 30. (N.C. Tombstones Raleigh).

Sarah Harris was born 1766 died 10-3-1803, aged 37. (N.C. Tombstones)

Dr. Charles Harris married the second time to Lydia Brevard Houston. They had two sons:

C 3 Charles Jay Harris, born 1806, died 1829.\*

C 4 William Shakespeare Harris, born November 6, 1815, died October 8, 1875. (Grave Poplar Tent Ch.) His first wife was Elizabeth Torence, a member of a prominent family. Elizabeth Torence was born December 31, 1824, died March 5, 1849. They had a son:  
William Jay Harris. William Shakespeare Harris, Jr.

D 1 William Jay Harris, son of W.S. Harris and Elizabeth Harris 1840-1847

D 2 William Shakespeare Harris, Jr. married Mary Mills 1848-1883

C 4 \*\*William Shakespeare Harris married Jane Witherspoon Ervin. They had five children:

D 1 Charles Jay Harris: married Lalla Hill. Issue:

E 1 Adelaide Harris (Mrs. James Holmes) of Florida

D 2 Brevard Ervin Harris, Sr. married Bonnie Savage of Scranton. Issue:

E 1 Brevard Ervin Harris, Jr. married Virginia Morrison. Issue:

F 1 Jane Morrison Harris (Mrs. Jay Robert Nierenburg) Concord, N.C. Issue:

G 1 Jill Morrison Harris Nierenburg

E 2 Elizabeth Harris (Mrs. James Stanton Northrup). Issue:

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\* "Hist of N.C." by J. H. Wheeler in "Wheeler's Remin." p. 274 & 68 & Letter from Brevard Erwin Harris to Author Feb. 1962.

\*\* Letters to the Author from Jane Morrison Harris (Nierenburg) '62.

- F 1 Brevard Northrup Barnett (girl)
- D 3 Ervin Harris another son of W.S. Harris
- D 4 Everard Harris another son
- D 5 Janie Harris daughter of W. S. and Jane Witherspoon Harris

"James Reese, son of David Reese, Sr. of Mecklenburg County, N.C. married the daughter of Ephraim Brevard. She was a resident of Iredell County, N.C."

The Brevard Family History was the first contact that the Author has had connecting the Reese and Harris families of Concord. The "Harris Letters" of Charles Wilson Harris confirms that connection. Charles Harris, Sr. of "Mill Grove" Manor, named his daughters Jane (Reese), Martha (Alexander) and Margaret. He does not name a son, William.

- E 1 The Morrison-Brevard Ervin Harris Family of Concord, N.C.:

\*John Harris Morrison was born in August 1833 and died in 1892.

He married Isabella Morrison who was born in 1835 and died in June 1872. Both are buried in Poplar Tent Cemetery in Concord.

They had a son James Pinckney Morrison, who was born in 1867 and died in June 1953.

He married Martha Morris, who was born in 1867 and died in 1940. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery Concord, N.C. They had one child:

- E 1 Virginia Morrison. She married Brevard Ervin Harris, Jr. March 1920. They have one child:
- F 1 Jane Harris, who married Jay R. Nierenburg September 1952. They have one child:
- G 1 Jill Morrison Nierenberg, born April 1954; she lives in Concord with the family.

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\* "Letter to Author from Virginia Harrison Harris May 7, '63.

**\*The Brevard E. Harris History**  
**Of The Charles Harris Family**  
**Of Cabarrus County**

"The first Charles Harris ... came to America from Scotland with their father, Samuel.

"The sons William, Thomas, Samuel, Robert and Charles and one sister, Margaret, went to Pennsylvania ... Three brothers James, Robert and Charles came to North Carolina and settled near what was later called Poplar Tent, on the Rocky River.

"Charles built his homestead ... the original grant was for 150 acres from George III and was signed by the Royal Governor William Tryon in 1769. Charles married Elizabeth Baker and they had three children: Samuel, Charles and James. James died at 16. Samuel graduated from Princeton University and continued on there as a professor until his death in his early thirties." (He died in 1789; "Hist. Mag." 1867 Dawson's)

"The surviving child of this union was the famous Dr. Charles Harris (Nov. 23, 1762-Sept. 21, 1825). He built "Favoni", ancestral home of the present (1962) Harrises. Dr. Harris was married twice. His first wife was his cousin, Sara Harris of Mecklenburg County. They had two children:

C 1 Dr. Samuel Stanhope Harris (about 1783)

C 2 Harriett Harris (about 1784)

His second wife was Lydia Brevard Houston of Iredell County. They had two children:

C 3 Charles Jay (1806-1889)

C 4 William Shakespeare Harris (1815-1875)

In a letter from Jane Harris Nierenberg, she states that Charles Wilson Harris was the **\*\***"Son of Robert Harris, who was an educator. We are descendants from the physician (Dr. Charles Harris) and apparently you are descended from Dr. Wilson Harris, the educator."

"Our records show that 'your' Robert Harris married twice -- the first time to a Miss Wilson -- and Charles Wilson

---

\* Letters to Author from Brevard E. Harris 18 Feb. 1962.  
Add Box 721 Concord, N.C.

\*\* Letter 17 March 1962 from Jane Harris Nierenberg of  
Concord, N.C.

Harris was their eldest child born in 1771. His second wife was the widow of Gen. William Lee Davidson, and her maiden name was "Brevard". She is not to be confused with Lydia Brevard Houston, second wife of Dr. Charles Harris, the physician."

"Our records show that 'your' Robert Harris married twice -- the first time to a Miss Wilson -- and Charles Wilson Harris was their eldest child born in 1771. His second wife was the widow of Gen. William Lee Davidson, and her maiden name was "Brevard". She is not to be confused with Lydia Brevard Houston, second wife of Dr. Charles Harris, the physician."

"Charles Harris, Sr. did have a brother Robert. This man never married. At the time of the Revolution he remained loyal to England. He was ... a pirate and was known as 'Jamaica Bob'.

"Our records show that Charles Wilson Harris died in December 1803 at the age of 33 ... his brother lived in Cheraw, South Carolina."

The Robert Harris who was the father of Charles Wilson Harris "was the man who lost his right arm at the Battle of Guilford. He was no relation whatsoever to Charles Harris, Sr. our branch of the family."

The above is strange when it is proved that Robert Harris, the eldest son of Charles Harris, who married twice - Jane McIIhenny and Elizabeth Baker Harris, was a half-brother to Dr. Charles Harris of "Favoni".

#### **\*The Brevard Family of North Carolina**

The three elder Brevard brothers and one sister came to America before 1740. They went south to North Carolina between 1740-1750.

John married Miss McWhorter, daughter of Reverend McWhorter, a Presbyterian minister, who controlled "Queen's Museum". He returned North. They had settled in Iredell County and reared twelve children, two of whom were Dr. Ephraim Brevard and Mary Brevard. The Tories "burnt his home and buildings, everything was lost."

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\* "Hist of N.C." John Hill Wheeler 1852 Vols. 1 & 2. Lippincott & Grambo & Co. Phil. Pa. p. 237-238.

Ephraim Brevard was a doctor in Charlotte. He was the Secretary of Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and was a surgeon in the Revolution. He was taken prisoner at Charleston. He was a friend of John McKnitt Alexander.

Dr. Ephraim Brevard left one daughter. She married J. P. Dickerson.

James P. Dickerson was his son-in-law.

Mary Brevard, sister of Dr. Ephraim Brevard, married General William Lee Davidson. The General was killed about 1781 in the War and Mary Brevard Davidson married the widower of Jane Wilson Harris, Alexander-Nathaniel Alexander.

Mary Brevard (Alexander) was again married to a widower, Robert Harris, husband of Mary Wilson (Harris).

Elizabeth Brevard was the daughter of the elder Brevard and thus the Aunt of Mary Brevard (Harris).

\*Elizabeth Brevard married James Reese, son of David Reese Esq. of Coddle Creek and a Signer of Mecklenburg. They had ten children.

\*\*Dr. Ephraim Brevard had been impressed into War service in Charleston. He had the paper of the Declaration of Mecklenburg that was written long hand which "is in the Office of State of North Carolina."

"He had entered practice of medicine and gained a character and acquired confidence of his fello citizens ... He acted an important part ... in the Mecklenburg Declaration May 1775 which he drew up."

\*\*\*"Ephraim Brevard and John McKnitt Alexander were made secretaries. "In the midst of deliberations came news of Lexington. Ephraim Brevard had learned much while a student at Nassua Hall. As an immortal legacy the promptings of that "Magnanimous People". This famous set of Resolutions was signed by Abraham Alexander, and John McKnitt Alexander," (Father of Nathaniel Alexander, who married Jane Wilson Harris). "Inscribed with names: E. Brevard, H. Balch, John Phifer,... Zaccheus Wilson (son-in-law of Robert Harris Esq.),

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\* "Pioneer Extraordinary" Anne Wilson Idol Winston-Salem, N.C. p. 99.

\*\* "Revol. Hist. of N.C." Hawk, Swann, Graham 1853. David L. Swann U. of N.C.

\*\*\* "Hist. of N.C." John Wheeler Moore Vol. I 1600-1813.

Waightstill Avery ... David Reese" and others. The Regulators were among the Spectators. The Resolutions were forwarded to the Continental Congress ... by James Jack, Captain, and to the Provincial Congress."

(Editor's Note: "This was taken from a family history by Jennifer Reese Keyes entitled Jane Harris of Rocky River.)

Continued in March, 1992 Bulletin

\* \* \*

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**REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSION CLAIM STATEMENT OF JAMES HEMPHILL**

**PRESENTED BEFORE THE JUSTICES OF THE COUNTY COURT OF  
LINCOLN COUNTY TENNESSEE ON 16 OCTOBER 1832**

TESTIMONY OF JAMES HEMPHILL, SR.

State of Tennessee, Lincoln County October 1832 on this 16th. day of Oct. 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the County Court of Lincoln County, Tennessee now-sitting, James Hemphill a resident of said county and state, age eighty-three years the 19th day of November next who being first duly sworn according to said oath on his oath makes the following declarations sign order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832 that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officer and served as here in stated. Some time in the month of December 1775 he served two months in the regiment commanded by Col. Thomas Neel in Camden district South Carolina, the company to which he belonged was Commanded by Capt. William Bratton and Lt. Hugh and John Bratton, Major Kirkpatrick also commanded in said regiment in the same month our regiment joined the forces under the command of Col. Richardson on the Congaree River, a few miles from which Columbia is now situated. A larger body of Tories near Ready River were collected - against whom we marched. We had some skirmishing with the Tories and took several prisoners some time in June 1776 I volunteered under the same officers to go against the Cherokee Indians who had murdered several people and burned happy houses on the Seneca River. Our regiment was then under the command of Gen. Williams or Williamson I now forget which was his name - we destroyed three of Indian towns on the Seneca River which town I think was called Eastatoe Sugar town and Kershaw. We had two fights with the Indians one called the Ring fight about five miles from Sugar town. Another skirmish with the Indians placed to guard the squaws and children who after firing fled and succeeded in their escape by the night putting our warriors out against the Cherokee - I suppose about two months. In November or December 1777 our regiment was drafted to go against the Creek Indians on the South side of the Ocmulgee River in Georgia. We marched through Ninety Six District and camped on the Savannah River about twenty miles above Augusta - but we had no battles with the Creeks. We moved out on this expedition about two months. I was in the same regiment and camp and under the same officers except that I commanded as 2nd. Lt. having been listed in the place of John Bratton - In May 1779 one half of our regiment was again drafted, Col. Neel commanding. Capt. William Bratton being elected Major. Hugh Bratton Captain and myself 1st. Lt. in our company - we

marched down through the head waters of Edisto by orders of Gov. Rutledge to avoid being taken by the British who were in our way by going a direct course and joined the army commanded by General Lincoln at Bacon's Bridge off Ashly River. The army was engaged in reconnoitering the enemy and were marched about several places in that vicinity not now remembered until about the first of August when our army attacked the British who had fortified Cherokee's on Stono River where our army suffered considerable loss and failed in driving the British from their fortifications. Shortly after the Battle at Stone the North Carolina troops came in and our regiment was discharged, we were out on this campaign about three months. Samuel Watson was also with our regiment during this campaign as Lt. Col. Some time in the summer of 1780 having moved to Mecklenburg County in North Carolina after the taking of Charleston by the British, our regiment then under the command of Lt. Col. Watson and Major Bratton (Col. Neel having died) joined the forces commanded by Col. Sumpter and a few days afterward moved down to Hagler's Branch in S.C. and after staying there between one and two weeks went about eighteen or twenty miles to the mountains having understood that there were several British Dragoons and Tories in that neighborhood and when we had a battle with about four hundred British and Tories commanded by a Capt. Huck of whom we defeated very badly. About three weeks afterwards we marched to a place called "Rocky Mount" where the British were encamped. Commanded (as I now think by a Col. Bull with whom we had a battle but not decision of victory for either side). Three or four weeks afterward I was in the battle on the Catawba River, near the mouth of Fishing Creek where Col. Sumpter's army and us among the rest were defeated. We crossed the Catawba after our defeat. Returned to Mecklenburg County North Carolina. I think I was in service during the year 1780 between four and five months. In May 1781 I again volunteered. Major Bratton being Col. of our regiment and I being still 1st. Lieutenant and marched down about 100 miles to a place called Fridays Fort where the British and Tories were in-camped. When we joined the camp under Col. Lee. Shortly after we arrived the British surrendered. After this our regiment was principally engaged in scouting parties in destroying the British outposts. I was not engaged in any other battle. I think we were out about four months on this tour. I never received any written discharge. I was acquainted (in addition to the officers already mentioned (with Gen. Marion, Col. Brandon Hill, Lacy, Winn, Lee, Washington, also Gen. Morgan and Count Pulaski. I have no documenting evidence nor do I know of any person by whom I can prove to verify to my service. I was born in Ireland Londerry County on the 19th. of November 1749 and came to America in Aug. 1767. I lived in Camden District S.C. at the time I entered the service. I have no

record of my age but speak from information and recollection. After the Revolutionary War I lived in York and Chester Districts in South Carolina until 1815 when I moved to Williamson County, Tennessee and lived there about nine years and then moved into this county where I now live. I had a commission both as 1st. and 2nd. Lieutenant which were given by Gov. Rutledge of South Carolina but they are both now lost. I would refer for my character for veracity and to Dr. Alexander Rosborough and Capt. GWC Edminston and would also state that there is not any Clergyman in my neighborhood to whom I can refer. I hereby relinquish every claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present and disclaim that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of army.

Sworn to and subscribed this day and year.

James Hemphill

Testimony: Bobby Inge, Clk.

\* \* \*

(Editor's Note: The following article was taken from "The State" on Thursday, March 21, 1991, by Bill McDonald.)

#### SCHOLAR'S INTERESTS, KNOWLEDGE SPAN MANY YEARS, MANY WARS

"I got stuck with all the toughies."  
Elmer O. Parker

"Take two aspirin, and call me in the morning." According to Elmer O. Parker, that jocular injunction was delivered to him many times by his playful family doctor from 1961 through 1965, when the nation celebrated its Civil War centennial.

Parker was the official "answer man" at the National Archives in Washington on questions of the Civil War, and the questions came with unrelenting persistency, Parker said.

If "Congressman Bullwinkle," or a resident of Beaumont, Texas, or Kennebunkport, Maine, had a question about "Grandpappy Jebodiah" who served in the 7th Calvary, for instance, the telephone would always ring in Parker's office.

In many instances, he'd answer the question without resorting to a search of the archives, such was his near-encyclopedic recall of the events and people surrounding the war.

"I got stuck with all the toughies," recalled the native

of Long County, Ga., and graduate of Georgia Southern University who speaks in a voice still dusted with the accents of his youth.

Total recall is doubtlessly a myth. But if a man ever possessed it, it would seem to be Parker, a silver-haired, blue-eyed widower and former congressional page who, at age 76, is retired and lives in a suburban home in Columbia.

A self-admitted browser, Parker spends two or three days a week in the stacks at the University of South Carolina's McKissick Museum or the South Caroliniana Library on the USC Horse-shoe looking up arcane, esoteric information that he ferrets out with ease.

"I don't know why there's ever been any argument about who burned Columbia," he said the other day, seated in the living room of his white brick home off Bethel Church Road. "You can find it in the Union records, the orders for the burning of Columbia.

"Not only will you find the orders, you'll also find the papers that report back what was burned in Columbia."

His Civil War scholarship notwithstanding, Parker says he no longer regards himself as "a Civil War buff". His historical interests span many eras and many wars, he says, not the least of which is the Persian Gulf War, which he can relate to the Civil War.

"Bush feels toward Saddam Hussein like Abraham Lincoln felt toward Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy," he said. "Bush doesn't really care about capturing Hussein. He just wishes he'd disappear! Lincoln felt that way about Davis."

The National Archives was a fascinating place to work, Parker said. He was at the collection center of the nation's most important documents, a building that occupies an entire city block bounded by Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues and Seventh and Ninth street.

"You'd be surprised at some of the stuff people would bring us, too," he recalled. "For awhile, we had the picket fence that enclosed John F. Kennedy's grave at Arlington Cemetery. And, one day, while I was walking down a hallway, a colleague of mine was carrying a wooden crate. 'Whatcha got there?' I said. 'It's the rifle Oswald used to shoot Kennedy,' he said, 'but I can't open the box and let you see it.'

"I also think we had Lyndon Johnson's gallbladder once. It just goes to show that people don't know what belongs there." Which brings up the question: What does belong in the National Archives?

"The National Archives was established to serve as a depository for old, non-current federal records," Parker said. "The records come from all agencies of national government. The hardest job I had was to cull out those records that would duplicate what we already had.

"Artifacts don't belong in the National Archives, of course. They're kept at the Smithsonian Institution."

Operating records, those relating to ongoing projects, are kept at specific governmental offices, Parker said. The military records of the Persian Gulf War, for instance, are presently being kept at the Department of Defense. After an interval of time, they'll eventually be transferred to the National Archives, where they'll be available to scholars and historians.

History also has a way of hopping up and haunting the people who helped make it, Parker said.

He recalled the day a former World War II German general, Hans Jurgen, chief of the German air force at the war's end, appeared at the archives.

"He told me he's signed the papers of surrender, but he hadn't read a single paper he's signed in 1945. He simply wanted to take a look at what he'd signed. He was the last surviving German general who's signed all the documents."

Gen. Leslie R. Groves, the man in charge of the Manhattan Project that produced the first atomic bomb, also visited the archives to deliver his papers. Afterward, he lingered at the archives to read some Civil War papers about his grandfather.

Of all the presidents, Lyndon Johnson stands out the most in Parker's memory.

One reason is a "rather incendiary incident" that involved LBJ's grandfather, who'd been a deserter during the Civil War.

"I don't think that bothered Johnson at all," Parker said. "In fact, he was the type who'd joke about it. But one day an aide from the office of John tower, the former Texas senator, showed up to inspect the records, and Johnson got wind of it from someone from the National Archives.

"That SOB," Johnson bellowed, "he's trying to discredit me in the upcoming elections! So Johnson ordered the records sealed. It was a rather pointless thing to do, as the records had long been made public and could have been gotten anywhere."

Parker scrutinizes a historical document as meticulously as Sherlock Holmes sized up his suspects.

Through careful study of one Civil War document, for instance, he was able to correct a historical inaccuracy passed along by historians, including Bruce Catton, the Pulitzer-winning Civil War historian. As a result of his discovery, he was the guest of honor at a meeting of the Civil War Round Table at the National Press Club in Washington.

"I determined that a certain battlefield document was authentic, rather than a forgery, as had been previously imagined," he said.

He also discovered why Anna Suratt, one of "the Lincoln conspirators" was hanged, rather than being granted clemency. The trial pages had been bound together with "metal tabs," he recalled, and the clemency request written by the trial judge was on the back of one of the pages and inadvertently overlooked by President Andrew Johnson.

Parker also has uncovered evidence that Henry Timrod, the poet of the Confederacy, had a great-grandmother who was a slave.

Many of Parker's memories center around his days as a congressional page in the early 1930s. He would sit on a bench in the U.S. House of Representatives and run errands for Congress members. He also recalls Sens. Huey Long and Hugo Black of Alabama, as well as Vice President Jack Garner and Al Smith, who ran against FDR for president and always referred to the Democratic Party as "Paddy."

"I remember listening to the FDR-Al Smith election in 1928 on an old Atwater-Kent radio," he said. "It was the first presidential election broadcast on radio."

Many years have passed since those days, and times have changed. But there are still lessons to be drawn from history, Parker said.

"Bush is riding on the crest of a wave of popularity," he said. "But I also recall that Hannibal was banished by his countrymen, and that Socrates had to drink from the cup of hemlock. I hope the country will remember how the Persian Gulf War was conducted. Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, the Desert Storm commander, and Colin Powell, chief of staff, will be heroes as long as they live, and they deserve it."

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**(Editor's Note: The following Union Cemetery Notes were contributed by Jean Agee).**

#### Union Cemetery

This Cemetery was established in 1794 and people of all faiths have been buried here. There is a rather complete history of the area to be found among the gravestones; however there have been several that eluded identification with families now living in the area. In the last six months the identification of three Douglas and two Hemphill graves have been given to us by visitors. The first three of these have the following inscriptions:

James Douglas/Died Nov. 20th 1820/age 89 years of age (so born ca. 1741)

Rosannah Douglas/Died Nov. 27th, 1809/in the 76th year of her age (so born ca. 1733)

David Douglas/Died Sept. 27, 1803/in the 29th year of his age (sp born 1774)

Will of James Douglas found Apt. 14 pkg 250 Probate Office of Chester County, Chester, S.C.

State of South Carolina

Chester District - In the name of God, Amen-- I James



Douglas of the state aforesaid being of sound and disposing mind and memory but weak in body and calling to the uncertainty of life and being desirous to dispose of all such worldly estate as it has pleased God to bless me with, do make and ordain this my last will and testament. In manner following: That is to say first I desire that my just debts be paid and my funeral expenses be paid and two head and foot stones out of the first money on hand.

I give and bequeath to my son James Ramsey five shillings and to his son John Ramsey five shillings and five shillings to Mary Barr.

I bequeath to my son John Adams five shillings and to his son James D. Adams one hundred dollars.

I bequeath to my son John Douglas, one hundred dollars provided he does not make a charge for my two years boarding with him. If he makes a charge I allow him five shillings.

I bequeath to my son Joseph Douglas three hundred dollars.

I bequeath to my daughters Jane Douglas five shillings and Rosanna P. Douglas five shillings each.

I bequeath to my son Hugh Douglas twenty dollars

I bequeath to Joseph 's son James twenty dollars

Lastly I do constitute and appoint my son Joseph Douglas and Col. John Cherry, Executors of this my last will and testament; Hereby revoking all former wills and testaments by me heretofore made.

James Douglas

Will made 21st day of April 1820

The Council Journal gives as arriving Charleston, Jan 12 1768

Two James Douglas Families

James Douglas -- 34 years (Born 1724)

Man received 100  
acres - wife and  
children received  
50 acres.

Rose Douglas - 32 years (Born 1736)

Mary Douglas - 8 years (Born 1760)

Robert Douglas - 11 years (Born 1757)

James Douglas - 4 years old (Born 1764)

Found in papers of Mrs. Eliza Walker Welburn the following information:

First Ancestors -

James Douglas and wife Rosannah Douglas came from Ireland and were married in that country.

James Douglas, Died Nov. 1820 in his 89th year (buried Union Cemetery, Richburg, SC) Rosannah Douglas died Nov. 28, 1805.

I have no records of any of their children excepting that of their son John, who married Elizabeth Ross, April 21, 1795.

Births -

John Douglas, born Feb. 1, 1771  
Elizabeth Ross, wife of John Douglas, born 1767

Their children -

Elizabeth Ross Douglas -- born Jan. 30 1791  
Mary Peninah Douglas -- born Sept. 22, 1799  
Hugh Douglas -- born Feb. 12, 1802  
James Douglas -- born July 10, 1804  
Rosannah Sisern Douglas -- born Sept. 1806  
John Douglas -- born Oct. 10, 1809  
Robert Douglas -- born Nov. 12, 1812

Marriages -

John Douglas and Elizabeth Ross was married the 21st day of April the year of our Lord 1795.  
Elizabeth Ross Douglas married John Walker  
Mary Peninah married James Walker (who was not a brother of John)  
Rosannah Sisern married John Steele  
John Douglas married Frances Harchant (could be Merchant - J.A.)

Robert Douglas married Jane Barclay

Additional Family History -

Elizabeth Ross had two children, a boy and a girl  
Rosannah Sisern had two children, two boys  
Neither Robert nor John had children  
Hugh and James were never married  
John was a minister, James a physician

Deaths -

John Douglas died Jan 27, 1844  
Elizabeth Ross Douglas died Jan 10, 1847

Their children -

Dr. James Douglas died July 31, 1831  
Mary Peninah Walker died Nov. 21, 1838  
Elizabeth Ross Walker died Feb. 1, 1866  
Hugh Douglas died Sept. 16, 1878  
Rev. John Douglas died Oct. 8, 1879  
Robert Douglas died April 7, 1888  
Rosannah Sisern Steele died in Miss. No record of date.

Continued in March, 1992 Bulletin

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EARLY SURVEYS ON TURKEY CREEK IN YORK COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Researched and platted by Elmer Oris Parker



## QUERIES

**BURNS** -- Jim P. Burns, Route 2, Cumby, TX 75433. Born ca. 1746, d. 1814 Christian Co. KY. Lived in Chester County, SC until 1800, mentioned several times in Probate Court records. Need info on James' wife (name) and children. Would like to exchange info with anyone working on Burns line.

**CHAMPION - GRAHAM** -- Mary B. Smith, 209 1/2, High St., Greenwood, MS 38930. In Jacob Champions' will in Kershaw Co. SC, 1834 lists d. Susannah & husband J.A. Graham and their children: Susannah, Priscilla, George, William D.H., Levenia, and Martha. Need info on family.

**GORE - CARTER** -- Nora Garrett, P. O. Box 154, Newkirk, OK 74647. Who were parents of Davis Gore, b. 1788-1790 d. 1867. Married Ann Carter, b. 1797, d. 186\_ daughter of Churchill Carter, Sr. and wife Leah? Children: Leah Catherine, b. 1827, d. 24 Dec. 1888, m. Garland H. Smith, b. 1825, d. 1903. Regina, m. John Wylie Estes. Amanda, m. \_\_\_ Guy.

**CALDWELL** -- Mrs. Lillian O. Forster, N. 9915 Fircrest Court, Spokane, WA 99208, announces that approx. 40 Caldwell researchers and descendants have begun publishing the Caldwell Courier, a bi-monthly newsletter for distributing research results to all Caldwell descendants regardless of the specific Caldwell line. Included are Cauldwell, Cullwell, and Colwell, plus other similar spellings. Contact her for details.

**PEARSON - FISHER** -- Mary Ella Ramirez, 629 Cascade Ln., El Paso, TX 79912. Seeking info on family of Preston Charles Pearson, 1st Lt., 2nd calvary, 5th Regiment, Confederate Army. He m. Florena Derthia Fisher. Both b. in SC. If you have any info please forward to me. If I need to fill out an application and pay fee please send.

**HAMILTON** -- Donald L. Jones, 1737 W. Belle St., Belleville, IL 62223-6109. Seeking all descendants of Robert Hamilton, b. ca. 1810, m. Sarah Darby. What are birth, marriage, and death dates? Robert is son of Robert & Martha Ross Hamilton who settled in Chester District in 1791 and are buried in Hopewell Cemetery near Chester, SC. They moved to Columbia, SC ca 1841 and are buried there. Son, James was in the Civil War in the Confederate Army and was connect with the firing on the "Star of the West" ship January 9, 1861. This shot was supposed to have been the first shot fired by the South denoting the South's hostile intent toward the North.

**PATTERSON - BEARD - FERGUSON** -- Agnes B. Yount, Route 1, Box 83, LaVale, MD 21502. The will of John Patterson dated 12 Nov. 1813 and probated 21 Feb. 1814 in York Co., SC, mentions wife, Mary; sons, Andrew and John (deceased), and daughters Ammy Beard, Mary Ferguson, and four other daughters. Who were the husbands of Ammy Beard and Mary Ferguson? Did Amy Patterson Beard have children? Did she die young? Did her husband remarry?

**SMITH - FERGUSON - MILLS** -- Agnes B. Yount, Route 1, Box 83, LaVale, MD 21502. The will of William Ferguson of Camden District, SC, dated 26 Jan. 1775, mentions wife Mary, her youngest son, Henry Smith, brother John Ferguson, Sarah Smith and Catherine Smith. A witness, Sarah Smith (new Sarah Mills), proved the will, and renounced her legacy on 31 Aug. 1785. Is Henry Smith the elderly Henry Smith who died in Chester County in 1846? What is his mother's surname and who is his father? Were there other Smith children? Who is William Ferguson?

**CHAMPION** -- Mary B. Smith, 209 1/2 High St., Greenwood, MS 38930. Claiborne Champion, b. 1797, SC, d. post 1870, Texas. M. in SC, had 2 known children, Nancy Susan, b. 1821, SC, and William J., b. Jan. 1823, SC. Was Zebedee Champion, b. 1825, SC, Claiborne's son? Was Rachel Lewis, b. 1815, SC, his daughter? In 1850 Census of Clarke Co., AL, Claiborne was listed in home of Rachel Lewis, widow. Were there other children? Who was the mother of these children?

**BRANNON** -- Rebecca Wuertemberger, 2001 Peacock Road, Richmond, IN 47374. Seeking info on parents/ancestry of Ann Brannon (Branond, Branah, Branham) who was probably b. ca. 1790 and m. John Humphries, ca. 1815(?) in Chester District, SC. They moved to GA probably in 1820's and lived in Coweta County. I have bits of info on Brannons/Branhams in SC (1790 and 1800 Censuses, DAR Patriot Index and record of Michael Brannon/Brannon land grant in Camden/Fredericksburg, 1744) but no clear connection to Ann.

**CROWLEY** -- John Hembree Crowley, 933 Woodsmoke Circle, Knoxville, TN 37922-1634. Seeking info on Spakes Family in Chester County from 1820 to 1830.

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Searching for any genealogical information on any CLEVELAND lines I can locate. Also anxious to hear from any descendants of Alexander and Milly Pressley Cleveland to redo book. Contact Vikki Lyn Cleveland, 328 Vincent, Salem, IL 62881.