

President`s Page

I wish each of you a very pleasant time of hunting for those elusive folks who hide so well.

Our birthday party will be on August 4, 2001 at Purity Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall on Smith Street in Chester @ 1:00 pm . This is the same place we met last year. The cost is \$10.00 per person and we need your paid reservation by July 30, 2001.

As mentioned in the March Bulletin, our speaker will be Mr. Harvey S. Teal. His topic will be "Old pictures". Remember to bring your old photographs. He may be able to help with dating them. His book, "S. C. Photographs from 1840-1940 was published in February of this year. He is Past President of the S.C. Caroliniana Society and is a member of numerous Societies of S.C. He has been teaching and speaking since 1953. He is an excellent speaker and I know we will enjoy our time with him.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the party!!!!!!

Remember, it is not too late to order your surname book. We must have your order in by July 15th. The price is still \$5.00. This is an excellent way to find out who is searching for what names.

We also still need people who would like to do research for others. We need your name and counties you are willing to research. We would be glad to put you in contact with the people who are interested in your area.

Thank you for being patient with us during our time of difficulties in getting the "Bulletin" out on time.

We need articles. We appreciate the people who send articles to be published in our "Bulletin". Keep them coming. We always need more.

George

A Merchant-Planter of the old South

Josiah Moffatt

William Moffatt's house was built on the brow of a wooded hill, a hundred yards north of the Charlotte-Columbia road. To the Negroes it was known as the "Big House". Sometimes a more inclusive phrase, "The Hill", was used to designate the house with its out-houses. It was not a large house except in a comparative sense. The majestic grandeur of the Colonial mansion was lacking.

It was a long, rambling frame structure, a story and a half high, with the upstairs lighted chiefly by dormer windows projecting from the front slope of the roof. There were two chimneys at each end of the house and a wide, front verandah extending its full length. Locally verandas were known as piazzas (pronounced Pie-az-zers). A low, L-shaped building, connected with the "Big House" by a covered passage, contained the kitchen and dining-room. This arrangement made for comfort, inasmuch as the sights, sounds, odors, and especially the heat associated with the preparation of food, were entirely eliminated from the sacred precincts of the "Big House", where the White folks awaited, in unruffled dignity and repose, the clamor of the bell announcing dinner or supper. Beyond the kitchen, within the yard inclosure, were the granary, the smokehouse, and dairy. Back of these, outside the yard, the Negro quarters stood. Altogether, the group of buildings on "The Hill" presented a rather imposing front to the big road. My grandfather's store stood at the foot of the hill, right on the road. Across the road from it were the ginhouse and cotton press.

My grandfather was never a large slaveholder. He probably never owned more than two dozen slaves at one time. He amassed his fortune in the mercantile business and, while he operated a plantation of crops of his customers, upon which depended their ability to pay their bills at the store, when they fell due in the autumn. William Moffatt began his career as a merchant on the proverbial shoestring. He was the son of a Scotch-Irish emigrant who settled on a farm in Chester District, South Carolina, about 1770, and he was born three years before our first president took office.

That was the heyday of "sturdy individualism" in America. Liberty was on a rampage, so to speak, tolerating no restraints. This was true both of states and the individuals composing them. South Carolina was one of the leading states in the loose confederacy which included the thirteen original colonies and their dependencies. Charleston was one of the four largest cities of the country and an important seaport. A poor German emigrant named John Jacob Astor had just arrived in New York. George Washington was reputed to be the richest man in America by long odds, but his actual wealth probably never exceeded a million dollars.

The Federal Government, if such it could be called before the adoption of the Constitution, exercised few powers in or over the various states, which to all intents and purposes were independent commonwealths and very jealous of their status as such. Many of the more timid and conservative citizens were filled with misgivings concerning the future of the newly launched ship of state, and openly advocated the restoration of the monarchy with another King-George Washington.

There were no industries, in even the infant stage, no government aid for any person of any enterprise, and very little capital available for any purpose. On the other hand, there were no unemployment, no bread lines, no overproduction, no labor trouble, and no liquor problem (whiskey was almost as free and widely diffused as air). Jails and almshouses, where they existed at all, were vacant most of the time. At least four-fifths of the population lived on farms.

Social and economic conditions had changed very little when William Moffatt opened his little store twenty-five years later. His meager capital did not exceed three hundred dollars, but he was a born trader and strictly honest. He prospered from the first, and it was not long before he was compelled to move from his loghouse with its nail-studded door into a more commodious store building, weatherboarded and well-lighted

For about forty years Billy Moffatt's store was the trading center of a large territory embracing portions of several counties (then called "districts") and extending even beyond the state line. There was no considerable town between Charlotte and Columbia. The county seat was often a straggling village in which the courthouse was the only conspicuous building. There were no stores of any consequence within twenty miles of Lewisville, that being the name of the post-office at Moffatt's store and the community in which it was situated.

People would come a days journey, on horseback, in wagons or lumbering carriages, to trade with Billy Moffatt. They would spend the night as his guests and return home the next day. His hospitality knew no bounds and was not confined to customers. The man who was loading his wagon with hundreds of dollars worth of supplies was made no more welcome at his table than the casual stranger who happened to be in the store at meal time. Both were expected to climb the hill with him and stretch their legs under the groaning board in the dining-room. An extra mouth to feed caused no flurry in the kitchen, for "company" was expected every day. The great kitchen was constantly seething with activity from dawn until bedtime. Its fireplace was six-feet wide, and the wide flagstone hearth covered more floor space than the kitchens in many modern houses.

The kitchen cupboard, built of solid black walnut, native to the region, reached to the ceiling-beams and stretched more than halfway across the end of the room.

The cooking was all done in the fireplace or over beds of live coals on the hearth. There was no stove or range of any kind installed in my grandfather's time. The pantry shelves were always loaded with pies, cakes, and great loaves of salt-rising lightbread. Hot beaten biscuits, Johnny cake, corn pone, or delicious pan bread were served with every meal. Meats were roasted on the turnspit, hams were boiled in iron pots. Fried chicken and mush for breakfast, baked chicken and rice for dinner were regular standbys. Patches supplied roasting ears, turnips, and both sweet and Irish potatoes. The kitchen garden provided an abundance of green vegetables in season.

Quantities of jams, jellies, and preserves, including brandied peaches, were put up every summer. A large brass preserving kettle being kept in almost constant use during the season.

Blackberry wine and cordials were produced by the gallon, chiefly for medicinal purposes. They were especially designed to counteract the diarrhea which prevailed to an alarming extent among the children during the summer.

The clerks at the store ate their meals in the family dining-room, but slept at the store, in a room partitioned off for a dormitory. Their washing was done by the family washer-women. The ashhopper furnished the lye for the manufacture of a home-made soap of superlative excellence, and the washer-women did beautiful work. Indeed the White folks would tolerate nothing less than snowy whiteness in their linen. Quite a number of well-trained servants were kept busy performing the varied tasks incident to such a baronial ménage, but none was overworked.

This merchant and banker, bore rueful testimony to what he, at the time, regarded as the extreme consideration shown his Negroes by their master. In those days fresh beef was obtained, by an arrangement among certain neighbors to butcher their fatlings in rotation. So as to furnish a weekly supply for each household. Each member of the "circle" had to go or send for his portion. The erstwhile clerk declared that on a cold, dreary winter morning "Uncle Billy" would compel him to mount a horse and go after the beef, while three or four big "buck niggers" sat dozing around the kitchen fire.

Doubtless my respected forbear, who believed in stern discipline for the young, had nothing else in mind than the good of the boy's soul. He and other clerks were admitted to the Moffatt store, while mere boys, practically upon terms of apprenticeship. Not only so, but the opportunity to enter Billy Moffatt's service under such conditions was highly coveted by poor but ambitious youths, anxious to go into training for a business career under the most successful merchant of the Piedmont. The founders of several leading mercantile and banking houses of the up-country and Tennessee owed their success, primarily at least, to the business maxims of William Moffatt, whose store was the best "Business College" of its day, judging by the accomplishments of its "Graduates"

For many years William Moffatt hauled his goods from Charleston in covered wagons with bodies shaped like gondolas. Charleston was distant about two hundred miles and it required almost a fortnight to make the round-trip. Twice a year, spring and fall, the wagon train, consisting of five or six wagons, each drawn by two or three spans of mules, went to Charleston to receive the goods transported by water from New York and Philadelphia. The wagons were loaded, going and coming, carrying down cotton and fetching back merchandise. A white boss was in charge of the train, but the skilled teamsters were always intelligent, dependable Negroes. Of course the merchant himself could not afford a wagon train of such magnitude, but many of the large planters kept one or more crack teams for their own use and were glad enough to hire them out occasionally. There was always the proviso however that their own teamsters, to whom the mules were accustomed should drive the wagons.

The teams of fine, matched mules were brought through the country in droves by traders from the breeding farms of Kentucky and Tennessee. They were the pride of their owners and the peculiar joy of the dusky geniuses who drew the lines over their backs. The teamster must know his mules, individually and collectively. He recognized the fact that each long-eared

hybrid was a distinct personality. No two mules are exactly alike in disposition, popular opinion to the contrary. The teamster spoke to them caressingly by name and cultivated an intimate acquaintance with the idiosyncrasies of each one of his charges.

The long, wicked-looking whip of rawhide attached to a home-made handle was seldom used by an expert teamster upon his mules. It was the symbol of his office. The rapidity with which he could unfold its sinuous length above the heads of his mules, producing a succession of sharp, explosive sounds resembling pistol shots, was truly remarkable. Skilled drivers cracked their whips so that the resultant explosives sounded like a continuous volley. This proved much more effective in enforcing discipline or producing speedy and harmonious action than stinging blows administered to the individual units of the teams.

The mule's shining harness was often decorated with little bronze or silver bells which kept up a continuous tintinnabulation when the team was on the move. The progress of a wagon train along the highway was dignified and unhurried. The matched teams, moving in perfect unison, were trained to fast walk. They usually covered about four miles an hour, a speed that could be maintained with ease for ten hours a day. The mules were fed at midday when the wagon train halted for a long rest. When the train stopped for the night, the mules were curried, rubbed down and fed again.

You may well imagine the ecstatic thrill that seized the darkies in wayside fields, when the tinkling of the bells, mingled with the melodious voices of singing teamsters, announced the approach of a wagon train. Shouts of welcome, exchanges of rough but friendly banter, and bursts of joyous laughter marked the passing of the train. It was a great event in plantation life. But wagon trains, no matter how picturesque, could not compete with railway trains. With the changing order, long hauls with wagons became unprofitable. Even in the thirties, the railroad from Charleston had reached Columbia, sixty miles distant from Moffatt's store.

In 1846 occurred the celebrated "cold summer". The season was so short and lacking in heat that Indian corn did not mature and crops in general were a complete failure. There resulted a "famine in the land" or something so nearly resembling that ancient biblical disaster that the inhabitants were thrown into a panic. Wagons proved utterly inadequate. Their antiquated transportation system completely broke down under the strain of trying to move food and storage long distances, as quickly and in such quantities as the emergency demanded. The merchants and planters of the region unanimously decided that they must have a railroad. Some years later when the Charlotte and South Carolina railroad had been completed, the "Big House" was within seven miles of the nearest railway station, at Lewis' Turnout. The whistle of the locomotive could be heard on a clear day, and a wagon could haul two loads of goods in a day instead of one in two weeks.

There were no beautifully groomed mules to be spared for spectacular display in the lean and hungry days immediately following the Civil War. The landed aristocrats were in sore straits and the aristocratic quadrupeds shared their masters' plight. The upkeep of a big, imposing wagon with even a four-mule team spelled ruin for the poverty-stricken post-bellum planter. However, in the Lewisville community, there was one man ready to face the consequences of a romantic adherence to ancient customs. John Knox, Gentleman, was

something of a dreamer and a sentimentalist and, as usual with gentlemen of that ilk, very impractical. It must have been a terrible strain on his fallen fortunes to maintain such a team after the war, but he did so for a number of years, sinking more hopelessly into the slough of debt, all the time.

We children used to run to the gate to watch the swanky Knox team go by. Long Jim McColor was the teamster, the last of the rollicking, care-free masters of the ship who, for generations, had been the envy of their fellows. We saw six stately mules of one color and size, in shining, brass-mounted harness with tiny silver bells attached, drawing a wagon that, to our childish eyes, seemed as big as a small schooner and was painted a brilliant carmine. Long Jim enthroned in solitary grandeur, his lines in hand, guided his craft with the skill of a master pilot. It was almost equal to a circus parade but the wiser heads were shaken in solemn disapproval. Poor old John. He couldn't last much longer with that white elephant on his hands. Painful as it may seem to the romantically inclined, it must be truthfully recorded that the prophets of evil el hit the nail on the head.

Long Jim McColor was a tall, lean, coffee-colored darkey with a flair for the dramatic. He was one of Uncle Henry's former slaves. Many of the freedmen retained the names of their former masters, but some of the more aggressively independent, feeling that these were symbols of bondage, discarded them for names of their own choosing. Thus without legislative or judicial sanction, "Jim Moffatt" became "Jim McColor". It was customary to accent the new names as legal designation, in spite of the fact that some darkies changed their names so often that they accumulated a number of aliases.

Long Jim was the reputed husband of "Aunt Viny", the fat, black goddess of the fires, who reigned over the Henry Moffatt kitchen. To be strictly accurate, the statement should be confined to the fact that he was the reputed father of most of her numerous progeny. There had been no benefit of clergy in their union, that is certain. Trial marriage is far from being a modern idea. It was quite commonly practiced among the Negroes of long ago. They just "took up" with one another at pleasure and parted as casually to "take up" with other soul mates when the fancy seized them. The mother usually retained all of the children of her successive and informal matrimonial ventures. Each of these became an asset as soon as able to pick cotton or swing a hoe. An established reputation as a cook was of great value to a mother, such as Viny, after freedom had shifted family responsibilities from the master's shoulders to her own. She fed her brood from the White folk's larder, clothed them with had-me-downs from the Big House and, of course, paid no rent for her cabin.

It may shock the sensibilities of some of the abstemious and aggressively "dry" Carolinians, but candor compels me to record the fact that William Moffatt sold liquor at his store. Furthermore, he was no teetotaler himself, although he never drank to excess. It was the custom of the times. No stigma attached to the sale of liquors and wines in bottles, barrels, and jugs. Practically all merchants keeping general stores sold liquor, as a matter of course, just as they did dry goods and groceries. No liquor was sold by the drink, as in public taverns. Whiskey and rum were drawn from the spigots of barrels and hogsheads into bottle and jugs, to suit the convenience or pocketbook of the customer. Fine French brandies and foreign wines were distributed in the original packages, to a limited clientele among the wealthy planters.

Wine was served at William Moffatt's table and a decanter of the finest brandy stood on his sideboard, drinks being offered to guests as a matter of common hospitality, visiting ministers not being excepted. Few refused to imbibe, and there was no reflection upon the Christian character of either guest or host because of this custom. My grandmother, as her two boys grew older, being persuaded that social and convivial drinking by her husband and his guests, between meals, set a bad example to her sons, finally induced him to banish the decanter from the sideboard, but wine continued to be served at the Moffatt table long after my grandfather's death and even after the close of the Civil War.

I have alluded to the droves of horses and mules from Kentucky and Tennessee, driven through the country by traders and from which the planters replenished their stables, but this was not all. Traders finding a ready sale for them to planters because of an ever increasing need for toilers in their cotton and rice fields.

It was thus that "Anthony" entered the family circle to become the playmate and, later, the body servant of "Marse Joe" (the writer's father). One of these traders in human flesh had requested and obtained permission to camp for the night, with his "wares", in an open space near the store. My grandmother, moved with compassion for the poor creatures, sent them generous quantities of food from her own kitchen and went down to the camp herself to see what else could be done to alleviate their miseries. There she saw poor, little five-year-old Anthony, sitting by the campfire, crying piteously for his "Mammy". She made inquiries and learned that the child's mother had died a few days before, soon after the "drove" began its southward march. All her motherly instincts were aroused and she gave her husband no peace until he had consented to buy the boy and give him to her.

It was a happy day for Anthony when he passed into the hands of "Ole Miss", than whom a kinder, more indulgent mistress never lived. Anthony used to visit the old home. In my childhood, he seemed to cherish a sincere affection for the family, particularly for "Ole Miss" and myself, the only surviving son and namesake of the idolized Josiah, his boyhood chum, who died two weeks before my birth.

He had a simple dignity of manner, a sonorous voice, and expressed himself with a purity of diction that marked him as a born orator, but he never attained any eminence except as a preacher for a small country congregation of his own people. The name "Anthony" must have been conferred upon him in Virginia. It is not at all probable that "Ole Miss" would have chosen the appellation of Caesar's eulogist for her protégé. She would have recalled that he afterwards became the paramour of the infamous queen of Egypt.

The cotton gin, invented by Eli Whitney about 1790, lifted the fleecy staple to its position of supremacy as a money crop. Cotton production on a large scale could never have been made profitable without it. It was the only agricultural machine in common use on Southern plantations for more than seventy-five years.

There were many crude devices for lightening labor to be found here and there, such as corn-shellers and feed-choppers, but they had machines at the old home. They stood, dust-

covered and forgotten in a corner of the barn until they fell to pieces from senile decay. Left to themselves, the Negroes simply would not use them, but went merrily on husking and shelling corn by hand and chopping up feed with long, sharp knives.

Even in the late seventies there had been little change in the modus operandi on the farm since Colonial days. For instance, there was at that time no well on "the hill" (in the yard of the big house). Yet no one thought of trying to save time and labor by having a well dug on the hill. There were plenty of "niggers" to "tote" the water from distant sources and plenty of time to do it in. Why make a change? The water from a new well might not prove to be so good. This last named objection was not so far-fetched.

Cold, delicious, soft water was obtained from two sources, the well in the lot and the spring at the foot of the hill, on the other side of the house. Grandma was partial to the water from the spring, endowed with imaginary virtues because of early associations. The washing was done at the spring, beside the rivulet that flowed from it, known as the Spring Branch.

All the water for drinking and bathing, as well as for kitchen and dairy use, was fetched in cedar pails, by hand and head, uphill a distance of more than a hundred paces. Most of this portage was done by woman servants. Persons not acquainted with the facts might picture to themselves these water carriers as poor, spiritless creatures, with forms bent and twisted out of human semblance by such heavy drudgery. Occasionally visitors from the North, full of sympathy for the down-trodden victims of the White man's love of ease, were astonished beyond measure by the poise, vigor, and graceful carriage of many of the Negro women. "Toting" three pails of water at a time, uphill, a hundred paces or more, not once but several times a day, is a form of exercise guaranteed to keep a woman in the pink of condition, to give grace and poise to the carriage, and to remove surplus fat from the abdominal area. One pail was carried in each hand and one on the head, and not a drop was spilled from the pail on the head.

A year or two before his death, which occurred in 1851, William Moffatt retired from active participation in his mercantile business. Dr. William Wylie, intimate friend and family physician of many years standing, issued an ultimatum when the aging merchant found himself no longer able to climb the hill from the store to the "Big House". His beloved Peggy persuaded him with many entreaties to heed the warning. He surrendered the management of the store into the hands of Joseph Wylie, a capable young man who had been with him many years and could be depended on to conduct the business in accordance with the maxims and methods of the founder. He afterwards established the great mercantile house in Chester, S. C., which still bears his name. Lyle Roddey, who afterwards founded the flourishing industrial city of Rock Hill, S. C., was a youthful clerk in the Moffatt store at the time my grandfather retired from its active management. A life of comparative inactivity proved irksome to William Moffatt. He was primarily and essentially a merchant, and cared little for the leisurely existence of a wealthy planter to which he must now adapt himself. Old Tom, his faithful Negro overseer who had been intrusted with the oversight of his fellow workers for many years, was still on the job and needed little assistance of advice from his master. A pig-headed old scoundrel was Tom. He would listen reverently, hat in hand, to his master's orders and then go out and do as he pleased.

William Moffatt had to admit, however, that Tom was an invaluable servant. He jollied the other darkies along and got all the necessary work done with very little friction. The plantation seemed to run itself like a well-oiled machine. When he felt equal to the mile exertion of a horseback ride, he would mount his gently ambling Kentucky mare, after breakfast, and make a tour of inspection to see if fences were in order and the hands were busy at their tasks.

Sometimes he would take long drives over the quiet country road, with Peggy by his side. The lovely landscape, the alternating fields, and woodland glades, were viewed with an ever fresh and naïve delight by one who had spent most of his days cooped up in a store. The carriage was a massive vehicle, handsomely upholstered. He had paid seven hundred dollars for it in Philadelphia. It was equipped with springs on the latest pattern which greatly reduced the discomfort of travel over the rough roads. Many of the ponderous carriages on adjacent plantations were as innocent of springs as an ox-cart.

He was always tickled by the impressive dignity of his coachman, Jack (baptized Andrew Jackson). Regardless of the season, Jack's fat form was swathed in a double-breasted blue army coat discarded by some returned hero of the Mexican War. Oozing sweat at every pore, his woolly pate crowned with an ancient and battered beaver that had been white in some forgotten period of its existence, Jack was an awe-inspiring spectacle, the envy of all the field niggers and the hero of all the kitchen wenches.

In the drowsy dusk of a midsummer day, as William Moffatt sat nodding on his front piazza, he was aroused by the boisterous laughter and singing of returning picnickers. These were his own Negroes. Usually the crop was "laid by" before the Fourth of July and the hands were permitted to go to the Catawba River on the Fourth for a big frolic and fish-fry. A jug or two of "corn" was a great aid to hilarity and enhanced the pleasure of devouring unlimited quantities of tasty catfish. The season was late this year and the work of "laying by" had continued through the Fourth, the fish-fry being postponed until the work was finished.

Suddenly he noticed someone hurrying up the hill from the store. It was Joseph Wylie. He arose to meet him. "What is it, Joseph? Anything wrong at the store?"

"No, I just ran up to tell you that President Taylor died this morning."

"There must be some mistake. How could you hear the news so soon?"

"A man who has been attending court in Chester just stopped at the store on his way home. He heard Squire McAliley read the telegram in the court room."

So that was it. Morse's wonderful invention had made possible this seeming miracle, ne, William Moffatt, sitting on the piazza at his home, more than four hundred miles from the nation's capital, had heard of the death of the President of the United States, on the same day that it occurred. It had taken almost a week for news of William Henry Harrison's death to reach Chester.

Steamboats, railroads, and now the telegraph. A marvelous new era was opening up for mankind. Rapid transit, instantaneous communication between distant points, these things would revolutionize the old order and were passing away with it. He surmised, without much regret, that the next Fourth of July would not find him here.

A Richburg Native Dies in Florida

Reverend Joseph Henry Moffatt, 76, who was born and reared in the Richburg community, died Wednesday of last week in a Tampa, Florida hospital, and was buried the following Friday. He had been a resident of Tampa, thirty-seven years. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary B Moffatt, and three daughters: Mrs. Elizabeth Hodgson, Mrs. Nelson H. Geiger, and Miss Ruth Moffatt and a son, William Moffatt, all of Tampa.

Reverend Moffatt was a man of fine literary ability and was a frequent and appreciated contributor to newspapers and magazines.

Note: The above was copied from a newspaper clipping in the possession of Mrs. R. M. Strange. Judging from the reverse side of the clipping, the paper evidently was a Chester one, probably The Chester News.

Typed at heading of clipping is this sentence:
"Died March 15, 1944"

The next article is from David Hopkins letters during the Revolutionary war to his sons, and deeds from the Chester County Court house. The notes were transcribed by E.D. Sloan, Jr., Box 25999, Greenville, S.C. 29616. We would like to thank Mr. E.D. Sloan, Jr. and T. Hopkins Peake for sharing this information with us.

Chester County, S.C. Deed Book B
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S^o Carolina Fort Lacey², Decr. 20, 1780

My Dear Sons:

I find times are much worse than when you Left South Carolina Last the enemy has had possession of all I possessed and am told had Come to a Conclusion of the division of the negroes and plantation and even under Cover of the British which made them think all Quite Safe they had Taken off only five of the negroes and they on Ferguson's defeat³ were Left to themselves and Chose to Come home and on Tuesday Evening the 7th of Last month Gen^l. Sumpter Arrived at the fish Dam fowrd on Broad River⁴ & the next morning about one OClock⁵ were attacked By the British a part of Tarletons Core their number from the Best information were about two hundred and sixty, our number Consisted of about three hundred or upwards they attacked us with their Cavalry in front, however after contest of about an hour the enemy Saw Cause to quit the Ground with the Loss of 27 killed wounded and Taken and their Commanding officer majr. Wimys⁶ wounded and Taken amongst the Rest they had seven killed on the ground & four and of them of their wounds, the evening, we Lost 5 men Killed & six wounded, my Boy Morris whom I So much Esteemed, I believe is mortally wounded as he is Shot between the Body and Shoulder and Bayoneted in three different places in the Body the next day we advanced as far as Tyger River & after Crossing it encamped on the S^o Side⁷ then we had our neighborhood under Cover which occasioned a small opening for those who had Recovered or had property that they wished out of the way of the Enemy to make a venture Capt. Charles Sims⁸ concluded to run his negroes for Virginia. I prevailed on him to agree to try to *take mine with him and told him to take them to you if possible. But in case it should happen other ways, to place them as safe as he possible could* Till he could see you, which he said he would be sure to do if he Got his negroes in Safe as he should go By your uncle

*italics implied
from elsewhere*

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Glenns⁹ where you Board. I also told him to be sure to tell you that if you ___ could possibly Save the negroes from the enemy that all and every of them Should be your absolute

Right and property. I am informed that Capt. Sims has Left the negroes on the yadkin River opposite the moravian Town¹⁰ if it should be the Case, perhaps he may Leave his negroes on the way or Stay with them so Long that you may Lose yours. Therefore I have this opportunity By Mr. Stogden¹¹ who tells me he is Going into Virginia Immediately and with all the Speed he possibly Can, and Through the neighborhood where you are he has promised me either to Call at Mr. Glenns and deliver this Letter to you with his own hand, or to be sure to Send it to you By a Safe hand, and if it should be the first account you have had of the negroes I would Recommend you Both to push immediately to Where the negroes are and Run them with all Speed into Virginia, & the most Safest part you Can Be informed of as I would wish you to Save them if possible as they have Been Taken and Retaken and it will certainly Be so much Saved to your Selves & unexpectedly and if it should so happen that You should secure the negroes and we Gain our Independency, I would wish you two to make an Equal Division with your Brother¹² and Sister¹³ as if it should be the will of providence That I do survive the war & it should terminate in our Favor *what I ever had, and do yet Believe it will I shall and do relinquish all my Right, claim or pretensions to all and Every one of the negroes I did formerly or do now own to you as aforesaid all the other part of*

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My Estate Except my Lands has fell into the hands of the enemy. They drove off at one time Between ninety and a hundred head of Cattle to Winns Borough they have also Got all my sheep, and the Greatest part of my hoggs, Plantation tools, household furniture and every other article that was of Any Value So that I am properly *situated for a Soldier* and am determined to See *the contest of our Cause* or fall in the attempt. *there is one piece of news I have omitted which was the Battle at Blackstocks¹⁴ on Tyger River which happened a few days after I saw Capt. Sims, Colo. Tarleton attacked us about an hour and half by Sun in the evening action Continued until almost Sun Down when we Beat them off the Ground. We had*

Four Killed and General Sumpter badly wounded
Cap^t Gabriel Brown was killed dead to my Left
hand & Gen^l Sumpter was to my Right it Both
happened from one platoon from the enemy on their
Retreat¹⁵. It is supposed they had sixty or seventy men
Killed and wounded. Gen^l Sumpter is on the Recovery.¹⁶
I have nothing more particular at present But am
With Sincere Respect, Your Loving Father till
Death,

s/David Hopkins¹⁷

Mr. Ferdinand hopkins¹⁸
& Newton hopkins¹⁹
in the State of Virginia
Cumberland County
Guiney Creek²⁰, Mr. James Glens

N.B. We were so
Scarce of paper in
Camp at the time of
Capt. Sims started

for Virginia I could Scarcely Get enough to Send
You a List of the negroes which were only seventeen. I am
as above

s/David Hopkins

NOTES:

1 Pages 438 through 444, recorded date _____, all relating to _____. A copy of this letter is also in the Lyman C. Draper Collection, 12VV278.

2 Fort Lacey, the winter camp of Col. Edward Lacey, Jr. 1742-1813, was located at Liberty Hill, about 7 miles south of York near the confluence of Little Turkey and Lindsey Creeks at William's/Wright's Mill.

3 Battle of King's Mountain October 7, 1780

4 west of Carlisle

5 November 8, 1780

6 James Wemyss

7 probably at Hawkin's Mill

8 Charles Sims 1737-1827, his mother Gemima Glenn Sims' sister Mary Glenn married 1763 David Hopkins; Sims was Hopkins' nephew. At that time Sims was a prisoner of war, paroled, which prevented him from fighting the British, see Sims' August 6, 1789 sworn statement.

9 James Glenn 1743-1805, his sister Mary married 1743 David Hopkins, uncle of the addressees

10 Salem, NC

11 Mr. Stogden, ?

12 George Washington Hopkins 1775-1805, then age 5

13 Mary Hopkins 1772-, then age 8

14 November 20, 1780

15 These two sentences, with minor differences, are quoted in *Gamecock, The Life and Campaigns of General Thomas Sumter*, by Robert Bass, on page 107.

16 Sumter was victorious but severely wounded, Twiggs succeeded in command. Before dawn November 21 Sumter crossed Tyger River and moved

north to overnight at Grindal Shoals and on to York. Later, also before dawn, Twiggs moved Sumter's guerilla troops across Tyger River and disbanded them. Apparently Hopkins moved north to Fort Lacey. December 25, 1780 Gen. Greene left Charlotte. Several days before that, Gen. Daniel Morgan and Col. William Washington marched by Ft. Lacey enroute to Ninety-six. Lacey and his regiment accompanied Morgan and remained with him through the Battle of Cowpens, January 17, 1781. After December 20, 1780 when Hopkins wrote this letter, and before January 17, 1781, Hopkins was captured and paroled, the details of which are not now know. Otherwise Hopkins probably would have accompanied Lacey to Cowpens.

17 David Hopkins c1739-c1816, then Captain, later Lieutenant Colonel

18 Ferdinand Hopkins 1764-1832, then age 16

19 Newton Hopkins 1768-1803, then age 12

20 Great Guinea Creek, near Ashland, VA, James Glenn lived there.

Statement of Capt. Charles Sims²

Personally appeared before me Charles Sims, Esq., one of the justices of Union county, who being sworn, maketh oath that during the British _____, being in the neighborhood of Liles Ford Showers (sic) _____ February, he being then³ a prisoner of war to the British on parole, he went to the quarters⁴ of General Sumter, on Tiger river, and there obtained a certificate for the removal of his negroes and those of Col. David Hopkins⁵, to the State of Virginia, and when the negroes of David Hopkins were given to him, having been taken by the British and re=taken, it was the expressed orders and request of Col. Hopkins to the deponent, to deliver the said negroes, being in number seventeen, or thereabout, to his sons Ferdinand Hopkins⁶, and Newton Hopkins⁷, and that he freely, voluntarily, and positively, give them the said negroes, to all intents and purposes the substance of which declaration is mentioned in a letter⁸ Rote By the Said Colo. Hopkins dated November 9th, 1780, and to the signing of which the deponent also swears.

s/Charles Sims

Sworn before me this 6th August, 1780 s/P. Bremar, J.P.

NOTES:

- 1 Pages 438 through 444 all relate to _____
- 2 Charles Sims 1737-1827
- 3 November 9, 1780?
- 4 where?, Battle of Blackstock was not until November 20, 1780
- 5 David Hopkins c1739-c1816
- 6 Ferdinand Hopkins 1764-1832
- 7 Newton Hopkins 1768-1803
- 8 lost

Chester County, S.C. Deed Book B
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Tyger River Mrs. Andersons² Nov^b the 9th, 1780

Dear Sons

Last Tuesday night or Rather Wednesday morning³ we were attacked by the British part of Tarleton's Core commanded by major Wims⁴ at the fishdam fowrd on Broad River⁵, we kept the Ground tho with difficulty as we had a number of Tories amongst us. I am doubtful I have lost my favourit Boy morrise when the action⁶ commenced, he was Lying at a fier some distance from me, & attempted to Get to me & fell in with the British Cavalry where he was Shot & Bayonetted in such a manner that I believe that there is very Little hopes of his Recovery, which is a Loss I particularly feel as I am now destitute of Servant only at will of altho I have Boys that are Very obliging. But under Slender Restriction the Enemy has Covered the Greatest part of the State Tho I think our move to the fish dam is much in our favour, as it has put it in our power to Remove the property Taken By the Enemy and now retaken to any of the Sister States, where, perhaps, it may Be secured to the proprietor or to him or them he may direct it To & as I have Been so unfortunate as to Lose my all except my land & have now Retaken my Negroes I prevailed⁷ on Capt. Charles Sims⁸ to Take the negroes with him to Virginia & have his positive promise to deliver them to you two at Mr. James Glenns⁹ in Cumberland County in the State of Virginia I have furnished him with three Valuable Beast in order to Carry the Baggage & Young negroes which I expect you will Receive with the negroes there is in number Seventeen. a List of their names I have inclosed to you & if it is in your power to Secure them from the Enemy or dispose of them, if you find it advisable for I Look on it as to be So much Dragged out of the fire,

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And all your own if you Can Save them, therefore, do what Ever you think Best. & as to property here I have not the Least idea of it however I hope it may not Be the

Case in Virginia where you are & as you have able advisors I would Earnistly Recommend to you not to neglect that part, as you are Both young & has never had any opportunity of Being Acquainted with the Caise of the world there is Capt. W^m Thompson¹⁰, Mr. David Anderson¹¹, Mr. Mathew Sims¹², Mr. Nathan Glenn¹³, or Mr. James Glenn, all who are our near Relations, and men to be Confided in & who will with Cheerfulness Give you the Best Counsell. I have nothing more at present that I now Recollect, & haste oblige me to Conclude, as we are now under marching orders¹⁴. I shall wright to you By Every opportunity. & hope you will not neglect doing the Same By me. This From your Loving Father till death.

s/D. Hopkins¹⁵

Mr. Ferdinand Hopkins¹⁶
&
Newton Hopkins¹⁷
State of Virginia
Cumberland County

The names of the negroes Sent By Capt Charles Sims to my sons Ferdinand & Newton Hopkins now in the State of Virginia Cumberland County 9th of november 1780

Daniel	1	Milby	9
Tamer	2	Jacob	10
_____	3	Isaac	11
_____	4	Dick	12
Betty	5	Jenny	13
Rotin	6	Harvey	14
Cloe	7	Phillis	15
Lucy	8	Marge	16
		M_____	17 Total number

NOTES:

- 1 Pages 438 through 444 , recorded date _____ all relate to _____
- 2 located
- 3 November 9, 1780
- 4 James Wemyss, pronounced Weems
- 5 Broad River, east of Carlisle
- 6 Battle of Fishdam, on east bank

7. November 9, 1780

8. Charles Sims 1737-1827, his mother Gemima Glenn Sims` Sister Mary Glenn married 1763 David Hopkins; Sims was Hopkins` nephew. At that time Sims was a prisoner of war, paroled, which prevented him from fighting the British, see Sims` August 6, 1789 sworn statement.

9 James Glenn 1743-1805, his sister Mary Glenn married 1763 David Hopkins

10 William Thompson?

11 David Anderson?

12 Matthew Sims?

13 Nathan Glenn 1732-1805, son of James Glenn

14 After his November 9 victory at Fishdam, Sumter moved to Hawkin`s Mill on Tyger River. Reinforcements poured in. November 10 Hopkins was on the south bank there, thence to Sedalia, 17 miles east of Fishdam, where McJunkin joined him. Thence south toward Ninety-six, a Tory strongpoint. Near Clinton, Sumter learned from a British deserter that Tarleton was chasing him, moving up Enoree River. To avoid being trapped between two British forces, Sumter turned north and November 20 bivouacked at Blackstock`s plantation, 20 miles west of Fishdam. Tarleton and Sumter fought late that afternoon, the Battle of Blackstock. Sumter was victorious but severely wounded. Twiggs succeeded in command. Before dawn November 21 Sumter crossed Tyger River and moved north to overnight at Grindal Shoals and on to York. Later, also before dawn, Twiggs moved Sumter`s guerilla troops across Tyger River and disbanded them.

15 David Hopkins c1739-c1816, then Captain, later Lieutenant Colonel

16 Ferdinand Hopkins 1764-1832, then age 16

17 Newton Hopkins 1768-1803, then age 12

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The property of Ferdinand² and Newton Hopkins³
in Case they or Either of them Can save or dispose
of them Agreeable to the Contents of my Letter
Which has the inclosed _____ s/David Hopkins⁴

Mr. Ferdinand Hopkins and Newton Hopkins State of
Virginia Cumberland County Mr. Jas Glenns⁵ ___ by
Capt. Sims⁶

Personally appeared Charles Sims, Esqr.
one of the justices of union County, who being
Sworn, maketh oath that During the British
Being in the neighborhood of Liless ford
Shiroes Ferry, he Being then⁷ a prisoner
of war to the British on parole, he went to
the Quarters⁸ of General Sumpter, on Tiger
River and there obtained a Certificate for
the Removal of his negroes & those of Colo.
David Hopkins, to the State of Virginia
and when the negroes of Colo. David Hopkins
were Given to him they having Been taken
By the British & Retaken, it was the express
Orders of and Request of Colo. Hopkins to the
Deponent, to deliver the said negroes, Being
in number Seventeen, or thereabout, to his
Sons Ferdinand hopkins, and newton hopkins
and that he freely, voluntarily, & positively,
Give them the s^d negroes, to all intents and
purposes the substance of which declaration is
mentioned in a Letter⁹ Rote By the Said Colo.
Hopkins dated November the 9th, 1780, and to the
Signing of which the Deponent also swears.

s/Charles Sims

Sworn before me
this 6th August, 1789
s/P. Bremar, J.P.

NOTES:

- 1 Pages 438 through 444, recorded date _____ all relate to _____
- 2 Ferdinand Hopkins 1764-1803, then age 16

- 3 Newton Hopkins 1768-1803, then age 12
- 4 David Hopkins c1739-1816, then Captain, later Lieutenant Colonel
- 5 James Glenn 1743-1805, his sister, Mary Glenn married 1763 David Hopkins
- 6 Charles Sims 1737-1827, his mother Gemima Glenn Sims' sister Mary Glenn married 1763 David Hopkins: Sims was Hopkins' nephew.
- 7 no later than the Battle of Fishdam November 9 1780
- 8 Where? Sumter approached Fishdam from the northeast and did not camp on Tyger River until after the November 9 battle
- 9 Chester County Deed Book B, page 438

Oct. 8, 1779^{1, 2}

State of Georgia
Headquarters within sight of Savannah Town

Dear and loving friend:

I gladly embrace the opportunity of this limited chance to write to you, though not so fully as I could wish. We are in a fair way to take Savannah Town³, for we have opened three batteries which consist of twenty odd pieces of cannon and thirteen mortars, which have been well served for three days past and still continues. Several houses in town are burned. The enemy lies close in the redoubts. I hope in a few days we shall have town and every villain in it, for I think they are safely surrounded. We have about ten thousand men and all in high spirits and determined for victory. I have been very ill with the Yellow Fever, tho' am somewhat amended tho' very weak. I have been excessively ill, tho' the promising view of conquests keeps up my spirits. Tho' our fatigues are very hard, I can cheerfully inform you that we are much superior in heavy mettle to the enemy, which is a very great advantage to us. The enemy has sallied out on us three different times, tho' have been repelled with considerable loss, also two field pieces. I have been an eye witness to the above. Haste obliges me to conclude with omitting many particulars which I could insert to you if I had time. I have enclosed a memorandum or will to you, which I am well assured you will serve me in as well as tho' I was present. With nothing more but my best wishes to you and yours. This from your loving and affectionate friend till death.

D. Hopkins⁴

To Capt. Charles Sims⁵, on Tiger River. Per favor of Mr. J. Foster

NOTES:

1 This date and the substance of the letter is consistent with the account in *From Savannah to Yorktown, The American Revolution in the South*, Lumpkin, 1981, p. 34ff.

2 This letter is copied from *Hopkins of Virginia and Related Families*, Walter Lee Hopkins, 1931, p. 187, the location of the original letter is unknown.

3 The attack failed.

4 David Hopkins c1739-1816, in 1778 a Captain in the 3rd S.C. Regiment, later Lieutenant Colonel, later Gentleman Justice of Chester County, SC.

5 Captain Charles Sims 1737-1827, his mother Gemima Glenn Sims' sister Mary Glenn married 1763 David Hopkins; Charles Sims was David Hopkins' nephew.

To Mr. Ferdinand Hopkins² & Newton Hopkins³, in the State of Virginia. Cumberland County, Guinea Creek⁴, Mr. James Glens⁵.

North Carolina, Orange County, March 30th, 1781

My Dear Sons:

This is to inform you that the Fate of War has placed me here, a prisoner of war. I was paroled from Hillsborough to the plantation of Colo. John Hagen, about twelve miles from that place and am there to remain till exchanged, which I hope will not be too long. First I received your letter to the first I wrote you⁶, and also the twenty seven guineas you mentioned in it which did me a singular favor, as they never could have come in a better time as our Continental money is at this time of little or no account. I do heartily wish you great success with your Negroes, and am in hopes from what you wrote me, that you have secured them from the enemy though it was once more that ever I expected, as I had set them down for a clean loss till the opportunity by Capt. Sims⁷ offered them there was some risk to run & I am happy to hear he steered clear and do sincerely wish you may do the same, which if you do the Negroes are undoubtedly your own. I had no other way to save them but the one I have adopted, as I was determined to stick close to the Cause—till the Contest was settled or I should be no more. I should be very glad that you and your Brother could get leave from your Teacher to come and see me. The(sic)be sure to get a pass from the Commanding Officer of the Regiment you Live in for that purpose, as times are much confused in these parts at this time. Nothing more at present that I recollect as hast oblige me to conclude tho with my best respects to you both.

This from your loving father till death

s/D Hopkins⁸

NOTES:

1 Pages 438 through _____ all relate to _____

2 Ferdinand Hopkins 1764-1832, son of David Hopkins, the writer of this letter

3 Newton Hopkins 1768-1803, son of David Hopkins, the writer of this letter

4 Great Guinea Creek, near Ashland, VA

5 James Glenn 1743-1805, lived on Great Guinea Creek, his sister Mary Glenn married 12763 David Hopkins, the writer of this letter

6 November 21, 1780 or December 20, 1780

7 Charles Sims 1737-1827, uncle by marriage to aunt, Mary Glenn, to Hopkins, and son of Jemima Glenn Sims

8 David Hopkins c1739-c1816

MEMORIAL UNVEILING AT FISHING CREEK
Article by Mr. Pegram

On Saturday afternoon, October 12th, at three o'clock around three hundred men and women gathered at the Fishing Creek Cemetery for the unveiling of the Confederate memorial boulder, under the auspices of the Lafayette Strait Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Richburg. They were from various sections of Chester and York county, drawn by a common purpose—to pay tribute to the veterans who rest beneath the sod of this historic cemetery: to honor their own dead.

The occasion was in charge of Mrs. John Lyle, president of the hostess chapter, who gave a few words of cordial welcome and greeting, following a fervent invocation by Rev. F. W. Gregg, D. D., of Rock Hill First Presbyterian Church, and the singing of "America" by a mixed choir.

Mrs. J. Frost Walker, of Columbia, president of S. C. Division United Daughters of the Confederacy, and Mrs. John R. London, Rock Hill, Ridge District Director each brought graceful greetings with words of hearty commendation of the worthy enterprise.

Mrs. W. G. Hollis gave an appropriate tribute to the late Dr. Lafayette Strait, who refused to accept the exemption which his age and profession called for, and enlisted in the Confederate Army, and gave valiant service.

The address of the afternoon was delivered by Col. Arthur Gaston of Chester. This was followed by the roll-call of veterans buried in the cemetery, by Mrs. W. W. Hollis; the singing of "Tenting Tonight" by the choir: the formal unveiling exercises, the presentation of wreaths; the singing of "Dixie" and "Taps" blown on the bugle by James McDonald, Rock Hill.

UNVEILING

The unveiling was done by a quartet of attractive girls gowned in white with sashes of red. These were Willie Lyle, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. John Lyle, Ruth Jordan, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Gill Jordan, of Richburg, little Martha Amelia Hollis, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. D. S. Hollis, Rock Hill, and little Margaret Hicklin, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Frank Hicklin, Fishing Creek. Two Sturdy young color-bearers wearing the traditional "red shirts" were Bobbie Hollis and Carroll Carpenter.

The memorial is beautiful and unique, modest and simple, yet most appropriate. It is a granite boulder carrying the inscription, resting on a foundation of native rocks and cement . The base rests on the two halves of an ancient millstone, used in Revolutionary days at a mill in the neighborhood, and later incorporated as the steps of the historic old church itself, later discarded for modern steps. The incorporating of the old millstone was done by Mr. Gwinn, resident of the section, and his fine work was commended during the program.

COL. GASTON'S ADDRESS

In his address, Col. Arthur Gaston, proved himself again the deep thinker, scholar and orator, which he is well known to be, his address being a valuable contribution to the history of this historic section, a masterpiece of literature and of an oratory free of useless embellishments, but of conclusive power and convincing force.

He traced the history of the people of this section of Piedmont Carolina, showing them to be of that sturdy Scotch-Irish stock, who came to this section by way of Pennsylvania, drawn to this land of freedom not by lure of gold or conquest, but driven by their own inner urge of freedom of worship. This noble impulse gave rise to that

quality of patriotism which would have nothing of unrepresented government by a foreign king: that was its sentiments crystallized into decisive action in the days of the Revolutionary war bringing victory to jaded, discouraged soldiers, making "Kings Mountain" stand pre-eminent as the deciding engagement of the war.

Coming on down to later days, Col. Gaston showed that it was these same people who "stood up" for their rights in the dark days before the 60's and who during those years showed their adherence to their rights in no uncertain terms, but expoused the Cause which they deemed the Right and fought for it to what they themselves knew to be the inevitable end.

The speaker linked this historical data to the present day, and commanded the loyalty of the descendents of these earlier patriots, which moves them to emphasize this spirit in the commemoration of the deeds of those gone before by shafts and memorials such as the one unveiled. He paid lofty tribute to the women of the Confederacy, through whose undying interests and enthusiasm such memorials are made possible, and urged the younger generation to strive to live up to their worthy and noble heritage of undying principles, of undying loyalty which marked their ancestors of the long ago.

Much of the credit for this most worthy enterprise in erecting the memorial is due to Mrs. W. C Hicklin, of RockHill, who has given to it her unfailing interest advice, enthusiasm and work

LIST OF SOLDIERS OF PAST WARS BURIED IN FISHING CREEK CEMETERY

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Beauford, Leroy: Boyd, Charles: Boyd, Davis: Boyd, John: Chambers, John: Capt.

Cooper, Robert: Drennan, Hugh: Ferguson, James: Gaston, Col Joseph; gill, Col.

Archibald: Gil, Robert no. 2: Gill, Robert, no 2: Gill, Thomas: Gill, Col. George.
Jones, Jonathan: Kelsey, Tugh: Kelso, Samuel: Lamon, James: Latter, Thomas: Lewis,
William: Lusk, Robt: McCance, Samuel: McLure, Hugh: Mills, Col John: Mills, John:
Morrow, Joseph: Neely, Samuel: Neelyu, Thomas: Noel, Thomas: Porter, William:
Steele, James: Strait, Christopher: Stewart, John: Steadman, Michael: Steadman, John.
Walker, John(1): Walker, John(2): Wherry, Samuel: Whiteside, Hugh: Workman, Robert:
Wyly, Peter.

WAR OF 1812

McLure, Capt. James: Neely, Maj. John: Lewis, Col. Joseph.

MEXICAN WAR

Lewis, Isaiah: Poag, Joseph s.: Robinson, William S.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

Crawford, Dr. Robert A.: Crawford, Samuel: Campton, Wm H.: Crane, Wm. H.: Culp,
Benjamin F: Culp, Robert: Drennan, G. A.: Eagle, John E.: Major Gill, W. Perry:
Hicklin, W. Cloud: Dr. Jordan, Geo. W.: Kelsey, Wm. E.: Lewis, Samuel: Moore, Robert
Cahusac: Millen, Samuel: Millen, E. Harper: McCullough, Thomas: McCullogh, John
: McFadden, Billy: McFadden, John Green: McFadden, Joseph.
Maj. Neely, John: Capt. Neely, Elias M.: Neely, Willis W.: Neely, A P. W.: Neely, Jas.
H. G.: Poag, Thomas: Poag, William: Poag, Robt. M.: Poag, D. Randolph: Rader, Eli C.:
Reid, John B: Reid, Washington: Strait, John R.: Strait, Thomas>

WORLD WAR

James Burnette Hicklin

LIST OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS SAID TO BE BURIED AT FISHING
CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CEMETERT

Leroy Beauford or Beaufort	Joseph Morrow
Charles Boyd	Samuel Neely
David Boyd*	Thomas Neely*
John Boyd*	Thomas Noel
John Chambers*	William Porter*
Capt. Robert Cooper*	James Steele
Hugh Drennan	Christopher Strait*
James Ferguson	John Stewart
Col. Joseph Gaston*	Micheal Steadman
Joseph Gaston *	John Steadman
Col. Archibald Gill	John Walker No. 1*
Robert Gill no. 1*	John Walker No. 2*
Robert Gill No. 2*	Samuel Wherry
Thomas Gill*	Hugh Whiteside
Col. George Gill	Robert Workman
Jonathan Jones*	Peter Wylie(Wyly)*
Hugh Kelsey or Kelso*	Hugh McLure*
Samuel Kelsey or Kelso*	Col John Mills*
James Lamon	John Mills*
Thomas Latter(Latta)	Samuel McCance*
William Lewis*	
Robert Lusk	*HAVE MARKERS

**ATTENDANCE RECORDS, OLD NEW HOPE SCHOOL, CHESTER COUNTY, SC
PART ONE**

An attendance register for the old New Hope School was among my grandmother's papers that passed on after her death to my father, John Wesley Bramlett, Sr. The daily and monthly records in this register were kept by Miss Gertrude Mayfield for the 1897-98 school year and by Miss Eva F. Wilkes for 1898-89 and part of the 1899-1900 school year. New Hope School was located near New Hope Methodist Church on what is now West Chester School Road. This one-room school situated between the church and the present Highway 9 was about nine miles west of the town of Chester. In addition to names of students who attended during these years, the register records reveal:

- a school year of approximately 120 days*
- a building in poor condition*
- a classroom with limited resources for teaching*
- a multi-age student population*

The information contained in the school register covers sixteen months during three school years and is presented as it was recorded. The lists are often not alphabetical; the spelling of names and ages are sometimes inconsistent; and there are errors in adding and calculating average attendance figures. Attendance was recorded in the Register as follows: no mark if student was present all day, (A) for absence in the forenoon, (/) for absence in afternoon, (X) for absence all day. The attendance of students appears to be erratic -- girls attended more regularly than boys. The schedule of school is obviously arranged so that students are free during planting and harvesting crops.

PART ONE contains those records kept by Miss Gertrude Mayfield for the 1897-98 school year. Miss Mayfield was a resident of Baton Rouge and a widely respected teacher.

**TEACHER'S DAILY AND MONTHLY SCHOOL REGISTER
FOR NEW HOPE SCHOOL**

Located in School District No. 5

School District Known by the Local Name of Baton Rouge

County of Chester

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

For Month Commencing August 2, 1897, and Ending on August 27, 1897.
Gertrude Mayfield, Teacher

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NO. DAYS ATTENDED</u>
Allen, Maggie	11	F	13
Allen, Ruth	6	F	13
Allen, Ernest	9	M	13

Allen, Jim	13	M	13
Cassels, Roy	11	M	15
Cassels, Bessie	9	F	15
Cassels, John	7	M	15
Darby, Jim	14	M	11
Elliott, Mattie	13	F	8
Elliott, Lily	11	F	10
Elliott, Willie	9	F	12
Grant, Myrtie	10	F	16
Grant, Marvin	13	M	5
Grant, Riddie	8	F	15
Grant, Beulah	12	F	12
Grant, Furman	11	M	6
Erwood, Marion	16	M	10
Erwood, Alice	13	F	16
Erwood, Gaines	10	M	9
Erwood, Nora	8	F	12
Grant, Ira	6	M	13
Hudson, Daisy	11	F	5
Mayfield, Annie	13	F	9
Mayfield, Bessie	11	F	17
Lackey, Mamie	10	F	18
Lackey, Kate	8	F	20
Lackey, Gilbert	12	M	10
Gregory, Vera	5	F	18
Lipford, Lizzie	14	F	9
Lackey, Willie	14	M	5
White, Mamie	16	F	5
Elliott, Johnnie	5	M	5

*Total of 20 school days

Enrolment, Males, <u>13</u>	Average Attendance, Males, <u>6.5</u>	Total days, Males, <u>130</u>
“ Females, <u>19</u>	“ “ Females, <u>12.2</u>	“ “ Females, <u>243</u>
Total, <u>32</u>	Total, <u>18.7</u>	Grand Total, <u>374</u>

Branches Pursued: [Subjects taught and number of students]

Alphabet: 4	Geography: 14
Spelling: 32	English Grammar: 5
Reading: 32	S. C. History: 1
Writing: 32	U. S. History: 1
Mental Arithmetic: 23	Higher Branches: 3
Written Arithmetic: 20	

In the last section of the record, Miss Mayfield reported the schoolhouse condition was “fair” and was not enclosed [fenced, I believe]. She did not list the owner of the building. She checked that there were two charts: one for reading and one for writing (valued at

\$1.50). She posted no value for the schoolhouse and left the blanks for number and value empty beside arithmet'1 charts, physiolog'1 charts, maps, globes, common desks, patent desks, and black boards.

TEACHER'S DAILY AND MONTHLY SCHOOL REGISTER

For Month Commencing August 31, 1897, and Ending, November 19, 1897.*

Gertrude Mayfield, Teacher

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NO. DAYS ATTENDED</u>
Allen, Maggie	11	F	8
Allen, Ruth	6	F	8
Allen, Ernest	9	M	6
Allen, Jimmie	13	M	5
Cassels, Roy	11	M	6
Cassels, Bessie	9	F	5
Cassels, John	7	M	5
Darby, Jim	14	M	5
Elliott, Mattie	13	F	9
Elliott, Lily	11	F	7
Elliott, Willie	9	F	3
Elliott, Johnnie	5	M	3
Erwood, Alice	13	F	7
Erwood, Gaines	10	M	6
Erwood, Nora	8	F	4
Erwood, Marion	16	M	0
Grant, Myrtie	10	F	15
Grant, Marvin	13	M	3
Grant, Riddie	8	F	15
Grant, Beulah	12	F	7
Grant, Furman	11	M	0
Grant, Ira	6	M	15
Gregory, Vera	5	F	5
Hudson, Daisy	11	F	0
Lipford, Lizzie	14	F	9
Lackey, Mamie	10	F	4
Lackey, Kate	8	F	7
Lackey, Willie	14	M	2
Lackey, Gilbert	12	M	2
Mayfield, Annie	13	F	20
Mayfield, Bessie	11	F	20
White, Mamie	16	F	9
Erwood, Brenton	5	M	4
Hudson, Eva	5	F	6
Hudson, Alice	9	F	6

Hudson, Emma 7 F 7

*Dates of school were August 31 and weekdays during September 1-11, November 8-19.

Enrolment, Males, <u>14</u>	Average Attendance, Males, <u>3.1</u>	Total days of Males, <u>62</u>
“ Females, <u>22</u>	“ “ Females, <u>9.1</u>	“ “ Females, <u>181</u>
Total, <u>36</u>	Total, <u>12.2</u>	Grand Total, <u>243</u>

Branches Pursued: (Subjects taught and number of students)

Alphabet: 8	Geography: 14
Spelling: 36	English Grammar: 4
Reading: 36	S. C. History: 3
Writing: 36	U. S. History: 4
Mental Arithmetic: 19	Higher Branches: 3
Written Arithmetic: 18	

In the last section of the record, Miss Mayfield reported the schoolhouse condition was “fair” and was not enclosed [fenced, I believe]. She did not list the owner of the building. She checked that there were two charts: one for reading and one for writing (no values given). She posted no value for the schoolhouse and left the blanks for number and value empty beside arithmet’l charts, physiolog’l charts, maps, globes, common desks, and patent desks. She noted that the value of the one blackboard was “not much.”

TEACHER’S DAILY AND MONTHLY SCHOOL REGISTER

For Month Commencing November 22, 1897, and Ending, December 17, 1897.

Gertrude Mayfield, Teacher

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NO. DAYS ATTENDED</u>
Erwood, Alice	13	F	12
Grant, Ira	6	M	9
Grant, Myrtie	10	F	19
Grant, Riddie	8	F	19
Grant, Beulah	13	F	15
Grant, Furman	12	M	11
Lackey, Mamie	11	F	15
Lackey, Kate	8	F	17
Lackey, Gilbert	12	M	9
Gregory, Vera	6	F	11
Mayfield, Annie	14	F	20
Mayfield, Bessie	11	F	20
Hudson, Alice	9	F	10
Hudson, Emma	7	F	8
Hudson, Eva	5	F	4
Elliott, Mattie	14	F	14
Elliott, Lily	12	F	16

Elliott, Willie	9	F	15
Grant, Marvin	14	M	11
Grant, Harvey	12	M	11

Enrolment, Males,	<u>5</u>	Average Attendance, Males,	<u>2.5</u>	Total days of Males,	<u>51</u>
“ Females,	<u>15</u>	“ “ Females,	<u>10.8</u>	“ “ Females,	<u>215</u>
Total,	<u>20</u>	Total,	<u>13.3</u>	Grand Total,	<u>266</u>

Branches Pursued: (Subjects taught and number of students)

Alphabet: 0	Geography: 9
Spelling: 20	English Grammar: 4
Reading: 20	S. C. History: 0
Writing: 20	U. S. History: 4
Mental Arithmetic: 10	Higher Branches: 2
Written Arithmetic: 14	

In the last section of the record, Miss Mayfield reported the schoolhouse condition was “fair” and not enclosed [fenced, I believe]. She did not list the owner of the building. She checked that there were two charts: one for reading and one for writing (valued at \$1.50). She posted no value for the schoolhouse and drew a line on the blanks beside arithmet’l charts, physiolog’l charts, maps, globes, common desks, and patent desks indicating a lack of these in the classroom. She noted that the value of the one blackboard was “very little.”

TEACHER’S DAILY AND MONTHLY SCHOOL REGISTER

For Month Commencing January 3, 1898, and Ending, January 27, 1898.

Gertrude Mayfield, Teacher

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NO. DAYS ATTENDED</u>
Allen, Maggie	11	F	17
Allen, Jim	13	M	18
Allen, Ernest	9	M	18
Allen, Ruth	7	F	16
Mayfield, Annie	14	F	20
Mayfield, Bessie	11	F	20
Lackey, Roscoe	17	M	17
Lackey, Gilbert	14	M	10
Lackey, Mamie	12	F	17
Lackey, Kate	9	F	18
Grant, Myrtie	10	F	16
Grant, Riddie	8	F	16
Erwood, Alice	13	F	15
Gregory, Vera	7	F	12
Chalk, Mattie	13	F	12
Grant, Beulah	13	F	13

Grant, Furman	11	M	13
Elliott, Mattie	13	F	8
Elliott, Willie	9	F	10
Elliott, Lily	11	F	11
Elliott, Johnnie	7	M	3
Lipford, Lizzie	14	F	13
Lipford, Mary	16	F	9
Darby, Jeddie	16	M	14
Erwood, Nora	8	F	4
Elliott, Bessie	15	F	5
Grant, Marvin	14	M	5
Dodds, Cora	12	F	7
Ferrill, Katie	9	F	7
Erwood, Gaines	11	M	4
Grant, Ira	6	M	6
Enrolment, Males,	<u>10</u>	Average Attendance, Males,	<u>5.4</u>
“ Females,	<u>21</u>	“ “ Females,	<u>13.3</u>
Total,	<u>31</u>	Total,	<u>18.7</u>
		Total days of Males,	<u>108</u>
		“ “ Females,	<u>267</u>
		Grand Total,	<u>375</u>

Branches Pursued: (Subjects taught and number of students)

Alphabet: 1	Geography: 14
Spelling: 31	English Grammar: 8
Reading: 31	S. C. History: 3
Writing: 31	U. S. History: 6
Mental Arithmetic: 11	Higher Branches: 4
Written Arithmetic: 20	

In the last section of the record, Miss Mayfield reported the schoolhouse condition was “fair” and was not enclosed [not fenced, I believe]. She did not list the owner of the building. She checked that there were two charts: one for reading and one for writing (valued at \$1.50). She posted no value for the schoolhouse and drew a line on the blanks beside arithmet’l charts, physiolog’l charts, maps, globes, and patent desks indicating a lack of these in the classroom. She listed the value of the one blackboard as “not much” and beside the item common desks wrote “an old time.”

TEACHER’S DAILY AND MONTHLY SCHOOL REGISTER
 For Month Commencing January 31, 1898, and Ending, February 25, 1898.
Gertrude Mayfield, Teacher

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NO. DAYS ATTENDED</u>
Allen, Maggie	11	F	19
Allen, Jim	13	M	19
Allen, Ernest	9	M	19

Allen, Ruth	7	F	19
Lackey, Kate	9	F	20
Lackey, Mamie	12	F	18
Lackey, Gilbert	*	M	15
Lackey, Roscoe	*	M	5
Lipford, Mary	16	F	12
Lipford, Lizzie	14	F	20
Grant, Myrtie	10	F	18
Grant, Riddie	8	F	18
Grant, Marvin	14	M	9
Grant, Beulah	13	F	18
Grant, Furman	11	M	17
Grant, Ira	6	M	3
Gregory, Vera	6	F	20
Chalk, Mattie	13	F	18
Darby, Jeddie	16	M	5
Chalk, Daisy	15	F	14
Elliott, Mattie	13	F	11
Elliott, Lily	11	F	11
Elliott, Willie	9	F	12
Mayfield, Annie	14	F	19
Mayfield, Bessie	11	F	10
Grant, Lonnie	15	M	5
Grant, Boyce	7	M	7
Lackey, Will	15	M	2

*Ages not listed

Enrolment, Males,	<u>11</u>	Average Attendance, Males,	<u>5.3</u>	Total days of Males,	<u>106</u>
“ Females,	<u>17</u>	“ “ Females,	<u>13.8</u>	“ “ Females,	<u>277</u>
Total,	<u>28</u>	Total,	<u>19.1</u>	Grand Total,	<u>383</u>

Branches Pursued: (Subjects taught and number of students)

Alphabet: 1	Geography: 19
Spelling: 28	English Grammar: 7
Reading: 28	S. C. History: 2
Writing: 28	U. S. History: 8
Mental Arithmetic: 8	Higher Branches: 7
Written Arithmetic: 21	

Miss Mayfield listed the following students “that have been to school during the year”:

Elliott, Bessie	F
Elliott, Johnnie	M
Grant, Harvey	M
Ferrill, Katie	F
Dodd, Cora	F

Hudson, Alice	F
Hudson, Emma	F
Hudson, Eva	F
Erwood, Alice	F
Erwood, Nora	F
Erwood, Gaines	M
Erwood, Brenton	M
White, Mamie	F

In the last section of the record, Miss Mayfield reported the schoolhouse condition was "fair" and was not enclosed. She did not list the owner of the building. She checked that there were two charts: one for reading and one for writing (valued at \$.50). She posted no value for the schoolhouse and drew a line on each of the blanks beside arithmet'1 charts, physiolog'1 charts, maps, globes, and patent desks indicating a lack of these in the classroom. She described the one common desk as "kind of old" and the one blackboard as "piece of one."

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TEACHER'S DAILY AND MONTHLY SCHOOL REGISTER

For Month Commencing February 28, 1898, and Ending, March 23, 1898.

Gertrude Mayfield , Teacher

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NO. DAYS ATTENDED*</u>
Grant, Beulah	13	F	13
Grant, Furman	11	M	10
Grant, Boyce	7	M	6
Grant, Myrtie	11	F	17
Grant, Riddie	9	F	16
Grant, Marvin	14	M	12
Chalk, Daisy	15	F	5
Chalk, Mattie	13	F	10
Mayfield, Annie	15	F	14
Mayfield, Bessie	11	F	18
Allen, Maggie	11	F	17
Allen, Ernest	9	M	17
Allen, Jimmie	13	M	2
Allen, Ruth	7	F	15
Lackey, Mamie	12	F	15
Lackey, Kate	9	F	18
Gregory, Vera	6	F	16
Elliott, Lily	11	F	1
Elliott, Willie	9	F	1
Lipford, Lizzie	14	F	3
Grant, H. B.	7	F	1
Grant, Lonnie	15	M	1

Enrolment, Males, <u>6</u>	Average Attendance, Males, <u>2.5</u>	Total days of Males, <u>106 *</u>
“ Females, <u>16</u>	“ “ Females, <u>9.5</u>	“ “ Females, <u>277 *</u>
Total, <u>22</u>	Total, <u>12.0</u>	Grand Total, <u>383 *</u>

Branches Pursued: * (Subjects taught and number of students)

Alphabet: 1	Geography: 16
Spelling: 22	English Grammar: 7
Reading: 22	S. C. History: 1
Writing: 22	U. S. History: 7
Mental Arithmetic: 6	Higher Branches: 5
Written Arithmetic: 17	

*Totals were based on Miss Mayfield's entries and were added by author.

END OF SCHOOL YEAR 1897-1898 AND END OF MISS MAYFIELD'S RECORDS

By Ellen Bramlett Clarke

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of T. Hopkins Peake on Wednesday, June 5, 2001. He was a long time friend and member of the Society.

THOMAS PEAKE JR.

TRINITY, N.C. - Mr. Thomas Hopkins "Hop" Peake Jr., 74, of 4054 Village Drive died Wednesday; June 6, 2001, at High Point Regional Hospital in High Point, N.C.

A memorial service will be 11 a.m. Saturday at First Presbyterian Church in High Point, with Dr. Harry Cole and the Rev. Lisa M. Mullen officiating. Burial will be in the church columbarium.

A native of Union, Mr. Peake was a son of the late Thomas Hopkins Peake Sr. and Elizabeth McMurray Peake. He was a

graduate of Union High School and Clemson University. He was a chemist with Akzo Nobel Chemical Co., retiring in 1998. He was previously employed at Inmont Chemical Co. in Morganton, N.C., and the Rock Hill Printing & Finishing Co. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church, serving as deacon and elder, and was a member of the Christian Life Sunday school class.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret Simril; two sons, Evans Peake of Brandon, Fla. and Gregory Peake

of Virginia Beach, Va.; his brother, Ervin Peake of Albuquerque, N.M.; and three grandchildren.

The family will receive friends in the church parlor after the memorial service.

Memorials may be made to the Piano Fund at First Presbyterian Church, 918 N. Main St., High Point, NC 27262.

Sechrest Funeral Service of High Point is in charge.

QUERIES

- (01-16) **HAMILTON – LEE**—**Carl D. Hamilton**, 344 Winnwood Rd., Kerrville, Tx., 78028. Seeking any info on John M Hamilton b. ca.1805 Chester Co. married Priscalla Lee and moved to Ar. Around 1859-1860... Would like to know who his parents are.
- (01-17) **STEWART**—Dr. Bobby T Stewart, 213 Baltimore Ave. Albertville, Al, 35950 My GGGrandfather was born in SC in 1806. I suspect his father was named James . James Stewart, Jr. (1820, Chester Co. Census) had 2 boys in 1806 age category. James Jr. did not appear in the 1830 Chester Co. census. He either died (possibly buried in McDonald burial ground like James Sr. in south central Chester Co.) or he migrated. His brother Joseph, ended up in Blount Co. Al. in1824. Need to know the names of James Jr. children ? A **CLARINDA STEWART**, b. 1817 in SC could be related also. Would appreciate any help to solve this matter.
- (01-17) **CASTLES, BROWN, STERLING , WATT, VANCEGIVEN**. Cheryl Kiser, 2715 Elbow Rd, Newton NC, 28658. Need info on: 1. Henry Castles b. 1798, married Margaret Sterling b.1798. Who were their parents, dates of death, where buried ? Their son was Rev James R Castles, b6/26/1823 and d. 11/28/1878, buried at Smyrna, SC—married Martha Watt b. 1/01/1826 d. 1/04/1911
2. **John Brown m. Elizabeth Vance d 2/01/1809, parents of Robert Brown b. 1761. d. 12/09/1835 m. Mary Givewn b. 1766 d. 6/22/1838. Any info on parents of John and Elizabeth Brown and where buried.**
- (01-18) **HUEY,DAVIS,LOVE,OATES**. Evelyn C Murray, 22 Howard Hill Rd Foster, RI . 02825. Need information on children, Grandchildren, etc. of Samuel M. Huey- Married on Jan, 1906 to Annie Davis, daughter of James B and Maggie C. Davis. 1910 census Chester Co.-children are Baster D, age 3 and Margaret, age 1 ½ . Question: Samuel R. b 14 Feb, 1912 Chester Co. and Daniel B?- others?. Family in Hendersonville, NC, 1926: Charlotte, 1930. Sam d 1956 Annie d 1932. Both buried Laurelwood, Rock Hill, SC.
Need info on Frank Huey, Son of Septimus A. Sr and Katherine(Love) Huey. Age 13 in 1920 census, Chester Co. Alive in 1930 at time of father's death.
Need info on Oliver Huey, son of Wilson M and Emma L. (Oates) Huey Age 9 1920 census, York Co. Is he James O.b 19 Feb, 1911, Rock Hill, SC Served in WW II-settled in Concord, N.C?
- (01-19) **Lockhart, Thomas**: Mrs. Sunta C Rosapepe, 6900 Apamatica Lane, Chesterfield Va. 23838. : John Alexander Lockhart(1834-?1885) m Nancy Jane Thomas (1835-1901) m 10 Aug 1858, Chester District. I would like to contact anyone about information on this couple.

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