

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Hi Folks,

Here it is, almost the fall of the year again. Seems as if it was only yesterday that we were looking forward to starting a new year. Time really flies when you are having fun.

We had our "birthday party" luncheon at Russell's in Chester on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August. Mike Scoggins was our speaker. We had a very nice time visiting together and learning some things from Mr. Scoggins. We would like to thank those of you who came. If you were unable to attend, we missed you. Perhaps next year we will see more of you.

We wish to again thank Ellen Schuster, who is our volunteer at the library in Richburg. She has the library open on Tuesdays from 9 o'clock till 4 o'clock. She has re-arranged the books and in doing so, has made it easier to find what we are looking for. If you are going to be in the area, stop by and see her and take advantage of our library. Any other time, we would appreciate your call ahead to make an "appointment", as we have no one on the other days to keep it open. We will make every effort to meet our members there if you do call ahead.

We continue to need articles that you think may be of interest to our readers. Your family history, any unusual articles you may have or sometimes, just a plain old funny article that you have seen about ancestors and family and friends of long ago.

If there are any changes that you would like to see in the "Bulletin" or anything regarding the Society, let us know. We are open to suggestions always. They may not always be heeded, but who knows what the future has in store.

Till next time,

George

## SETTLERS OF CHESTER

### WERE MOSTLY OF FRENCH AND ENGLISH ORIGIN

#### NAMES APPERAING IN FIRST CENSUS

Interesting study of the Processes of the Melting Pot, How Different Races are blended into One—Where the people came from.

Rev. J. W. Daniel in Southern Christian Advocate.

There were a few Huguenots among the settlers of Chester. They came through Scotland—were perhaps residents of Scotland for a while and then came to the Melting Pot in Northern Ireland, and thence to America.

I find Joseph Gasten, (misspelled for Gaston) who in 1790 had one son over sixteen, one under sixteen and four daughters; also Joseph Gaston whose family consisted of his wife and one other female, perhaps a relative. Robert Gaston had one son over sixteen, one under and three daughters; none of them were slave-holders, but James Gaston had two sons under sixteen, two daughters and five slaves. Hugh Gaston had one son over sixteen, four under, one daughter and no slaves. Edward Mahon had a wife and two daughters. Thomas Cabeen whose family I have already noticed, was also a Huguenot with the Gastons, as also were the Michells, Esiah, as the given name is spelled, had one son under sixteen and two daughters, David had two sons under sixteen and two daughters. Peter Petree who had one son under sixteen and one daughter, with Allen DeGraffonreed (misspelled) had two sons under sixteen and two slaves. He was doubtless a widower.

Those Huguenots fled from France and were gladly received by their Presbyterian brethren of Scotland. Numbers of them became loyal citizens of Scotland and after a generation or two became Scotchmen in speech and customs. Many of their descendants are found among people known as the Scotch-Irish settlers of America.

It is interesting to trace through their names the settlers of any country and witness, not in a life-time but through history, the blending of the various racial units into one common people. Surnames are not very old among the English speaking races. They began largely in the reign of Elizabeth. Through English names alone it is possible to trace the paternal ancestry and learn the real blood of a family though it may have been very much modified by inter-marriage with another stock. An example is before me as I trace the inhabitants of Chester in 1790—John McWilliam. He had one son over sixteen and two daughters. The name was first a title of honor bestowed by the Germans. They wrote it Gildhelm, Golden head. When a German soldier slew a Roman soldier during the invasion of Germany by the Romans, he took the Roman's polished helmet of brass and ever afterwards wore it. He was called Gild-helm or Golden head. The French wrote the name Gilleaum, from which is frequently corrupted Gilliam, still carrying with it the fact of French extraction. The name became Anglicized, W was substituted for the French and German G and the name became, on

English lips, William. A McWilliam, therefore shows that an Englishman sometime, doubtless, during or after the reign of Elizabeth came to reside on Scotch soil or in the North of Ireland—married, perhaps a Scotch wife and his progeny became known not as Williamson after the English custom of patronimics but the Gaelic Mc, which means son,, was substituted and prefixed after the Scotch custom and the son of the original William became McWilliam. This name may have been changed to its present form though there may not have been a drop of Scotch blood in his veins, both his father and mother may have been pure English residing in a Gaelic community and the Mc may have been prefixed through Scotch custom.

Therefore, among those who are commonly called the Scotch Irish settlers of Chester, and all the Piedmont, we frequently meet the Patronimic Hill. The origin could not possibly be Scotch or Irish for the Scotch word for \_\_\_? is law, had the Hills ( coming, therefore, from Northern Ireland with the so-called Scotch-Irish) have been real Scotch people they would have been Laws—just as many real Scotch Laws did come. The patronimic reveals the origin.

George Hill was a citizen of Chester in 1790 with a wife and one daughter, perhaps a young couple. Also James Hill who had one son over sixteen, one under sixteen, a wife and two daughters. These families were the only families in Chester that bore that patronimic. The name is thoroughly English and also the blood. originally. Their progenitor was, of course, a denizen of the hills—or of some specific hill on English territory. He may have been John, Henry or William O`the hill.

Hills make the valleys and glens. Territorially, therefore, the Glens of Chester were originally English, no matter what they may have afterwards become by intermarriage with other strains than English. The patronimic abides, John Glenn was a citizen of Chester in 1790, he had one son under sixteen, a wife and two daughters. Also Thomas Glenn, who had one son under sixteen, a wife and one slave. Another member of the Glenn family is recorded though the spelling of the name was varied. James Gleyne who owned five slaves and was the father of three sons under sixteen and three daughters, also Thomas Glen, with an n left out of the usual patronimic, the father of one son over sixteen and two daughters. James Glenn, again, had three sons under sixteen, three daughters and four slaves, Robert Glen (these two Robert and Thomas must have been of the primal stock for they do not double the n, or did the census taker do it?). Robert, however, must have been a bachelor—he is recorded as the head of the family, no children. Thomas Glen, again, is recorded as having a wife, one son under sixteen and one slave.

Samuel Woodside had an English name purely modern and a territorial name, one which resulted from the place of residence of the first Woodside who dwelt near some body of woods in Merrie England, he had one son, over sixteen, four under sixteen, a wife and four daughters. John Hunter had one son under sixteen, a wife and two daughters. William Lewis had one son over sixteen three under, a wife and four daughters. John Carter had a son over sixteen, a wife and one daughter. Jacob Breakfield had one son under sixteen, a wife and five daughters. Benjamin Carter`s family was composed of one son over sixteen, a

daughter and a wife. He owned eight slaves. Churchhill Carter had three sons under sixteen, a wife and four daughters.

The Walkers were numerous in the early days of Chester and are yet. Indeed they have kept up a good representation among Anglo-Saxons since the days that Ralph the Granger strode over the hills and plains of Norway. The Saxons, like their cousins, the Norwegians, have always appreciated an accomplished walker and bestowed it as a patronimic.

Jane Walker was doubtless a widow. Randolph Walker appears to have been a widower with one son under sixteen. Samuel had one son over sixteen and one daughter; Joseph, two sons under sixteen and three daughters; Adam, two sons under sixteen and three daughters; Alexander, two sons under sixteen and five daughters; Robert seems to have been a bachelor and owned five slaves; Charles had three sons over sixteen and three daughters.

These Englishmen who got their names from the crafts of their progenitors were plentiful on the soil of Chester. There was Samuel Porter who had one son over sixteen, four under and one daughter; Joseph had two sons under sixteen and one daughter; John, had one son over sixteen and three daughters and David who had two sons under sixteen and four daughters.

There were also the Coopers, another vocational class, or their fathers were, bestowing their trade as a name on their sons and daughters for all time to come. Robert Cooper had two sons over 16, four under and six daughters: Captain Jacob with three sons under 16, five daughters, two other free females as inmates of his household, doubtless relatives, and four slaves, and John with a wife and three daughters.

Of George Saddler I have already written; then there was Mary Saddler, who seems to have had one son over 16, and four daughters. Isaac Wagoner had a wife, one daughter and one son under 16.

There were Taylors of course, those welders of the needle were everywhere and we owe to them a vocational surname. One of the descendants of his craft, Jacob Taylor, was a citizen of Chester in 1790, he had two sons who had not then attained the age of 16, and two daughters. Bayley Taylor had one son over 16, two under 16, and four daughters. John Taylor had two sons under 16 and two daughters. James Taylor had one son over 16. one daughter and owned slaves.

Another vocational name was Elisha Pitman and his wife. Pitman is of course pure English. Before machinery to saw lumber, logs were sawed lengthwise into plank by hand. The saw was drawn through the log which was placed on a low scaffold, the pitman stood beneath the log in a pit while his co-laborer who was designated as topman stood above and the two laboriously drew the saw through the length of the log—a slow process to make plank, but that was the only way our fathers, only a few centuries ago had to get them. It is not remarkable, therefore, that Edinburg, was, as Buckle informs us, in the early part of the seventeenth century a city of thatched log-cabins. The author of the immortal hymn, "Rock of Ages," was Toplady. Was there really some muscular Anglo-Saxon woman who drew the saw? More probably she was the wife of a

man who did. At any rate the name is connected with the old English method of sawing plank.

We would like to thank our member, Miss Louise Pettus, for sending this article for all of us to enjoy. It was taken from the "Yorkville Enquirer", dated Tuesday, February 13, 1923

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**COPIED FROM PAPERS OWNED BY THE LATE J.R.REID**

Late one evening two tories came to the crib where old Mr. Knox, grandfather of Mr. John Knox, who is the father of Mrs. Jane McDaniel, was shucking corn, and shot him. The alarm was given and two of Mr. Knox's brothers got on the trail, following it to a tavern on a branch between Mr. Martin McDaniel's home and Richburg. Taking a drink there they followed to the Roseborough place, later known as the Marion place, where Mr. John Varnadore lives, and found that the tories had \_\_\_\_\_ and scalped Mr. Roseboro and left him for dead. They were ransacking the house when they were found. Both were shot and one was killed and one was crippled. He ran up the branch, but was followed and killed. Both were buried in the bottoms with their faces down.

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**HISTORIC CORNWALLIS TREE AT RICHBURG**

By Lucy Clawson

The large white oak, which has stood for more than a century near the crossroads in what was once known as Rich Hill in Chester County, still stands as sturdy as ever, inviting any who may to rest beneath its sheltering boughs. At the intersection of what is now known as the Charlotte-Columbia Highway and the old Chester-Lancaster Road in the yard of Jay Osmond Barber in Richburg is this tree of unusual size, especially for this section of the country.

The tree is 115 feet wide and the body 21 feet in circumference. Every year it is fed 500 to 1,000 pounds of high grade fertilizer by its proud owner and it is cared for in every other way possible. While in a private yard, the tree seems every man's tree on every man's land when the traveler needs a shade from the sun or an umbrella from the rain.

An interesting story, which has been handed down for generations, is still being told to the children of today about this old tree. Lord Cornwallis is said to have tied his horse to it when it was young and the tree top was bitten out.

Charles Cornwallis (1738-1805), commander of the British forces which surrendered to the Americans at Yorktown in 1781, ending the War of Independence was known to have been near enough during the time his army was in upper South Carolina to have made this possible.

Another story is told that he spent the night on Fishing Creek in a house that stood in the village of Lando until recent years, only about four miles from the historic tree. If he spent the night there it was possible that he spent a night, as the story goes, in the Echols house, which stood on the same corner with the tree.

The old Echols house was torn down in 1900 by Jay O. Barber before he built his present home in 1901. It was here that he took his bride, who was Miss Maurice Marion, daughter of the late Dr. Thomas Marion and Ellen Hardin Marion. To them were born two sons, Dr. J. O Barber, of Clover, and Thomas Marion Barber of Richburg.

Veterans of the Spanish-American War have sat and talked often in the shade of the old oak.

At Beckhamville, five miles from Great Falls, there was a skirmish between the Tories and a band of Patriots. Several Tories were killed and two hanged on a tree. I have seen the tree.

The big tree in front of Mr. Barber's house was the center of the muster ground as early as 1835. Practically all the boys of the sixties, of this county enlisted under that tree. Uncle Porter said Mr. Dan'l Stinson said that one day, at muster, when they were getting volunteers, "I was adjutant in the militia; I'm adjutant. now."

Thirty years ago Captain John Wilson, who was 70 years old at that time, said he went to school and played leap frog under that tree when he was a boy.

During the years between 1890 and 1900 the ground around the big tree was used for political picnics.

It was under this tree that the veterans of World War 1 were invited to enjoy the hospitality of Mr. Barber after their return from France.

But no doubt the tree itself really meant more to the soldiers of World War 11 than to those of any previous war. Even if it was bitten back the horse of Cornwallis its great strength and future usefulness was not to be defeated any more than that of the colonists. Under its wide and sheltering boughs as many as 200 soldiers rested for a night during South Carolina maneuvers prior to the war. Often large groups of them were given refreshments, magazines and daily papers by Mrs. Barber. One of the central offices erected by the signal corps during the clash between the Reds and the Blues was under this tree.

(From the 1945 files of the Chester News)

The following is a clipping from some paper, but the name of the paper was not preserved, nor the date. The author of the article is thus;

( By Catherine \_\_\_\_\_ ). The surname torn off.

In the north-western portion of Chester County and on the west bank of Fishing Creek there is located a flourishing town by the name of Lando. The early settlement here was known as White's Mill. The name Lando was given in memory of Captains Lane and Dodson, the former the first conductor; the latter the first superintendent of the Seaboard, which ran from Edgemoor to Fishing Creek.

A family by the name of White early emigrated from Pennsylvania and settled at Fishing Creek. A mill was erected and became known as White's Mill. A few stores soon sprung up in the neighborhood.

After the surrender of Charleston, April 1780, the Tories came out from under their disguises. They formed small squadrons and entered into general plunder. In order to encourage the Loyalists and Tories to join the British, Clinton established military posts over the upper part of South Carolina. Lieutenant-Colonel Turnbull, who was in command of the forces at Rocky Mount, sent Colonel Huck with two hundred regulars, one hundred dragoons, one hundred mounted infantry and about five hundred Tories to establish a post at White's Mill. These troops scoured the country several miles around, plundering farms, gathering in corn and wheat, and storing it in the mill as supplies for the troops. Colonel Ferguson was in immediate command of this part of the business, and was very bitter against the inhabitants in this neighborhood. His conduct became so offensive that Captain McClure organized a small Company of militia and attacked and completely conquered Captain Houseman and his company of Tories at Beckhamville. This so angered Huck and Ferguson that they determined to rid the community of all Patriots who were Scotch-Irish. To accomplish this they resorted to all manner of degradation and cruelty. One Sabbath morning Colonel Ferguson, with a company of Tories, went to Fishing Creek Church with the intention of surrounding the church and burning up the pastor, Reverend Simpson, and the entire congregation. Fortunately Simpson had heard of the proposed plan and had dispensed with the services. The company then went to Simpson's house and ransacked it, taking what they wanted and burning what remained. The Widow Strong's house was the next place visited. Mrs. Strong's son, a boy of about sixteen years, was sitting in the front yard reading a Bible. The soldiers shot him and burnt the house and everything in it. The excuse offered for this terrible cruelty was that Reverend Simpson and Mrs. Strong's son had given Captain McClure the aid which enabled him to capture Captain Houseman's company.

These acts and others aroused the Patriots, and Captain McClure and Colonel Lacey collected a force of four hundred men with the determination to run Huck out of the country. On an August night they marched to the camp at White's Mill and discovered that the place was evacuated. They began to march in the direction of York County and soon overtook the Tories. Huck and Ferguson were killed. Many of the soldiers were killed and wounded; the rest were scattered in the forest. The Americans lost one man.

After this the community had comparative quietness. White's Mill was still a popular place. It was owned by the Whites until after the Revolution. In the early part of the eighteenth century it fell to Captain Eaves and was known as Daves' Mill. After the Civil War, Eaves died; the property was sold. The old plantation and the mill were then sold to Alexander Williford. About 1882 Mr. Ferguson Barber bought the mill and the surrounding land. It was he who organized the Fishing Creek Manufacturing Company. He sold the mill to G. B. Heath, of Charlotte, who greatly improved and increased it in size. The name was changed from Fishing Creek Manufacturing Company to Manetta Mills, in honor of his two wives. The mill still remains in charge of the Heath family.

In the article a week ago about the plant established by Rhode Island men at or near what is now Great Falls, the word, "fillering," should have been "fulling," a well-known process in the making of cloth. Lieutenant-Colonel Turnbull, British officer, was also referred to in the same article as Lieutenant Turnbull.

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#### ADDENDA

That little legend regarding the selection of a name for Lando is very pretty, but like so many legends that are passed along, it will not stand up. True, the former name of the postoffice was FACTORY, and Miss Amy Barber, now Mrs. J. B. Sykes-asked John G. Backstrom, at that time the postmaster at Richburg, to help her get the name changed. That was about 1894-1895. Dr. J. G. Backstrom-now of Tutwiler, Miss.-says that postoffice department agreed to let the name be changed provided it did not duplicate some other name already in the postal directory. Dr. Backstrom says they liked the name Lansdown very much, but it was already in the directory, so they just cut off part of the name they liked and make it LANDO.

Dr. Backstrom says that the branch road from Edgemoor was not built until some years after the name LANDO was selected for the postoffice.

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#### THE "JORDAN SPRINGS"

The "Jordan Springs" or "Mineral Springs" were located in the Landsford section of Chester Country on the Jordan property, later referred to as the "Granny Jordan" place. There was an arch leading into the springs. It was cleared out around it and the water was so clear, it sparkled. People came from everywhere to visit the springs. It was supposed to have some healing qualities, the taste and smell were "sensible". The owner claimed they had afforded great relief and affected permanent cures. Mr. Jordan had a housekeeper, Mrs. McGarity, who helped him bottle the water and he drove around the surrounding communities selling the water which was very much in demand. Over the years, it has become grown up with trees and bushes. The property should be treated with the respect due its healing properties. (1950 Paper) Fred Nunnery



## HISTORY OF FAIRFIED Continued

*News & Herald*, Friday May 10, 1901

### W.W.BOYCE

John Boyce, grandfather of W. W. Boyce, came from Ireland. In 17656 he settled in Newberry County, South Carolina. He had one brother, Alexander Boyce, who commanded a company of artillery in the Revolutionary War, dying gallantly in the service of his country during the siege of Savannah. He was a merchant of Charleston. The Boyces went to England at the time of the conquest; they afterward settled in the north of Ireland and were staunch Presbyterians.

William Waters Boyce was born in Charleston, South Carolina, October 24, 1818. His parents were Robert Boyce and Lydia Waters, both natives of Newberry. The Boyces are of Norman descent and came to America from Ireland. The first Waters who came over, came in the "Mayflower." Both Boyces and Waters fought bravely in the Revolutionary War. The mother of Mrs. Lydia Waters Boyce was Ruth Llwellyn, who claimed descent from Griffith of Llwellyn, the last of the Welsh kings.

William W. Boyce studied both at the South Carolina College and Virginia University, at both of which he ranked with the talented young men. In October, 1838, he married Mary F. Pearson, daughter of Dr. George B and Mrs. Elizabeth Pearson. He began the practice of law in Winnsboro, South Carolina in 1841. He served in the South Carolina Legislature one term, 1846 and 1847. In 1850 he was prominent as a co-operationist in the famous secession contest of that year. He was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1853 and served until December 1860. He was the most conservative Southern man in Congress. His report on Free Trade, he being chairman of the special committee to which it was referred, created a worldwide sensation. Richard Cobden, the great English Free Trader, thus wrote of it: "I can conscientiously say that I have never before enjoyed the pleasure of reading so condensed and yet so complete an argument in favor of Free Trade and Direct Taxation."

Mr. Boyce always regretted secession, but went heartily with his State. He was never sanguine of the success of the Southern cause, though as a member of the Confederate Congress he always urged active measures. He grieved over the sad spectacle of his sorrowing country, the precious lives lost and general financial ruin. In the autumn of 1864, he wrote and published his letter to President Davis on the subject of peace. A storm followed but he was sustained by an inner consciousness of duty performed and the sympathy of men from all sections of the Southland. Within the past year a very decided letter from General Lee on the same subject was made public for the first time. This letter was written in June, and that of Mr. Boyce in September, 1864.

Mr. Boyce possessed more moral courage than any public man in the South during that troublous time. He had convictions, and courage enough to express and maintain them. Had he lived in a wiser age, he would have been more appreciated.

The ending of the war left Mr. Boyce impoverished, most of his best years were devoted to the public and his own affairs neglected, consequently, he was forced to begin life anew.

In December, 1866, he left South Carolina, accompanied by Mrs. Boyce, and settled in Washington, D. C., for the purpose of practicing law, but owing to the "test oath", it was several years before he was allowed to appear in the courts, during which time he assisted in editing the National Intelligence, corresponded with several other papers and assisted General Caleb Cushing in his practice.

There was something quite pathetic in his struggles at this time, but throughout he was cheerful and industrious. At last a brighter day dawned, and restrictions were removed, and Mr. Boyce began his practice before the commissions and United States Courts, and although he has not amassed wealth, he has a competence and is forced to work no longer. He leads a quiet uneventful life at his country home in Fairfax County, Virginia. His household consists of Mrs. Boyce; her sister Mrs. Herbert; his son-in-law, Richard W. Gaillard, and only daughter Frances B. Gaillard.

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*News & Herald*, Friday May 17, 1901

#### FEASTERS AND COLEMANS

Andrew Feaster (the name was then spelt Pfister, 1740) emigrated to this State from Bucks Co., Pennsylvania. His father, Peter Feaster, died on the road and was buried somewhere in Virginia. From him was descended the present family of Feasters on the Beaver Creek section of the country, better known as the Feasterville township. He had a cousin, John Feaster, who came at the same time and settled in Edgefield County. He was the great-grandfather of Laurens Feaster of the "Dark Corner" section.

Andrew Feaster was twice married; by the first wife only one daughter, who married William Colvin, of the Sandy River section of Chester County, now known as the Halseville township, near where John Simpson now lives. She moved with some of the children to Greene County, Alabama, and lived to be quite an hundred years of age. His second wife was Margaret Fry Cooper who had by a former marriage, two children, Adam and Eve Cooper, both of whom lived to be quite old. Eve married Jacob Stone, whose mother was Ruth Lyles, a member of the Chester branch of that family. Jacob Stone was a soldier in the Revolution and drew pension as long as he lived. Andrew Feaster's children by the second marriage were: John, who married Drucilla Mobley,

daughter of Samuel Mobley. She died April 15, 1807. John's children were John, better known as "Squire Jake," Andrew, Savilla, Susan, Mary, Chaney, and John M.. Savilla married Robert Gregg Cameron, and now lives near White Oak. John M. married Keziah Pickett. He now (1886) is living in Florida, on Indian River. Jacob Feaster, son of John, married Isabelle Coleman, daughter of David R. Coleman, than whom a better man never lived. Jacob Feaster lived and died near Buckhead. His children were: Jacob F. who married Elizabeth Stone. Moses C. Feaster is the only living child of that marriage.

Edith D. Feaster married Henry J. Lyles. They had four children, three of whom are now living. John C. Lyles married Miss Sallie Lyles, youngest daughter of the late Col. William S. Lyles, by his first marriage to Miss Woodward. Susan E. Lyles married S. J. Simons of Lexington County, South Carolina. David R. Feaster married Miss Victoria E. Rawls of Columbia South Carolina, by whom he had several children. His first wife died in January 1877, and in December 1878, he married Mrs. Harriet E. Coleman, nee Porter, a daughter of Rev. C. M. Porter, of Ridgeway, South Carolina. By her former marriage she had five children. By her marriage to D. R. Feaster, she had four. They have one of the largest families in the county, sixteen children and six grandchildren. There were two girls younger than D. R., Isabelle and Mary N., both of whom died quite young.

Andrew Feaster, John Feaster's second son, married Mary Norris of Edgefield County, by whom he had eleven children, 5 sons and 6 daughters. The youngest son, T. D. Feaster, is now living near the old homestead. He is the only one of this family now living in this county. The eldest son and daughter are living near Columbia. The fourth son, Elbert H. was blind from infancy, and was educated at Boston, Mass. He was a remarkable man. He knew everyone by their voice. Once having been introduced and conversing with the veriest stranger, he would ever after know him by his voice, no matter where he met him.

Nathan A. Feaster, second son of Andrew, was thrice married; first to Maria Louisa Rawls, of Columbia by whom he had one daughter, who married John G. Wolling, of Feasterville. His second wife was a Miss Brown, of Anderson County, a sister of Col. Newton Brown, by whom he had one daughter, who is now the wife of a Mr. Tribble, of the town of Anderson. This third wife was a Miss McClanahan of Greenville County. There are two children by this marriage now living in Greenville, a son and a daughter.

Jacob N., Andrew's third son, was twice married, and is now living in Florida. The eldest daughter married Dr. T. J. Rawls of Columbia. The doctor is dead, and Mrs. Rawls and her only child, B.A. Rawls, are now living in Columbia. The second daughter married William Williams of Anderson County and moved to Texas after the war, and there died. Belle, the third daughter, married William Lonergan of Charlotte, North Carolina, by whom she had several children, only one now living, the wife of G. W. Coleman. Julia, the fourth daughter married Robert H. Coleman who died at Augusta, Georgia, during the late war. Mrs. Coleman now lives in Florida. Sallie, the prettiest of

all the girls, married George Butler, and died without issue. Narciss M. Feaster died a few years since, unmarried.

Susan, John Feaster's oldest daughter, married Robert F. Coleman, a son of the patriarch, D. R. Coleman. Mrs. Westley Mayfield is the only one living of that family. The second daughter, Mary, married H. Jonathan Coleman, by whom she had sixteen children, eleven of whom lived to be grown, 9 sons and 2 daughters.

Truly it may be said that Feasterville township was benefited by the issue of this marriage. It gave to the township three of the very best physicians, two of whom, Drs. Preston and Franklin Coleman, gave up their lives in Virginia for the "Lost Cause." Only two of the boys are now living, D. R. Coleman of Feasterville, and U. W. Coleman of Cash's Depot, South Carolina. Allen lost his life at Petersburg; Jacob died at Wilmington, N. C. in 1864. Dr. R. W. Coleman, better known as "Dr. Bob" was one of the best nurses that ever lived. He married Nancy McConnell, by whom he had several children. He was as game as a Ku Klux to the day of his death which occurred in May 1873.

John Feaster, the eldest, married a Miss Gladden and died in February 1856. His wife died the following April, leaving six small Children to the cold charities of the world. But the noble old Roman, H. Johnthan Coleman, was equal to the occasion. He and his married children took these orphans and raised them in their families as on of their own children. His widow is now the wife of David R. Feaster. Dr. Preston Coleman were educated at the Citadel Academy. Dr. B. B. was Lieutenant in his brother's company. He was wounded and died a few months after at Winchester, Virginia, where his body now lies. Dr. Coleman had his eyesight impaired by a blast during the construction of the S. & U Railroad. G. W., the youngest son, went to the front at the age of 17.

Elizabeth married Beverly C. Mitchell; both now live in Americus, Georgia.

John Feaster's daughter Chaney, married H. A. Coleman. There were eight children by this marriage, only three now living. J. A. F. Coleman is now living at the old homestead, a man of high social qualities and industrious habits. He is better known by the sobriquet of "Beeswax". David A Coleman married Sarah A. Young, who survives him, he having died during the war. She has reared as noble a family of boys as there is in Feasterville Township. J. A. F. Coleman married a daughter of Samuel H. Stevenson, who lives in the hearts of his neighbors and friends, and everybody knows "Uncle Sam", and n it will not be left to the future generations to do so, but the present one calls him blessed. Henry A. Coleman married Rebecca Younge. He was wounded three times at the Second Battle of Manassas, and did not live long after, leaving an only daughter, now living with her mother in Winnsboro, S. C. Robert Coleman, the youngest son of "Uncle Henry's" was drowned while bathing at Church Flats in 1862.

The eldest daughter married William Younge, son of Robert Younge. The second daughter married James Levy Hunter of Chester County, but now of Powder Springs,

Cobb County, Georgia. Isabelle, the third daughter married Thomas L. Manning of Marietta, Georgia. The fourth daughter married A. J. McConnell, better known as "Dick". She died a short while after her marriage. He was first lieutenant of Bailey's Company, 17<sup>th</sup> Regiment, and was killed the day of the "blow up" at Petersburg.

John Feaster's youngest daughter (Savilla), as has been mentioned before, married R. Gregg Cameron. She raised seven sons and four daughters. James the eldest emigrated to Florida to look after the interests of John M. Feaster, whose daughter he afterward married. He died not long after, leaving a widow with one child. John married Mrs. Hoffman, nee Robinson. She did not live long, and John died in Columbia 8 or 10 years age.

J. Feaster Cameron was a man of education and refinement, a nobleman of today. He was colonel of an Arkansas regiment, was twice shot and left for dead, but he was spared to be living witness to the destroying power of ardent spirits. He was one of the best of lawyers, a hero of many battles, that fell victim to our nation's curse, strong drink. The second son, Dr. Andrew S. Cameron, married Susan T. Arnette, a daughter of Mrs. Wesley Mayfield, of Buckhead. He died soon after the war, leaving a widow and one child. She having since died, her son is living with his grandmother, Mrs. Wesley Mayfield. Robert Cameron died during the early part of the war. Alex, the only surviving child, resides near White Oak. He married the second daughter of James W. Younge, son of John I. Younge, from whom Youngesville took its name.

The second daughter married Dr. Christopher Simonton good man and first rate doctor. He moved to Florida, but lived only a short time. She returned to South Carolina with her two children, John and Robert. John, since arriving at manhood, returned to Florida. Robert is at the old John Simonton homestead, and is one of the most successful planters in that section. Sarah married John Simonton, a brother of Dr. Christopher; he also moved to Florida, where he soon died. The fourth and youngest daughter married Colonel Lee McAfee (Colonel Leroy McAfee, according to his tombstone on Concord Presbyterian Church Cemetery. WTC, of North Carolina.

She was one of the prettiest women in the land. She and her husband died early, leaving an infant son, who was reared, and now resides with his grandmother in the old Cameron homestead. Out of this family of eleven children we now have living (in 1886) the old mother, her son Alex, and five grandchildren.

Andrew Feaster's second son, Jacob Feaster, married a Kennemore, and died without issue, leaving a good solid estate to be divided between brothers and sisters. One of Andrew Feaster's daughters married E. Wooley, who removed to Edgefield, and then to Cass, now Bartow County, Georgia, where he died, leaving one son, Colonel A. Feaster Wooley. Another daughter married Rundley McShan. They had several children, all of whom removed to the west, the boys, Ferdinand and Andy, to Mississippi and Arkansas. One of the daughters, Judith, married Isaac Coleman. She died a few years since in Union County, S.C. At the home of one of her daughters, three of whom have married in the county; one to William Tucker (she is now a widow), one to William Jeter,

and another to John Jeeper[Jeter]. Isaac Coleman still survives. Another daughter of Andrew Feaster married Moses Cockrell. There are only two children now living. John Feaster Cockrell and Margaret Stone, who married a son of the old Revolutionary soldier before mentioned. She is now 85 years of age. Of the stepson, Adam Cooper, all of his descendants moved to Mississippi. His son George Cockrell, the crack rifle shot of his day, married a Triplett of Chester County. His children all live in Winston County, Mississippi. Adam Cooper's daughter, Margaret, married Captain William E. Hill, a brother of Simeon Hill,---(words unclear here, I have paraphrased them—Evidently they lived in a section where the old elections had been held, known as Hill's Box)—afterwards known as Feasterville, and it was then said that as the Hill box goes, so goes the county, and it verified, to the disappointment of many who had run well elsewhere; but Hill's box gave them "hell", as they expressed it, and this was so often said that they gave it the name of "Hell's Box." This same Simeon Hill was one of the "old-fashioned, plain, honest" men of the day for whom nothing could be said except in his praise,

David R. Coleman, the patriarch of the Coleman family in Fairfield, was born in Halifax County, North Carolina, May 19, 1765, and died March 25, 1855. His father, Robert Coleman, married Elizabeth Roe. Robert removed to this country when David was a small boy. His wife gave him 14 children. David Roe, who lived and died on the land first settled by his father when he came here, is still in the possession of descendants of the same name. John R. Coleman removed to Greene County, Alabama. Robert Roe Coleman lived and died where his son, Jonathan D. Coleman's widow now lives. Wiley R. Coleman married a Ragsdale of Chester Country, and raised a large family, of whom William Buck was the oldest, and H.J.F.W. Coleman is the youngest. Out of this family only one is now living, H.J.F.W. Coleman, and all, except him, went west and lived there. They are numbered among the best citizens.

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*News & Herald*, May 21, 1901

#### THE FEASTERS AND COLEMANS (part 2)

Allen R. Coleman married a daughter of Charles Coleman, a cousin, and settled, lived and died on Rocky Creek in Chester County. Here I will mention something out of the general order: Allen R. Coleman's wife presented him with twin daughters, and one of his neighbors by the name of John Gladden had twin sons, and when these twins grew up, they married. John Gladden married Rebecca, and James Gladden married Betsy Coleman. They both raised large families from whom there are many of the name in both Chester and Fairfield counties. Griffin R. Coleman moved West and all sight of him has been lost.

So, of William R—(words missing here)—Sarah and Elizabeth, first and second daughters of Robert Coleman, married and went West. Solomon R. Coleman's children

all moved West. He married a distant relative, a daughter of Stephen Coleman: Francis went West: Zerebale died young: Henry Jonathan was the 13th child, next to Ancil, the baby of the family—14 in all.

David Roe Coleman married Edith Beam in 1787 or 1788. Robert F. (Tow-headed Bob) as he was called, married the eldest daughter of John Feaster and raised two sons and four daughters: the eldest married William Coleman, son of Solomon. The second married Atkins; he died and she then married Andrew Hancock. They moved to Randolph County, Georgia. The third daughter, the present Mrs. Mayfield, has been married four times; first to Martin Coleman and then to James Branon, by whom she had one child. Next she married John Q. Arnette. There were four children by this marriage. Dr. R. C. Arnette is the only surviving child.

Robert Coleman's fourth daughter married Dr. S.W. B. McLurkin, by whom she had three children, and died soon after the war. John J. and Andrew E Coleman moved West and married there. Both are now dead. Wiley F. Coleman married a Miss Elam of Chester County (Nancy Elam) and died near Halselville. His widow moved to Chambers County, Alabama, and died there several years ago, leaving one son, Colonel D. R. Coleman. He is an enterprising farmer of that county. David H. Coleman married a Miss Franklin and lived and died in Green County, Alabama, where he removed soon after his marriage. Wilson H. Coleman also moved to Alabama and married a Miss Johnston there, and died leaving several children.

Isabelle, first daughter of Dr. R. Coleman married Squire Jake Feaster; Elizabeth married Isaac Nolin and moved to Indian Springs, Georgia. After her marriage she rode from her father's to Indian Springs on horse-back, there being no railroads in those days, and very poor dirt roads. That would be the average woman of today, say, to taking a horse-back ride of 300 miles or less. She was the mother of ten children. She is now living in Smith County, Texas, at the advanced age of 80 years. Sarah, the youngest daughter of D. R. Coleman, died early. The Colemans and Feasters were long lived and splendid types of physical manhood, the average weight about 220 and most of the Colemans over six feet tall.

Among the early settlers on Beaver Creek and McClures were the Wideners, Beams and Dyes, all of whom moved upon the Chinquapin lands on the county line of Chester and Fairfield, where most of their descendants live today. The land they then gave up, is now owned by Thomas M. Lyles, J. C. and T. D. Feaster, and D. P. Crosby and is considered the best section of Fairfield County.

The Meadors lived on McClures Creek. They, the Hills and the "Cage" and Cullen branch of the Mobley family owned, with the exception of a few small tracts, all that whole country. Dr. W. M. Meador and his boy, Dr. Lem and John Meador, representatives of the last named families, own a portion of the land lying on Beaver Creek and between McClures Creek and the river and north to the Chester line. In this section lived the Nevitts, Jenkins, Sheltons, Newbles, Chapmans, and later Andrew McConnell, who bought the plantation (now owned by J. F. V. Legg) from Major

William S. Lyles. McConnell was a poor boy but when he died he was the possessor of thousands of acres of land and more than 100 slaves. J. F. V. Legg married his widow Malinda Dickerson McConnell), and now lives at the old homestead.

Farther north we had Meredith Poole Meador who owned the place occupied by Laurens Feaster. Alben Boulware owned a large tract of land on Broad River. Stephen Crosby lived near the line and owned land in both Chester and Fairfield counties. His oldest son, Thomas, married a Miss Parks, and their son, Charley Crosby, now owns nearly all the land that was his father's and grandfather's. The next son, Coleman Crosby married a Miss Walker of Chester County. He was the father of Mrs. Dr. Estes and W. W. Crosby. William Crosby married a Thomas and raised a large family of children. Davis Crosby was quite popular and represented the county in the Legislature. Stephen Crosby married Frances, the oldest daughter of Cornelius Nevitt. He bought from the late Governor John H. Means the place now owned by his only child, Mrs. D. P. Crosby. It is one of the prettiest places in the up-country

One of old Stephen Crosby's daughters married Charles Douglass, who lived and died near Alston. Richard Crosby, "Uncle Dick" as he was called, married a Conway, and lived to a ripe old age. He and Jacob Stone, his nearest neighbor, were called by the wags of the neighborhood the "Siamese Twins". They always went to Chester and Columbia together, and returned home with jugs full. They were thrifty and enterprising farmers. It was said by the wags that they did not know what Andy Feaster Colvin's boys would have done for wives if "Uncle Dick" had not raised so many pretty girls. All the Colvin boys married Crosbys, except one or two.

David Henderson, a brother of old Thomas Henderson who lived on Broad River, was considered the ugliest man of his day, and was called "Pretty Dave". He always kept one eye closed and gave as a reason that he did not wish to wear them both out at the same time. There are many quaint sayings and laughable anecdotes told of him which will live here as long as the memory of the man liveth, for they are handed down from father to son. He was a man of considerable education for his day and time. Had it not been for whiskey, he would have been a useful member of society, but as it was, everybody liked "Pretty Dave". Once when he and his brother, Tom, were returning home from Columbia they met a stranger who looked at Tom in amusement ("Pretty Dave" was lying in the wagon, drunk) and said, "You are the ugliest man I ever saw".. Tom replied that he would and bet him \$5.00 that he could show him an uglier man than he was. The bet was good, and Tom called to his brother Dave to look out. The stranger gave him the money, saying that he "had honestly won it."

Old man Simeon Free lived at the head of McClures Creek years ago, but he and all of his children moved to the west. The children of Wiley and Hiram Coleman own all of the Henderson and Free land.

Uncle Tom Williams was a carpenter, millright, etc. He was considered the best man physically speaking, in the county. His wife was Dorcas Halsell, whose mother was a



Wagener, (Wagner) for whom Fort Wagener was named, that was erected on Beaver Creek. We then had the Gwinns, Weirs, Yongues, Murdocks and Macons.

John Feaster, son of the "Dark Corner" was the founder of Feasterville Academy, and donated 7 ½ acres of land to Liberty Church, and 5 ½ acres to the academy. Tradition says that John Feaster had the first glass windows in the township. Thomas Coleman lived and died on the premises now occupied by D. R. Feaster, and was the owner of the first brick chimney north of Beaver Creek.

The Chapmans were a numerous and prominent family on McClures Creek. They have all left except Giles Chapman and the widow and children of John Chapman, who owned the old Halselville property, just beyond the line in Chester County.

Cornelius Nevitt, of whom mention has already been made, had three sons, two of whom are now living near the old homestead; Joseph K. is living near the old homestead; Jack was killed at Knoxville, Tennessee in December 1863; Frances, his eldest daughter, married Stephen Crosby. Precious Ann married Francis H. Ederington; and Oliver Waters\_ (*words missing?*)--, then Rev. Mrs. Moore, of North Carolina, Mrs. L. R. (Leroy) Fee is her daughter by her first marriage. Laura, the youngest, married William McWhorter, and lives in North Carolina. Charles Waters, her eldest son by her second marriage, married Miss Fannie D. Kerr, daughter of William Kerr, who resides near Shelton, S. C.

On the headwaters of McClures Creek lived old Henry Tynes. Of the "Cage" (Micajah), Cullen, and Isham Mobley family, their name was legion. The Crowders were from North Carolina and were as numerous as the Mobleys. Notly Mobley was the "bully" of the precinct. Big John Cockrell was the "bully" of the White Oak section. He determined he would try manhood with Mobley, but Notly was of a slow and sluggish disposition and had to have coals of fire heaped upon his back before he would move. Cockrel told him he came there to whip him or be whipped. Uncle Isham Mobley could not stand it any longer, and said as much to Notly. When Cockrell turned to him and asked him if he took it up-"Yes, by God, I do," was the immediate reply, and at it they went, and John Cockrell went home badly whipped, so he said, and not whipped by the "bully", but by a much smaller man. Such acts as there were not infrequent at that time, and each section had its "bully", and he was honored and respected as such. Robert Mobley who lives near Woodward, C.C.& A. Railroad, is the only one of this branch of the Mobley family living in the country.

Old Bolin Wright came from Virginia and settled about a mile west of Liberty Church, where he died. He was a revolutionary soldier. The most notable of his children were William Wright, a Baptist preacher of the old school, and Uriah S. Wright, who was noted in his day and time as a "home doctor" and was called by nearly everyone, Dr. Wright. His practice was not confined to Fairfield, but Chester, Union and Newberry counties demanded and had his services. He was eccentric, erratic and generous. He was a great fox hunter and what he did not know about fox-hunting was left out of the spelling book.

In 1860, Major T.W. Woodward was a candidate for the Legislature, and stopped with a relative who lived near the "Corner", and on inquiring for the names of those living around, he was told to call on old Uriah by all means. "Old Uriah is a fox-hunter, and I am sure you (the Major was a fox-hunter, too) can talk enough about dogs to secure his vote." "Well, give me some points about the pack," said the Major. "Ring Smith is his best strike and Jolly Wright his coldest trailer, and Molly Clownbey his swiftest runner," he was told. The Mayor, having obtained a description of these dogs, so there would be no difficulty in identifying them, made it convenient to call on old Uriah the next day about dinner time. Old Uriah had just come in from ploughing as the Major rode up to the gate. "That is what Johathan D. and the boys around here calls me."

My name is Woodward, and I am a candidate for the Legislature, and being a young man on my first political legs, I am going to see and be seen, if not by everybody, certainly by the most prominent and influential citizens of each section."

'Git down, you a monstrous likely man, and I'll take you to see Pinkey (his wife), and we will see what she has to say about it". The Major descended and was going into the house to see "Pinkey", the while discussing the crops with old Uriah, when he paused a moment and, turning in the direction of some hounds who were lying around in the shade, he said, "Dr. Wright, I am a very peculiar man. I love the ladies dearly, it is true and yet, I hope, sir, you will pardon my weakness,---a fine hound dog comes nearer perfection in my eye than any earthy object."

"And what do you know about dogs?" asked old Uriah, turning from the house and following the Major who had gone in the direction of the dogs and was already seated at the foot of a large white oak, with the whole pack around him. He had little difficulty in selecting the dogs of note from the description given him the night before, and after some general comments on dogs he said, "What is the name of this dog?---Ah, Ring Smith you say? An uncommonly fine dog he seems to be-if there is any truth in signs, he ought to be a mighty strike.". "Good strike, did you say? If there were four thousand dogs here, I would bet a million dollars that Ring Smith would open three miles ahead of the best hunter in the bunch, and you might go before a magistrate and swear that it was a fox when he opened." Was old Uriah's reply.

The Major was now intently examining a large pale black and tan dog, which filled the description of Jolly Wright—the coldest dog—feeling his nose and walking around, he eyed him intently. "Dr. Wright," said he at last, "I think this is one of the most remarkable dogs I have ever seen, just look at that head and feel his nose; I honestly believe this is the coldest dog I have ever seen." "Coldest, did you say? Why, he can smell 'em when they have been gone three and four weeks, and if the fur ain't good he won't open on 'em then."

Molly Clowney had been easily recognized and now came in for her turn. "Here ought to be the very apple of your eye," said the Major, "but if I do not know anything about dogs, this is unquestionably the fleetest footed animal I have ever met. Tell me

now, truthfully, can't she outrun anything in these parts?" "Run, did you say? No, she can't run a bit; but there ain't a crow, nor a turkey-buzzard that ever crossed 'the corner' that can hold a light to her a-flyin. I have seen her treed against many of 'em. Dinner is about ready, and I want Pinkey to meet you"

The Major was taken into the house and introduced to Mrs. Wright. "Ain't he likely, Pinkey? Just look at him!" and the old man led him around the house like a fine horse at a fair. "and smart! Why, he had forgot more than all the other candidates ever knowed. I am sure he must be close kin to old preacher Billy Woodward, for I heard my daddy say he was the smartest man in the world, and knowed what he was talking about." After dinner, the Major having promised to introduce a bill for the benefit of tired dogs, providing that no fence should be over five rails high, was in the act of leaving when "Old Uriah" called Pinkey to bring his fiddle, saying, "Hold on 'till I play "The Devil's Dream" for you." When he finished his piece, "One good turn deserves another," said the Major, "I'll play a tune for you before I go," and taking up the fiddle, he rendered "Hell Broke Loose in Georgia" with such spirit and skill that "Old Uriah" jumped up, hugged Pinkey, and cut the pigeon wing all over the room.

It is needless to say that the Major got "Old Uriah's" vote.

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We have received several books for our library. We are always pleased to know that our members are so generous as to share their work with us.

#### DESCENDANTS OF JAMES GRANT, SR.

The above named book came to us from Mr. James Robert Thomson, Jr. He lives at 109 Margaretta Drive, Starkville, MS 39759. Mr. Thomson says that some of the Grants came from this area and he hoped that it would help anyone who is researching this family. His E-Mail address is: [Bobby@ra.msstate.edu](mailto:Bobby@ra.msstate.edu)

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#### STRONG AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Note: all papers of Miss Strong have been turned over to the Caroliniana Library and McKessick Museum of the University of S. C. You are invited to see them there.

Tentanda Via Est is Latin and means "The way must be tried- History finished December 3, 1980. Below is the letter that accompanied the book from our friend, Mr. Norman Cox. Many thanks to him for his interest in the Society.

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### STRONG AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Presentation of this book was made possible by and Mrs. Theresa M. Hicks who edited Miss. Esther Strong's papers and Mrs. Virginia Draffin Waites who privately published the book in 1980. As copies were not available, Mrs. Waites graciously loaned me the master to copy.

I am presenting the book to the Chester District Genealogical Society as an expression of my gratitude to them and the Society for the work they have done to foster research of our families in the area.

The index was prepared in 1993 by Mr. R. O'Neal of the Lincoln County Tennessee Genealogical Society in Fayetteville, Tennessee.

Respectfully,

*Norman Cox*  
*July 2, 2003*

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The following is a letter from Miss Jerri S White regarding a book she has given to the Society.

GLIMPSES OF TIMES LONG AGO  
A HISTORY & GENEALOGY OF SOME ABERNATHY  
AND WILLIAMS FAMILIES  
AND THEIR CONNECTIONS IN OLD CAMDEN DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

The above named book has been sent as a complimentary copy by (Miss Jerri S. White. In addition to the Abernathy – Daniel and Williams – Anderson families, the compilation includes significant information on these families: Strait, Spencer, Roddey, Lesslie, Wylie, Grier, Patton, Boyd, Hay(es), McCreight, McClelland, Reid, Campbell and Wherry. These families lived during the colonial period primarily in York, Chester, and Fairfield counties.

The book is not for sale. First of all it was done for our family and other readers are asked to honor the privacy of living descendants. The book may be copied for use by family researchers as long as the title page is included with the copies or other acceptable credit is given for the compilation. A “work in progress”, when significant corrections or additions are made to the book, revisions will be sent to you. In that regard, readers are encouraged to contact the compiler about errors in the work or to share other information about any of these families.

Miss White resides at 470 East LeGette Road, Marion, South Carolina 29571. Her E-Mail address is: [Whitehall40@aol.com](mailto:Whitehall40@aol.com)  
Many thanks go to Miss White for the book. It will be a great addition to the Society's library.

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MONTGOMERY-WEIR

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 3 o'clock the residence of Mr. Samuel Weir was the scene of quite a brilliant wedding: the marriage of his daughter, Miss Bertha to Mr. Samuel Lee Montgomery, one of Fairfield's energetic young farmers. The bride was arrayed in a lovely olive green broad-cloth, trimmed in white “crepe de chine,” carrying in her hand a white Bible tied with white ribbon.

The groom wore a stylish fitting “Prince Albert”

The parlor and hall were very artistically decorated with ferns, evergreens, chrysanthemums and pot plants. It was a veritable Eden. There was a brilliantly lighted canopy of white chrysanthemums, draped in white ribbon, under which the bride and groom stood as the sacred rites were performed by Rev. E D. Wells.

The presents were numerous and quite beautiful. A reception was given at the home of the groom.

This article was taken from the Lantern, Chester, SC, Dec. 13, 1901 and sent by Mr. John D. Caldwell, a member from Warner-Robins, Ga.

## MISS SALLIE McCROREY

Mrs. Sallie McCrorey, wife of Mr. John T. McCrorey was a daughter of Mrs. Mary J. Wylie, of Wellridge. She was 39 years old, and was the mother of ten children . Before she was attacked by fever she was called upon to nurse two of her children through serious sickness. She had a long spell of fever during which she lay several days apparently at the point of death. Finally she rallied, and though improvement was slow, she seemed to be doing well until Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup>, when she became worse. The disease resisted all remedies, and her noble life came to an end on Saturday afternoon. We learn that Dr. Hayne says that death was caused by meningitis and not a relapse into fever, as was supposed.

The body was buried at Hopewell on Sabbath afternoon, funeral services being conducted by the Rev. C. G. Brown, assisted by the Rev. J. A. White.

As stated before, two of the children had been sick before the mother. Five others were sick at the time of her death, though their cases were malarial and we learn that they are better.

The taking off of this faithful and pious wife and mother seems peculiarly sad. She was struggling with great patience and courage to rear and train her large family of children in the way that they should go. Since her marriage she had been a member of Catholic Presbyterian church, and her devotion to duty in that relation puts to shame the excuses of many mothers with less than half the home cares. Mrs. McCrorey was one of those humble Christian mothers who do not seek the applause of the world. Her name was not heralded before the public, but it was written in the Lamb's book of life. May God guide the bereaved husband and children and give comfort to the desolate home.

The above article was taken from "The Lantern", Chester, S C -December 20, 1901 and was sent to us by Mr. John Caldwell of Warner Robins, Ga.

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### JAMES CALDWELL WYLIE

The following is a letter received from Mrs Caroline Marion Dawson of Chester, SC:

Dear Friends,

I notice in "The Bulletin" of December 2002, volume 26, number 4, page 152, information taken from the family Bible of Samuel Wylie (1753-1853) and his wife Sarah Aiken (1785-1876). I wish to make two corrections to this information.

1. On a scrap of paper inserted in the Bible is a statement that needs to be corrected, "James Caldwell Wylie was the only child of Jane R. Caldwell and Samuel Avander Wylie." **This is incorrect.**

I have in my possession the Bible of Samuel Avander Wylie (born 27 April 1818; died 13 August 1862) and Jane Robinson Caldwell Wylie. This couple had six children. Their Bible was the property of my late husband, Edward Hood Dawson

1. Eliza Jane Wylie, born 19 February 1847; died 19 June 1932. Married William Harvey Hood 13 December 1866. Both buried Evergreen Cemetery, Chester.
2. Samuel Joseph Wylie, born 21 August 1849; died 14 February 1911
3. Robert Caldwell Wylie, born 29 March 1851; died 29 November 1862
4. James Jackson Wylie, born 29 May 1853; died 15 June 1884
5. Sarah Elizabeth Wylie, born 7 November 1855; died November 22, 1934. Never married.
6. Margaret Moore Wylie. Born 11 January 1858; 25 May 1922. Married John Leroy Miller, born 5 September 1858; died 20 March 1924. Both buried Pleasant Grove Presbyterian Church, Chester, SC

**They did not have a child named James Caldwell Wylie.**

II. The Bible that is referred to in this article belonged to the late **Joseph Caldwell Wylie** (not James). I am enclosing a copy of an affidavit written by his about the ownership of this Bible.

According to records compiled by Mrs Malcolm L. Marion, Jr;

**Joseph Caldwell Wylie** was a **great-grandson of Samuel Wylie and Sarah Aiken Wylie**. He was the son of **Osmand Alexander Wylie**, born 4 August 1836; died 4 August 1903. Married **Catherine "Kate" Nancy Caldwell** 16 November 1865. Their children were:

1. Maggie Bell Wylie, born 20 February 1867; died 5 July 1933. Married 10 February 1886 Wade Hampton Hicklin.
2. Alma Viola Wylie, born 27 August 1869; died 9 March 1927. Married 27 November 1895 Daniel Gober Anderson, Sr.
3. Clara Rebecca Wylie, born 18 August 1874; died 9 November 1935. married 31 October 1892 James Faucette Atkinson II
4. Mary McKenzie Wylie, 27 January 1879; died 21 May 1954. Married 12 September 1903 Riley M Strange.
5. **Joseph Caldwell Wylie**, born 31 December 1881; died 13 January 1938, Glen Ridge, N. J. Married Blanche Coblens

**Osmond Alexander Wylie** was the son of **Joseph Alexander Wylie**, born 30 June 1809; died 27 August 1869. Married 2 February 1832 **Lucretia Jones**. Their children were;

1. Rebecca Wylie, born 23 October 1833
2. Nancy Esther Wylie, born 12 March 1834
3. Osmond Alexander Wylie, born 4 August 1836; died 4 August 1903, married 16 November 1865 Catherine "Kate" Nancy Caldwell

**Joseph Alexander Caldwell**, as noted in the family Bible in your Bulletin, was a son of **Samuel Wylie** and **Sarah Aiken** and an older brother of Samuel Avander Wylie.

Caroline Marion Dawson

I Joseph Caldwell Wylie of 218 Forest Avenue, Glen Ridge,  
New Jersey do certify that I have in my possession the  
Samuel Wylie family Bible and that the dates of Births,  
Marriages and Deaths as given in these papers attached  
are true copies from the above mentioned Bible.



Sworn and subscribed to before me  
this 3rd Day of January 1945:



Notary Public of N.J.

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## ORGANIZATION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY COURTS

### Michael C. Scoggins

In 1769 the province of South Carolina was organized into seven circuit court districts. Each district had a capital with a district court that administered the legal affairs of that district. The coastal region was divided into Georgetown, Charlestown and Beaufort Districts, while the remainder of the state was organized into the Cheraw, Camden, Ninety Six and Orangeburg Districts. Prior to 1772 North Carolina claimed a large part of the South Carolina upstate that included all of the area occupied by modern York and Cherokee Counties and parts of Chester, Union and Spartanburg Counties. From 1748 until 1762 this area was part of Anson County, NC; from 1763 until 1768, it was part of Mecklenburg County, NC; and from 1769 until 1772 it was a part of Tryon County, NC. From 1769 until 1771, the Tryon County Court met at the house of Col. Charles McClean, who lived on the headwaters of Bullocks Creek in what is now York County. In June 1772 the state line west of the Catawba River was surveyed and established in its present location by agreement between North and South Carolina. The newly-acquired territory ceded by North Carolina, including present-day York and Cherokee Counties, became known as the "New Acquisition" and was integrated into the Camden District. During the period from 1772 until 1790 the Camden District included all of the present-day counties of York, Chester, Fairfield, Richland, Lancaster, and Kershaw, as well as portions of modern Lee, Sumter and Cherokee Counties. The Camden District courthouse was located in the town of Camden and all legal business in the district was transacted there. This system proved to be a great burden for the people in the area between the Broad and Catawba Rivers, who had to travel long distances in order



to get to court. It was also very difficult for the courts to enforce law and order in the more remote parts of their districts. The chaos and disorder created by the American Revolution only aggravated this problem, and after the British withdrew from Charleston in December 1782 the state legislature set out to create a better system of administering justice throughout the state.

In February 1783 the South Carolina legislature decided to divide each district into counties, establish courts of law in each county, and appoint justices of the peace to administer the county courts. The legislature also proposed the idea of moving the state capital to a more central location to make it more accessible to all the citizens, especially those in the backcountry who complained that Charleston was too far away. Throughout 1783 and 1784 the legislature worked out the details of laying out counties and establishing the county court system. In March 1785 the legislature set up a commission to begin officially creating the new counties in each district. The state also established a nominating committee, composed of five members of the Senate and five members of the House of Representatives, who were given the task of appointing seven justices of the peace for each county. These justices were appointed to serve two-year terms and were granted full authority to act as justices of the peace and to hear all cases of common law in their respective counties. If vacancies were created due to the death, resignation or removal of a justice, the remaining justices were given the authority to appoint new justices by a majority vote. Once appointed, the justices received commissions signed by the governor, and justices who refused to serve their appointments without good reason were subject to a fine of twenty-five pounds sterling. The justices were given the authority and responsibility to build courthouses and jails, and to appoint sheriffs, clerks of court, and constables to help administer the peace. The legislature also created a digest of county court laws regulating the jurisdiction and establishing the procedures of the county courts. The County Court Act creating the county court system was passed on March 24, 1785, and the first court sessions were held in York, Chester, Union and other surrounding counties in January 1786. The district courts also continued to operate during this period; they were presided over by state justices and handled all legal business that was outside the jurisdiction of the county courts. In 1786 the state capital was moved to its present location at Columbia in Richland County, a gesture that helped to further integrate the backcountry residents into the affairs of the state. In 1791 the counties of York, Chester, Union and Spartanburg were incorporated into the newly-organized Pinckney District, with its capital at Pinckneyville on the west bank of the Broad River. Pinckney District remained in operation until 1799, when the county court system was abolished in South Carolina and each county became a separate district. This district system lasted until 1868, when it was replaced by the statewide county system that we use today.

Justices of the peace in those days had to be free white male property-owners who were trustworthy and respectable local citizens. Virtually all of the original county justices appointed in 1785 had served as military officers during the American

Revolution, and most of them served in the state legislature as well. Courts were presided over by anywhere from one to seven justices of the peace, depending on how many justices showed up for work on a given day. Court sessions were held quarterly, in January, April, July and October, and usually lasted for several days until all of the court business was settled. Typical court activities included appointing sheriffs, constables, tax collectors and road overseers to handle road building and maintenance; recording bills of sale, property transactions, and wills; and collecting public debts and fines. One of the most important court duties was regulating the rates charged by ferry operators and tavern keepers, who in the past had been free to extort whatever prices they wished from the public. Legal cases included assault and battery, trespassing, slander, bastardy, rioting and disturbing the public peace, public profanity, and overcharging for liquor at taverns. More serious cases, such as larceny, involved jury trials and necessitated the selection of petit or grand juries. Every court had a jail for temporarily holding prisoners, but eighteenth-century jails were not places where convicted criminals were kept for long periods of time at the public expense. Instead, punishments for those convicted in court ranged anywhere from stiff fines and payment of court costs to harsher penalties such as being placed in the public stocks or being whipped at the public whipping post. It was not unusual for a serious crime like larceny to receive a sentence of anywhere from 30 to several hundred lashes on the bare back, "well laid on," and this punishment was applied to both men and women. Modern crimes like murder and rape are not found in the early court records, and capital punishment by hanging was extremely rare.

The details of the early court cases during the 1780s and 1790s were recorded in large handwritten books called minutes of the county court. These court minutes are still in existence for many of the counties in the upstate, including York, Chester, Union, and Spartanburg, and provide a fascinating window into the everyday life of the early backcountry settlers in the years following the American Revolution.

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## **DID CAPTAIN HUCK BURN FISHING CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?**

**By Michael C. Scoggins**

Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church in northeastern Chester County, SC, was founded circa 1752 and is one of the oldest churches in the upstate. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, this church was known as Upper Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church in order to distinguish it from another (now defunct) Presbyterian church on Lower Fishing Creek founded by Rev. William Richardson, who died in 1771. According to the historical marker in front of the modern Fishing Creek Church, the present building was erected in 1785 and bricked-over in 1958. Local historians agree that the original church building, or "meeting house," was destroyed some time between 1780 and 1785, but the exact date and circumstances of its destruction are uncertain. The minister of Upper Fishing Creek Church during the Revolution was Rev. John Simpson, who also supplied the Lower Fishing Creek Church as well as Bethesda Presbyterian Church on the South Fork of Fishing Creek in present-day York County.<sup>1</sup> Simpson, who was an ardent Whig, encouraged his Scotch-Irish Presbyterian congregation to resist the British after the fall of Charleston in May 1780, and he himself enlisted in the local militia company commanded by Capt. John McClure. On June 6, 1780, only two weeks after Charleston's surrender, McClure's company took the field against the Loyalists or "Tories" in the backcountry when they attacked and dispersed a Tory assembly at Alexander's Old Field (Beckhamville) in Chester County. Two days later they joined Capt. Richard Winn and Col. William Bratton in a successful attack on another group of Tories at Mobley's (or Gibson's) Meeting House in northwestern Fairfield County. Following the battle at Mobley's, McClure, Bratton and Winn moved to Upper Fishing Creek Church and established a camp there. Many members of Simpson's congregation joined them.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> George Howe, *History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina* (Columbia, SC: Duffie and Chapman, 1870), 1:297, 334, 423-4, 508-12, 515.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Winn, "General Winn's Notes, Campaign 1780" (Peter Force Papers, Series 7E, Library of Congress), 1-2; Lyman C. Draper, Thomas Sumter Papers, Draper Manuscript Collection (State Historical

At this time the British had a strong outpost at Rocky Mount, overlooking the confluence of Rocky Creek and the Catawba River on the Chester-Fairfield County line. The post was commanded by Lt. Col. George Turnbull and garrisoned by several companies of Turnbull's regiment, the New York Volunteers; a troop of British Legion cavalry under the command of Capt. Christian Huck; and several companies of local Tory militia.<sup>3</sup> In response to the Whig attacks at Alexander's and Mobley's, Turnbull dispatched Capt. Huck and a company of militia under Lt. Col. James Ferguson to disperse the rebel camp at Fishing Creek Church. Huck arrived at the church on Sunday morning, June 11, expecting to find Simpson and his congregation attending worship services. Huck's orders were to arrest McClure and Simpson and disperse the rebel militia. In this mission he was disappointed; the Whigs had been alerted to his expedition and had retreated into northern York County before Huck arrived.<sup>4</sup> On June 15, Col. Turnbull described Huck's visit to Fishing Creek Church in a letter to Lord Charles Cornwallis in Charleston. The grammar and spelling in the letter are transcribed verbatim from the original letter:

Captain Huck and His Party Returned yesterday having made a circular Tour of about Forty miles to the Westward. The Rebels who were Embodied Fled so fast to the Mountains that He could not come up with them. From information that some of them had Taken Post at Simson's meeting [house], He surrounded the house and finding them gone, But in Recoinoitring the Road which Led to it, Two men with Rebell Uniforms were Discovered running through a field of Wheat. The Militia fired upon them, Killed one and Wounded the other.<sup>5</sup>

The rebel who was killed by Huck's militia was a seventeen-year-old named William Strong, whose family lived next door to the Simpsons'. Strong's older brother Christopher was a captain in the Whig militia, and young William had recently joined the militia himself. He was apparently recognized as a rebel by Ferguson's Tories, who fired at him as he ran away. Several nineteenth-century accounts state that Strong was murdered as he sat innocently reading his Bible, but Turnbull's report, written immediately after the event, is probably more accurate. These same nineteenth-century accounts are also unanimous in stating that Huck's dragoons burned Rev. Simpson's home and library, but they say nothing about the church itself.<sup>6</sup> Turnbull's letter to Lord Cornwallis does not mention Huck burning any buildings, but he does make specific reference to

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Society of Wisconsin), 9VV12-3, 159-60; Elizabeth Ellet, *The Women of the American Revolution* (New York: Charles Scribner, 1854), 3:159-60, 176-7, 217-9; Howe, 1:511-4.

<sup>3</sup> Banastre Tarleton, *A History of the Campaigns of 1780 and 1781 in the Southern Provinces of North America* (London: T. Cabell, 1787), 85-7.

<sup>4</sup> Cornwallis Papers (Public Record Office, Kew, Surry, England), PRO 30/11/2/158-9; Howe, 1:511-3; Ellet, 3:217-20, 225-7; Draper MSS, 9VV10-3.

<sup>5</sup> Cornwallis Papers, *ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> Maurice Moore, *The Life of Gen. Edward Lacey* (Greenville, SC: A. Press, 1981), 3-4, 22; Ellet, 3:225-7; Howe, *ibid.*

“Simpson’s meeting house,” which means the church, not Simpson’s home. It seems very odd that Huck would not have burned the church while he had the opportunity, since it was a focal point for Whig resistance in the area. British and Loyalist soldiers had no qualms about burning “seditious” meeting houses during the southern campaign, and in 1780 and 1781 they destroyed several other Presbyterian churches in South Carolina, including Rocky Creek Church in Chester County, Waxhaw Church in Lancaster County, and Indiantown Church in Williamsburg County.<sup>7</sup>

Huck led another punitive expedition against the rebels a few days later. On Sunday, June 18 he attacked Hill’s Iron Works on Allison Creek in York County, the base camp for the New Acquisition militia regiment commanded by Cols. Andrew Neal and William Hill. Huck dispersed the garrison, burned all of the buildings (including Hill’s home and slaves’ quarters), and completely destroyed the forge and furnace.<sup>8</sup> Over the following weeks Huck made several other punitive raids against local rebels, and he became notorious for his harsh justice and profane manners. On July 10, he set out from Rocky Mount once again on intelligence that McClure and Bratton had returned to their homes from Brig. Gen. Thomas Sumter’s camp on the Catawba. Huck visited the McClure home on July 11; finding McClure had already left, he set fire to the house and arrested John McClure’s younger brother James and brother-in-law Edward Martin. He then proceeded to William Bratton’s plantation and found that Bratton too had left. Huck proceeded to the neighboring plantation of James Williamson late on the evening of July 11 and posted his men around the Williamson home. Early on the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup>, Huck’s force was attacked and soundly defeated by the local Whig militia under McClure, Bratton, Winn, Hill, Neal, and Edward Lacey. Huck and Ferguson were both killed, along with many of their men, and Huck’s force was completely routed.<sup>9</sup>

The question remains, however, as to whether Capt. Huck burned Fishing Creek Church on June 11, 1780. Evidence that Huck did, indeed, burn the church comes from several reliable sources. One such source is Richard Winn’s notes on the campaign of 1780, which he recorded while serving in the US Congress in 1800. During the summer of 1780, Winn served with Rev. Simpson, Capt. McClure, Col. Bratton, and many other members of the Fishing Creek and Bethesda congregations, and was well acquainted with the people and the area. (His daughter Christina later married William Bratton Jr., oldest son of Col. Bratton.) Winn states in his memoirs:

Some time before the fight at Williams [Williamson’s] this same Capt. Huck with his party burnt Hill’s Iron Works, on their way they burnt the meeting house of the Rev<sup>d</sup>. M<sup>f</sup>. Simpson, who was at

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<sup>7</sup> Howe, 1:489, 540, 697

<sup>8</sup> Cornwallis Papers, PRO 30/11/2/171-2; A. S. Salley, ed., *Col. William Hill’s Memoirs of the American Revolution* (Columbia: The State Company, 1921), 8.

<sup>9</sup> Cornwallis Papers, PRO 30/11/2/285-6; Hill, 9-11; Winn, 4-7; Moore, 4-7.

the head of a large Presbyterian congregation. The people in that Quarter [of] Fishing Creek immediately cried out they wanted no protection from such a set as burnt churches & the word of God & Billy Hill's Iron Works, the consequence of this was Mr. Simpson & about eighty of his church took up arms, & joined General Sumter, by this time you will see out of evil cometh good. Something like this was my words at the time these men came to us.

Shortly after the Battle of Gipson's Meeting House Capt. Winn by the British & Tories had all his houses burnt to the ground & every Negro plundered together with every other property he possessed in the world, his wife plundered of her clothes & she drove off with two infant children. When this was made known to me, my answer was, it is no more than I expected.<sup>10</sup>

Further confirmation of the contention that Huck burned Fishing Creek Church is found in the Lyman C. Draper Manuscript Collection. Draper, the author of *King's Mountain and Its Heroes* (1881), was secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and an important nineteenth-century historian of the American Revolution. He carried on an extensive correspondence with many local historians and descendants of Revolutionary War veterans while researching a planned biography of Gen. Sumter, which he never finished. One of his most important correspondents was the historian Daniel Green Stinson of Chester County, who collected many first-hand accounts from Revolutionary War veterans and their families while serving as magistrate of Chester County. Draper interviewed Stinson in 1871 and made the following notes, which are found in the Thomas Sumter Papers of the Draper Manuscript Collection:

Fishing Creek Church burned by Huck's party June 11<sup>th</sup> on his first trip up the country, & killed young Strong there—pursued Bratton, John McClure & Winn to Hill's Iron Works, & burned the Iron Works—had some skirmishing there & fell back fighting. This party under Capt. John McClure had previously fought the Tories at Beckhamville.<sup>11</sup>

Taken together, these several statements provide substantial evidence that Capt. Christian Huck burned Fishing Creek Church as well as Rev. Simpson's home and library on June 11, 1780. This fits with what we know of Huck's other activities during this period, and suggests an answer to the long-standing question of what happened to the original Fishing Creek Church building.

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<sup>10</sup> Winn, 28.

<sup>11</sup> Draper MSS, 9VV12.

## FOWLER-ROBINSON

Wednesday morning, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1901 the Robinson Hotel, Blackstock, S. C., was the scene, of a beautiful marriage, that of Mr. Fred Fowler to Miss Katharine Robinson.

Promptly at 9 o'clock, the curtains were drawn aside, and Misses Nina Boggs, and Letitia Barber entered, carrying lovely bouquets of chrysanthemums. Next came the sweet little flower girl, Louise Douglas, immediately followed by the lovely bride and groom.

Taking their places beneath a huge bell of evergreens and chrysanthemums, they were in a very short time, by a few most appropriate and impressive words, joined hand in hand and heart to heart, for life and for death, by Rev. C. G. Brown, pastor of the bride, assisted by Revs. White and Kirkpatrick.

The bride was gowned in an elegant dress of dark brown silk trimmed in velvet, chiffon appliqué, ribbon, and rhine-stone buckles, with orange blossoms in her hair and an exquisite bouquet of bride's roses in her hand, looking charmingly sweet.

The groom was handsome indeed in a suit of black broadcloth with tan gloves.

Shortly after the ceremony, the happy young couple boarded the South-bound train, amid a shower of rice, for Winnsboro, the scene of another marriage, that of Mr. W. S. Douglas to Miss Mozelle Wylie, both couples returning to Blackstock on the evening train, where an elegant reception, under the direct supervision of the estimable Mrs. A McDonald, at the Hotel, was tendered them.

The presents were numerous, useful and beautiful. The bride and groom will be at home, to their many friends, at Wellridge, S. C. after Monday, 25<sup>th</sup>, inst.

This article was taken from "The Lantern", Chester, S. C. 1901. It was sent to us by Mr. John D. Caldwell, one of our members.

## QUERIES

- 03-29---**Kennedy, Hall**—Russell S. Hall, 7321 Deep Valley Drive, Germantown, TN 38138.-I would be most interested in knowing about Louisa Kennedy that married Rev. Thomas Hall in about 1843 or 1849, Fairfield County, S C. Who were Ms Kennedy`s parents? Her first husband was an Aldridge. Rev. Hall was married to a Gladden. Please let me know. Thank you.
- 03-30 **Nelson, John**—Evelyn C Murray, 22 Howard Hill Rd, Foster, RI 02825-1220. Am searching for John Nelson, in Chester Co. 1850 census with daughters Jane And Margaret and sons James and John. Came from County Antrim, Ireland after 1841—no wife recorded. By 1860 married to Mary? Of Chester County. Her first husband a Mr. Workman. John died 8 November 1879- buried Rock Hill with Masonic honors-where? Is he son of Jane , born ca 1786 Ireland, died 1870, buried at Fishing Creek Presbyterian Church?
- 03-31 **Kennedy**—Billy J Kennedy, 16625 Crenshaw Blvd. Apt 30, Torrance, CA. 90504-2152: Still looking for relationship between James Kennedy- died 1790- Buried at Old Purity Cemetery, and Joseph Kennedy-died 1793- apparently Buried at Old Stone Church Cemetery, Jackson Creek, Fairfield County. May Be father and son.
- 03-32 **Lemons**-Barbara H. Miller, 2739 Muscadine Drive, Maryville, TN 37803 [B1H1M1@aol.com](mailto:B1H1M1@aol.com) - looking for parents of James Lemons, b abt 1785, died Abt 1873, Chester County, SC. Married Mary \_unk? Their son was Harvey Lemons, b 29 July 1841, died 9 April 1927 in York County, SC, buried at Evergreen in Chester. Their children, John Bryce, Thomas A, Sarah Jane, Samuel, Margaret, Henry, Lillie Belle, and Carrie. On 1850 Chester County census James was living one household from Moses Lemons, next to Moses son, Andrew Jackson Lemons. Moses was from Ireland having applied for naturalization in 1813. Could he be James' father?



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