

THE BULLETIN

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THE CHESTER DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 336,
Richburg, S. C. 29729

Dues: \$20.00 Per Calendar Year

President	Dr. James Gill Knox
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Lewisville, an area in the heart of Chester County, was named for the Lewis family, a family that was prominent in the area more than one hundred years ago. The name Lewisville became associated not only with a geographical area but also was used in naming area schools. One of the first schools was the Lewisville Female Seminary which began in the 1840s and operated until the mid-1850s. The pastor of Union Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Richburg took an active part in the school, and one of the trustees prior to the Civil War was William Knox, one of my ancestors. The school building for the Lewisville Female Seminary is today the home of Jim Gaston, a local realtor. Another early school bearing the name of Lewisville was the Lewisville Academy located on what is known today as Edgeland Road. Students who attended the Lewisville Academy paid tuition, and during the winter, each student was required to bring firewood for the school's stove. This school building still stands and was for many years the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Burns. Today the building is empty and is threatened with development in the area. This "old schoolhouse" is an important part of the area's educational history and needs to be preserved. Hopefully, the present owners of the property will work with the community to see that it is saved from demolition.

The Wilderness Hunt Club rents about 5300 acres below Richburg from a nephew of the Reverend Billy Graham. On the property, a grave was recently discovered that is of interest to local historians. I had the opportunity recently to visit the grave with several members of the Hunt Club. Dr. Bobby Walker, who is the President of the York County Genealogical Society, and Dr. Tony Zeiss, who is President of Central Piedmont Community College and a writer of historical fiction and personal self-help books also visited the gravesite.

The grave marker indicated that the grave was that of Jack, a servant of Captain Thomas Potts. According to the marker, Jack died in 1824. The complete inscription on the marker states:

To the
memory of old JACK,
His soul was white, though
His skin was black
Here he lies beneath the soil
An honest man, the noblest
work of God.
The faithful servant of
Capt. Thos Potts.
And late his son JOHN.
Who saved all his property
From the plunder of the
Enemy in the war of the
Revolution.
Died Feb. 1824. Aged 76 years

Captain Thomas Potts (1738-1810) lived and died in South Carolina. After the Revolution the Potts family moved to Chester County. John Potts (1779-1839) died in Chester County and his will was dated 24 October 1838. This John Potts is believed to have erected the monument to "Old JACK." Dr. Bobby Walker and Dr. Tony Zeiss are both researching "Old JACK" and the Potts family, and hopefully, we may have an article from them in the future.

The annual meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2005 at Russell's in Chester at 1:00 pm. Dr. Ron Cox, Associate Professor of History at the University of South Carolina-Lancaster, will speak on "The American Revolution from the British Perspective." Dr. Cox is also secretary of the South Carolina Historical Association. Please make your plans to attend the August meeting.

Jim Knox

Don't forget the annual meeting on August 6, 2005. The price for the meal is \$10.00. We need your paid reservation by August 1, 2005. Dr. Ron Cox is an excellent speaker.

The Society would like to extended our Sympathy to the Williams family in the death of Tommy Williams. He was a great supporter of genealogy and he and "Miss" Pearl compiled many family histories and made donations of books, maps and other historical information to our library. They were always available to meet and take people from out of town to local graveyards, help in their research in courthouses and libraries.

J. Thomas Williams

Mr. J. Thomas Williams, Sr. 89, died Wednesday, March 30, 2005 at Ebenezer Senior Services in Rock Hill, SC. Burial will be in Laurelwood Cemetery on Saturday April 2, 2005. with a Masonic graveside ritual conducted at 1:15 pm by Rock Hill Masonic Lodge #111 with a committal service to follow.

A memorial service will follow at 2:00 pm at Ebenezer A.R.P. Church with Rev. Charles Mitchell officiating and Dr. Boyce Wilson assisting.

The family will greet friends and family immediately after the service in the church parlor and other times at the home of Mrs. Margaret Williams, 2117 Bryan Court, Rock Hill.

Mr. Williams was born August 9, 1915, the son of the late Ethan T. and Minnie White Williams and was reared in the Neely's Creek area.

Mr. Williams attended Rock Hill public schools. He began his banking career with Peoples National Bank on July 1, 1929 and had achieved the position of Vice President prior to the merger with C & S in 1964. He retired on September 1, 1977 with over 48 years of service.

He Married Pearle While Oates on April 18, 1936 and they remained married until her death in 1994. They had 4 children. He married Margaret Gardner Bryant on his birthday in August 1997.

Mr. Williams served with the Navy during World War II.

Mr. Williams had been a member of Ebenezer A.R. Presbyterian Church since 1951. He had served in numerous leadership capacities, including Elder, Men of the Church, Treasurer and with his first wife organized the Ebenezer Historical Library.

After his retirement, he and Pearle spent many hours researching genealogy of their families and other prominent families in York County. They also researched and created a map of the property holding at the time the original Ebenezer Presbyterian Church was formed.

In Addition to his parents and first wife, Mr. Williams was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Joseph M. Glenn, Jr., and a grandson Michael P. Williams.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Williams is survived by two sons, Dr. J. Thomas Williams Jr., and his wife Jeanette of Birmingham, AL, and Dr. R. Eugene Williams and his wife Gerry of Knoxville, TN, Two daughters, Carole W. Kausch and her Husband Jimmy of Clemmons, NC, and Celeste W. Brockington and her husband Bill of Aiken, DC and one sister, Mrs. Dorothy W. Glenn of Valley Mills, TX. He is also survived by nice grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

The family is grateful to Mrs. Martha Bowens for the loving care that she has given to Mr. Williams for the last several years.

Greene Funeral Home Northwest Chapel is in charge of arrangements

Sympathy is extended to our good friend, Louis Warmoth and his family in the loss of his wife, Margaret. They were some of our first members when our society was organized and they helped with research and articles for Bulletin. When they were in Chester, they were always available to help our visitors locate the graveyards. When Louis and Margaret retired to their home in Sumter, it was a pleasure to have them visit.

The following obituary was published in the Chester Herald, April 15, 2005.
Mrs. Margaret Anna James Warmoth, 87

Sumter- The funeral for Mrs. Margaret Anna James Warmoth will be conducted at 2 pm Saturday April 16, 2005 at Trinity United Methodist church. The Rev. Stephen Taylor and the Rev. Phil Jones will officiate and burial will follow in Sumter Cemetery.

Mrs. Warmoth, 87, died Wednesday, April 13, 2005, at the home of her daughter.

Born in Greer on Nov. 24, 1917, she was a daughter of the late Joseph Henry James and Susie Owen James. A member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Mrs. Warmoth attended school in Columbia and Chester and was formerly employed as a secretary for Dr. Richard Furman Baker. She loved gardening, having won numerous awards for floral arranging, and was a member and past president of the Poinsett Garden club. Mrs. Warmoth served as a member and chairman of the Sumter City-County Planning Commission for several years and also served as a volunteer with the Gray Ladies of The Red Cross. She was also and active member of the Sumter Historical and Genealogical Societies.

Survivors include her husband of 69 years, Edward Louis Warmoth; two sons, Edward Louis Warmoth Jr. of Charleston and Francis James "Frank" Warmoth and his wife, Zoe Rhame Warmoth, of Kansas City; a daughter, Margaret Anna "Meg" Player and her husband, Tommy, of Sumter; a sister, Sara Stringfellow of Rock Hill; seven grandchildren; and three great-grand-children.

She was predeceased by a daughter, Patricia Sue Cook; her siblings, Joe, Ruth and Elliott; and a great-grand-daughter, Sara Anne Garrity.

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

Our Society is now a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. The following is a letter welcoming us to the Federation.

As we enter our 29th Anniversary year it is a pleasure for me, as president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, to take the opportunity to thank you for your support. It is the collective membership of societies such as yours that is the strength of the Federation.

Each year the Federation strives to provide meaningful and significant benefits to its members.

One of FGS's major concerns is that the issues of local, state, and national interests to the genealogical community are not reaching the grass roots level or the national level in a timely manner. We have two vehicles that we are using to help address these problems; they are the FGS FORUM and the FGS Web site www.fgs.org.

To help make this communication happen, we strive to make the FGS FORUM available to your members at a very reasonable rate. We recognize that there are many items in the genealogical community that compete for each of our resources' however, if we are to preserve the genealogical records and have access, it is imperative that our members are informed with the information provided in FGS FORUM. Please advise your members that they are entitled to a discount to FORUM due to your society's membership in the Federation. Please announce this resource at your next meeting.

Sincerely

Wendy DeBout Elliott, President

The FORUM is available at a cost of \$15.00 per year, to all our members.

JOHN PINCKNEY DUNCAN
Compiled and written by Jerry L. West

When South Carolina seceded from the union in 1860, John Pinckney Duncan and his wife, the former Mary Ann Minter, were living in the tiny York County community of Blairsville and working the Minter farm he acquired through marriage. Duncan was born in 1838 in Chester County, the son of Thomas and Anna Duncan. His wife, Mary was born 4 May 1838 in York County, the daughter of Isaac and Leveniah Minter.

In 1850, when Mary was only twelve years old, she was living at home with her parents on the Blairsville farm which was valued at \$800. Her 19 year old sister, Esther, and her new husband, Lemuel Burgess was living in the household with sister, Jane (age 23), and brothers Jesse (age 9) and Isaac Gilmore Minter (age 21). Isaac, like his future brother-in-law, John Duncan, would become part of the South's struggle to be free from Northern aggression.

When inducted into the Confederate Army on 30 May 1863 at Yorkville by Major Radcliffe, John Pinckney Duncan was described as being twenty-five years old, standing five-foot-ten, having blue eyes and dark hair. Like most men who went to defend the South, Duncan had no real experience in warfare, although he would have participated in monthly musters and drills since all men were compelled by law to do so.

Duncan was inducted for a period of three years or for the duration of the war, which ever would be shorter. Of course, he served one month shy of two years since Lee surrendered his army in April 1865. Upon induction, he was transported by rail to Richmond where he was assigned to Company K of the newly formed 1st Engineer Regiment commanded by Major T. M. Randolph Talcott.

The 1st Regiment Engineer Troops, C.S.A., was created 20 March 1864, under an Act of the Confederate Congress. The regiment, however, had already been in operation since 10 August 1863, at which time Special Order 185 was issued from the Adjutant Generals Office. Under command of Lt. Colonel Talcott, the unit was formed by men transferred from other units while some, like John Duncan came directly from state enlistment. Now under official orders of Congress, the Engineer regiment completed its organization 1 April, 1864, shortly after the arrival of Duncan.

The regiment was composed of one-thousand men divided into ten companies, A to K. The object of the unit was to proceed the army's main force by a mile or so to ensure all water obstacles were bridged before their arrival. Their work was often performed under fire and swift water. General Orders No.90 from the Adjutant General's Office sent 26 June 1863, lists the varied duties to be performed by the engineers:

To make reconnoissance and surveys of the sections of country occupied by our forces, and as far as possible of the country held by the enemy, embracing all the information that can be obtained in reference to roads, bridges, fords, topographical and military features, the character and dimension of the water coursed. The practicability of constructing fixed and floating bridges, the extent of wooded and cleared lands, and the capacity of the country to supply the general wants of the arm; to make detailed examination and surveys of positions to be occupied for defensive purposes; to select the sites, and form plans, projects, and estimates for all military works, defensive or offensive, viz., field forts. Batteries, rifle pits, lines of infantry cover, military trenches, parallels, saps, mines, and other works of attack and siege; also works for obstructing river and harbors; to prepare such maps and plans as will give a full knowledge of the ground and proposed works.....

From the latter part of 1863 to the spring of 1864, the 1st Engineer Regiment was bivouacked at Camp Gilmer near Richmond. Fearing an outbreak of Yankee prisoners at Bell Island, Company K was moved to the prison on 7 February to furnish a daily detail of twelve to fourteen men to guard the prisoners of war until the 12th. Sometime after this they returned to Camp Gilmer, remaining there until April when they were transferred by rail to Gordonville. From there they marched to a camp near Orange Court House, joining with General Lee on the Rapidan line.

The company left their camp on May 6, 1864, marched two miles to Orange Courthouse where they were occupied for two days guarding prisoners. On the 8th they marched to Louisa courthouse, arriving the following day----a distance of twenty-nine miles to Gains Station on the R. F. & P. Railroad. On May 16 they marched five miles to Steward's Mill and began throwing up entrenchment until the 21st when they marched twenty-seven miles to

Hanover Junction, arriving there on May 22. On the 24th they marched in the direction of Richmond to build a road at the ford on the South Anna River. That Month they labor on various bridges in the vicinity of Mechanicsville and cutting timber for a bridge over the Chickahominy.

On June 3, they left Mechanicville and marched ten miles to Garnetts Farm near McClellan's Bridge where they were engaged several days building a bridge. Seven days later they marched to Cold Harbor and commenced building a redoubt on the front lines. Sue to danger of being shot, they were allowed to cook and eat only at night. On June 13th they marched back to their old camp at McClellan's Bridge. From the 16th to the 17th they labored putting a pontoon bridge across the James River and working roads. Colonel Blackford described the operation:

The wagons would gallop up to the bank of a stream, slide off the boat and planks which, before another could do the same, would be placed in position in the water and connected with the shore by the flooring; then another, and another boat with floor laid across form one to the other until the farther shore was reached, and a crossing provided for the army.

On the morning of the 17th they marched five miles to Holcloth's Bluff and assisted in building earthworks for a heavy piece of artillery. On the 20th they returned to the camp near Chaffin's Farm, and seven days later they marched to Richmond, only eight miles away. The next morning they were taken by rail to Burkenville on the Richmond & Danville Railroad. From there they marched to Keysville, and upon their arrival on the 29th they were directed to put up telegraph lines which had been downed by the enemy. They were employed in this for two days.

On July 2nd they marched away and camped near Mechanicsville. During that first week of July, Company K was put to work on rebuilding the Richmond & Danville Railroad which had nearly thirty miles of track destroyed by the Union Army. On the 24th they returned to Richmond by rail and camped about four miles outside the city. Two days later they marched about four miles toward Chaffin's Farm. From the 28th to the 30th, the men were in the trenches and were pulling picket duty. On August 1 they were marched twenty miles to within two miles west of Petersburg. Here, following the Battle of the Crater, which took place on July 30, the engineers were utilized to countermine the Federal Trenches.

Then engineers stayed here through March 1865, constructing fortification for the defense of the city. On April 3, Lee's army deserted Petersburg. At that time, some of the engineers were placed ahead of the march to prepare the way for the retreating army, while a detachment brought up the rear, destroying bridges behind them. Company K commanded by Captain G. W. Robertson. Was ordered to move ahead to a position on the Staunton River and build a bridge for the army's crossing to aid in a rendezvous with General Johnson, Lee, however, never arrived as he had surrendered at Appomattox on April 9. Because of their position,. Company K missed the surrender and parole.

Located twenty miles ahead of the Northern Army, the company was disbanded the following day. Duncan immediately headed for his home in York County. Yankee troops were all over his route through North Carolina and Colonel William J. Palmer's brigade, known as "Stoneman's Raiders" were closing in fast to establish his headquarters at Lincolnton. Duncan, along with others Confederates were captured on Monday, the 17th and held until Saturday, the 22nd when he was allowed to continue his trek home.

By the time John Duncan arrived home in Blairsville, Colonel Palmer was in the vicinity of the Cowpens Battleground with orders to capture President Davis and his entourage which had left Yorkville and was moving toward the Broad River and Union County. When Davis and his entourage reached Blairsville. The cavalry turned westward on to the Old Rutherfordton Road (now Wilson's Chapel Road) in order to cross into Union county by Smith's Ford. Davis, his cabinet members and personal guard proceeded on the Pinckney-Yorkville Road toward Bullock's Creek to cross the river on the Pinckneyville Ferry.

Palmer arrived at Smith's Ford just as the last troops were crossing, and captured ten Confederates. When they were told how many troops (an exaggerate number) were traveling with the President, they decided to turn back. On May 3, The Yorkville Enquirer reported the presence of the Yankee Cavalry:

A force of the enemy's cavalry, estimated at from three to four thousand, crossed Broad River at Smith's Ford on Sunday Evening [April 30] and came within eleven miles of this place [Yorkville]. They subsequently re-crossed and are reported to have moved in the direction

of Limestone Springs. A flag of truce bearing the recent order of Sherman, was dispatched after them but failed to reach them at last account.

That May the landscape of York County and the Blairsville community fell quiet and the war became history and memories. John P. Duncan settled down to rear his family; but it would be another ten years before the nightmare of Reconstruction was over.

John McClure

John McClure, patriot, born in Chester District, DC about 1730; Died in Charlotte, NC 18 August 1780. After the fall of Charleston, SC 12 May, 1780, the South Carolina patriots were greatly disheartened, and in the following month Sir Henry Clinton, wrote to the British ministry: " I may venture to assert that there are few men in South Carolina who are not either our prisoners, or in arms with us." Many patriots had found refuge in North Carolina, while others had gone up to the mountains and were gathering their countrymen into bands to avenge the insults of their oppressors. Early in July, Gen. Thomas Sumter returned to South Carolina with a few followers. He found that the Whigs, led by John McClure, Richard Winn, and others, had already attacked the enemy at different points. To crush these patriots, and bind the loyalists together, the British authorities sent out marauding parties, chiefly Tories. At Mobley's meeting-house on the banks of Little River, Fairfield District, Captain McClure and Captain Bratton fell upon a party of loyalists and dispersed them. This disaster, following closely upon that at Beckhamville, where McClure, at the head of thirty-three men, had routed a party of Tories and British soldiers the previous month, caused the commander at Rocky Mount, Chester County to send out Captain Christian Huck with 400 cavalry and a body of well-mounted loyalists. After Huck had committed various depredations he encamped in a lane on the plantation of James Williamson, now Brattonville, where he passed the night of 11 July. Early on the following morning they were surprised by McClure and Bratton, whose forces only 133 in number, entered each end of the lane. After a fierce struggle, lasting an hour, Huck and Col. Ferguson, of the Tory militia, were killed and the forces under them were dispersed, Captain

McClure, leading the pursuit. On 6 August, that officer was present at the battle of Hanging Rock, and fell at the first fire pierced by two bullets. When his friends came to his aid he urged them to leave him and pursue the enemy. After the battle he was taken to Waxhaw Church, and thence to Charlotte, NC, where he died in Liberty Hall. General William R. Davie said of him: "Of the many brave men with whom it was my fortune to become acquainted in the army, John McClure was one of the bravest."

The following are wills from Chester County that were copied from South Carolina State Archives.

Will of James Moor

In the name of God Amen

I James moor of Sandy River Camden District and providence of South Carolina do make con firm this to be my last will and testament. Disannulling all former will or wills whatsoever here therefore made by me and as I the said James Moor being now in perfect health and memory and well knowing that it is appointed by our Supreme Being for all men and once to die and has been his will and pleasure to grant or bestow on me some for this worldly goods and treasure I do will and dispose of all the same in manner following in the first place I recommend thy soul to God that gave it existence in the next place I do recommend my body to the dust of which it was made and to be in Christian like manner buried at the discession of my executor. Whenever it is his will to call me, In the next place my will and desire is that all my just debts be paid and then I do dispose of the remaining of my Estate in form and manner following. In the next place do lend to my well beloved wife Doretta for during her natural life the lands plantation and Mill all being and lying on Brushy Fork of Sandy River and well know by the place and plantation where on I now live. Also the negro girl Sally with all of her increases and also all the household furniture and stock of ever kind during her natural life and after her death the land and negro girl and all her increases and stocks of every kind as above mentioned the descend to my well beloved son Thomas Moor and his heirs forever. Item I give and bequest to my well beloved son Lazarus Moor fifty acres of land on Brushy Fork of Sandy River being the

plantation we now live also one hundred acres of land on India Creek to him and his heirs for ever Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved Daughter Catey Sanders fifteen pound lawful proclamation money of the providence being paid her out of my personal Estate to her and her heirs forever and I give and Bequeath to my beloved son James Moor one hundred acres of land situated lying and being on Broad River on North Side to him and his heirs for ever Item I give an Bequeath to my well beloved son Charlie Moor Three hundred and Twenty-five acres or land on Broad River the north side. Being part of the tract called the Beauty Spot the remainder of the same tract of land containing six hundred acres I give and Bequeath to my beloved son John Moor to him and his heirs forever. Item I give an bequeath to my well beloved Daughter Dorotha Moor Twenty pounds proclamation lawful money of this providence my will and desire is that in case either of my aforementioned children Lazarus Moor, Catey Sanders, James Moor, Robert Moor, John Moor, and Dorotha Moor if each or either of them should die before my son Thomas Moor should become of lawful age then they and each of their respective legacy's to be returned to my son Thomas Moor his heirs and assigns for ever and all of this I do acknowledge and confirm to be my last will and testament made this fifteenth day of January in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and seventy nine.

James Moor

Signed sealed and acknowledged

In presence of us

Edward McNail

William Sanders

Jno. Nunnery

John Wood

Probated Nov. 18, 1789

Book A Page 1

Apartment No. 42

Package No. 687

Will of John Jagers

In the Name of God, Amen, I John Jagers, Senior of Chester District & State of South Carolina: being in a low State of Body, but of perfect Mind & memory being conscious of the Certainty of Death, and uncertainty of Life, do Constitute this my last will and Testament, as follows, first I bequeath

my Soul to God who gave it; and my Body to be decently Interred, at the discretion of my Executors, secondly I will that all my lawful debts be paid as quick as convenience will allow, thirdly I will and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Elizabeth Jaggars one half of the tract of Land whereon I now live, beginning up the spring branch where the line Crosses it, then down said branch a direct Course to Strike the center of the line over Sandy River the Branch being the line nearly against the House. Also I give and bequeath all my Negroes, Horses, Cows and Stock of all kinds, plantation Tools and all the House hold Furniture to the Said Elizabeth Jaggars all being hers during her life, and then to be disposed of as I shall hear after mention. Fourth I give and bequeath unto my Eldest Son John Jaggars, a Tract of land containing two hundred acres lying on the long Branch a water course of Sandy River having such boundaries as is specified by the Lease to him and his Heirs forever I also give him my part of the Mill on said Branch according to the agreement made by me and my Brother Daniel Jaggars to him and his heirs forever, also I allow him one Negro woman named Jane at of before my wife's death as my seem most agreeable to her, to him and his heirs, forever. Fifth I give and bequeath unto my second son Thos. Garrett Jaggars the Remainder of the Tract of land I now live on being the half that joins Daniel Jaggars Tract, to him and his heirs forever, I also give him one Negro Man named Cato to be given up at his mothers death or sooner if she sees cause, Sixth I give and bequeath unto Susannah Estes one Negro boy named Fortune, to her and her heirs forever, Seventh I give and bequeath unto Elizabeth Jaggars on e Negro boy Named Captain to her and her heirs forever, Eight I give and Bequeath unto my son William Jaggars one Negro boy named Abe to him and his heirs forever, I also give him the part of Land Before mentioned for his Mother according to the Same Boundaries to him and his heirs forever, Ninth I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Hannah Jaggars on Negro Girl Named Tamer to her and her heirs forever, Tenth I give and Bequeath unto Elisha Jaggars two hundred acres of land lying on Big Rocky Creek in Chester District having Such Boundaries as the Leases represent one being from Jeremiah Jaggars & the other from Hampton Stroud to him and his heirs forever, I also give him one Negro Boy Named Lon to him and his heirs forever. Eleventh I give and bequeath unto my daughter Martha Jaggars one Negro Child named Amy to her and her heirs forever, Twelfth all my Stock, plantation tools and household furniture and all my property not willed I allow to be equally divided between my four daughter after my wife's death. Thirteenth I constitute and appoint my well beloved wife and my son John Jagaars and my brother Nathan Jaggars sole Executors of this my last

will & Testament, in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 28 day of February 1804.

In the presence of us

Daniel Jaggars

John Jaggars Seal

Jeremiah Jaggars

Daniel Jaggars

Probated June 1, 1804

Recorded in Book C Page 110

Apartment No. 31

Package No. 477

The Textile Industry

The first spinning Mill in Chester County, a crude but serviceable affair.

“One of the many changes in the south caused by the results of the Civil War was the evolution of the Textile industry, which hitherto had almost exclusively been confined to the New England States. The first fulling mill operated south of Virginia was built near the mouth of Fishing Creek where it emptied into the Catawba River, in Chester County,. This mill was built about the year 1788, and was used for dyeing, fulling, and pressing the cloth woven by the persons in this vicinity, and was said to have done in a satisfactory manner. This was at first confined entirely to woolen cloth but gradually extended its operations to cotton cloth. In the early part of the 19th century, nearly every family had its spinning wheel and hand loom. There were two varieties of spinning wheels. One operated by hand while the operator walked back and forth drawing out the thread. After the style of mule spinning, this required very little skill to operate. The other variety was operated by foot power. This was used by sitting by the side of the wheel and working it with there feet, like working a sewing machine. This made a much smoother and finer yarn than the other wheel. After the yarn was spun it was then reeled off the spools by a hand reel into hanks and then taken to a wrapper, and finally to the loom where it was woven. A good weaver could weave about four yards in a day of plain cloth throwing one shuttle, or , if woolen jeans with two shuttles, two to three yards. The raw

wool and cotton were carded into rolls with one hand cards about a foot and four inches wide, equipped with wire teeth. One of these was held stationary on the knee and cotton or wool was placed on its teeth, with the other this was carded until the fibers were straightened out, then it was taken off in a roll. A carder could card about as many rolls as a spinner could spin. In the early '50' Mr. Daniel McCullough built a spinning mill on the Catawba River near where the Republic Cotton Mills now stands. The Fingerville Mill in Spartanburg County and the old Saluda Mill in Lexington County antedated this mill by a few years. Mr. McCullough operated this by water power obtained from the Catawba River. The operators were all slaves from his plantation except the superintendent and heads of the different departments and the cotton used for spinning was chiefly grown on his own plantation. The yarns produced were course, numbers of 8's, 10's and 12's, and were put up in five and ten pound bales, which he peddled out through Chester and adjoining Counties, selling to the merchants who in turn sold them to the different families to woven into cloth. This yarn was mostly used for warps, and filling being spun in these homes on spinning wheels. A bale of cotton at this time weighed about 300 pounds. This mill was a very crude affair in comparison with the present day cotton mills. It did not use more than three hundred bales of cotton in a year. But paid Mr. McCullough a very good profit on his raw cotton. When Sherman's army passed through this section in 1865 it was burned together with everything else in his line of march. Mr. McCullough died shortly after and the mill was never rebuilt. This property finally fell into possession of the Southern Power Company and now the Republic Cotton Mill, a magnificent manufacturing plant stands in a few hundred yard of where the McCullough mill stood. A wonderful evolution from the fulling mill to McCullough's mill and now to the Great Falls hydro-electric plant and Republic Mills, now using as much cotton in a week as McCullough's factory did in a whole year. The home spinning and weaving gradually grew in disuse, especially in making white cloth as a better article could be bought comparatively cheap. A few plantations kept it up to utilize the labor of negro women during the winter months. The smaller farmers who generally kept a flock of sheep, the wool of which was spun and woven into home made jeans, blankets and knitted into socks. These jeans were durable and warm and clothed all the make members comfortably during the winter months. Very few store clothes were used by these study toilers of the farm and yeoman of the country. After South Carolina seceded from the Union, war was declared and we were shut out from the rest of the worlds commercially. The only way to replenish the wardrobe was to do so with in ourselves, consequently the old spinning

wheels were brought out of the garrets, and outhouses where many of them had been stored away as relics of the past and pressed into service. Those who could spin and weave went to work with a vim,. Those who could not, learned the business, and as a result a spinning wheel and loom were as common in the homes as knives and forks.

The ladies all from patriotic motive or necessity wore home spun dresses. Many of them spun, wove, and made them by their own hands. Men's wear came under the same rule. This was one time that everybody was on an equality as to dress. After the war the spinning wheel and loom were soon discarded and today can only be found as curios in a few homes. Many of the younger set of today never saw one of these wheels or looms on which their grandmothers spun and wove the clothing for the family.

S. B. Lathan
September 12, 1921
Chester, SC

The following article was sent to us by Louise Pettus, and we was to thank her for sending this article. This article was published in the Yorkville Enquirer, May 14, 1937

Yorkville Enquirer, April 11, 1888L:

Dr. Atkinson Explains,

We have published from time to time several paragraphs relating to the marriage of Miss Florence Little and Dr. Atkinson at Black's, in this county. Mr. Augustus Mintz, subsequent to this marriage, claiming her as his lawful wife. The statements of the parties are doubtless fresh in the minds of our readers. The following card, published by Dr. Atkinson in the Charlotte Chronicle, of last Saturday, adds another chapter to the romance.

"I think it is due myself and friends for me to make a statement of my late matrimonial muddle, inasmuch as it has created such a sensation, and that the different papers have had much to say about it. About the first of June last, thru the solicitation of friend and relatives, I met the young lady in question, Miss Florence Little, in Black's, SC. I found her to be very beautiful and fascinating, and the natural consequence was that I became engaged to her at once. We were to have been married in November. I visited her several times in the interim and found that I had a rival in on Augustus Mintz, who circulated, or caused to be circulated, reports injurious

to my character as a gentleman. At first I paid no attention to it whatever, and really considered my relations toward the young lady as merely a flirtation until Mintz tried to injure me in her estimation. I found out the matter had become more serious to me, and concluded, inasmuch as the matter had gone as far as it had, I would carry out my part of the contract as any gentleman should do, and if it was not consummated it would not be my fault.. Well the wedding day was put off from day to day, and finally we were married on February 1st in Gaffney. I made all necessary arrangements for the coming nuptials, receiving communications of instruction from time to time from the lady, never dreaming that she was going to play me false until two days before the appointed time. I received a telegram signed M. Lockhart, stating that Miss Florence was sick and not to come until I heard from her. I became somewhat suspicious, but concluded I would go anyway, and sent a telegram that I was sorry she was sick and would be in Gaffney on time. I went to next day, found she was not sick, but out riding with Mintz. The consequence was that I boarded the first train and came home.

The next day I received a letter from her saying that I had treated her shamefully, and if I had remained in Gaffney until the next day, the one appointed for our marriage, she could have explained why she was out riding, and would have certainly carried out her part of the contract. I paid no attention to it whatever, for I considered that I was not to blame in least, and became reconciled and satisfied to go on in the even tenor of my bachelor life. Until thru her solicitation my uncle and his wife and another aunt in Black's each wrote me a letter, enclosing one from Miss Little, begging me to come to Black's and renew my relations with Miss Little, and that they thot that I had acted too rashly in leaving Gaffney before the appointed time; that she seemed to be very much affected by the way I had treated her, and to come at once as she was at their home. I answered by a telegram to my uncle to tell the lady that I had not quite lost my self respect and would not see her. But nevertheless, I went the same night, accompanied by friend and lawyer, W.A. Sanders, (who went purely on business of his own, and knew nothing whatever of my mission), saw her and we were married on the night of 12th of February.

But I knew nothing of her former marriage to Mintz until I saw and account of it in your columns, and was dumbfounded, suspended business and took the paper and showed her the article and asked her what it meant. She denied it so bitterly that I believed her implicitly and thot that Mintz was only trying to slander her. I then went to work to find evidence to substantiate her assertion with the intention of vindicating her character to the bitter end. But alas? after spending a considerable amount of money and

time in and earnest effort to find out, I found none; however, I was still satisfied of her innocence and treated her accordingly, until she finally confessed to me not long since that it was only too true. Whatever object she had in marrying me under these circumstances, I know not. Whatever it might have been, I can only say that so far as I am concerned, I feel that I am not to be censured in the part that I took in the matter, and I earnestly hope a generous public and a kind Providence will deal lightly with the poor, unfortunate lady

D. C. Atkinson, Chester, SC April 6th

The following was submitted by James Robinson of Chester County. We want to thank Mr. Robinson for sending the article to be printed in the Bulletin.

These are cuts from old original letter written by Julius G. Robinson, Brooklyn, AL, to his father, Edwin Robinson, Brooklyn, Conn.

July 20, 1841.

“You must know that the “energetic” people of Brooklyn roused up last winter and built an Academy (a very excellent building for the purpose) as principal, of which they secured the services of Mr. Catlin, the ex-cashier of the Pensacola Bank-brother to the Artist Catlin of Indian renown-a man of good education and firm moral character. At the commencement of the present term, he was without a male assistant. I, being here, doing just nothing, and being urged very strongly on all sides to help him for a time, concluded to accept the situation until such time as he should be able to get an assistant, which may be one month-six weeks or two months. I have been teaching now for two weeks and find I do the business much better than I ever had any idea of. Mr. Catlin offers me high wages to remain with the year. But it is not my business and another thing, I am young and would rather be some place where there is more show of refinement than there is here. Brooklyn is rather on the improve than otherwise-the people round about have turned their attention to getting out of embarrassing debts of which the year of 1837-38 involved them. If the crops turn out well(as from every appearance doubtless they will) Conecuh will be, in February next, pretty clear of debt. In the village there is a store kept by Mr. Leigh and two groceries, alias beg whiskey barrels. There is a certain set who hang about

the "Grog" shops and are for the most part-as you Yankees would say "Hard Customers." A fight is now a days rather infrequent, but quarreling and hard words run like oil. Gambling has worked itself out. (Grandpa Benjamin Hart) is the same restless disposition as ever. He is now engaged in building a new and patent bridge across the Sepulag (spelled S-e-p-u-l-g-u-s). He worries himself as much about it as though he won't have to cross it for the next forty years. He intends, he says, that it shall cost him no more than \$700.00."

Sept. 10, 1841.

"Although the business of school teaching is one that I don't particularly fancy-I succeeded, better than I ever expected. I have had an open proposition for Dr. Taliaferro, a rather young man form Virginia-who has been living and practicing here for 3 year-to invest with him in a dry goods business-without anything to do with liquor. Mr. Leigh is still in business here, but has almost no stock."

Aug. 20, 1842.

"I rode 20 miles and back yesterday to follow the remains of a very dear friend-to his last resting place-a young man-by the name of "Boulware" (father of Gil Boulware). We are following the dictates of our desires here this summer-when we get tired of trying to do business we just shut up and go fishing or hunting."

May 26, 1843.

"I am now, nearly out of business, but have Dr. Taliaferro accounts in had for collection and settlement. Taliaferro has gone to Virginia. Mr. Lond Brown & Dr. Melver have instituted weekly prayer meeting-each Fri. Night at different houses. Mr. Lond Presented a letter to a Free Mason. He is a man of integrity and his influence would be valuable, but because of a few contrary members he was refused fellowship."

Nov. 21, 1843.

"Mr. Lond has been taken into the Church, since it has been purged of some of its troublesome members."

June 7, 1845.

"We are to have a great barbecue her for the purpose of calling together the people and get their support to the great steamboat undertaking."

Oct 27, 1845.

"I have lately obtained clear titles to the Geo. Dean house and have settled there. Geo. P. Leonard is dead (father of Ace Leonard)."

Jan. 27, 1846.

"Mr. Catlin has removed to FL and a Mr. Lee has taken his place as Principal of our school. Both he and his lady are well educated and a valuable addition to our society. He is a Baptist preacher, and intends, I think, preaching every Sun. to us. We had the steamboat come up the river and carry off the a load of cotton, but the enterprise is now abandoned because the boat was found to be too long for the short bends in the river."

August 14, 1865

"I am reduced to the condition of a very poor man-when war commenced I was worth \$100,000.00 James Dubose (father of James Benj. Dubose) joined army and was wounded at battle of Chicamauga-died in a few days."

September 24, 1866

"On September 5, 1866 Margaret presented me with our 9th child-a boy-Thomas Walter Robinson. I have placed my tannery and shoe shop in the hands of a competent man and an trying to do what I can with the farm-which is hard with no negro help."

December 27, 1869

"Adeline was married on Wed. Lat Dec. 22 to a Wilson A. McCreary-son of Eligah McCreary, and old boyhood friend of mine. Wilson is of a good family, with good stock on both sides. Wilson served the Confederacy through the war-was messmate of Edwin's (E. H. Robinson Sr.). Rafting timber on the river is becoming a large business. Probably timber will go down river from Conecuh and Covington this winter to value of over \$200,000.00."

Continuation of the Equity Court Records for Chester County from the March 2005 issue of the Bulletin.

Bill # 22

1824

Susannah Gaston Trustee vs James L. Davis et al

Bill of Revivor

(18 pages)

- Bill # 23** 1827
T. & W. McClure vs R.G Mills
Bill to Foreclose Mortgage of Real Estate (20 pages)
- Bill # 24** 1827
Wm Miller & Anna Gooley Adm. of Thos. Gooley vs Jno. Roseborough et al
(38 pages)
- Bill # 25 A & B** 1821
Sarah DeGraffenreid et al vs Thomas G. Bluit & Regina his wife
25 A (60 pages), 25 B (47 pages) (survey map in file)
- Bill # 26** 1829
Dr. Noah Lyon vs John Lin & Wm Lyon
Bill for Partition & Sale of Lands (22 pages)
- Bill # 27** 1827
John Sterling vs William A. Turner & Others
Bill for Partition (33 pages)
- Bill # 28** 1827
John Moore vs Rebecca Moore et al
Bill for Partition (29 pages)
- Bill # 29** 1827
John Shaw et al vs Mary Moorman et al
Bill for Partition (29 pages) (survey map in file)
- Bill # 30** 1827
John Brown et al vs Theoph. McCullough
Bill for Partition (21 pages)
- Bill # 31** 1827
Obediah Cornwell et al vs Eli Cornwell Jr. et al
Bill for Partition (17 pages) (survey map in file)
- Bill # 32** 1828
Elizabeth Hunter & John Hunter vs Jane Hunter
Bill for Partition (22 pages) (survey map in file)

County had been included in North Carolina. Order from Brent H. Holcomb, PO Box 21766, Columbia, SC 29221.

The following article was submitted by Ellen Bramlett Clarke. We want to thank her for sending the article to be published in our Bulletin.

THE WAR IN YORK AND CHESTER

[The following unpretending history of the Partisan warfare in York and Chester, during the Revolution, as written by Mr. JOHN CRAIG, a Revolutionary soldier, who for many years previous to his death resided in Pickens district, in this State. It was originally published in the *PENDLETON MESSENGER*, in 1839, and re-published recently in the Pickens *KEOWEE COURIER*. It is a plain unvarnished story, but it will be recognized as a truthful narrative of "the times that tried men's souls," and will be read with pleasure and profit by very many of our people in whose veins courses noble blood, kindred to that which once was poured out freely on the altar of Human Liberty. To these Districts belong the imperishable glory of having withstood to the last the power of British gold, and the strong arm of British tyranny, and of having guarded with unceasing watchfulness the flame which else where had well nigh been extinguished; and we are proud to know that within their borders was gathered again the scattered fragments of that invincible spirit, which though one ruthlessly broke, aroused again, drove back the tide of invasion, and banished from the land the hireling hosts of oppression. —ED. STANDARD.]

In August, 1776, I volunteered my service to my country and they were accepted. My first tour was under Col. Thomas Neal, in York District, SC. I joined Gen. Williamson's command, at Seneca Fort in the District now Pickens; and assisted in defeating the Cherokee Indians on the waters of Hiwassee. We lost twelve men killed and forty-five wounded. Col. St. Piere's Aid-de-Camp, Lieutenant Branon was slain.

My next tour was under the first mentioned officer Col. Neal, in 1778, on the Savannah river. The Captain who commanded was by the name of Sadler, still against the Cherokees. My third tour was under the same officer, Neal. We rendezvoused at Orangeburg, SC. A detachment was then ordered to join Gen. Moultrie, at Black Swamp. We retreated to Coosawatchie. There were orders for 130 men among whom I was one, to go and obstruct Coosawatchie bridge and while the bridge was burning we

had an engagement where several were killed and wounded; among the latter, Col. Laurens. From thence we retreated to Charleston. My next services were at Rocky Mount in the year 1780, after the fall of Charleston. I was commanded by Capt. John McClure, Lieut. Hugh McClure, and John Steel, at which place Lieut. McClure received a wound in the arm and we took 9 prisoners. Our number at this time was 27 soldiers and the three officers, against a formidable force of three hundred Tories. We had correct information by two brothers of the name of McKeown, of the enemy's number. These three brave officers with their twenty-seven men put the Tories to flight. This action took place on the 24th of May. Under the same officers two days after, we had an engagement at Mobly's meeting house, where we had success in defeating the Tories without any loss of men. The number of the enemy not known; our number the same as in the previous engagement. By permission I then went to York County in order to raise men to join us. The second defeat had so exasperated the British and Tories that they turned into burning houses and plundering the Whigs, so that at that moment times had but a gloomy appearance. Nothing but devastation and ruin appeared, and men were disheartened. Col. Brandon was defeated about this time, and from this circumstance I got but seven men to go with me. We went to North Carolina near Salisbury, where we joined Col, Locke. We then pursued a Tory Colonel by the name of Brain but never could bring him to an engagement. He fled before us to South Carolina. On the 26th of June, 1780, we had an engagement with a company of Tories at Ramsower's mill. We defeated them with considerable loss; among the slain was Capt. Falls. We then joined Gen. Sumter at Charlotte, NC and moved on near the old Nation Fords in South Carolina, where we took up camp, and thence we moved to Steel Creek, where we had an increase in numbers. Our next engagement was at Williamson's Lane, commanded by Colonels Andrew Neal, and Lacy, Bratton, Major Dickerson, Capt. McClure, and Capt. Jameson. Gen. Sumter remained in Camp. This engagement was on the 12th of July, 1780. Our number was one hundred and ten and we defeated four hundred, commanded by Col. Floyd; killed Major Ferguson and Capt. Hook, and took Capt. Adams prisoner with 30 or 40 privates with the loss of one man. We then went back and joined camp with Gen. Sumter at Steel Mount. The 23d of July we attacked Rocky Mount under the command of Gen. Sumter, where we met with great loss and were unsuccessful. Among the slain was Col., Andrew Neal. On the 30th of the same month we marched to the Hanging Rock, and stormed the encampment of the British and Tories. The loss on both sides was considerable. The brave Capt. McClure received a wound of which he afterwards died. Our next effort was in February,

1781, when we laid siege to Congaree fort but without effect. We had a goodly number wounded, two of whom were Major Hawthorn and Capt. Woods. Our next was a few days after at Col. Thompson's but without success, with the loss of one man killed and several wounded. Two days after we had a fight at Big Savannah, where we took seven wagons laden with clothing for three Regiments. Thirteen of the British were killed and sixty-six were taken prisoners. The stores were retaken on their passage. We then being pressed on every side swam the river and marched to Fort Watson, where we had an engagement and lost some killed and wounded. We then went on to guard Sumter's family in North Carolina, and on the way we had an engagement with Major Frazier with a considerable force. He was compelled after the loss of twenty men, to retreat. We received not loss on our side. Our next engagement was at Blackstock, the 20th November, 1781. We killed several British and lost but two men killed and several wounded, amongst whom was Gen. Sumter who received a wound in his shoulder. Our next engagement was at Capt. Sumate's with the British who were retreating from Bigham Church, and consisted of five hundred infantry and one hundred cavalry. We lost upwards of fifty killed and wounded. I then joined Gen. Henderson's party and was sent with a flag to Charleston. Then I was allowed to return home by a permit of Gen. Henderson.

A number of other little skirmishes we encountered which would be too tedious to mention. The foregoing is only a short sketch of the principal engagements, but before I conclude I will mention some for the treatment exercise by the enemy towards my old father about 65 years of age whom they stripped of all the property he possessed of every description, even the hat off his head.

Col. Taylor, of Columbia, and John Friday, of Grandby, both were with us a great part of the time and in many severe engagements and fought bravely. All the following named persons were true Whigs and fought bravely for the cause of Liberty;

Chester District

McClures, Steels, McCowens, Walkers, and Irish Walkers, Gastons, Hemphills, Strounds, Nixons, Stuarts, Wians, Bakers, Craigs, Lacey's, Wallaces, Dicksons, Bishops, Huston, Hannahs, Hendersons, Bonds, Hardages, Evans, McColls, Strong's, Agnues, Browns, Reids, Aikins, Miles, Simsons, Sadlers, Carrolls, Adairs, Leaches, Townsends, Ashes, Colars, Burnss, Knoxs, Samuel Neely.

York District

Neels, Watsons, Hills, Craigs, Chambers, Moffatts, R[eeve]s, Millers,

Jimesons, Barons, Wilsons, Hillhouses, Doreys, Rays, Robinsons, Brannons, Guitons, Dowdels, Clarkes, Harknesses, Gilhams, Meekes, Smiths, McCullohs, Barnets, Byrds, McGomerys, Woods' Blacks, Traveys, Lockridges, Hamiltons, J. Bell, Loves, Leepers, Dicksons, Dickes, McMurrays, Jolleys, Gutry, McFees, Simsons Joseph Alexander.

I will give a short sketch of the fight I and many of the above were engaged in at Williamson's Lane. We started early and in high spirits to go over from Chester into York District. We numbered one hundred and thirty-three, when we arrived at Catawba river, the far bank was lined with women and children, who had been ordered from their homes by the British and Tories on account of their relations generally having joined themselves to the Whig Party.

Those women who had been forced to leave their homes informed us that Col. Floyd, Capt. Hook, and Capt. Adams, with four hundred British and Tories, were lying at White's mill in Chester County. The situation of these women and children driven from their firesides, excited in every bosom a sympathy for the distressed, and indignation against the hard-hearted foe who could perpetrate such an inhuman deed. We received our orders to set these distressed people over the river which we did. Then we received orders to turn out our horses to graze, and meanwhile the officers called a council and soon determined to risk all consequences and attack the inhuman ruffians. Forthwith we pushed on and about sun set, arrived at the place where we had been informed they were, and every man received the countersign and watchword, which were-Washington: Good Luck. Capt. Hugh Bratton was Captain of the guard. By some bad movement we lost twenty-three of our number who returned back from whence they came. We found the enemy had left the mill and we immediately hurried on to attack them, and about daybreak came up to them at Williamson's Lane. We divided our men into two divisions, commanded by Major Dickson, Capt. McClure, and Capt. Nixon, on the right, and Col. Lacy, Col. Bratton, and Col. Neel on the left. The alarm gun was given by Col. Neel, who shot the sentinel dead. We then rushed on to the attack, every man his own commander. We heard the words "boys take over the fence," and our men rushed after the Tories, and British and they fled before us.

We then pursued the dragoons. John Carroll led the way, I was next to him, and Charles Miles, next. We halted to fire and both Miles and Carroll fired at the same time and brought down the Captain of the British Dragoons. Both claimed the honor, but it was decided that Carroll killed him; he therefore clamed his armour and David like, took it and wore it. We three then wheeled and went on to the house to join the balance of our

company, but the enemy had fled, and the victory was ours. The first sight we saw was three old gray-headed men who were put in a crib and guarded by a British soldier. When the fellow went to get out of the crib, the old men inspired with courage at the sight of the Whigs and took him prisoner. Our loss was one man killed.

We gathered up all the British and Tory spoils, and sold them. We then were disbanded for a short time for clothings, &c. Major Ferguson, a Tory Major, stood at the end of the land and was shot down and his clothing was blackened with the gun powder. The above named men who fought and suffered with me from the Districts of York and Chester were composed of the Presbyterian denomination of Christians. Rev. Mr. Martin from the north of Ireland, who emigrated with my father, a Presbyterian minister of Covenantor with many hearers who came over to America to get rid of the British laws and their tyrannical government, settled in the lower edge of Chester District, SC, and there formed a congregation. When the British attempted to enforce the duties on tea and other oppression, he with his band of heroes stood true to the cause of liberty. It was fortunate they had such a patriotic pastor, who was calculated to direct them the way to contend against that tyranny from which he had so lately fled. When Charleston fell this same patriot was taken prisoner by the Tories and put in close confinement as a rebel. Rev. Mr. Simson, And Rev. Mr. Alexander, had to flee from their District or they would have shared the same fate. Both were Presbyterian clergymen and were equally expert in encouraging the men of their acquaintance to resist oppression.

It is due to the citizens of North Carolina to mention their hospitality towards the whigs in that trying day, who were without money and provisions. They took us in and gave us food and clothing, "without money and without price." The patriotic ladies entered into written obligations, not to receive the attention of any individual who had not taken an active part in the cause of liberty; all our friends were engaged in contending for liberty, and without the promise of a farthing for their services. Money was not their object.

Many who may read the above account given by me of the difficulties and privations I and many of my friends and acquaintances encountered, may doubt it's truth. I refer them to other histories respecting similar events. Our cause was a good one, and that nothing short of an Almighty Hand could have given to us that which we were contending for, will appear to any reflecting mind. The race is not to the swift nor the battle to the[conqueror], the Almighty was with us.

I would respectfully recommend to the Legislature of the State of

South Carolina to have a number of copies of Gen. Moultrie's first and second volumes of South Carolina, also Dr. Ramsay's first and second Volumes of South Carolina, and Garden's anecdotes,. Republished as common school books.

John Craig
Pickens District, Nov. 1839

Chester Standard, March 16, 1854

This article was retyped as originally printed by Ellen Bramlett Clarke

The following article was submitted by Richard E. Wallace. We want to thank him for sending the article to be published in our Bulletin.

Nesbitts of Chester County, South Carolina

By

Richard E. Wallace

In the ongoing search for more evidence of Mary A. Nesbitt's (ca 1786-1852), presence in South Carolina, I have encountered a number of Nesbitt families in counties close to York County. Some may be related to her, but I don't know the exact nature of the connection. Mary was the wife of William Wallace (ca 1785-1823), my direct ancestor. They both probably grew up and married in York County. William, the son of Joseph Wallace (pre 1755-ca 1807), married Mary about 1805, in York County.

When I checked the 1790 Federal Census, I discovered three Nesbitt families in Chester county. They were William "Neisbit", "James Neesbit" and another William "Nisbit". Each household consisted of a male head (over age 16) and other family members ranging in numbers from five to eight. Of particular interest to me was the family of James Nesbitt, who came to this country from Great Britain around 1789. Family lore claims that Mary A's own family came from Ireland to America about the same time. These stories also suggest that she was the daughter of John and May Nesbitt, but I lack actual proof of the relationship.

May instead might be the daughter of an Elisabeth "Nesbit". Probably a widow, who is listed as a head of household on the same 1800 York County Census page as Joseph "Wallis". Elisabeth's (age 45+) home has two

females in Mary's age group (10-15). Mary's sister Margaret was also born in the 1780's. Marriageable individuals, such as Mary and William, tended to select spouses from their own neighborhoods. This fact gives the census some added value. In addition I have a 1803 York survey plat that shows the 67 acres of John "Nesbet" partly touching the land of Joseph Wallace.

The 1789 arrival date for the James Nesbitt family comes from the 1812 alien registration record of his son John. I suspect many British natives filed for citizenship during the War of 1812 to demonstrate their loyalty to their adopted country. John "Nisbet", age 33 and a resident of Chester County, claimed that he, had lived in the U.S. 23 years. His family in 1812 consisted of six persons (not named). John was about age 10 when he came to America. He most likely traveled with his family.

The 1789 arrival date fits in nicely with a Chester County deed dated 10 Nov. 1789. On the date William and Elizabeth "Nesbit" sold for 90 pounds 100 acres on Rockey Creek to James "Nesbet", the deed is signed William "Nesbet" and Elizabeth (X) "Nesbet". I wonder if she could be the Elisabeth mentioned earlier. Witnesses to the deed were Philip Walker, John Kell and James Kell. James is probably closely related to William and Elizabeth.

James Nesbitt enjoyed life in America for only a few Years. He prepared his will 12 Oct. 1793, naming his wife Agnes, sons John and Samuel and daughter Katherine. James' 1790 household contained five males under the age of 16. He may have had more than the two sons listed in his will. Named executors were his wife, James Kell and John Carson. The witnesses were Hugh Whelver (?), Alexander Kell and John Calvin. The Chester County Court Minutes for January 1794 show that the last will and testament of James "Neisbitt" was proven in open court. The September 1794 Minutes reveal that Agnes "Neisbitt" and James Kell took the oath as executor and executrix.

The 1800 SC Census shows that "Agness Nesbet" (age 26-44) is still living in Chester County and is a head of a household made up of four other individuals. The Census for Chester County also includes a James "Neisbet" (age 26-44) and a Thomas "Neasbit" (age 26-44). James Nesbitt, a possible son of the older James or William, remained in Chester County until at least 1829. I don't find Thomas in Chester County after 1800. Earlier he had purchased 100 acres on Fishing Creek from James and Mary Gill (formerly Mary Gaston) 4 Aug. 1792

The John Nesbit Named in his father's will married Hannah Cooper before 1800. From tallies in the 1820 Census, this couple probably had a least seven children,. Five boys and two girls. The parents lived the rest of their lives in Chester County. Recently I found records of their graves in the Covenantor Graveyard. Other close relatives are buried there, too, as follows"

Hannah Nisbet / wife of John Nisbet / died 13 Aug. 1847 / aged 65 years.

John Nisbet / died 20 Dec. 1847 / aged 70 years

James Nisbet / died 20 Oct. 1793 / aged near 50 years

Nancy (Agnes) Nisbet / wife of James Nisbet / died 17 Oct. 1802 / aged 50 years

Hannah Nisbet / Dau. of JT and JH Nisbet / died 24 Oct. 1836 / aged 2 months

William Nisbet / son of John and Hannah Nisbet / died 17 Aug 1847 / aged 50 years

A Francis Nesbitt (ca 1760-1829) lived briefly in the 1790s in Chester County before moving permanently to York County. He may be related to the Nesbitts of Chester County. He arrived in America from Ireland about 1790, based on an 1812 alien registration record. He purchased 125 acres on Sandy River from Thomas Cabeen in 1793.

Sources

1. First Census of the U. S. (Chester District, SC) pp 14-16.
2. Scott, *British Aliens in the U. S. During the War of 1812* (Baltimore; Gen. Pub. Co., (1979), p. 353.
3. Chester County, SC Deed Book B, p. 514.
4. Chester County, SC Will Book A. p. 83.
5. Second Census of the U. S. (Chester County, SC), pp 75, 80.
6. Chester County, SC Deed Book C, pp 239, 317.
7. Fourth Census of the U. S. (Chester County, SC), pp. 50, 55
8. Crowder, comp., *Tombstone Records of Chester County, SC and Vicinity*, vol. I (Chester: by Author, 1970), p. 37.
9. Langdon and Langdon, *Chester County Marriages 1778-1879, Implied in Chester County Probate and Equity Records*, 1985, p. 49.
10. Second Census of the U. S. (York County, SC), p. 960.
11. York County, SC Plat Book, p. 74.
12. Chester County, SC Minutes of the County Court-Order Book B, pp 244, 278.

The names in the queries are not indexed.

QUERIES

- 05---06 Gaston:** Carol Johnson Boulris, 203 Country Way, Needham, MA, 02429-1419; gmacarol203@aol.com : Seeking information about Esther Gaston wife of Justice John Gaston. Also seeking proof of Justice John Gaston's service as a King's Justice
- 05---07 Harris:** Mary Ann K. Bryan, 3636 North Milton Rd., Fort Pierce, FL 34946; blb637@aol.com : I am still hopeful of finding any information about Dr. Edgar Brockman Harris practicing medicine in Chester, about 1883-1886 (my great grandfather). He & his wife, Laura Lucinda Wylie, moved to Rutherfordton, North Carolina and he was a medical doctor there, practicing with his father, Dr. John Washington Harris.
- 05---08 Johnson:** Peggy Johnson Carey, 101 N. Adcock St., Dumas AR. 71639; carey@seark.net : Dr. Ben Johnson was my great, great, grandfather. He married Jane Milling Young. I think that her parents were William Price Young and Dinah Cox. Any help on the Young and Cox lines will be appreciated.
- 05---09 King:** Russell S. Hall, 7321 Deep Valley Drive, Germantown, TN 38138: I would be most interested to hear from somebody with information pertaining to the family of John Gladden King, b. 1790. I think that parents may be Nancy (Gladden) King and John King. This Nancy maybe daughter of Jesse Gladden of Fairfield county, SC I think she later married Richard Land. Please write me, thank you
- 05---10 Thomson / Strait:** Margie O. Hanna, 523 W. Taft St., Lafayette, LA 70503-2136: Does anyone have proof that Rachel Thomson / Thompson (who married Robert Ira Ferguson 2-24-1824 was the daughter of John Thomson and Mary Strait (b. 1764)? Who were John Thomson's parents? Who were Mary Strait's parents.

05---11 Dorsey: Virginia Heckel, 1047 Franelm Rd., Louisville, KY 40214, vheckel@aol.com : (1) One of Cornelius Dorsey's daughters, Peggy married a Harden before 1820. Peter Harden was an administrator named in Cornelius will. If this is who Peggy married, did they have any descendants? Does anyone know where they are buried? (2) Does anyone know the name of the wife of James Dorsey (son of Cornelius)? (3) Does anyone know where Cornelius and Martha Dorsey are buried.? (4) Does anyone know where Robert Walker and his wife Elizabeth Sealy Harden Walker are buried?

05---12 Jamison: Cecil A. Jamison Jr., 515 North Swinton Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444, 5jamison@bellsouth.net : I am searching for any information regarding the family name in Chester, York & Fairfield Co.'s especially "Dr. Elias Harrison Jamison."

05---13 Duncan : Martha Jones, 6245 Roy Ave., Mableton, GA 30126, macamajon@aol.com : Looking for parents / siblings of J. D. F. Duncan b. 1824, SC. Wife was Dulcinia Hopper. Full name was Jehu Decatur Franklin Duncan. Need mother's given and maiden name. He had one known brother named Oliver. Any help appreciated. Will gladly exchange info.

05---14 McClure : Ira R. McClure, 3134 Walter Ave., Maplewood, MO 63143-3914, lthdumpty@aol.com : I would like information on Alexander McClure, believed to have been born in Ireland around 1797 or South Carolina around 1800. He did marry Jane Gillespie, in 1824 and they had a son James M. McClure in 1827 and then the family moved to Illinois around 1830. I have been told Alexander McClure is from the McClure-Gaston Lines from the Fishing Creek area of SC. I would like to find out when and where Alexander was born and who his parents were.

- 05-- 15 Guy :** Edward McConnell, 150 Pine Island Turnpike, Warwick, NY 10990, emcconnell03@aol.com : Looking for info on Ellen Guy b. 1856, married Robert W. McConnell son of John B. McConnell , son of Reuben McConnell and Isabella Burris, of York Co. SC
- 05--16 Bell :** Eva Walker Myer, 7359 Peterson Lane, Pensacola, FL 32506-6508, emyer@cox.net :Valentine Bell died in 1799, leaving a will naming his wife, Mary and the following children: John, Rachel (Robbins), William, Elizabeth (Brown), Sarah (Powel), James, Mary (Wilson), Nancy (Boyd), Zephaniah Valentine, and Fielder (Atkinson). Several of the children migrated to Madison Co. AL between 12800 and 1810. Some moved up into Maury Co, Lewis Co. and Gibson Co. TN. Would like to share info with anyone connected to any individual in this family.
- 05--17 Rodgers :** Louise Pettus, 708 Harrell St., Rock Hill, SC 29730, mlpettus@cetlink.net : Need names of parents of John R. Rodgers, B. 1814 Chester district and his wife Priscilla Riggins b. Chester District
- 05----18 Lacy :** Nina Lacey Ramp, 1017 Wildwood Dr., Birmingham, AL 35235-1324 : Any information on the ancestry of Edward Lacey and Jane Harper will be deeply appreciated.
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Correction

In the March issues of the Bulletin, in the Surname List. The name of William Durham Hopper II, was misspelled. Please make the correction in your surname list, from Hooper to Hopper.

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Wilson	70
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John	56
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