

VOLUME 39 * JUNE 2015 * NUMBER 2

CHESTER DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY P. O. Box 336, Richburg, SC 29729 Serving Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster, Union and York Counties

THE CHESTER DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PO Box 336, Richburg, SC 29729

Published quarterly in March, June, September, and December

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Dues: \$25.00 Per Calendar Year

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The Bulletin

June 2015 www.ChesterSCGenealogy.org

Annual Birthday Party for the CDGS

SAVE THE DATE! Mark your calendars for our annual "Birthday Party" which will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2015, at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant, 5724 Lancaster Highway, Fort Lawn, SC 29714, at 1:00 pm. The cost of the meal this year will remain at \$20.00 per person.

Our guest speaker this year will be Liz Smith Anderson, Administrator of the Chester County Historical Society Museums & Archives. Liz is a native of Matawan, New Jersey and the product of a mixed marriage between a Yankee (mother, Jersey City native) and a Rebel (father, Hickory, NC native) who moved to South Carolina in 1979 and never looked back. She is a life-long history buff who has never stopped exploring and learning. Formerly the Director of Word and Data Processing for Shriner's Hospital in Greenville, SC, she married and moved to Chester in 1987. Liz was a stay-at-home Mom until 1996 when she went back to work at the family real estate office (Joe Collins Real Estate) in Chester. Offered a part-time job as "administrator" at the Chester County Historical Society, in the historic 1914 Chester County Jail, Liz readily accepted and has enjoyed learning about the deep and significant history of Chester County. She found in the Archives at the old jail, the Henry O. Nichols photography collection and dedicated herself to saving this important collection. Through hard work, the loyal support of the Historical Society, and the know-how of the University of SC Digital Library staff, the Nichols Collection is now one of the most looked at online South Carolina Digital Library Collections. The Nichols Collection is now part of the National Public Library. Liz is also the Curator of the Nichols Collection and the director of many of the programs and events presented by the Chester County Historical Society.

Please mail your check for your reservation to the **Chester District Genealogical Society, PO Box 336, Richburg, SC 29729.** The deadline for the registration is Aug. 7th. We look forward to seeing you on **Saturday, August 15th at 1:00 pm**!!!

CDGS Cemetery Fund

The Chester District Genealogical Society has set up a separate bank account, the **CDGS Cemetery Fund**, for any donations that we receive for taking care of some of the abandoned cemeteries in Chester County. We have a ledger in which the donor's name and the amount will be listed under the particular cemetery they designate. It is our goal to try and maintain as many of these abandoned cemeteries as we possibly can, but right now we are concentrating on Burnt Meeting House and Paul's Graveyard (Covenanter Cemetery) Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated. Your donations are tax deductible.

Jean H. Nichols, Editor

The Family Chronicle By Catherine Bradley Hood Transcribed by William David Craig

CHAPTER 4

Beech Island is a kind of half island situated in the lower part of South Carolina. Not entirely surrounded by water, the main water about it is the Savannah River.

The owners or inhabitants of the island, have their plantations on the swamps of the beautiful Savannah River. It being too low and swampy, too full of malaria for the owners of these large plantations to have their home there. They have built their beautiful homes on the "high land," and their slaves or Negros live in the swamps and cultivate large crops of rice, sweet potatoes, corn, cotton, and other produce in rich abundance.

One of these large plantations we will find over 100 Negros, big and little, old and young. All of these slaves seem to be happy and are all quite busy for they are expecting their old master, Mr. Zubley to visit the plantation today. And though he is very kind to them and they all love "old master", still they know if they are reported for idleness by the overseer that "old master" will remember it when the happy time of the "Christmas holidays" comes.

Mr. Zubley never allowed his slaves to be whipped. He tried to treat them in the most humane manner and whenever a Negro got so unruly that his talking to him had no effect, and then he took that Negro and sold him the first auction day that took place at Edgefield, the county seat.

Mr. Zubley came to this country from Switzerland. He came first to Savannah, GA where he settled. He being a minister of his Gospel, soon gathered up a little congregation and finally established a small church a little distance from Savannah, calling it, "Baneventure". His wife died before he left the old country, so now he, with his {5} daughters lived in Savannah. Anne Helena and Nancy were "twin sisters" and the oldest. Then came Mary, Jane and Charlotte.

About this time, a relative of his died in Switzerland and leaving him a large fortune. Mr. Zubley had only a very small church and the people mostly those who had suffered losses during the Revolutionary War and now they felt too straightened in their financial affairs to pay him much of a salary.

He was a delicate man and his physician had recommended country air for him. So now that he had inherited this large fortune, he decided to invest his money in some of the rich plantations that he knew lined the banks of the Savannah River on the South Carolina side.

He at once went to look at a large plantation that he had heard was for sale. After looking over the immense plantation and seeing that it would suit him exactly, he purchased it together with the home stead also.

Now returning home, he at once told his 5 daughters to get ready for he was eager now to be on his own plantation. He was a man who did not believe in owning slaves, but not knowing how he would have his broad fields cultivated without the help of Negros who could stand to live in these low swampy { }. He threw aside his prejudiced and bought 25 slaves and had them shipped to Beech Island on the first boat that went up to Augusta.

Mr. Zubley and his daughters with a maiden sister who had lived with them since his wife's death, now left Savannah and soon they were all settled in the beautiful home their father had purchased for them.

Mr. Zubley was a highly educated man, and he had taken a delight in training and teaching these motherless daughters, so that they were all well educated girls for their ages. The twins, being now grown young ladies were their father's constant companion, and after when he would order out his "gig" old fashion buggy, these two young ladies would mount their spirited horses and ride to the swamp plantation with their father.

He had kept a good horse while living in Savannah to ride out to his little church, "Boneventure" and whenever these daughters could slip a chance they would ride their father's horse with all the delight of girls who had no special restraint put upon their actions.

Mr. Zubley gave up the ministry, now, and though these rich planters offered to erect a handsome church and pay him a fine salary if he would become their preacher, still he declined and devoted his whole attention to the cultivation of his lands, and to training his slaves to "love and fear God." He erected a small church on his plantation, and he required all of his slaves to attend every Sunday afternoon the services he held there for their benefit. Being a fine singer, he taught them to sing and as Negros naturally have fine voices, their singing could be heard for miles around.

Mr. Zubley was a gifted man and knew just how to move these half savage ignorant Negros. His sermons were so interesting that many of the "whites" who were first attracted there to hear the Negros sing now came to hear the sermon as well. These white families who came to hear Mr. Zubley every Sunday felt a little { } at Mr. Zubley for not accepting their offer and become a minister for the white people but nothing could induce him to give up his little Negro church for he saw that a Christian training did these slaves more good than all the whipping posts, and so it proved, for they were devoted to their "old master" and we have already mentioned how eager they were to be at work to please "old master" as they all called him. So when he and his two lovely

daughters would come to the plantation they would gather around their master's buggy and admire the young ladies who would pitch the little ones some sugar plums.

Such was the state of things when this story commenced but one Sunday afternoon as Mr. Zubley was being driven by his waiting boy to the little church, he died, leaning on the Negro's shoulder he rested his head and as the Negro boy looking to see what was the matter with "old master" he found that he was dead. The boy quickly drove back to the home of his master and medical aid was called in. All to no {purpose} for he was dead. His daughters were terribly shocked at the death of their beloved father and retired from the gay society of the island for over a year.

When however they began again to go into society, the girls were nearly all grown young ladies except Charlotte. Anne Helena and Nancy were considered the handsomest of the sisters. Anne Helena was a real brunette with brilliant black eyes and jet black curly hair, while Nancy might have been considered a half blond. Her complexion was so fair that it looked like a wax dolls. Her hair was of a rich auburn color and her eyes were these bright grayish eyes with such a mischievous twinkle that it made one feel like smiling whenever you caught her eye. She too was of a very lively turn while her twin sister was of a more serious nature.

Strange to say all were brunettes except two, Nancy and Jane being blonds of the family. The others taking their fair complexion from their father, their mother being the most perfect brunette

Joining the Zubley plantation was the plantation of a Mr. John Clark. He being a widower with two daughters the same age of the two youngest Zubley girls, Jane and Charlotte came over real often to visit at the lovely home of the Zubleys. It so happened that on several occasions their father {Mr. Clark} would bring his daughters to these girls' home, leaving them to spend the day or afternoon, and call for them again on his way from his plantation, he having to pass the Zubley's home whenever he went to and from Augusta.

He was wonderfully attracted to Miss Anne Helen and his little daughters talked so much of Miss Helen as they called her that he found himself thinking of her day and night until at last he felt worried at himself. Thinking of the girl's beauty and wealth, he could not flatter himself enough to imagine she would look upon him with a favorable prospect.

He knew these girls were the richest girls in the entire county and felt that she might think him a little presumptuous to ask her hand in marriage. He felt so for as family standing went he was her equal. Also in an educational point, he was even with her but his being a "widower" with two daughters and so much her "senior" might be a draw back. We will here take time to describe this man who is so in love with Helen Zubley. He is rather a tall man with light hair and has full large blue eyes that are very expressive. When pleased over anything, his eyes are of the softest blue, but when angry, they flash with a greenish light that makes one feel nervous. He has a clean shaved face and is always dressed in perfect taste. His linen is always spotless, and he owns a beautiful old fashion house handsomely furnished. He drives the finest horses in the county, so now he wants to see what his chances are with "Miss Helen" as he has gotten to calling her.

He sees that she does not object to his calling her by the "pet" name her sisters and his children call her, so he feels some what encouraged that she has not checked him in this little perice of familiarity. So he is beginning to be a very frequent visitor at the Zubleys, but in the mean while, he is deliberating whether or not his suit will be acceptable or not to the young lady.

Mr. George Bender, another young man who has more confidence in himself than Mr. Clarke, has pressed his suit with the fair Nancy, and is now her accepted lover. Their marriage will soon take place and her dear father has only been dead a little over a year. They decided to have a quiet home wedding with only a few of the most immediate friends.

So of course Mr. Clarke and his daughters are among the favored and Nancy tells her Sis Helen in a mischievous way that she and Mr. Clarke are to usher them into the drawing room the evening of the marriage.

Helen protests against any such an arrangement and says in a pleading voice, "Oh, Sis Nancy, don't ask me to do that, for you know every body is saying now we are engaged." "Well, you soon will be, and dear Helen, don't keep him at such a freezing distance. I am sure you love him, and why not do just like your own 'twiny'," as she always called herself when talking to Helen of herself. "Just like I did George, encourage the dear fellow and then he will have the courage to ask you to become the second Mrs. Clarke. Why I only had to smile at George, to make him {fairly} fall on his knees and was {ship} at my {shrine}. So do come down off of your pedestal of womanly dignity, and let the man "woo" you."

Helen blushed crimson while her sister was giving her this "wholesome advice" as she called it, and said in a gentle voice, "Oh, Sis Nancy, do you really believe Mr. Clarke likes me." "Likes you," her sister replied, "Why he is positively turning gray for the love of you. You are cruel to him, not to encourage him anymore than you do." "Oh, no, Sis Nancy, don't say I am cruel." "Well then usher us, George and I into the drawing room, and smile one of your bewitching smiles at Mr. Clarke and I will venture to say you will be Mrs. Clarke the second before the year is out."

Here they were interrupted by someone coming into the room, but Nancy always in for fun pinched her "twiny" and said, "Now you do as I have told you to do, do you hear

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me?" And with a toss of her finely shaped head, she left her sister to her own reflections.

Helen's heart was in turmoil. Could it be true that this handsome man so much her senior could really be in love with her. She knew he always seemed to prefer her society to any of the other girls, but blushing crimson at the very thought of his caring enough for her as to put her in place of his dead wife, she could begin to assemble that night for the marriage.

George Bender sought out Helen from the crowd of guests and telling Helen he had a favor to ask of her, she at once guessed what it was, and blushed so rosy that George, who was a gay young fellow and a great tease said, "Why Charlotte, you must think I have a message from Mr. Clarke." "Now George, you just stop that nonsense for I know Sis Nancy put you up to telling me that." George, who was a great favorite with every lady and with ladies especially, for he was a {shiling} handsome young man said in a coaxing way, "Now Sister Helen, don't get mad at me, for I am the only "Bud" you ever had." "Well, wait until you are my brother." "Well, well, let's make friends quick for I am afraid you will influence your "twin" against me and then wouldn't I be like a poor dog at a {frvlic}."

He now became as serious as could be and said, "Now Miss Helen, the favor I wish to ask of you is that you will usher Miss Nancy and me into the drawing room tonight with Mr. John Clarke for your escort." She simply answered, "Yes." So when the happy pair descended the broad stairway, Helen and Mr. Clarke led the way, and it was hard to tell which looked the happiest, the handsome groom or Mr. Clarke, for it was a most agreeable surprise to him when he arrived at the Zubley home.

Mr. Bender went to the room reserved for the gentlemen and called him to one side informing him that it was the wish of his intended to have him escort her sister, Miss Helen, into the drawing room in advance of the "bride and groom." Of course, he said he would be delighted to be so honored.

And we have already seen where the wishes of Miss Nancy were carried out. Mr. Bender took his gay young wife off to Savannah the next day to visit his sister who lived in the "Forest City" where they would remain for a few days and then come to live on his plantation, as his home was down near the river.

Nancy did not fancy this very much, but she soon found that her George was a very determined man, and though willing in every way to add to his wife's comfort, he would not give in one inch where he thought it was to his interest to have it his way.

She was of a very high strung disposition and had things arranged to her own liking pretty much all her life. Now at times she felt considerably annoyed to have to give up any "pet plan" just because George did not approve of it. Her proud haughty nature

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often rebelled against this tyrant, as she called it, and she had given him several "tirades" and finding all these stormy words had no effect on her George. She finally made up her mind, like the sensible girl she was, to let George have his way in peace for he was going to have it "fuss or no fuss."

She loved her husband devotedly and after they had been married for a few months, she had yielded and now they seldom ever had a misunderstanding.

George complemented her and told he she was not the "shrew" he had begun to think she was. On his comparing her to a "shrew," she flew off in a rage and said some very harsh things to him, but he just laughed and petted her into a good humor and then kissing her, and telling her she was the dearest girl in the world. He left her in doubt as to whether she was vexed with him, or loved him better than ever.

We will now see what progress Mr. Clarke is making in his love affair. He feels very much better these days over his success since the night of Mr. Bender's marriage to Miss Nancy.

Miss Helen does not seem to avoid him as persistently as she did formally, and so he determines he will ride over to the Zubleys this very afternoon and learn his fate. He finds that this suspense is telling on him and though he is not what we would call a drinking man, still he does not object to a solid glass occasionally. But he is now allowed himself to get so nervous over this state of uncertainty that he is shocked himself to find how many bottles of good ole {Madeira} he had drunk within the last two months. So he is just disgusted with himself and right then and there he determines to quit such foolishness that a boy of 19 might be guilty of, but not a settled man with two daughters nearly grown.

His first wife was a very lovely woman and when he married her he was {displaced} to be very wild, and had a good many very gay Yanky men who lived in Augusta, and came over very often to have a hunt with Clarke. Mrs. Clarke, who was a very timid good Christian woman, did not approve of her husband entertaining such fast friends. She exerted her utmost affection to win her husband away from these men, who were just his friends while they could get money or favors of Mr. Clarke.

So at last through her good influence, he swore off from these fast men and settled into a good quiet church going man and seldom, if ever, touched strong drinks of any sort.

His wife was a Miss Martha Tobles of Beech Island. They had been married 8 years when she died leaving two daughters, Margaret and Martha. About the time of his wife's death, he received a letter from a niece of his who had been living in Charleston with her mother, who was Mr. Clarke's only sister and a widow in limited circumstances. The niece, Betsy Seabrook, wrote now to ask her Uncle Clarke to let her come and make her home with him as she was left in such a dependent state. Her uncle, who was one

of the most generous hearted men, and was very fond of his niece, wrote and told her to come at once and consider herself one of his own children as he had loved her dead mother with all of a brother's devotion to an only sister.

Now that he was fully determined to go and receive his answer from Helen Zubley, it flashes in his mind that perhaps his niece, Betsy, will feel hurt, if he is thinking of marrying and not consulting her, or at least telling her of his intentions.

He was in his own private bedroom while all these anxious thoughts were passing through his brain. He had walked up and down the room several times, at last he stamped his foot and said, "I will try and know my fate before sundown."

He now set to work to dress himself with unusual care, though always a very neat man in his dress. He dressed himself in the best he had and taking a survey of himself in a large mirror that hung in his room, a very satisfied look came into his face, as he muttered to himself, "Well she might do worse. I have certainly not lost the good looks I could brag of when I was a younger man."

And turning around to get a better view of himself, he smiled at his own conceit and said in a low tone, "Maybe Miss Helen will knock some of this blasted vanity out of me before the evening is over."

He left his room feeling very well satisfied with himself and felt so gay that he began to whistle a lively tune that he had heard some where. Just as he was about to take his soft silk felt hat off of the rack that stood in the hall, his niece, a jolly light haired girl, came running out into the hall and calling to her uncle of whom she was very fond said, "Oh, Uncle Clarke, where are you going so dressed up like a "Philadelphia lawyer?" He looked at her and said in his most gracious manner, "Well Betsy, I am glad you think your "old Uncle" looks well dressed."

She was a great flatterer, so she just knew how and when to please this uncle of hers. So she arched her eyes at him and said, "Why the idea, dear Uncle Clarke, of you calling yourself "old Uncle." Indeed, you don't look more than 35." She knew very well he was 55, but she had "kissed the {Blarney} Stone" often before, so it did not come awkward to her now.

Uncle caught her in his arms and kissed her tenderly telling her she was so like her dear mother and slipping a 5 dollar gold piece in her hand, he said, "Betsy, what would you say if I were to tell you that I was going to get married again?" "Well, dear Uncle, if you will just let me stay here with you, I don't care if you do marry again, but oh, who is the happy bride to be so fortunate as to have won my handsome Uncle?"

He blushed now thinking that he wasn't so sure that he was to be so fortunate as to win the lady in question. So kissing his fair haired, rosy cheeked niece, he left the house and was soon seen riding rapidly down the white sandy road.

His niece watched him as he rode away saying to herself, "I hope his marrying will not interfere with his generosity to me." She slipped the shining gold piece into her apron pocket and ran into the young girls' room to have some fun teasing them about their new "Mama."

Margaret, the oldest, was a girl of about 16 years of age, very dark looking very much like her mother. Black eyes that seemed to look you through, while Martha was the exact image of her father, fond of dress, and curling her pretty fair hair.

She liked her cousin Betsy, but Margaret did not fancy her much, so when Cousin Betsy, who was about Margaret's age began by saying, "Oh girls, you are soon to have a "Mama," Margaret turned on her with her bright keen black eyes flashing and said, "You are only supposing that, Cousin Betsy, so I would thank you to mind your own business and leave my father's affairs alone."

Betsy never liked to get into a dispute with Margaret, so she just danced herself out of the girls' rooms and kissing her plump white hand to them, she called out in a merry voice, "Adieu my fair young cousins."

She tipped lightly up the stairs singing a merry little {French} song. Her father was of French descent so it was easy to see where she had gotten her gay light manner from. She was very much admired by some people, while others disliked her because they did not believe in her sincerity.

Now we will follow Mr. Clarke to the beautiful Zubley home. As he fastens his horse to a hitching post in front of the front gate, he hears some {talking} in the yard near him. There is so much shrubbery in the yard that at first he can't locate where the talkers are, but soon he comes to a little summer house that is in the yard covered with vines and the sweet perfume of the roses is delightful after riding over the dusty sandy roads.

So Mr. Clarke finds it, for at this moment Helen Zubley spies him, and though she blushes crimson, still she seems delighted to see him for a glad look comes into her lovely black eyes as she says, "Why, we are glad to see you once again. You have quite forsaken us of late."

He was so charmed at this reception that he wanted to kiss little Charlotte, Helen's sister, but to his surprise, the little girl rushed out of the summer house saying, "No Sir, you don't kiss me," and tossed her little head and marched off into the house.

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Helen laughingly told Mr. Clarke not to mind Charlotte's odd behavior for she was an {addity} about men, never liking to have them come where she was.

Mr. Clarke laughed a very dry laugh and said, "I hope her sister does not have the same feeling of repugnance to our unfortunate sex."

Helen here ignored his { } and kindly offered him a seat on the rustic bench where she and her little sister had been seated arranging roses for the vases on the parlor mantle. Helen always kept the house sweet with the perfume of fresh clipped roses while they were blooming in the front yard. She now handed him one of the loveliest roses she could find and said, "Will you accept this one for your button hole?" "I will," he answered, "if you will fasten it on for me." She hesitated a moment, and then got up with a bright blush on her lovely face and fastened the beautiful rose bud on the lapel of his coat.

As she went to take her seat again, he said, "Miss Helen, I have come here this afternoon for you to decide my fate. Will you become my wife or not?" She flushed crimson and looked at a rose she held in her hand as if it would help her out of this difficulty, but the man seated by her side now sprang off the bench and stood before her with folded arms saying in a hard dry voice, "I await your answer, Miss Zubley."

She was an honest straight forward girl, so she said, "Mr. Clarke, you do me an honor in asking me to become your wife." "I am the one honored if you accept my offer." "Well, then we are both honored, for I accept you," said Helen with a bright smile on her lovely face.

He was too happy for words so he just gave a sigh of relief and said humbly, "Thank God." At last he said, "Well, Helen, you have made me a very happy man, and now that you have agreed to marry me, I think the sooner we have it all settled the better, for I feel that I need the influence of a good woman over me. Helen, I am a very weak man, but I am sure with you to lead me in the straight way I will not stray very far wrong.

The warm tears came into her tender wet eyes for she never imagined this man could talk of his weakness in the way he was now expressing himself of his shortcomings.

Some of her {officious} friends had already warned her against him saying he drank very hard whenever he went to Augusta with his former fast friends.

So now she knew to what he alluded to in speaking of his weakness. So turning to him in the most beseeching way, she said tenderly, "You and I will "Pray God" to help keep you out of this terrible temptation. He alone can help you."

Helen here placed her trembling little hand in his. He raised her hands to his lips and saying, "Don't put off our marriage any longer than is possible." She promised.

In about two weeks time, they were married very quietly with no pomp or display of any kind as Helen was a very modest unassuming woman. It was her desire to be married without any display, so only the most intimate friends and relatives were invited.

Mr. Clarke, of course, brought his two daughters and his gay young niece, and as she had a "beau" visiting her from Charleston, a Mr. Williams, he also was invited by Mr. Clarke to attend his marriage.

As soon as the marriage was over, the bridal party left the Zubley home immediately, and all attended a grand dinner given at Mr. Clarke's own home. He was all that a cultivated high tuned host could be to his invited guests who were the most refined cultured people on the island. Those who were invited to this elegant dinner felt a little flattered to be the guest of Mr. Clarke, who all knew was very practical about whom he invited to his beautiful home.

Helen, his wife, was a great favorite on Beech Island. Always so gentle and kind to every one, especially poor people. So that her coming into this home would have a good influence.

Betsy Seabrook was very much like her Uncle Clarke. She prided herself on who she associated with and turned her pretty nose up at the "Up country Crackers" as she called the poorer class of people in the neighborhood.

* * * * * * * * * *

MISTAKEN IDENTITY:

THE PHOTOGRAPH OF JOHN AND HANNAH (PRICE) COLVIN

by

Marleta Childs*

A photograph labeled with the names of John Colvin and his wife, Hannah (Price) Colvin, apparently has been in the hands of some Colvin descendants for many years. The picture, which appears in a Colvin family history book, states that the couple is sitting "just outside the door of their kitchen" at their home called "Friendship" in Chester County, South Carolina.¹ The same photograph can also be found on the *Findagrave* website, under the entry for Hannah Price Colvin.² The half of the picture showing only the man can be found on the same website under the entry for John Colvin.³

Although Thomas Wedgwood made the first documented attempt to capture permanent camera images about 1800, the first true photograph, taken by Nicéphore Niépce, was made in 1826.⁵ After Niepce's death in 1833, his partner, Louis Daguerre, continued experimenting and, in 1839, completed the first practical photographic process. Illustrations in *Wikipedia* include reproductions of two of the oldest known photographic portraits, one taken in 1839 and the other in 1839 or 1840.⁶

Since John Colvin died in 1793, he cannot be the male in the picture. It then stands to reason that the female is not his wife. Although her exact date of death is unknown, Hannah, too, most likely

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died before the invention of photography. Therefore, the so-called photograph of John and Hannah (Price) Colvin is incorrectly labeled.

Now the question is: Who are the couple in the picture? Perhaps a Colvin descendant can eventually provide the right answer.

*Ms. Childs is a descendant of John and Hannah Colvin through their son Daniel, who married Susannah (Susan) Huey and moved to Louisiana.

End notes:

¹Ethelle and Baker Colvin, *Colvin and Allied Families* (El Dorado, Ark.: Hurley Printing & Stationery Company, 1965), vi.

²"Hannah Price Colvin," FindaGrave (<u>http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-</u> bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=60212570 : accessed 8 March 2015).

³"John Colvin," Findagrave (<u>http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-</u> bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=53810026 : accessed 8 March 2015).

⁴Colvin, Colvin and Allied Families, 13; Brent H. Holcomb, Chester County, South Carolina, Will Abstracts, 1787-1838 [1776-1838] (Columbia, S. C.: SCMAR, 2006), 13-14; Copy of will in possession of the author; Brent H. Holcomb and Elmer O. Parker, Chester County, South Carolina, Minutes of the County Court, 1785-1799 (Easley, S. C.: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 265-266.

⁵"History of Photography," Wikipedia

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History of photography : accessed 15 March 2015). The article states that Niépce took the first photograph in 1826 or 1827. However, older sources assert the year as 1826 or by 1826 so I chose to use 1826. See "Photography," The World Book Encyclopedia, Volume 15 (Chicago: World Book, Inc., 1984), 380j; and Martin W. Sandler, The Story of American Photography: An Illustrated History for Young People (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1979), 6.

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⁶"History of Photography," Wikipedia.



Famous South Carolina Mansion Destroyed by Sherman in 1865.

Home of Colonel N. A. Peay Palace of Greatest Beauty

Destroyed by enemy troops. Scattered bricks and an old laundry house main site of renowned homestead near Winnsboro, SC_____ was noted for its luxury and hospitality_____boasted an observatory on roof____. There were 150 servantss and 50 slaves_____isolated now, but natural beauty inspires. By Ellen Evans Hough

A barren summit with scattered bricks, large holes revealing evidence of fallen walls, 13 inches thick, and a lone hut. Formerly the laundry house, made the place of South Carolina's once most beautiful and extravagant mansion of the nineteenth century. This palace as it has been called by many, stood on the hills' crest, giving a vista of surrounding country for a distance of about 30 miles, and was monarch of that territory until the War Between the States by Sherman's Army on its "march to the sea."

Mansion Destroyed

The destruction of the lovely historic residence of Colonel Nicholas Adamson Peay, better known as the "Old Peay Mansion" and "Peay's Folly" has been classified with the ruining of "Millwood" former elegant home of General Wade Hampton, five miles from Columbia, which was destroyed during the campaign in February 1865, when Sherman's Army devastated South Carolina homes of splendor and barns of plenty. Gothic columns still stand as a memorial to the home of the former Governor of South Carolina, the posts being all that was left of the home after Sherman's visit to the state.

The "Old Peay Mansion" still renowned for its former splendor, was a massive structure covering three-quarters of an acre, and said to have been the largest dwelling in the state at that time. It was built of brick, granite, Italian marble, imported for the purpose, and fragments of the materials are still over the hill to prove the tale. It was never finally completed, due to the death of Colonel Peay and the War Between the States, but the interior was of unusual beauty. "Peay's Folly" was the name by which it was most commonly known; this name being given by the citizens who considered it foolish for a man to build a home of such lavishness so far from the railroads.

It contained 30 rooms and though waterworks were hardly known at that time, the house was completely equipped with such a system, the water being pumped by hydraulic ran over the hills from the cool spring of a deep ravine. A most unusual and interesting feature was an observatory on the top of the home. Many thought that there was a fish pond on the roof, the idea coming from the Negros, who saw the reflection of the sun on the glittering tin and thought they saw the rippling water. One hundred and fifty servants were owned by Colonel Peay_____this being a time when Southern hospitality was paramount. The famous stable, said to have been prettier than the average brick homes of today, was always well filled with at least a dozen aristocratic horses, with a separate attendant for each horse. In a nearby ravine was a private owned tan-yard. Besides his personal 500 slaves, all the sole property of the Colonel. These were, of course, set free when the place was burned.

Two handsome granite posts, which have stood the test of war and time, formed an imposing entrance to the grounds until but recently, they were dismantled and sold. They have since been presented to the Presbyterian Church, directly across the road from the site of the former Peay home, and have been erected at the gate leading into the cemetery. There they will probably remain, always, reminders of the lovely home which was destroyed by enemy troops. It is well known that the house was the result of competition between Governor Manning and Col. Peay, who were trying to outdo each other in the building of elegant homes. The only living child of the Peay family is Mrs. Annie Peay Bray who is now living with her daughter, Mrs. J. R. Carson, in Chester, S.C. Mrs. Bray is 78 years old and remembers many things never told about the event. Both she and Mrs. Carson have many relics, family pictures and antiques which were saved from the house by the slaves who were allowed to ramsack the house after the Federal soldiers had secured all they wanted before burning it. Some of the things saved at the time came back into the family after the war by securing them from the Negros, nothing however was saved by the family at the time of its destruction. The gradual rise of the hill upon which the mansion stood prevents one from realizing its elevation of 700 feet, but once upon its summit there is an unusual wild beauty in its far reaching view. North can be seen a succession of hills, but none are so high as the site of "Peav's Folly" like a tan ribbon encircling a distant hill, the Wateree River winds its way parallel to the land of the Peay mansion. On a higher hill above and across the river more than 12 miles away may be seen the hometown of the Governor of South Carolina, Gov. John H. Richards. Tenants who live nearby say that on clear nights that the flare of lights from surrounding towns may be seen. Col. Nicholas A. Peay affectionately called Col. Nick Peay, who owned the famous "American Palace" possessed approximately 9,000 acres of land in Fairfield County, as shown by records now in the Winnsboro Courthouse. This land was centered about the homeplace, which is 20 miles southeast of Winnsboro, and 10 miles from the present site of Lugoff Dam on the Wateree River, in the Longtown section. He was one of the wealthiest men of his day, and though he died before the War Between the States, the house was still in the family at the time it was ruthlessly destroyed. He was a great scholar, having received his education at Columbia University and at the University of Virginia. He died at the age of 47 on the 26th day of February, 1857. He was a member of the House of Reprentatives in South Carolina also. The original homesite is now owned by a Floridian, Mr. Sam McCormick, but the majority of the estate belongs to the Southern Power Company, the arable land being farmed by the Great Falls Farm Company. A movement of unique design covers the graves of Colonel Peay and his wife,

Martha Cary Lamar Peay, and it may be found on the family lot in the cemetery of the Longtown Baptist Church. It is composed of many layers of granite slabs of uniform width which diminish in length with each layer like steps until at the top it is but wide enough for a slender monument. This pyramid covers the two graves like the two sides are dedicated to him while the other two sides bear the inscriptions regarding his wife. Designs of weeping willows and two bleeding hearts are cut alternately on the four sides of the tomb. There is no way of entering the high granite obstruction which surrounds the lost, and the only view obtainable is over the four foot wall.

Under General Howard. As to the description of the palace, Feb. 20, 1865, it has been ascertained that the fifteenth corps of the right wing of Sherman's Army under the command of General Oliver Otis Howard, was responsible. On the day after Columbia was burned, the right wing was sent northward. We have Sherman's own words for this advance from the capital recorded in his memoirs (Vol. II, Page 288). He says: "Having utterly ruined Columbia, the right wing began its march northward to Winnsboro on the 20th of Feb. 1865 and Winnsboro was likewise burned." "The Fifteenth Corps," according to Sherman's "Memoirs", "were noted for doing their work pretty well." Every American citizen is familiar with General Sherman's famous march to the sea all agreeing that its and that there was special spite against South Carolina as the sucesson originator of the whole trouble. Again we have Sherman's own words for the feeling against the state. In his "Memoirs" (Page 226), there is a dispatch from him to General W. H. Halleck, dated Headquarters in the Field, Savannah, GA, December 24, 1864. It reads: "The truth is the whole Army is burning with insatiable desire to wreak vengeance upon South Carolina. I almost tremble at her fate; but feel that she deserves all that seems in store for her."

Thus, it does not seem strange that the magnificent Peay mansion was not left unmolested by the wreckers, as it possessed the very type of luxury desired for destruction.

Army divided. The whole Federal Army was divided into two wings, with Gen. Oliver Otis Howard, then a one armed man, having lost an arm in the Battle of Fair Oak in 1862, in charge of the right wing, and Gen. Henry W. Slocum, the First General to enter Atlanta with his troops, in charge of the left wing. They covered the entire state and, including the state capital and the already mentioned Winnsboro, there were 14 towns partially or wholly burned by the Army. These towns were Robertsville, McPhersonville, Grahamville, Barnwell, Blacksville,Orangeburg, Lexington, Camden, Winnsboro, Lancaster, Chesterfield, Cheraw, Darlington, and Columbia. One accident at the time of the burning of the house and known to be true, was the death of one of the Federal Officers, who rode his horse up the low built steps leading into the house and down into the well stocked wine cellar. After drinking many of the various brands with the air of a connoisseur, he was not sober enough to find his way out of the cellar, and so when the house was ignited, he burned with it.

Grandson comes South. In September of 1925, a grandson of General Howard, the General previously mentioned as being responsible for the burning of the Peay mansion, spent his months of vacation with a University friend in northern South Carolina. Both were graduates of a leading Southern University.

Before returning North, the Southern host not knowing the relation of his friend Howard to the famous General of the War Between the States, spent several days with his friend in exploiting the wonders of the capital city, and historical places of the city by the sea.

He motored to the spot where Sherman is said to have set fire to Columbia, pointed out with true Southern pride, the shell marks on the beautiful capitol, and with equal loyalty to the lost cause, drove to the ruins of "Millwood," General Wade Hampton's burned home.

Proceeding the next day to Charleston, the Southerner showed the Northerner where the first shot was fired on James Island, the harbor where numerous Naval conflicts were staged. All during the tour of the war scenes, the Northerner was continually impressed by his companion with the burning of the Southern mansions, the pillaging by the Yankee soldiers and the devastating wreckage instigated by Sherman and his Chief of Staff, General Oliver Otis Howard. During those days, young Howard was noticeably quiet and subdued, very different from his accustomed jovial disposition.

Visitor embarrassed. A few days after their return to Baltimore, the students started reminiscences of the War Between the States. Prominent Generals on both sides were mentioned, and one spoke of General Howard's being Sherman's Chief of Staff during his march to the sea. More as a joke, the Carolinian asked his friend, Howard, if by chance he was related to this notorious Northern leader. "Why, Rob, he was my Grandfather," was the embarrassed reply. Not until then was the reticence of the Southerner's late visitor understood while the two had viewed the remains of the state's conflict in 1865. When again alone, he confessed to his roommate that he had suffered the tortures of the damned as he viewed the havoc wrought under the directions of his illustrious Grandfather.

* * * * * * * * * *

John Roddey

Will on file in York County Courthouse dated May 31st, 1860.

Mentions his wife, Mary G. Roddey, and the following sons:

David Clarkson Roddey Thomas Elihu Roddey William Lyle Roddey Joseph Wylie Roddey

Daughters:

Nancy Jane Roddey Sarah Levena Roddey Margaret Josephine Roddey Martha Ann Roddey

Will witnessed by David Roddey.

John Roddey and his wife, Mary G., are both buried at Neely's Creek ARP Church Cemetery. He was born Nov. 1, 1805, and died June 26th, 1860. She was born May 4th, 1810, and died April 16th, 1892.

David C. Roddey, also buried at Neely's Creek, died 1866, age 36 years. Thomas Elihu buried at Neely's Creek, died 1861, age 29 years. Joseph Wylie Roddey, buried at Neely's Creek, born 1853, and died 1928. He married Alice Abernathy. She was born 1852 and died 1929.

Mary Jane, daughter of John, married A. M. Black. She was born 1840, died 1886, buried at Neely's Creek. Sarah L. married C. A. Gettys. She was born 1842 and died 1925.

William Lyle, clerk for William Moffatt at Lewisville, then came to Chester and afterwards went to Rock Hill.

* * * * * * * * * *

Chester and Lancaster Counties, South Carolina Douglass Families

In the book, *The Mackeys and Allied Families*, by Beatrice Mackey Doughtie, 1957 (p. 735) is proof that Alexander Douglas had another land grant. "John Makky (sic):

Pursuant to a Wt by John Winn, Esq. Commsr. of Locations in Camden Dist. dated 15 Mch 1785, I have admeasured and laid out to Alex Douglass a plantation of 640 a. situate lying and being on both sides of Camp Crk. on N.E. side of Catawba River bounded on NW by Mary Douglass and John Makky's land and vacant land; NE by Robt. Carnahan's and James Adams land & vacant land and SE by vacant land.

Certified Mch 1785 (S.C. Archv: Land Plats) This land was bought by Thomas Mackey, Sr. 29 June 1807." But Thos. Mackey did not buy but 100 acres at this time. (See Deed, p. 107)

Also quoting from same source, p. 782-83: The will of John T. Mackey (son of Thomas) is recorded in Lancaster Co. (A-308) and was sg. 18 Sept. 1882 pr. 2 Dec. 1882, naming following heirs:

w: Mary, "100 a. wheron I now reside known as a part of the Alex Douglass lds & a prt of the Twitty lds commencing at a line between my ld. & lds. of Col. T. F. Clyburn on a branch called Kater br. running in NE direction & in SW direction dividing the Twitty lds. from the Douglass lds. following the Twitty line in a S. Easterly direction to the road leading from my home to a Camden Road; running a straight line from thence to the ford of Camp Crk. near my house thence down the sd Crk to the beginning corner where my ld. and T. F. Clyburns joins."

This gives then a description of the land and can be more definitely pinpointed. Mrs. Doughtie further states that the plantation that John T. Mackey inherited was between White Oak Branch and Camp Creek. When that homestead burned, he built another about one-third mile from the old home site which is standing today. (1957) and that John T. and his w. are buried in Mt. Carmel Methodist Church Cemetery on the Mackey plantation in Lancaster Co., S.C.

A plat is shown as resurveyed by Wm. Gaston Dept. Surveyor.

ct 30 Ep, 50. 50 Scory& Country & Diak Containing 252 Acres Stranders for 250 lines the advert of the second of th F.A. 12.05 Chander Dairg his plat A 30 5. 35

State of South Carolina. Bursuant to an order from the Court of Commonpleas have resurveyed the bands in dispute between alexander Douglas and george Curry, William bury and William Carnahain Difundant the Dlack lines represent the lands claimed by miss Currys the dothe lines represents the bands claimed by me Dauglas, Nom gaston Dept Surveyon Centify " 18" Noor 1/93

From Lancaster County Deeds Bk f. p. 71. John McMaster deeded land to sons Thomas and William McMaster 10 Jan 1801. William Mounce and William Mounce, Jr. were Wit. and it was proven 30 May 1791 before Jas Douglas, J. P.

Lancaster County Deeds Bk. b. p. 201 Aug. 1788 Thomas Creighton of Lancaster, planter deeded to John Creighton of same planter 100 acres adj James Miller and James Douglas. Thomas Creighton (LS) wit. John McClure, Jenny Creighton (X), pro. 23 Oct 1788 by John McClure, before John Lowry, J. P.

James Douglass of Craven County, SC.

JAMES DOUGLASS ARRIVED ABOARD THE SNOW, JAMES & MARY, 12 JAN 1768 FROM U, NORTH IRELAND. His age is listed as 40 years, and he was accompanied by his wife Agnes age 50? and children: Mary age 14, Alex age 14 and Isabell age 12. On the same vessel was also a James Douglass age 34, wife Rose age 32, and their children: Mary 8, Robert 11, James 4. By 1775 James and Rose Douglass and family were located in what is now Chester County, SC near Fishing Creek. It is likely the two James are related to each other as well as to the James who arrived 1773. Cemetery records of this family appeared in Chester County Genealogical Society Bulletin in December 1991.

James and Agnes Douglass appear to have settled in Craven County in that part which was later Lancaster Co. and Kershaw Co. On 12 Sept. 1768, James received a grant of 300 acres in Craven Co., SC, east of the Catawba on both sides of Beaver Creek. James wrote in his will in 1790 naming his children: Martha, (born after 1768?) Mary and Alexander. Isabell was not named nor Agnes, indicating their death prior to 1790. (This researcher has doubts that Agnes was 50 years old or if she was, she was not the wife of James, but a sister). The will was probated in Kershaw County; the husband of Martha was William Mounce who was named Administrator because Martha who was named executor refused? But Probate Records have not been found. He left Alexander only his wearing apparel.

End Notes and References

- 1. Much of this last material was sent by Alton Douglas of Woobridge, Virginia who is researching the Douglas/s families in North and South Carolina. Material from Mrs. Shirley Allen, 2344 Northumberland, Orange, CA 92665.
- 2. Transcript of the Will of James Douglas of Lancaster County, Beaver Creek. SC Archives. Rec. Will book C pg. 126; rec. Mar. 1, 1794, apt 21 pkg 722.
- 3. Brent Holcomb, Kershaw County, South Carolina Court Records, pp. 50-51.

Will of James Douglas 1790

In the Name of God Amen. I James Douglass of South Carolina Lancaster County Beaver Creek, Being through the abundant mercy & goodness of God, the weak in body yet of a sound mind and perfect understanding and memory, doth constitute this my last Will and devise it may be received by all as such. I will first that all Lands whereon I now Live and all the lands join them altho., of different tracts Excepting fifty acres with all my goods and Chattels & Stock Except Cloathing or Cloaths unto my loving daughter Martha. Next I will unto my loving daughter Marey the above Excepted fifty acres of land on that side Next John Creighton Lands during her life or while she is pleast to live thereon. Likewise I will unto sd Daughter Marey one Hundred Acres of Land Lying on a branch of Hanging rock joying hanging rock plantation having no power to dispose or Morgage said Lands without the consent of her sister Martha, next I will until my loving son Alexander all my clothing this is my wearing apperral. I doth live (sc) my daughter Martha Exectrix. of this my last will and testament in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fourtheenth Day of October one thousand seven hundred and Ninty-----

James Douglas SEAL

Witness Present

Thomas Creeghton James Trantham his? Agexness-x- Creghton mark

Rec Will book C pg 126 Recorded Mar 1 1794 Francis Beykin C.C. Apt. 21 pkg 722

From Kershaw County Records 1 Mar. 1794 p. 136

Ordered that William Mounce Do Receive letters of Administration with the will annexed on the estate of James Douglas the Securities are

p. 138

Ordered that William Mounce do Receive letters Testamentary in behalf of his Wife who was Executrix of James Douglas deceased.

This family is almost certain to be related to the Alexander Douglass Family of Lancaster Co., SC. In 1819 Alexander wrote to his son, Ebenezer, in Butler Co., OH and indicated that Ebenezer was visiting his cousin, James, and James' father. It is likely that John Douglass is the father of cousin James Douglass. Ebenezer was married in Preble Co., OH and several of his children were born there. Some of the children of this James Douglass also relocated to Preble Co., OH and were members of the Hopewell ARP Church.

James Douglas b. ca 1734 County Antrim, Ireland d 11 May 1808 Chester Co., SC bu Hopewell Cm. 4/32? Chester Co., SC 3 June 1808 Chester Co., SC. Immigrated after 2 Aug 1773 from Ahoghil, Ireland to SC m. Mary ? Douglass Ireland before 1770, b. ca. 1736 County Antrim, Ireland d. 28 August 1798 Chester Co., SC. p. Immigrated after 2 Aug 1773 from Ahogill, Ireland to SC.

- i. Elizabeth Douglass b. 1770 Ireland; d. 24 Dec 1831 Chester Co. SC; bur. Hopewell Cm., Chester Co., SC; never m.; 4th daughter.
- ii. Mary Douglass, b. 1771 Ireland; d. 14 Apr 1845, Preble Co., OH;
 bur. Hopewell Cemetery, Preble Co., OH;
 m. William McCreary b. 1775; d. 1822 Preble Co., OH.
- iii. Robert Douglass b. 1774 SC; d. 15 Aug 1842 Preble Co., OH bur. Hopewell Cemetery, Preble Co., OH;
 m. Jane Douglass b. 1777; d. 19 Feb. 1853; 1 son, 5 dau. Relocated to Ohio ca 1808-1810.
- iv. Jean Douglass b. ? 2nd daughter; m. Robert Galloway.
- v. Margaret Douglas b. ? 3rd daughter; m. George McDill bf. 1807;
 s. after 1861 ILL. George & Margaret relocated to Newton Co., GA (now Henry) in 1823 along with many other Chester Co. families associated with Hopewell Churches of Chester and Newton Counties. They were members of the Hopewell ARP Church in Newton County. Two acres of the 6 acres owned by the Hopewell Church was secured from George McDill. Sometime after 1831 George removed to Illinois and was there in 1861.
- vi. John Douglass b. 1776 Chester Dist., SC; d. 28 June 1840, Preble Co., OH; bur. Hopewell Cem., Preble Co., OH (R4);
 m. Martha Chestnut Douglas 1783;
 d. 21 Sep. 1851, Oxford, Butler Co., OH; bur. Hopewell Cem., Preble Co., OH (R4); Relocated to Oxford, Ohio in the 1820s.
 - a. James Douglass b. Chester Dist., SC; d. Ohio This is probably the cousin James who was being visited by Ebenezer Douglass in Butler Co., OH in 1819.

- b. Jane Douglass, b. Chester Dist., SC; m. Calvin Herron; 5 children.
- c. Martha Douglas b. 1895 Chester Dist., SC; d. 6 May 1890; m. Sam McQuiston; no children.
- d. Mary Douglass b. 1805 Chester Dist., SC; d. 18 Oct. 185? Preble Co., OH; bur. Hopewell Cem., Preble Co., OH; never m.
- e. Elizabeth Douglass b. 1812 Chester Dist., SC; d. 7 Feb. 1863 Preble Co., OH; bur. Hopewell Cem., Preble Co., OH.
- f. Margaret Douglass b. Chester Dist., SC; d. Preble Co., OH; bur. Hopewell Cem., Preble Co., OH; never m.
- g. Samuel Douglas b. 15 June 1816 Chester Dist., SC;
 d. 26 June 18?? Butler Co., OH; bur. Oxford, Butler Co., OH;
 m. Jane Isabel Coulter
- h. Robert Douglass b. 2 Oct. 1819 Chester Dist., SC;
 d. 12 Apr. 18?? (OH); m. E. J. _____, Israel Township, Butler Co., OH; 1 son 5 dau.
- i. William Douglass b. 2 Oct. 1819 Chester Dist., SC;d. 11 Jan. 189? Butler Co., OH; bur. Oxford Cem. (Sec. 50)
- j. John Douglass, Jr. b. 15 Aug. 1822 Chester Dist., SC;
 d. 25 July 188? Butler Co., OH; bur. Oxford Cem. (Sec 50);
 m. (1) ? Marshall, m. (2) Elizabeth Barid b. 1829; d. 8 Oct. 1859.
- k. Isaiah Douglas b. Aug., Chester Dist., SC; d. 2 Dec. 1906 Butler Co., OH; bur. Oxford Cem., Butler Co., OH; Farmer, Morning Sun Road, Oxford, Butler Co., OH; m. Ann Patterson b. Oct. 1841 Ireland; d. May 1901 Butler Co., OH; bur. Oxford Cem., Butler Co., OH.
 - Albert John Douglass b. 21 Mar. 1864 Butler Co., OH; d. 20 March 1937 Butler Co., OH; m. Anna Sthyr 3 Nov. 1885.
 - 1a. Leonore Douglass
 - 1b. Frieda Douglass
 - 1c. Dwight Douglasss
 - 1d. Mary Douglass

- Martha E. Douglass b. 21 Sept. 1868 Butler Co., OH;
 m. George Roll, 27 Dec. 1894; d. 2 Sept. 1895.
- William C. Douglass b. 20 Apr. 1871 Butler Co., OH;
 d. 18 Feb. 1953, Norwalk, CA;
 m. Lillian Applegate.
 - 3a. Arthur Douglass
 - 3b. Paul Douglass
 - 3c. Roy Douglass
 - 3d. Floyd Douglass
- 4. Samuel Lyle Douglass b. 2 June 1878 Butler Co., OH;
 d. 16 Jan. 1926 Butler Co., OH;
 m. Lessie Shultz 26 Nov. 1902.

4a. George Douglass

5. Zadie Maggie Douglass b. 24 Apr 1876 Butler Co., OH; m. Clifford Shultz.

5a. Frances Shultz5b. Lucille Shultz

vii. Agnes Douglas b. (SC?)

* * * * * * * * * *

Dudley ... a true Civil War story By Robert D. Culp

An eleven year old boy is cast into the path of the advancing Union army in the closing days of the Civil War. Dudley is asked to ride to warn the caravan of wagons bearing the family and its salvaged goods. Sherman is headed for their hiding place. To reach them, Dudley must cross the flooded Catawba River. To find a crossing he must travel through areas controlled by the Union, and to cross the river just ahead of the main body of Sherman's Army.

The recounting of this boy's adventures is a true family story, told through the eyes of the boy. The events are all real; only the conversations are invented to flesh out the drama.

About the Author

Robert Dudley Culp is Benjamin Dudley Culp's grandson. Sprawled on the floor at his grandfather's feet, he listened repeatedly to this story and many others.

The author has spent more than fifty years in the aerospace industry, most of that time as Professor of Aerospace Engineering Sciences at the University of Colorado, where for many years he chaired the department.

He has published many children's stories and several stories and articles in literary magazines. He recently published a children's book, *Rooster*, which drew some of its material from his grandfather's stories.

Currently, Robert D. Culp lives in Northglenn, Colorado, with his wife, Betty, who designed the cover for this book.

This book is available in print form at Lulu.com.

Search for it in children's books by title or author.

It is also available as an ebook at Amazon Kindle.

Bethel Methodist Church Has Interesting History

By Miss Belle Simrill

Governor Charles Pinckney ordered an election to be held by the citizens of the county on February 17, 1791. By this vote the people expressed their preference that their court house be built on the plantation of Hugh Stewart on the crossroads formed by Saluda Road and the Turkey Creek-Charleston road. These roads intercepted just over the top of the hill. It was a courthouse at the crossroads.

There is a story that the Methodist organized a church in the court house in 1818. The names of several members are given: Mrs. Margaret Patterson and her daughters, Mary Ann, Jane and Elizabeth, and Mrs. Prisilla Terry. It is said that there were others. It is agreed on all hands that there was no Methodist House of Worship earlier than 1838, the court house being used by them as a place of worship until that date. Chester was known as Chesterville at this time.

The venerable Mrs. Terry was the Mother of Chester Methodism. Her home was the preacher's home, and it is said that the few members in these early years—Timothy R. Lipsey, Robin Walker, James Graham and a few others—gathered at times in the home of Mrs. Terry for worship.

The first Methodist meeting house built in Chester, was located on Center Street and was built in 1838. It was a wooden building and the Methodist worshiped there until 1871, at which time they sold the lot to the A.R.P. Church and that church in turn erected another building and sold it to the Episcopal Church, which denomination now occupies it.

It was on the 22nd of July, 1871 that the Methodist congregation secured the lot on York Street on which the parsonage now stands. The lot on which the building is situated was donated by William H. Hardin and Giles J. Patterson. These two, with George A. Albright constituted the building committee. A brick church was built, at a cost of about \$4,000 and served the Methodist congregation till 1898, when the present structure was finished on an adjoining lot. The church erected in 1871 was converted into the present parsonage in 1897.

At a congregational meeting in April, 1897, Mr. L. D. Childs moved that whereas Mrs. Mary Virginia Patterson had offered to donate a lot and \$2,500 (to which he added \$500 on his own account), the offer be accepted and preparations be at once begun to build a new church. The motion carried and L. D. Childs, J. R. Simrill and Mrs. Patterson were appointed to solicit subscriptions. Later in April a building committee was appointed to undertake the work, composed of the following: L. D. Childs, George W. Gage, J. L. Glenn, William H. Hardin, Joel R. Simrill, Albert Steinkuhler, Mrs. Mary Virginia Patterson, Miss Lizzie Cousar and Miss Annie Hardin. On July 29, 1897, the contract was let to an Atlanta firm for the sum of \$9,920. The building, furnishings, stained glass windows, heating, lights, etc. cost \$12,190. The church was completed and dedicated in 1898. The name "Bethel" was given at that time.

The erection of the Church School Building of Bethel Methodist Church was completed in 1927, but the growth of the idea and its development into reality were years in the making.

Various classes in the Sunday School, the Woman's Society, the Sunday School as a whole, and some individuals all worked independently, and their earnings and collections

were held in their separate treasuries for some years, variously estimated at from \$6,000 to \$10,000.

Independent money raising gave way to tithing and stewardship, and pledges were taken to be paid monthly, all of which was finally turned over to Mr. S. S. McCullough, the building fund treasurer. The entire amount from all sources soon reached \$32,520.93. A final subscription list was opened for the remaining \$10,000, to be borrowed and covered by Building and Loan subscriptions.

The contract for the building was let in 1926, for the amount of \$42,142.80. This, together with furnishings, brought the full cost to \$47,000. The entire indebtedness was paid off during the next eight years, and on Easter Sunday, April 21, 1935, the notes and mortgages were burned in the presence of a large congregation. On October 18, 1942, Bishop W. T. Watkins dedicated the Bethel Methodist Church, including the new Educational Building.

* * * * * * * * *

Update on Ferguson Reunion

The Ferguson Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, October 24th and Sunday, October 25th, 2015 here in Richburg. On Saturday, everyone will meet at The Gateway Conference Center beginning at 10 am. Richard Ferguson will welcome everyone, and a representative from Clan Ferguson will be on hand to open this event. The Chester District Genealogical Society and the Chester County Historical Society will both be present with information. A local resident will also be on hand displaying pictures of "Campo" Cemetery in Americana, Sao Paulo, Brazil where the Confederados moved after the War Between the States.

A tour of 6 cemeteries is scheduled during the day for those who wish to see where your ancestors are buried. Right now it looks like we will be using a 15 passenger van to do the cemetery tour. To cover the cost of the van, the price is going to be \$20.00 per person.

Dinner will be at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Fort Lawn at 6 pm that evening. If you are planning to attend the reunion, please send your money by September 15th so we can notify The Gateway Conference Center how many tables and chairs to set up. The Wagon Wheel Restaurant will also need to know the number of meals to prepare for our group.

On Sunday morning, you may attend the church of your ancestors. For more information, please contact Richard Ferguson at rwfdville@cableone.net.

* * * * * * * * * *

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