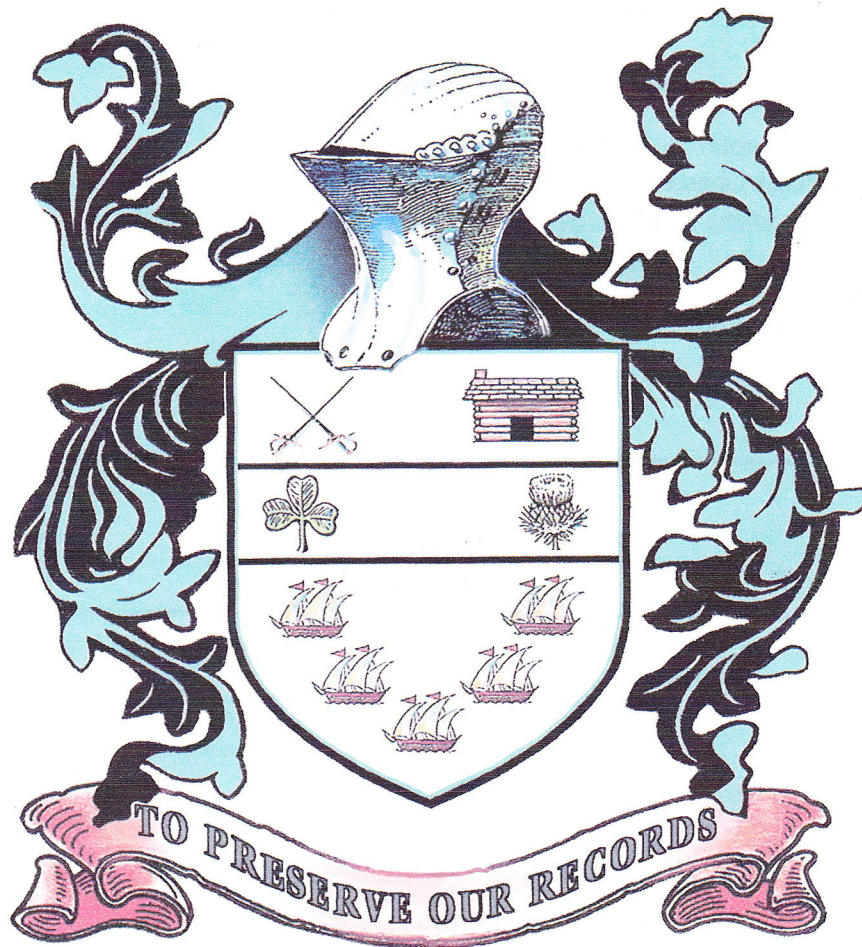


# THE BULLETIN



VOLUME 40 \* MARCH 2016 \* NUMBER 1

**CHESTER DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**P. O. Box 336, Richburg, SC 29729**

**Serving Chester, Fairfield, Lancaster, Union and York Counties**

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# *The Bulletin*

March 2016

[www.ChesterSCGenealogy.org](http://www.ChesterSCGenealogy.org)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many members who have rejoined the CDGS so promptly this year, and we look forward to receiving the dues from those who have not yet renewed.

Back in March 1981, our first CDGS President, Coy Stroud, issued a challenge, and I feel that we need to issue it once again. The challenge is to make 2016 *our greatest year by providing you— our members – with here-to-fore unpublished, lost, hidden in trunks and attics, or unshared information that, hopefully, will unlock some of the dead-ends of our genealogical pursuits. We promise to do our best and with your support and help this can be your and our BEST YEAR EVER!*

*But how can you help so many miles away from Chester County?*

*1 – By sharing what you have with the rest of us. That’s what genealogy is all about and what makes genealogy the delightful hobby it is and the wonderful maker of unseen friends. All of us surely have some bit of family information – a letter – a book - a statistic – or something relating to the early families of Chester – York – Lancaster – Fairfield or Union Counties that would help another find answers he or she has long sought. Send us copies of what you are willing to share so we can make our Bulletin more interesting and helpful.*

*2 – Think over your list of relatives, acquaintances, or friends who “might” be interested in joining us. Send us their names and addresses and we’ll send a complimentary copy of our next Bulletin inviting them to join, and they’ll never know where we got their name. The more members, the more material and information we are likely to gain, and the additional numbers of members enhances the response to queries. But, perhaps, greatest of all – we’d like to think we’ll be doing them a favor also... (In 1981, we could not send the Bulletin by email, but if you would like to send a complimentary copy of our Bulletin to someone you feel might be interested in joining, please send us their email address.)*

*You can help us meet the challenge to make 2016 our greatest year ever by your personal participation... We’ll do our part to make it so on this end.*

Also, we wanted to be sure and thank all of our members who came to visit us in 2015. We had wonderful visits from members living in Alabama, the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and Texas. It was so good to be able to spend time with each one of you, and we hope that many more of you will take advantage of the resources we have to offer and come and visit us this year.

Jean H. Nichols, Editor

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

**CHAPTER 5-A (Cont'd.)**

We left the two brothers on the Kennedy piazza listening to the hot discussion of their old friends. Mr. William White, however, on seeing his mother's old friend's sons hurried up to them and in his hearty Irish manner shook hands and asking after "Miss Mary" as these White boys always called their mother. He said his mother was failing very fast. The Mills boys expressed their regrets to hear of their mother's failing health.

After bidding Mr. White good bye, the young men went to attend to some business matters for their mother. They found that the morning had slipped always more rapidly than usual; so Thomas reminded Robert of their engagement to dine at Gen. Bradley's and looking at his watch, he said, "Yes, it is now 1 o'clock and Mrs. Bradley will not like to have her dinner kept waiting." (And another thing, she liked her invited guests to come in for a "little chat" with her for she dearly loved to have her husband bring his gentlemen friends in to dine with them, and none knew so well as she how to entertain their guest.)

Gen. Bradley's home was on the opposite side of the street from Mr. George Kennedy's tavern or store, and as these two young men were crossing the street, Mr. George Kennedy rushed out in his piazza, calling them loudly, "Come boys, say, where are you going? Come and take dinner with me." "No, I thank you, Mr. Kennedy, we have promised Gen. Bradley to dine with him today." "Well, I am sorry; but I know his "old lady" would "horse whip" me if I persuaded you to come here." And with a jolly laugh, the landlord of the Kennedy house went back into his store.

Thomas and Robert both laughed for they knew full well to what Mr. Kennedy referred to in speaking of the "horse whipping."

About a year ago, a peddler with his pack stopped in at Mrs. Bradley's and after showing his goods to her, she curtly told him she did not want to buy any of his goods. He insisted, she still telling him "no he had nothing in his pack she liked." He swore at her, and she ordered him out of her house. But he was drinking and was inclined to dispute her right to order him out. So the high-spirited old lady snatched a "horse whip" out of the corner of the room and with two or three sharp cuts across his shoulders, she drove him yelping into the street; much to the amusement of both Mr. George and John Kennedy who were eye witnesses.



So these young men were well acquainted with this little epistle, and laughed heartily as they crossed over the street. But they knew it would not be good for them if Mrs. Bradley knew they were having a laugh at her expense. Though one of the most generous hearted women, still she was a very sensitive and high tempered woman.

By this time, they had reached the little porch that was in front of the Bradley's house so they at once were the dignified young men who knew when to laugh.

So they both felt the greatest respect for Mrs. Bradley whose hospitality they were about to accept. Thomas rapped at the front door and soon it was answered by a smartly dressed colored girl. She invited them in with a "low curtsy" telling them to take seats. Her mistress would soon be in.

They walked in and took seats in the large comfortable chairs that were placed here and there in the cozy little parlor. Mrs. Bradley had the reputation of being one of the finest housekeepers in the town of Chester. So as these young men seated themselves, they were struck with the air of elegance that prevailed everywhere. A large round center mahogany table stood in the center of the room covered with news papers and all kind of the latest magazines. On the walls hung some very fine steel engravings and one large oil painting; not to be seen much in these up country homes at that time. With a handsome wool carpet on the floor. The hearth was white washed as clean as Sallie, the house girl, could make it, and the brass andirons were polished until they looked like burnished gold.

Thomas and Robert were frequent visitors here and knew that Mrs. Bradley would not keep them waiting long for she made it a rule to always keep herself neat enough in her dress to meet her visitors as soon as possible.

They did not have to wait very long for soon they heard her quick steps coming down the little narrow hall. When she appeared at the door, she had a smile of welcome on her bright happy face, and in a merry voice she said, "Good day to you, Thomas," shaking hands with him, then "and how are you, Robert? Right glad I am to see you boys, and how is your dear mother?" All this she said before either of the young men could get even a "Howdy do" to her, but they finally got in a word edge ways.

And then she was delighted to listen to all they had to say, and to congratulate Thomas on being a young M.D. Her young Alexander, she said, was more than pleased with his new home in Alabama where he had gone to practice medicine.

She then turned to Thomas and said, "Mr. Bradley tells me you leave for Beech Island today." Upon Thomas telling her that was his intention, she looked at Robert archly and said, "Thomas will be making eyes at some of those rich girls down on the island." On

Thomas saying he did not think he would make any headway with "rich girls." "Well, you try and fall in love with a rich girl when you get silly enough for such an act." All here laughed.

Here she turned to Robert saying in a kind tone, "And you are going to be a lawyer." Robert bowed, and she continued, "Well, you will have to learn to tell a few slick lies and then you will get up your reparations for being a wonderful lawyer. I think my John would like to be a lawyer. He is always plowing over these dry law books, but I don't want him to be a lawyer, not that I don't believe we ought to have lawyers, oh no." With a kind look at Robert to smooth over anything that might have sounded personal in her speech. At the mention of John's name, a new topic was introduced at once. A pained look here came over her face, and she said, "I guess you boys have heard that Mr. Bradley is nominated for Lieutenant Governor."

They told her that they had. Thomas told her he would give Gen. Bradley his vote, and use what influence he had for him. She thanked him very much.

About this time, they head a quick step come on the piazza and soon the only son and in fact the only child who is now at home with his parents. (Dr. Alexander Bradley, the eldest son, is now a practicing physician in Marion, Ala. And the three daughters Margaret, Mary, and Catherine are away at Limestone school where they are being educated.)

When John Bradley enters the little sitting room he bows most gracefully to the gentlemen and then advances and gives each a shake of the hand saying in a pleasant tone of voice, "I saw you gentlemen as you drove into town this morning." He has his mother's dear blue eyes and fair complexion, while his mouth is so like his father's. Such a firm look of determination in those thin firmly closed lips. His hair is dark like his father's. In this young man we recognize the young clerk of the drug store.

After he takes his seat, and a few pleasant remarks are passed, Mrs. Bradley leaves the young men to be entertained by her son. But coming back to the doors, she said, "Excuse me," bowing to the visitors, "Did your father deliver an invitation to Dr. Dunovant?" John looked round at his mother and answered, "Yes, mother, and he will accompany my father in a few moments."

There was a certain dignity about this young man, though, he could not have been out of his teens that struck one at once. And though thoughtful and polite, very few people if any ever took any liberties with John Bradley.

His father, the old General, was quite proud of his son and looked forward to seeing him make a mark on the world. He was now clerking in Dr. Dunovant's drug store but that



he was only doing this to accommodate Dr. Dunovant because he could not get a young man to fill so responsible a place; but John, liking to be employed, agreed to try it a while, for he was a law student under Major Williams, an old and experienced lawyer, who had taken a great fancy to the dignified young John Bradley and had insisted on his attending his night school for young law students.

Mr. or Major Williams as everyone called him was delighted with John's rapid progress and encouraged him all he could, telling him not to think of society or girls (Mr. Williams was a confirmed old bachelor). But John being of a social nature, though as we have said, he was polite to all, but few dared to venture into any formality unless he encouraged them.

However he was quite a favorite with the ladies, old and young, and "Madam Rummer" was beginning to compile his mane in with a very lovely young girl who had recently come to Chester on a visit to relatives. His mother, knowing the {antcdents} of this young lady, bitterly opposed his attendance to her. But here we will leave them and go see about Mrs. Bradley's dining party.

Gen. Bradley soon came in accompanied by Dr. Dunovant, a very handsome, tall, straight as an Indian and with the keenest jet black eyes come into the room. All were acquainted so it was a very pleasant greeting that was exchanged.

Dr. Dunovant was a very influential man in politics and he and Gen. Bradley were very confidential friends. Beside that Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Dunovant were first cousins and were very fond of each other.

And now as these two gentlemen discuss politics, our two young men are very much interested for they are both brilliant talkers, and thoughtful acquainted with all the ups and downs of a political campaign.

Time passes around so pleasantly that the gentlemen are not conscious that Mrs. Bradley had been out very long until John arises and excuses himself saying, "I think mother has forgotten we haven't any dinner."

He leaves the room. As he goes into the dining room, his mother, who always depends on his taste more than her own says, "Oh John, I am so glad you have come out here. Do tell me have I arranged these dishes in the right places. Sarah is such a "Jack Dow" and I am not much better, and you know what a "devil" Dr. Dunovant is to criticize other folks tables." "Well, mother, I would be above judging my guest so harshly. I am sure Dr. Dunovant will fully appreciate your neatly arranged table and although you haven't as much silver and cut glass to set your table off, still your table always looks in perfect

order, and dear mother, do you want more." "Oh, well dear John, if you like my table, I am satisfied. So there now boy." She threw her arms around him. She kissed him with all fondness in the correct opinion of her son's sound judgement.

Soon Sarah had finish bringing in all of the well prepared meal, and at last brought in the dish that held a large beautifully browned turkey, and had placed it on the neatly set table. All now being in readiness, Mrs. Bradley motioned to Sarah to ring the bell for dinner.

At once the gentlemen came into the dining room. Gen. Bradley leading the way with all the ease of a highly cultured man of the world. Dr. Mills was invited to have a seat next to his hostess and Dr. Dunovant took his usual seat by his host, for he was very partial to "mine host" and as he would laughingly say to keep out of the range of cousin Charlotte's sharp cuts at him. Robert and John sat on the same side.

Now that all were seated, Gen. Bradley began to carve up the large turkey with a practiced hand. Dr. Dunovant turned to Dr. Mills and said, "Now that you are an M.D., you will have to use the knife with the same expertness that our host here does on that turkey." Mrs. Bradley looked at him with a little look of disgust in her eyes and said rather sarcastically, "Dr. Dunovant, don't turn the young man against his dinner." "On a thousand pardons, my dear cousin Charlotte. I beg of you. I forgot that you would faint if you saw a chicken killed." She just gave him one of her looks that he said in an easing way made him feel like every hair on his head was rising, which suits him up. General Bradley laughed so good naturedly that all was restored to pleasantry.

Dr. Dunovant was a very brilliant man and acquainted with all the movements in Washington and his own state. So it was a real treat to listen to he and Gen. Bradley's intelligent conversation on topics that so much interested the Mills gentlemen and John Bradley too was a very attentive listener. Although conversation never lagged, still no one was neglected at the table and every attention was paid each guest by both Mr. and Mrs. Bradley.

John, too, was very attentive to his father's friends seeing that they were well waited upon by Sarah, the colored girl, who waited upon the table. Sarah was tipping around with her silver waiter constantly on the alert for a nod of the head from the mistress.

All seemed to have done justice to the fine dinner, so Sarah, ever watchful, saw that it was time to remove the dishes to make way for the dessert. Everybody knew Mrs. Bradley's desserts were better than the first course; but the first course was all that the most confirmed epicure could have fancied. So when Sarah began to remove the dishes for the second course, Dr. Dunovant held up his hands and with a terrible grimace at



Mrs. Bradley, he called out "Mercy, cousin Charlotte, have mercy I do beseech you." She was accustomed to his teasing. She just laughed and said, "Oh, never fear, I will give you something that will digest."

Just here Sarah came in with a "smoking cherry pudding" on her waiter, with a bowl of frothy cream of the very richest kind. She placed this in front of her mistress and she began to serve it out in dainty little china saucers. Sarah handing it as soon as her mistress dished it out.

Dr. Dunovant with a resigned look went to work with a will eating his for he knew cousin Charlotte's cherry pudding could not be excelled by any one.

Soon the pleasant meal was over, and just as the party was leaving the dining room, they heard the merry blast of the stage coach bugle. At the sound of the stage coach bugle, the whole village usually turned out to see what was to be seen and heard.

When Thomas Mills heard it, he felt a sadness creeping over him for he knew he would soon have to leave his native village, and feeling thus he thought best to take leave of these kind friends and turning to Mrs. Bradley he said, "Well Mrs. Bradley, I will now have to say fare-well to you." "On, no, not fare-well," she said in her jolly way, just "Good bye and don't feel so blue over leaving. Cheer up, my boy. The next news I expect to hear of you is that you are going to marry some of these rich girls down on Beech Island." He laughingly told her those rich girls would not care to look at a poor young M.D. "Don't you believe the half of that for your looks will carry you a long ways, leaving alone your sense."

Here Dr. Dunovant broke in with his sneering tone saying, "Oh leave cousin Charlotte alone for she has kissed the "Blarney Stone" before today." "Well," she reacted, "I don't think I ever trouble you with any of my compliments." "Very true, cousin Charlotte, because you know I am proof against your flattery."

All of the little party on the porch laughed at these two who really liked each other but could not resist the pleasure of cutting at each other on every occasion.

The young men now took leave of Mrs. Bradley. She telling Thomas he had her best wishes for his success in life. John Bradley shook hands with the gentlemen and hastened to the drug store knowing full well that Dr. Dunovant would not go until the stage coachman blew his signal for leaving the village.

Just as the young men were going down the little low door steps, accompanied by General Bradley and Dr. Dunovant, a Negro whom we recognize as Ned, Mr. John Kennedy's waiting boy, with a message from his mistress to the Mills, to be sure and come over to see her before they left.

So here the gentlemen parted company. Thomas and Robert going to call upon and bid their mother's friend, Mrs. John Kennedy, good-bye. The house owned by Mr. John Kennedy was on the other side of the street. A large old fashioned wooden building, with a piazza that opened right on a level with the street. On each end of the piazza was closed in and the little rooms were used or rented out by Mr. Kennedy to men or merchants who kept candy, ginger cakes, and such like. The entrance to the piazza being shut off completely from the stores formed a wall on each side.

As our young friends enter this quaint old fashioned piazza, they are struck with the collections of curiosities that are hanging from these walls. There is a stuffed alligator, and further on is a deer head with the great horns standing far out from the wall, fox tails, stuffed rabbits, snakes and too many things to mention. Another thing worthy of mention is a large eagle with its wings stretched as though ready to soar away. No sooner did the young men step on the piazza than Mr. Kennedy came with a quick step, and slapping Thomas on the shoulder said in a jovial way, "I am glad you boys have come, for "my old woman" has been about to take the broomstick to me for not bringing you here to dinner."

He led the way into a large room that opened on a wide old fashioned piazza at the back of the house. Here sat Mrs. Kennedy, a bright pretty middle age lady, busy spinning on a small spinning wheel. She arose with a bright smile on her pretty old face, saying, "Why I am so glad you have come. I was put out with Mr. Kennedy that he did not bring you boys to dinner with us."

Telling the visitors to be seated, on their telling her they had only come to tell her "Good-bye," she said, "Now Robert, you are not going away, too." "No mam. Brother Thomas will leave us today." She expressed her regrets that they could not be seated, so going to the door on the right hand of the piazza, she called in her sweet motherly voice, "Come John, you and Margaret, to tell Mr. Tom Mills good-bye."

A fine looking lad of about 16 and a girl of 17 came at their mother's call. The girl had her mother's sweet smile. They came forward and shook hands with an air of children who are accustomed to company for their father's and mother's home was headquarters for all the county friends.

As soon as the children had finished speaking, Mrs. Kennedy said to her little daughter, "Margaret, go get some of those apples for the boys." for she still regarded these



grown-up men as "boys". Margaret, like her mother, was ready to treat visitors to the best they had. She ran down a flight of steps at the lower end of the piazza that took you into the basement. She soon returned with a large basket of beautiful red apples and handed them to Robert and Thomas. They thanked her and took one a piece. Mrs. Kennedy said, "Why fill your pockets to be sure."

Mr. Kennedy, who had a keen sense of the ridiculous, here burst out into a merry laugh; saying, "Why, old woman, Thomas don't want the folks in the stage to think he is a "North Carolina apple man." These apples had been bought by Mr. Kennedy from a North Carolina apple wagon as these men from North Carolina came with apples for sale.

Mrs. Kennedy laughed good naturedly and said, "Tut old man, you get along." So thinking maybe Thomas would rather not load down his pockets, she got a paper bag from the little candy store in the front piazza and filling it with the apples she said, "Now, Thomas, take these to eat on your way down to Columbia." He thanked her ever so much for her kindness, saying "I know I shall enjoy them very much."

Now telling her he would have to go over to Mr. George Kennedy's store, they took their leave of the kind old couple and were soon out on the street again, crossing the road, the "Columbia Road" as it was called on account of the stage always passing down between these two houses, Mr. John and Mr. George Kennedy's.

Our young men are soon across the road and Thomas soon selects the trunk and takes all of the contents of the old saddle bags and puts them in the neat trunk he has purchased. He soon has the trunk packed, and he is now ready to lock it. After locking the trunk, he fastens the key on a little bunch of keys he had in his pants pocket.

He then turns to Robert saying, "Have you attended to getting the things mother wanted?" Robert answered that he had. Thomas then seemed to feel relieved, and said, "Catch hold of that end of the trunk, and we will place it on the piazza with the other baggage."

When they came out, they found a large crowd had gathered to see the stage go out. They were soon joined by Dr. Dunovant and Gen. Bradley, and with them was a most distinguished looking man whom Gen. Bradley hastened to introduce as the Hon. Mr. Henry Hammond, saying to Dr. Mills, "I am delighted to tell you that Mr. Hammond, who is just from Washington, is now on his way to his plantation on Beech Island. So you will have his company all the way."

Dr. Mills expressed his pleasure at having Mr. Hammond. Mr. Hammond then said he was glad to have do good an opportunity of forming Dr. Mills' acquaintance. He then

said in his mellow voice that made his friends love to hear him speak, "Gen. Bradley tells me that you are going to Beech Island to locate as a physician and saying in his most courteous manner, "I shall be pleased to be of any service to you, Dr. Mills, and after hearing from Gen. Bradley that you are the son of the Late Col. John Mills, I am sure Beech Island should be proud to have you practice your profession among us."

Mr. Hammond was a splendid looking man, with his high forehead and fine eyes. He was a general favorite with everyone who knew him. He traveled extensively. Being a wealthy man, he was widely known in his own state as well as abroad. He was now in Congress and had but recently returned from Europe where he had collected the finest and most costly oil paintings ever bought to South Carolina.

Being a man of such influence, it was quite fortunate for Dr. Mills to have met him.

So thought Gen. Bradley for on telling Thomas good-bye, he said "Try and make a favorable impression on Hammond." And wishing him a successful life in his profession, they shook hands most cordially." (Little did either think it would be the last time they would ever meet in this life.)

Dr. Mills then bid the other friends good-bye. All wishing him success in his profession, and then giving his brother, Robert, a kind shake of the hand, he jumped into the stage. Mr. Hammond soon climbed in and soon the stage was very nearly filled. All the good-byes were spoken and the stage door was shut with a bang, and the driver mounted his box and snatched his whip. Then there was a shrill blast of the bugle and away they went down the Columbia Road leading to the Tan Yard Branch.

\*\*\*\*\*

**David Mobley House**  
(Contributed by Mary Beth M. Bussell)

CHESTER, Dec. 7 (1928) – The historic former David Mobley residence, one of the finest old houses in this section, on the Peden Bridge Highway, burned today. It was occupied by J. W. Sill and family. It was of an undetermined origin. Most of the contents of the lower floor were saved, but all burned on the second floor. The loss is a heavy one. Five thousand dollars insurance was on the house and \$1,000 on the furnishings.

This house was built a long time before the Confederate war, and after the death of David Mobley was occupied his son, W. D. Mobley, for many years.

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## The Cassels family of West Chester County, SC

By Damien Aragon - [damien@daragon.net](mailto:damien@daragon.net)

### Part 1

From my research I have determined there are two distinct families Cassels and Castles. Unfortunately, the Cassels family was mixed in with the Castles families when people were taking censuses, Wills, probate records etc.... The confusion appears to come from the pronunciation of the names.

The two families are as follows **Benjamin Cassels** (ca 1775 - 1852), we know he could write.

As he spelled his name Cassels, as did, several of his children. Benjamin came from St. Marks Parish, Craven District, SC, and his father's name was also Benjamin (son of Henry). So the Cassels were a South Carolina family.

The earliest Castles I can find is **John Henry Castles** (1767-1830), born in Virginia and died in Fairfield Co., SC. He was buried at Concord Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Woodward, Fairfield County, SC (located just south of Chester County). Some of John Henry's family moved into the Halsellville, Chester Co., section thereby bring the families close and adding some confusion.

I want to take this opportunity to thank John Swinson, [jswinson@aol.com](mailto:jswinson@aol.com), a descendant of the Cassels family who provided me with the Bible records, some early letters and several Wills, as well as photos. Without his help much of this work would be lacking.

My effort is directed at clarifying all the first four generation of descendants for Benjamin Cassels. I have transcribed three Wills one for Benjamin Cassels, one for his son Reuben Cassels and one for another son Barnet Cassels. According to the Wills Benjamin & Reuben could sign their names as Cassels, Barnet only made a mark 'X' and his name was signed for him as Castles. The transcriptions are as follows:

State of South Carolina Chester District

In the name of God Amen

I Benjamin Castles of said State and District, Calling to mind mans mortality, and although weak in body but of sound disposing mind memory and understanding do make and constitute this my last will and testament in manner and form as following

Item 1 That portion of my estate which in equal distribution would be bequeathed to my son Greenberry Castles I give in equal portions to his (my said sons) children John Castles, Nancy Castles, Sarah Castles, and Dolly Castles. And James Castles eldest son of said Greenberry Castles. The said James being dead and leaving one child I give no bequest to said child whose father the said James Castles has received from me the sum of ninety nine dollars from which sum I hold notes upon him at this day and with the sum I cut him off without further claim of my estate. This sum is to be deducted from the equitable portion of my son Greenberry Castles and the remainder divided amongst the four children of the said Greenberry as above mentioned.

Item 2 I will that my whole estate real and personal be by my executor immediately after my decease and after paying my just debts, and collecting whatever notes and accounts may be found in my possession that the whole proceeds be divided amongst my children Vis Reuben Castles, Barnet Castles, Martha Raley - wife of Isaiah Raily, John Castles, James Castles, Nancy Hyatt wife of James Hyatt, and Sarah Mayfield wife of Allen Mayfield, and Greenberry Castles, whose portion is to be disposed of as above.

I also will that the portion of my estate accruing to Barnet Castles, deceased, be equally divided amongst his children --- and I hereby constitute and appoint Reuben Castles my son executor of this my last will and testament signed sealed and acknowledge as and for the last will and testament of Benjamin Castles this 23d day of March A. D. 1852 and Seventy Sixth year of American Independence

In presence of ---

A. F. Anderson  
John Atkinson  
E. T. Atkinson

Benjamin Cassels (L.S.)

Probated November 10, 1852, Peter Wylie, Ordy.,

Recorded in Book A-1, page 101-102, Apartment No. 58-A, Package No. 905-A)

---

State of South Carolina Chester District

In the name of God Amen

I Reuben Cassels of the State and District aforesaid being of sound and disposing mind and memory but weak I body and calling to mind the uncertainty of life & being desirous to dispose of all such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner following.



That is to say. In the first place I give unto my wife the following tracts of land. The lands on which we now live known as the James Wright tract. The John Davis tract and the Erasmus Estes tract. I also give unto my wife a negro man Austin and his wife Mary and children made Jane, John, Isaac, Lem, Margaret, Charlotte, Laura Ann. I also give unto my wife the following stock. Four mules known by the names of Jack, Jane, George & Dick. I also give unto my wife one wagon and harness known as the James Humphries wagon. I also give unto my wife all my household furniture. I also give unto my wife her choice of all the stock of cattle and hogs as many as she may want for her own use. I also give unto my wife one years support of grain, corn & wheat for her and her negroes and stock. And also a support of oats and fodder for her stock. I also give unto my wife my barouche and harness and I also give unto my wife four hundred dollars in cash.

I give unto my son William O. the following property one negro man named Mage. One negro man named Henrey. One negro boy also named Henrey. I also give unto my son William O. two thousand dollars in cash in being due him for the services of himself & his negroes. This money is extra of his equal share with my other children. I also give unto my son Wm O. one mare named Bets. I also give unto my son Wm O. two hundred acres of land being one half of the tract known as the Rice tract.

I give unto my daughter Louisa who intermarried with James Guy. The tract of land on which he lives known as my Father Benjamin Cassels old place. And also the tract of land known as the Amos Cornwell tract. I also give unto my daughter Louisa Guy one other small tract of land known as the Minter Tan Yard tract. This last piece or tract of land is valued at ten dollars per acre to count as two hundred and seventy five dollars cast in the division of what property shall be equally divided amongst my lawful heirs.

I give unto my son Tresvan two hundred acres of land being the land on which he now lives known as half of the Rice land.

I also desire all my property which is not mentioned in the foregoing Will to be sold and divided as my three lawful heirs shall think best and after the payment of all my just debts and funeral expenses are paid. The remainder to be equally divided amongst my three heirs to them and their heirs forever.

And lastly I do constitute and appoint my son Tresvan Cassels and my son in law James Guy Executors of this my last Will and Testament by me heretofore made. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 23rd day of October in the year of our Lord 1854.

Signed sealed & declared Reuben Cassels L. S.  
As & for the last Will & Testament

Thos. Cowley  
William McCallum  
Wm McCallum  
South Carolina, Chester District

In the Court of Ordinary Personally appeared William McCollum in open Court who being duly sworn. Saith upon oath that he was present and saw Reuben Cassels sign the within paper published and declare the same to be his last Will and Testament. And further saith that the before named Ruben Cassels was of sound and disposing mind and memory according to the deponents knowledge and belief. And that Thos I. Cowley & Wm McCallum with the deponent in the presence of each other and in the presence of the Testator and at his request did sign their names as witnesses.

Sworn to and subscribed William McCollum

November 13th 1854

James McDaniel, Ordinary

(as Executors Tresvan Cassels and James Guy appeared & qualified) Recorded in Book A-1, page 121-122)

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State of South Carolina Chester District

In the name of God Amen

I, Barnet Castles of Chester District being of sound disposing mind and memory, but weak in body and calling to mind the uncertainty of life and being desirous to dispose of all such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with, do make and ordain this my last will in manner following that is to say:

I desire that my just debts and funeral expenses be paid. I desire that my executor hereinafter named after payment of my debts and funeral expenses I give to my wife, Sinthy Castles one third of my estate as well real or personal for and during the term of her natural life, and after her decease I give the same to my children hereinafter mentioned, to be equally divided amongst them, to them and their heirs forever. I give to my son Hezekiah, his part of land whatever it be. I give to my son Thomas, his part of land, whatever it be. I give to my son, Barnet, his part of land, whatever it be. I give to my daughter Jane, her part of land whatever it be. I give to my daughter, Caoline, her part of land whatever it be. I give to my daughter Morgan her part



of land whatever it be, all the rest of my estate, personal, of what nature or quality soever, it may be equally divided amongst my several children herein before named and I give the same to them their heirs, executors administrators and assigns forever, and I lastly, I do constitute and appoint my said wife executrix of this my last will and testament by me heretofore made in testimony where if I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 28th day of January 1841.

Signed, sealed and published and  
Declared as for the last will and testament  
Of above named Barnet Castles in presence of us.

Barnet Castles  
X (his mark)

Joseph Baird.  
Andrew McLurkin  
Mose W. Roberts

State of South Carolina  
Chester District

In the Court of Ordinary August 18, 1845

Personally came Mose W. Roberts into open Court who upon being duly sworn gavth upon oath that he was present & saw Barnet Castles within named sign by making his mark sealed publish pronounce and declare the within writing to be and contain his the said Barnet Castles last will & testament & further saith the said Barnet Castles was then of disposing mind memory & understanding to the best of this deponent knowledge I belief & further saith that he this deponent with Andrew McClurkin & Joseph Baird died subscribe their named thereto as witnesses in presence of each other and in the presence of the testator and at his request swore to & signed date above.

Peter Wylie, ordy

Moses W. Roberts

1845 August 18th Sintha Castles named Executrix came unto open court & qualified. Peter Wylie J.C. C. C. D.

Recorded in Book A-1, page 41-42, ESTATE PACKET: APT 76, PKG 1205)

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This next record indicates that Cynthia, died by 1854 and her son Hezekiah Cassels was requesting to distribute the estate of his father Barnet Cassels. Electronic copy provided to me by John Swinson.

South Carolina, Chester District  
By James McDaniel Ordinary  
To Hezekiah Cassels.

Whereas, Cynthia Cassels Executrix of the Estate of Barnet Cassells, deceased, died leaving the Will of said Barnet Cassels unexecuted. By means where of the power of granting the administration of the said estate of Barnet Cassels deceased to me is manifestly known to belong, and whereas, Hezekiah Cassels hath made suit to me to grant him letters of administration of the estate and effects of the said Barnett Cassels, deceased, with the Will annexed. I therefore in consideration of the premises, and that the goods and chattels rights and credits of the said Barnet Cassels deceased, may be well and truly administered converted and disposed of according to law, do hereby give and grant unto the said Hezekiah Cassels (In whose fidelity in this behalf I very much confide) full power and authority by the tenor of these presents to administer and faithfully dispose of the goods and chattels rights and credits of the said Barnet Cassels according the effect and tenor of the said Will and first to pay the debts of said Barnet Cassels which he did owe at the time of his death. Afterwards the legacies contained in and specified by the said Will as far as such goods and chattels rights and credits as far as such goods and chattels rights and credits will thereto extend and the law requires being First Sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God to make a true and perfect Inventory thereof. And to exhibit [exhibit] the same into the Ordinary's office in order to be recorded on or before the fifteenth day of August next ensuing. And I do ordain depute and constitute you the said Hezekiah Cassels administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels rights and credits of the said Barnet Castles deceased with the Will annexed.

Give under my hand and seal 19th June 1854. By the ordinary

Pg2

Dr. Hezekiah Cassels Admr. Of Estate Barnet Castles deceased, 1856.

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Marth 20th. Received of John Brice | \$65.00  |
| March 20th Sam Weir                | \$102.00 |
| March 20th I. P. Crosby            | \$400.00 |
|                                    | \$567.00 |

South Carolina, Chester District  
Hezekiah Castles Admr. Of the Est. of Barnet Castles deceased make this return on oath.  
Feb. 20th, 1857  
James McDaniel  
Hezekiah Castles



|  |        |
|--|--------|
|  | Cr.    |
| With account current with said Estate, Thomas J. Cockrell              | 192.42 |
| March 20th cash paid Jas. Cockrell title to their 1/8 part             | 96.21  |
| Nov. 21, Cash paid George L. McNeel as Guardian for William P. Cassels | 306.70 |
|  | 584.93 |
| Dec. 11 Paid W. Walker   | 1.67   |
| Paid C. D. Melton  | 2.50   |
| Ordinary's fees  |        |

Pg3

On August 18th, 1845, Last Will and Testament of Barnett Cassels, late of this District was approved in Open Court and granted Synthia Ann Cassels, wife Executrix in the said Will, Page 48, Entry 186 Book from 1840 to 1857.

Pg4

To the ordinary of Chester District.

The petition of Hezekiah Castles humbly sheweth that Cynthia Castles lately died possessed of property of which it is necessary to have administration. Your petitioner therefore requests letters of administration of said Estate.

Hezekiah Castles

May 15th, 1854

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John Swinson provided me with a letter written in 1853 from James Cassels to his brother Reuben Cassels inquiring about their fathers Will. It is unfortunate that we do not know where James Cassels was living at the time as we have no information on his branch of the family. The other item John provided was a short biography of William Porter Cassels and his family. William entered this history into his Bible. In his history he mentions, that he and his three brothers were all in the Civil War, Hezekiah the oldest died near Charleston. Thomas survived the war and moved to Arkansas nothing more is known of him. Barnet Cassels Jr., was in the Palmetto Sharpshooters, Company G, and died June 30, 1862 at the battle of Frazier's Farm, near Richmond, Virginia. William enlisted in Company A, Calhoun Guards, Sixth Infantry Regiment April, 11, 1861 at Summerville. William transferred to Capt. White's Company, York Co., SC at the re-organization of April 1862. William lost his right arm, on September 17, 1862 at the Battle of Sharpsburg.

Below is the letter from James Cassels to his brother Reuben Cassels, which I will follow up with a transcription.



October 27<sup>th</sup> 1833

Dear brother i thought i would write you  
lines to let you know that we are all alive yet  
we are all in common health & i hope these few  
lines will find you all well it has bin sickly  
times here this year & great many death you want  
to know how many children Elizabeth had  
& living she has 9 living two married they  
want their part of the estate brought here  
so they can get the interest to help them along  
here they choose me as agen for them the ordinary  
says it can be brought here i want you to have  
it ready against the 15 of december i expect to  
come after them & mine or send a man that is  
worth 17 or 8 thousand dollars that understand the  
business he wrote you a letter one time he is a good neighbor  
i want you to send me the amount of the chil-  
drens part of the estate i want you to write to  
me as soon as you get this letter get it here  
against the first of december i would  
wright more to you than i have but  
it will be such a short time to see you  
that i will close my letter I remain  
your friend until death

James Casals  
to Reuben Casals



October 27th, 1853

Dear brother I thought I would rite you lines to let you know that we ar all alive yet wee ar all in common helth & I hope these few lines will find you all well it has \_\_\_\_\_ sickly times hear this year & great many death you wanted to know how many children Elizabeth had \_ living she has 9 liveing two moved they want their part of they state [estate] brought hear so they can git the in trust [interest] to help them along have they choose me as agen[t] for them the ordinary says it can be brought hear I want you to have it ready against the 15 of December I expect to come after them & mine or send amen that is worth 7 or 8 thousand dollars that understan the bisness he rate you a letter one time he is a good neighbor I want you to send me they amount of the childrens part of the state [estate] I want you to rite to me as soon as you git this letter git it \_\_\_\_\_ against the first of December I would wright more to you then I have but it will be such a short time util I see you that I will close my letter. I remain your friend till death

James Cassels

Reuben Cassels

#### **Analysis of the letter:**

It appears that James is writing his brother, Reuben, about their father Benjamin's Will and getting his share. It is unfortunate that we don't know where James is living. It appears that James's wife's name is Elizabeth and they have 9 children living.

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Below is the transcription of the short biography of William Porter Cassels and his family.

#### **W.P. Cassels Journal**

W.P. Cassels, a member of the Calhoun Guard, Company A, commanded by Captain Walker and 6th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers did go into the service of the Confederacy with said Company & Regiment from Chester, SC the Eleventh day of April, 1861 and went the same day to Charleston, S.C. for the purpose of aiding in the taking of Fort Sumter which under the command of Gen. Anderson did surrender the 15th day of April 1861 and from here the Regiment went to Manassas, Va. and arrived there at 12 oclock on the 21st day of July 1861. The day of battle I was with my Company & Regiment at the following battles, Williamsburg, Va., Seven Pines, Va., The 7 Days battle around Richmond, VA., the 2nd Manassas battle VA , The battle of South Mountain Md , & The Battle of Sharpsburg or Antietam Md which occurred Sept 17, 1862 in which battle I lost my right arm. The same was amputated by Dr. A W Baily and Dr. Wady Thomison. Baily was from Barnwell County and Thomson of Union -- both of S.C . At the reorganization of our regiment I joined Captain White's Company from York County and

belonged to this company when I lost my arm in battle of Sharpsburg, Md. After the amputation of my arm I remained on the battle field of Sharpsburg until able to travel & was then as a prisoner in the hands of the Union soldiers & carried by them to Fort McHenry at Baltimore Md & from there on boat down Chesapeake Bay & river to Aikens Landing on the St. James River near Richmond, Va. & exchanged as a prisoner of war & then returned to my house at or near Cornwell Turnout on the CC & A RR in Chester County, SC in company with young Martin from Fairfield County, SC.

[signed] W P Cassels

My father's name was Barnett Cassels and died at his home near Halsellville, Chester County S.C. He was a son of Benjamin Cassels who lived and died at Carmel Hill, Chester County, S.C. Barnett Cassels my father had (4) sons, Hezekiah the oldest was killed in the Civil War some where about Charleston, S.C. Thomas was next oldest and went through the Civil War and is still living in Arkansas. Barnett was next oldest and was killed in the battle of Fraizer's Farms, 7 days fight Richmond Va. belonging to Jenkin's Regiment from Yorkville. This May 12th 1900 by [signed] W.P. Cassels



## **The Mysterious and Interesting Family of John and Ann Stubbleson Ferguson**

By Richard Ferguson – [rwfdville@yahoo.com](mailto:rwfdville@yahoo.com)

As far as positively proving the origin of our Ancestor John Ferguson, husband of Ann Stubbleson, no one that I know of has ever proved his place of birth or where he came from to America. The closest anyone has come, in my opinion, is John Markham Ferguson who was a Grandson of Samuel Yancey Ferguson.

Basically John Markham Ferguson found records from the old Tolbooth Prison in Edinburgh Scotland that show John and James Ferguson as undesirables that were to be sent to Barbados. In another document, it states that several so called undesirable people were being sent to Virginia as indentured servants. It stated that any of the Barbados bound persons that desired to go to Virginia as indentured servants could do so.

Apparently James and John Ferguson chose to do so. None of the warrants show them as being chosen or directed to the Ship Phoenix of Leith under the Master James Gibson. But passenger list of the arrivals on the Ship Phoenix of Leith show John and James as disembarking the ship in the Port of York, Yorktown, Virginia. The names are spelled in several varieties in the documentation mentioned. Some have them as FFargefon, some as Fargeson and some as Ferguson.

DOW book 047-pg 109 12 Nov 1666 states importation of 39 + 19 persons into York County. John and James' names appear on this document. In this document, it states John and James FFargefon were sold. This along with John being listed on the Headright list is evidence that both men were indentured servants. An indentured servant had to work for his master for 10 years to pay for his passage to the Americas. If he completed the 10 years, he was to be given 40 acres of land and a new suit of clothes. Most were released in their 9<sup>th</sup> year and were given nothing. It is thought that this was the case with John. James, on the other hand, is thought to have died before he completed his 10 years or died shortly afterwards if he did. I have never found any documentation on James after his arrival other than the documents mentioned. The Phoenix of Leith sailed from the Port of Edinburgh on or about May of 1666.

The November 1666 Headright list also shows John and James FFargefon's names on it.

Virginia Patent Book 6-pg 045 volume 2 pg-013 25 April 1667 shows John and James as part of 60 people being transported to New Kent County Virginia.

Virginia Patent Book 6 pg 314 & 316 6 October 1670 shows John and James in Accomacke County Virginia. Same book pg 482 27 October 1673 also shows them in Accomacke County Virginia.



A Scottish researcher by the name of David Dobson also states in his book, *The Original Scottish Colonist of Early America*, page 50, that John Ferguson arrived in York County Virginia before 11 Dec 1666 on the ship Phoenix of Leith out of the port of Edinburgh Scotland. James Gibson being the Master of the ship.

James Ferguson, John's brother, was indentured to Otho Thorp in Virginia before he left Scotland.

The next record that I have found on John is Virginia marriage record book D page 129 1683. This shows the marriage of John and Ann Stubbleson. I am confident that this is my ancestor as DNA testing has proved that. Now do I know that this John Ferguson is the same one that came from Scotland, Tolbooth Prison? No I do not know for sure, but I have found no other John Ferguson that came to America around this time that fits the bill so to say. I am satisfied, myself, that the John and James Ferguson that came here from Scotland in 1666 is our Ferguson line. Do not take this as absolute as it is not by any means. It is just to my satisfaction. Any other researcher that has a different thought is welcome to share and encouraged to do so. The only way we learn is by sharing information. I would love to be able to positively prove the birth place/origin of our John Ferguson of Essex County Virginia. Be it what I believe or what someone else is able to prove.

Everything said, the John and Ann Stubbleson Ferguson family is an amazing family to study. I have made many good friends and found many family members from my 29+ years of researching this family. A few of the people that contributed an awful lot to my research are the late Walter Brewster, the late Mrs. Jean C. Agee, Jon Ferguson, Jean Nichols, and all the wonderful folks at the Chester District Genealogical Society. There are many, many more that have contributed to my research, and I offer a thank you to you all.

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As we all know, John Ferguson married Ann Stubbleson who was the last surviving daughter of Stubble Stubbleson. It is recorded that John had seven children: 1. Carry Ferguson 1683 – 1742, married 1<sup>st</sup> Class Caston, 2<sup>nd</sup> Henry Perkins; 2. Sarah Ferguson 1684 – 1740 married Thomas Redd; 3. John Ferguson 1685 – 1769 married Sarah Gatewood; 4. James Ferguson (my line) 1687 – 1741 married Ann Markham; 5. Joseph Ferguson 1691 – 1717 never married; 6. Samuel Ferguson 1693 – 1777 married Ann Brown; and 7. Mary Ferguson 1695 – 1752 married Joseph Rogers.

1. Of these seven children, Cary has been thought to have been a child by a previous marriage. The thinking behind this is the way John referred to Ann in a deed he made to a Mr. Jewel. He called her "my now wife Ann" and stated that he would cause her to sign her right of dower. This is the



land that Ann inherited from her father Stubble Stubbleson. Some seem to think that this infers that he was married before Ann. The other is the fact that John did not mention Cary in his will. As there is a span of several years from the time John and James were sold into servitude and when John and Ann's record of marriage shows up, I will concede that there may have been a wife before Ann.

I do think that it is a play on words and cannot be proven either way.

Essex County Deed book 12 page 103 records John Ferguson deeding land to his son-in-law, Class Caston, and wife, Cary 1705/06.

Essex County Deed Book 14 page 239 13 May 1714 records Cary Caston being bonded as executive of the estate of Class Caston.

Essex County will book 3 page 208 16 May 1719 records Cary Perkins inventory of debts collected on the estate of Class Caston. She had married Henry Perkins by this time.

Essex County will book 6 page 172 records Cary Perkins bonding as executrix for the estate of Henry Perkins.

2. Sarah Ferguson 1684 – 1740 is mentioned in John Ferguson's will as the wife of Thomas Redd. I have no further information on them.
3. John Ferguson 1685 – 1769 married Sarah Gatewood. In Essex County will book 6, 1762 – 1775, is recorded John Ferguson's will. In it he names his wife, Sarah, as executrix and names each of his children and their husbands. John's daughter, Katherine Ferguson, was the wife of Captain Benjamin Hale of Essex County Virginia.
4. James Ferguson 1687 – 1741 married Ann Markham. It is my opinion that this is where the earlier researcher, John Markham Ferguson, got the middle name Markham from. James Ferguson shows up in several documents Essex County Court records. He witnessed many documents, filed law suits and was sued himself. One of the most important documents is a power of attorney document where he gives a friend power of attorney to handle the sale of his property in Essex County Virginia. This is land that his father, John Ferguson, had left him in his will. James and wife Ann left Essex County some where around 4 Dec 1739 and moved to Goochland County Virginia. They were following their son James Jr and his wife Agnes Adams Ferguson who were already in Goochland County. On 18 Dec 1739 his friend exercised his power of attorney in the sale of the land mentioned above so we know he had left before 18 Dec 1739. Unfortunately, James Ferguson Senior did not live long after moving from Essex to Goochland County. He wrote a will and signed it 12 Dec 1740.



His will is recorded in Goochland County will book 3 page 429 and is dated 21 July 1741.

James and Ann Ferguson had four children we know that he named in his will: James Ferguson 1715 – 1785 married Agnes Adams; Elizabeth Ferguson 1706 – 1774 married John Scandland Craine; Ann 1719 – 1747 married John Carter Croxton and John 1721 – 1778 married Elizabeth Ward. All of these children had married and started homes of their own. That being said, John makes a statement after naming each of these children that after his wife's death that the remainder of his estate is to be divided between the children that now live with her. This seems to infer that there are still minor children in the home.

In John Boddie's, *Historical Southern Families*, vol 3 page 228 gives an account of the Foster family in Caswell County, North Carolina which he lists the family of John Perkins and his wife Rachel. Boddie goes on to tell that John and Rachel have 4 children listed in the Douglas Register of Goochland County Virginia as being baptized there. The Douglas Register is the earliest known record of births, baptisms and marriages in Goochland County. Boddie goes on to say that Rachel may be the daughter of James Ferguson of Goochland County Virginia whose will was probated in 1741. In this same register are found the names of Sarah Ferguson, married Richard Ogilby, Mary Ferguson married David Knowling and Samuel Ferguson married Elizabeth Dunsmore. Only DNA will be able to prove or disprove these last four suspected children.

James Ferguson Jr. married Agnes Adams about 1734/6. Not long after his father's death in 1741, James and Agnes began to sell their land in Goochland County. On 20 November 1753, James sold 75 acres of land to an adjacent land owner David Parrish. Then in 30 October 1759 James sold 367 acres to Richard Johnson. This was land that Agnes had inherited from her father and is described as being on Licking Hole Creek. Deed book B page 293 & 294 Granville County North Carolina records the sale of 250 acres of land by Evan Ryland to James Ferguson for 18 pounds 15 shilling in 1754. Apparently James and Agnes left Goochland County after selling the first land, 75 acres, to David Parrish in November of 1753 and bought land in Granville County North Carolina.

Deed book G page 325 & 326 Granville County North Carolina records the sale of 200 &  $\frac{1}{4}$  acres of land by James Ferguson to Joseph Linsy 6 Feb 1765.

On 10 May 1765 there was a Land Grant given to James Ferguson in Craven, now Chester County, South Carolina for 200 acres of land. On 12 December 1767 there is another land Grant given to James Ferguson for



300 acres of land. The above documents can be found at the Chester District Genealogical Society.

The children of James are:

1. William Robert Ferguson 1736 – 1781 married Patience last name unknown. This is the Great Great Grandfather of James Eldridge Ferguson, Governor of Texas.
2. James Ferguson III 1740 – 1780 married Mary Lawrence. This is the Tory Colonel that died at what was known as Huck's Defeat in the Revolutionary War.
3. Paul Ferguson 1742 – 1824 married Elizabeth Ann Sutton.
4. Robert Ferguson 1745 - 1795 married Elizabeth Martin.
5. Abraham Ferguson 1751 – 1826 married Jane Gnderat.
6. Adams Ferguson 1753 – 1822 married Elizabeth "Betsy" Finley. This would be my line
7. Samuel Ferguson 1755 – 1817 married Isabella Barber.
8. Agnes Ferguson 1765 – 1848 married Edward Steadman.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Will of Asa Darby

ASA DARBY

Asa Darby  
Will

Names in his will

ag. 11 May 1830

DORCAS DARBY .... Wife

Pr. 13 Jan 1834  
Chester Co., S.C.

Children

FILE No. 16-271

JOHN DARBY .... Son and Ex.

WPA copy, check file

JAMES DARBY .... Son

THOMAS DARBY .... Son

NANCY SEALEY .... Daughter, Dec'd. .... "her share to her children...."

EDWARD SEALEY .... Son-in-law

ELLIS SEALEY .... Grandson

THOMAS SEALEY .... Grandson

ANNE SANDERS .... Deceased daughter .... "her share to her children...."

THOMAS SANDERS .... Husband of Anne

ASA SANDERS .... Grandson, son of Anne, also other children of ANNE

LYDIA SANDERS .... Daughter, wife to JOHN SANDERS

ELIZABETH ESTES .... Deceased daughter .... "her share to her children...."

THOMAS ESTES .... Son-in-law "to hold the share of Elizabeth for her children."

ASA DAVIES DARBY ... Grandson, the son of James Darby

MARY HUMPHRIES .... Daughter

GEORGE DARBY .... Deceased Son .... "his share to his children."

ASA D. SANDERS .... Grandson, son of LYDIA SANDERS

WILLIAM J. DARBY .... Son (d. single, see his will ag. 10 Aug. 1830)

Witnesses: John Smith  
James B. Sealey  
Clemment Woods

Maryland Records show that  
ASA DARBY served as a soldier of  
the Rev. in 6<sup>th</sup> Maryland Battalion  
of the "Upper Maryland Troops"

ASA DARBY, b. 13 April 1756 in Anne Arundel Co., son of GEORGE and ANN DARBY, who moved from Ann Arundel to Frederick Co., Md.. GEORGE DARBY was son of JOSIAH and HENRIETTA DARBY. ASA DARBY died in Chester Co., S.C., 20 Dec. 1833. His wife was DORCAS GORE, b. Craven Co., S.C., 3 May 1759.



## Miscellaneous Obituaries

### **Mrs. Flenniken Dead – Originator of Columbia Hospital and First Patient in New Building, Died Early Sunday Morning – Native of Chester County.**

November 5, 1933 – The following is from The Columbia State of Sunday morning:

Mrs. Margaret Caldwell Flenniken, 87, widow of David Reid Flenniken, died at 1:35 this morning in the Columbia hospital where she had been since Thursday a week ago, and to which she had been taken because of a fall which had fractured her leg. She had a fall several months ago while supervising some work in the First Presbyterian churchyard from which she had not fully recovered. The more recent fall was due to her mistaking the last step in the stairs as she was coming down in the residence of Dr. C. Fred Williams, 1728 College Street, with whom she had made her home for a number of years.

Mrs. Flenniken was the daughter of William and Bethia Hemphill McCalla Caldwell, and was born in Chester county August 9, 1846. When seven years old she joined Old Catholic Presbyterian church in that county. This is one of the historic churches of the upcountry, and recently there was unveiled a monument to the 58 members of that church who served as soldiers in the Revolutionary war. A 17-year-old brother of Mrs. Flenniken, was the first soldier from Chester county to be killed in the Confederate war, December 2, 1862, at the battle of Drainesville. She married David R. Flenniken of Winnsboro, December 12, 1871.

For about 47 years Mrs. Flenniken has been a resident of Columbia, and during that time she has been a devoted member of the First Presbyterian church, of which her husband was a ruling elder. For a number of years she had care of the linen used at the communion service and for a number years past the care of the graveyard has been under her supervision. With great perseverance she has been able to establish a perpetual care fund for a number of graves, and to secure annual contributions for others. On her death bed she was much concerned about the care of the graveyard and urged it upon the attention of those who are to succeed her.

### **F. B. McElduff, Dies Tuesday At Great Falls Home**

July 1, 1950 – Francis Benjamine McElduff, 62, died suddenly at his home on Mitford road near Great Falls, about midnight, Tuesday, June 27, following an illness of the past two months. He had returned to his home from the Columbia hospital nine days prior to his passing.

Mr. McElduff, a former resident of the Hebron community, had made his home in Great Falls for about 28 years. He was the son of the late Alex and Lou Jackson McElduff, well known Chester county families.

He was an employee of the public Cotton Mills, Division of J. P. Stevens, and company. Until his recent illness his last work was a guard at plant No. 1 gate.

He was a member of the Great Falls Presbyterian church and of the Men's Sunday school class.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Rosa Stewart McElduff, and daughter, Miss Sara Lou McElduff of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Irene Lathan of Blackstock and Mrs. W. Boyd Gwin of Conover, N.C., three brothers, Warren M. McElduff of Blackstock; H. Moffett McElduff of Mt. Holly, N.C., and Charlie McElduff of Great Falls and a large amount of nieces and nephews.



His only son, Roy McElduff, United States Navy, lost his life at sea during World War II.

Funeral services were conducted at three o'clock Thursday afternoon from the Presbyterian church by his pastor, the Rev. John S. Steele.

Interment was made in the Hebron Presbyterian church cemetery.

Pallbearers were: J. Granvill Baker, James W. Dye, R. M. Dantzler, A. M. Justus, A. B. Lee, and William H. West.

### **Dr. T. B. Kell, Died at Rock Hill Hospital – Veteran Fort Lawn Doctor Is Buried Friday At Home**

June 5, 1950 – Dr. Thomas Banks Kell, 77, of Fort Lawn, died in a Rock Hill hospital last Wednesday. Dr. Kell had practiced medicine in Fort Lawn for 50 years.

On his birthday anniversary last March, citizens of Fort Lawn staged a celebration in observance of his 50<sup>th</sup> year as the community's doctor.

It was estimated that during his lifetime he had delivered 2,000 babies.

Son of the late Dr. Sam A. Kell and Hattie Gillespie Kell, he was educated at the University of South Carolina, the University of Arkansas, the University of Vermont, and the Medical college at Charleston.

He had taught school for a short time before entering on his medical training. Dr. Kell was a member of the First A.R.P. church in Lancaster.

Funeral services were held at the home at 4 p.m. Friday. The Rev. A. B. Love, the Rev. E. L. Larson, the Rev. J. B. Linder, and the Rev. Martin Tilson officiated, and burial was in Fort Lawn cemetery.

Surviving are his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Clifton Ferguson and Mrs. Paul Wade of Fort Lawn; three grandchildren; a sister, Mrs. Bessie Brunson of Sumter; and two half sisters, Mrs. Margaret Parks and Mrs. Frank E. Courtney of Augusta, Ga.

### **J. T. Pressley, 93, Taken By Death**

April 18, 1956 – John Templeton Pressley, 93, one of Chester county's oldest citizens and most successful planters, died at his home five miles west of Chester at 1:20 yesterday morning following an illness of five months.

Mr. Pressley, a member of Bethel Methodist church in Chester, was a son of the late Ira Pressley and Martha Ann Darby Pressley of Chester county. He was born September 26, 1862, spending his entire life in Chester county.

Mr. and Mrs. Pressley celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on January 14, 1956. She is the former Miss Savilla Catherine Crowder of Fairfield county.

In addition to his widow, he is survived by five daughters and one son, Mrs. John C. Moore, Mrs. Herbert L. Patrick and Mrs. Alma P. Anderson, all of Chester, Miss Evelyn C. Pressley of the home, Mrs. C. Carroll Turner of Winnsboro, and Lucius C. Pressley of Chester; also, seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Active pallbearers include Raymond McDaniel, E. W. Hale, Sr., W. H. Roddey, James Mobley, Fred Grant and A. W. Davis.

Funeral services were to be conducted at 3:30 this afternoon at the chapel of Barron's Funeral Home with his pastor, the Rev. Raymond L. Holroyd, officiating. Interment was to be in Evergreen Cemetery.

### **Willie Spence Passed Away**

June 6, 1957 -- Willie Spence, 83, retired blacksmith, died at his home on Saluda Road Friday morning after a long illness.

He was a native of County Antrim, Ireland, and came to Chester in 1891. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Spence.



Mr. Spence was a blacksmith for many years until his retirement. He was a member of the Chester Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a member of the Chester Masonic Lodge No. 18, and a Woodmen of the World.

He married Miss Annie Jane Montgomery March 23, 1898, also a native of County Antrim. They were married in Chester and celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary March 23. They lived two and one-half miles apart in Ireland but never knew each other until they met in Chester.

Survivors include his widow; three sons, James and Hugh Spence, both of Chester, and Sam Spence of Augusta, Ga.; six daughters, Mrs. Mary Veach of Salisbury, N. C., Mrs. John Chase of Wyandotte, Mich., Mrs. Louis Wix of Great Falls, Mrs. Robert Ames, Mrs. Henry Denruyter and Miss Rose Spence, all of Chester; 20 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Ellen Elser of County Antrim, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. Saturday from the home on Saluda Road with full Masonic rites by Dr. Arthur Murray Rogers, his pastor, assisted by Rev. P. H. Grier of Blackstock and Rev. P. H. Spence of Montreat, N.C. Burial was in the family burying ground on the Spence property.

### **Patton**

November 19, 1958 – Mrs. Janie Boyd Patton, 90, of the Harmony Community, died Saturday afternoon at her home in Rock Hill after an illness of two weeks.

Funeral services were conducted at 4 p.m. Tuesday from the chapel of the Bass Funeral Home by Dr. W. R. Ecols. Burial was in Neely's Creek A.R.P. Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Patton was born and raised in York County, the daughter of the late Caroline Wylie, and John Thomas Boyd. She was married in 1885 to Thomas Edwin Patton of York County, who passed away in 1929.

She has lived in the Harmony Community of Chester County for the past 30 years. Mrs. Patton was a member of Neely's Creek A.R.P. Church, of which she was the last surviving charter member of the W.M.S. of Neely's Creek A.R.P. Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. R. C. McKnight of Charleston and Mrs. W. D. Collins of Edgemoor; eight grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

### **McFadden Rites Wednesday**

January 12, 1960 – James Stewart McFadden, Sr., 67 of Rock Hill, died Monday at his home after an illness of several years' duration.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Main Street Methodist Church by the Rev. B. E. Locklair with burial in Union A.R.P. Cemetery in Richburg.

He was born and reared in Richburg, son of the late Robert Clark and Martha Ferguson McFadden. He had lived in Rock Hill since 1942 and was employed at the Victoria Mills. On July 20, 1913, he married the former Sarah Irene Bishop of Chester County. He was a member of Main Street Methodist Church and the Woodmen of the World.

Surviving are his widow; two sons, J. S. McFadden, Jr., of Rock Hill and J. C. McFadden of Charlotte, N.C.; five daughters, Mrs. Pearce Bobo and Mrs. Eugenia Wilson of Rock Hill, Mrs. Rembert Scoggins of Ogden, Mrs. Bill McGee of Charlotte and Mrs. Fred McClure of Chattanooga, Tenn.; two brothers, Gilbert and Tom McFadden of Rock Hill; 18 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



### **Hicklin Funeral Held At Church At Richburg**

September 29, 1952 – Dr. J. T. Dendy, minister, conducted last rites at the Presbyterian church here Friday afternoon for Ira Kell Hicklin, 61, who died Thursday afternoon at his home here.

Pallbearers were J. H. Clawson, Tim Reid, W. S. Simpson, L. L. McCrorey, R. H. Gladden and Sam McCrorey. Burial was in Union cemetery at Richburg.

Death followed an illness of several months. A native of Lancaster county, Mr. Hicklin was brought to Richburg by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Hicklin, when he was a young child.

For many years, Mr. Hicklin was associated with the Springs Cotton Mills, first in Chester, then in Fort Mill and finally at Lancaster, in the cotton classing department. He also had farming interests near Richburg. As a member of the Richburg Presbyterian church, he was a ruling elder.

He married Miss Helen McRae of Mackintosh, Fla., who survives. Other survivors are four daughters; Mrs. Bernard Boyd of Chapel Hill, N.C., Mrs. Henry Baumann of Davidson, N.C., Miss Louise Hicklin of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Miss Elizabeth Hicklin of Charlotte, N.C.; a son, Robert M. Hicklin of Columbus, Ga.; three grandsons; a niece, Mrs. John Wylie Hicklin of Edgemoor.

### **Ragsdale**

March 13, 1957 – James Law Ragsdale, 70, died Monday night at a Columbia hospital after a long illness. He was a native of Chester County, son of the late James Parker Ragsdale and Mrs. Elizabeth McCrorey Ragsdale. He was a retired salesman for the Meadors Manufacturing Company and was a member of the Blackstock Presbyterian church.

Mr. Ragsdale is survived by his wife, the former Miss Grace Douglas, three daughters, Mrs. Clarence L. Geddings of Winnsboro; Mrs. Jane Moore of Van Wyck and Mrs. Carter Payne of Warwick, Va.; four brothers, D. A. Ragsdale of Tallahassee, Fla.; A. W. Ragsdale of Hemmingway, S.C.; L. M. Ragsdale of Columbia, and Hall Ragsdale of Washington, D.C.; one sister, Mrs. C. M. Long of Lena, S.C. and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Blackstock Presbyterian church, assisted by the Rev. A. N. Littlejohn of Bowling Green and the Rev. Lawrence Williams of Van Wyck. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Active pallbearers were Clarence Douglas, Robert Shannon, Edward Kennedy, Edward Durham, Watt Weir and Harry McDonald.

### **Mrs. McGarity**

February 25, 1960 – Mrs. Lizzie McDill McGarity, 81, died at 2 a.m., Saturday at Chester County Hospital following an illness of several months.

She was a native of Chester County, daughter of the late Samuel Moffatt McDill and the late Mary Elizabeth McDaniel McDill.

Mrs. McGarity was a member of Chester A.R.P. Church. She was married twice, first to James Brown. Following his death she married J. L. McGarity, who died a number of years ago.

Survivors are two brothers, S. M. McDill of Atlanta and N. H. McDill of Chester.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m., Sunday at Barron's Funeral Home by Dr. Arthur Murray Rogers. Burial was in the Hopewell A.R.P. Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Cloud McDill, Gus McDill, Floyd Dixon, Jr., Nick McDill, Marcus McDill, and Harry McKeown.



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