

Fairfield Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

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September 2006

The next meeting of the Fairfield Chapter of the SCGS will be Sunday at 3:00 pm, on September 24, 2006 at the First Methodist Church in Winnsboro, S. C. The church is located on Congress Street, one block north of the town clock, across from the Winnsboro, S. C. Post Office. Put this date on your calendar and plan to join us for the meeting.

Table of Contents

Confederate Veterans Picture	2
Dixon County History – Continuation	3
Robert Hayne McMeekin Obit	9
They Skinned the Hog	10
Furmans Fairfield Days	11
Information Found on Gravestones	19
Dr. Thomas G. Douglass Obit	20
Fairfield Light Dragoons	22

Articles, Bible Records, Lineage Charts Etc. Needed

Sharing your information, sources and experiences is a vital part of being a member of your genealogical society. Please submit any information or queries to be included in your newsletter to:

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REUNION OF FAIRFIELD'S CONFEDERATE VETERANS AT COURT HOUSE

The above picture shows a group of Fairfield County Confederate veterans as they were photographed in front of the courthouse a number of years ago. The picture, which is the property of Mrs. F. M. Gadsden, was taken between 1900 and 1910.

The following have been identified: J. O. Boag, R. W. Phillips, L. S. Chappell, Jack Chappell, J. H. Neil, W. R. Rabb, James Timms, John R. Boyd, S. W. Broom, R. D. Bolick, Henry K. Dellinger, W. B. Estes, James Jones, William Glover Jordan, George White, W. C. Beaty, Hayne McMeekin, W. D. Richardson, J. W. Clark, James Lemmon, John Neil, John W. Lyles, T. W. Traylor, C. M. Chandler, W. J. Seigler, W. H. Flenniken, Dick Robertson, William McDowell and a Mr. Stewart. Perhaps the readers may be able to recognize a number of others.

(A good copy of this picture is available at the Fairfield Archives and History Room.)

DIXON CONTINUES COUNTY HISTORY

Thomas Woodward's (The Regulator) first wife Jemima, died while he was in the Colonial military service, leaving six children. He came with the Virginians to what is now Fairfield County and obtained a grant of land to the south and west of Winnsboro. His grant adjoined that obtained by Winn, and long years afterwards there was an interminable law suit between Joseph A. Woodward and Minor Winn in regard to a part of it. The evidence in the record is voluminous and involves the last will and testament of John Fortune. It is better not to clutter this article with its details, as we consider the Regulator's second venture into matrimony more humid and interesting.

South Carolina had become a Royal province ere the Virginians came. Woodward understood the Indian character better than most men of his day. The settlers of upper South Carolina, especially about Winnsboro, and Wateree deferred to his judgment in all their relations with the Indians.

Second Marriage

At the earliest settlement of Carolina by the Europeans, a man of French or Spanish extraction, named Silves, took an Indian girl to wife and reared a family. About the time the eldest girl arrived at womanhood, an Englishman, Thomas Stokes by name, came to this province, turned Indian trader, married her and had two sons and two daughters. The two sons, Thomas and Sylvester Stokes, patriots, were hanged from the same scaffold as Isaac Hayne by the British at the close of the Revolution.

One of the daughters married a Joiner. The youngest daughter, Elizabeth Stokes, married John May and had three children. May died and the Regulator married the widow. He built a large log house south of Winnsboro, not far from the Woodward graveyard, on Highway No. 21, leading to Columbia.

Soon thereafter he went back to Virginia and returned with his two half brothers, John and William Robertson, his mother, Elizabeth Simpson Robertson and some of her Simpson relatives, for whom it is likely the station Simpson is named. The mother of the Regulator lived to a great age of 114 years. This fact has been verified by Brigadier Thos. S. Woodward, of Alabama. She made the claim that the Simpson, who commanded the battleship "Ranger" in the Revolution, was her nephew.

In the marriage to the widow The Regulator had three boys and three girls. His house was certainly full of children and it was reported that he was the father of 26. While this is amusing, it is not true. However, living at one time under the same roof were six by the first wife, the three May children, and six Woodward children by the last wife, all told fifteen in number. The girls by the last marriage wedded respectively William McMorries, William J. Augustin and Reeves Freeman.

All of these son-in-law, including James Nelson, Phillip Ralford, Robert Rabb and the two sons, John and William Woodward, were in the battle of Eutaw Springs. It was published that the stepson, Ben May, and William Woodward were the most daring in that engagement.

Again we have run ahead of the orderly progress of our story. We now take up Mills' statistics and quote: Thomas Woodward was a patron of orderly and honest men but the implacable and active enemy of persons of contrary character. Mr. Woodward was one of the men who put the regulation of foot. The only court in the province was in Charleston; the country abounded with depredators on private property, especially stock, and there were reasons to believe that these dishonest operations resulted from a perfect union among themselves. To convict a thief was next to impossible. The

prosecutor and witnesses could not attend a court 160 miles away. Felons took heart from this knowledge and committed depredations in open day. The Regulators were a necessary evil and those engaged in it were the honest part of the community. Mr. Woodward suffered persecution for this well intended exertion.

Quoting McCrady in his Royal Province: "The Governor adopted measures for the suppression of Woodward and the Regulators. He created the office of Provost Marshal and appointed, one Scovil to manage the disturbance in the back country. The conduct of this knave added greatly to the difficulties of the situation and exasperated the people to white heat of opposition for he threw every obstacle in the way of up-country obtaining courts from the British crown, and it was no balm to the people when, driven by necessity to take the law into their own hands and to administer punishment to thieves to have the Royal Governor mincing words of justice in a court open to them in Charleston when the only transportation facility was horseback riding.

He proclaimed the Regulators as criminals, when in reality they were only trying to preserve some order, peace and security for themselves and their families. One John Bowles, a deputy, tried to kill the Regulator and was himself killed.

Barnaby Pope, John Graw, Moses Kirkland, ancestor of the Harrissons, and Dixons of Longtown, Thomas Sumter, who afterward was a partisan general, and Woodward, were described by Scovil as the "ring leaders".

A deputy marshal levied on eight Negroes of William Scott and were taking them to Charleston when he was overtaken, jerked from his horse by the Regulators and taken to the home of the Regulator. After inspiring him with fear of ever coming back into the country again, he was permitted to escape. When he reached Charleston, the South Carolina Gazette published a hair-raising and blood and thunder narrative of how they flogged him, chained him to a post and made him eat the legal document he had brought to serve.

The people persisted in their demands for local courts and the dismissal of the rascal Scovil. The office of Provost was abolished in 1772 and seven courts were appointed, with as many sheriffs, to serve the writs and papers of the court. The courts served as a vehicle for Wm. H. Drayton to convey to the people, in his addresses to the grand juries, a spirit of resistance to tyranny and caused many of the inhabitants of the up-country to enlist in the cause of liberty when the Revolutionary came on.

The two cases that excited so much criticism of the Regulators were the hanging of a horse thief after trial by six men of the vicinage, and the flogging of a strumpet who was a source of demoralization to the community near Winnsboro. The lawyers of Charleston made a great to do about the inviolability of British subjects being tried with a duly authorized court and one minister had an article in the Gazette expressing horror of the crimes committed by Woodward and his company of Regulators.

With the advent of the courts of the up-country and Scovil being supplanted by the local sheriffs, the motives of the Regulators became clear to the low country and the people elected him to the Provincial Congress. This body met on the 11th of January 1775, in Charleston and set forth their grievances against the Crown. The motion that all able-bodied men be trained in the manual of arms target practiced and the school of the soldier, supported by the Regulator, prevailed. The only other business was the election of delegates to the American Congress at Philadelphia, for the establishment of American rights. Those elected were, Thomas Lynch, Christopher Gadsen and John Rutledge. The Congress then adjourned.

The Regulator rode home, mustered his followers and organized one of the first companies that enlisted for the Revolutionary War. The officers and enlisted men of this company will be the subject of the next chapter.

From the June 20, 1935 Issue of the News and Herald

DIXON CONTINUES COUNTY HISTORY

There are some incidents in the life of Thomas Woodward (The Regulator) that would be interesting in a family history, but are too intimate for a newspaper article, yet it may not be amiss to print here that the cold February day he left the Provincial Congress in Charleston, Christopher Gadsen presented him with a shawl to wear over his shoulders in the long ride home on horseback. The horse was a bay gelding named Saladin, a present from Dick Kirkland, on the Wateree.

The Kirklands came to the Wateree section from Virginia to raise horses and cattle. The situation, climate, cane, grass and pasturage made it ideal for stock raising. Mill Statistics recorded that he had 50 blood mares at one time, and large droves of beef cattle. These horses and cattle were ever in the minds of the covetous thieves that The Regulator made war upon. On one occasion they made a raid on Kirkland and escaped with six thoroughbred horses. Woodward, his son John, his step-son Ben May, Elisha Owens, Richard Winn, Job Meadows, Pritchard Stone and other Regulators chased them to Fish Dam ferry, shot one of the thieves and recaptured all the horses. Not long after William Kirkland, a lad, brought the horse Saladin and presented him to the Regulator as a gift from his father.

Mr. Woodward came home completely worn over by the blandishments he had received in Charleston and was rather irritated that there seemed to be a lack of enthusiasm for the cause of liberty in and about him.

He sensed accurately from what he saw, heard and felt in Charleston, that war was inevitable. He made visits to John Pearson and constructed and strengthened a line of forts from Lyles' Ford to McCord's Ford. He named two of these forts for his sons-in-law, Fort Philip Raiford and Fort James Andrews. Another fort was Fort Hicks.

To the students of military science and art of early Colonial warfare, Mr. Woodward looms pretty large. He knew, like France and Spain, England would seek an alliance with the Indians when it came to war. These forts, with old Fort Wagner, would be a strength against the Cherokees on the Broad river. The Catawbias were friendly and the influence he held by his marriage would keep them so, rendering such a cordon on the Catawba and Wateree rivers unnecessary.

Here is a roll of his company as copied from Revolutionary records in Columbia and verified by A. S. Sulley, Secretary of the Historical Commission:

Captain – Thomas Woodward
1st Lieutenant – Richard Winn
2nd Lieutenant – John Woodward
1st Sergeant – John Smith
2nd Sergeant – William Boyd
Drummer – William Wilson
Privates – Place of Birth

James Pickett – Virginia

Pritchard Stone - Virginia

John Owens – Virginia
John Carr – Virginia
John Jacobs – Virginia
Henry Wimpey – Virginia
Francis Henderson – Virginia
John McDaniell
Francis McDonnell – Virginia
Charnell Durham – Virginia
Augustine Hancock – Virginia
Benjamin McGraw – South Carolina
William Raiford – South Carolina
James Anderson – South Carolina
James Frazier – South Carolina
Thomas Willingham – South Carolina

Joseph Owens - Virginia
William Duggins - Virginia
John Bell - Ireland
Ben Mitchell - Ireland
Thomas Gaither - Maryland
William Owens - Pennsylvania
John Carson - Maryland
John Henderson - Pennsylvania
Benjamin May – South Carolina
Daniel Oakes – South Carolina
Edward McGraw – South Carolina
William Henderson – South Carolina
Matthew Raiford – South Carolina
Jacob Frazier – South Carolina

From all I can gather, legendary and otherwise, Capt. Woodward was killed in pursuit of a band of Tories and Indians, who were escaping with a drove of horses and beef cattle for the British regulars. His horse had carried far in advance of his company and he was killed on Dutchman Creek, May 12, 1779. At this time his son, John, had a separate company, Richard Winn had risen to the rank of Colonel and his step-son, Ben May, was elected captain of Co. D, the Regulator's company, in the organization of Col. Thompson's Rangers.

W. W. Dixon

From the July 4, 1935 Issue of the News and Herald

DIXON CONTINUES COUNTY HISTORY

“When private men shall act with vast views, the luster will be transferred from the actions of kings to those of gentlemen.” – Emerson.

To William T. Woodward and his wife was born one of the most remarkable and interesting men in the annals of Fairfield County, Maj. Thos. William Woodward. He was born on a plantation originally granted to his great grandfather, Thomas Woodward, The Regulator, by King George III. He was an only son and a much humored child. Perhaps he never got over this fact of early training. Never restrained he always did about as he pleased. The faults of his life were due, if anything, to an imperious will, that never in his career had any governance except his affections and his generous impulse. His father, being very wealthy, tried to give him every educational advantage, and as far as books are concerned, and college training, he succeeded. Maj. Woodward was a versatile and an accomplished gentleman. He first attended Mt. Zion Institute, then Shirley's Institute, then Wake Forest College in North Carolina, in 1847. Afterwards he entered the South Carolina College in 1848, where at the head of the student body, he led what was called “The Mess Hall Rebellion.” He and about half the student body left the college and were expelled.

He afterward attended, Princeton, and there formed a friendship with the late Senator John L. M. Irley, which, in spite of the bitter rancor and feeling engendered by the Tillmanite revolution of 1890 (they being on opposite side) continued until his death.

In 1860 Maj. Woodward was a candidate and was elected to the Legislature of South Carolina. He was then twenty-seven years old. Here is an incident of his canvass. He stopped with a relative

near "The Corner" above Feasterville and inquired of this relative the names of those living around and was told to call on old Wright. He said to the Major: "Old Uriah is a fox hunter, and I am sure that you can talk enough about dogs to secure his vote."

"Well, give me some points about the pack," said the Major.

"Ring Smith' is his best strike;" "Jolly Wright is his coldest trailer, and Molly Clowney is his swiftest runner," said the kinsman.

The Major having obtained a description of those dogs so there would be no difficulty in identifying them, made it convenient to call on old man Uriah the next day about dinner time. Old Uriah had just come in from ploughing when the Major rode up to the gate.

"This is Doctor Wright, I suppose?" said the Major.

"That is what Jonathan D. and the boys around here call me."

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

"Git down. You are a monstrous likely man, and I'll take you to see Pinkey, my wife, and we'll see what she has to say about it."

The Major descended and was going into the house to see Pinkey, the while discussing the crops with Old Uriah, when he paused a moment, and turning in the direction of some hounds that were lying around in the shade, said: "Dr. Wright, I am a peculiar man. I love the ladies dearly, it is true, and yet, I hope sir, you will pardon my weakness – a fine hound dog comes nearer perfection in my eye than any earthly object."

"And what do you know about hounds?" asked Old Uriah, turning from the house and following the Major, who had gone in the direction of the dogs, and was already seated with the whole pack around him. He had little difficulty in selecting the dogs of note from the description given him the night before, and after some general comment on dogs, he said, "What is the name of this dog? Ah, Ring Smith did you say? An uncommonly fine dog he seems to be. If there is any truth in signs he ought to be a mighty good strike."

"Good strike, did you say? If there were five thousand dogs here I would bet a million dollars 'Ring Smith' would open three miles ahead of the best hunter in the bunch, and you might go before a magistrate and swear it was a fox when he opened." Was of Uriah's reply.

The Major was now intently examining a pale black and tan dog which fitted with the description of "Jolly Wright" the coldest trailer, feeling his nose and walking around eyeing him intently. "Dr. Wright," said he at last, "I think this is one of the most remarkable dogs I ever seen." "Coldest did you say? Why he can smell them when they have been gone three or four weeks, and if the fur ain't good, he won't open on em."

Molly Clowney had been easily recognized, and now came in for her turn. "Here ought to be the apple of your eye." Said the Major, "for if I know anything about dogs, this is unquestionably the fleetest footed animal I have ever seen. Tell me truthfully, can't she outrun anything in the parts?"

"Run, did you say? No, she can't run a bit! But thar ain't a crow nor a turkey buzzard that ever crossed "The Corner" that can hold a candle to her flying. I have seen her tried against many of em. Dinner is about ready and I want Pinkey to see you. The Major was taken into the house and introduced to Mrs. Wright. "Ain't he likely Pinkey? Just look at him," and the old man led him around like a fine horse at a Fair. "And smart? Why he forgot more than all the other candidates ever knowed what he was talking about." Kin to old preacher Billy Woodward, for I heard my daddy say he was the smartest man in the world, and he knowed what he was talking about."

After dinner the Major, having promised to introduced a bill for the benefit of tired dogs, providing that no fence should be over five rails high, was in the act of leaving when Old Uriah called Pinkey to bring his fiddle, saying, "Hold on till I play 'The Devil's Dream' for you. When he finished "One good turn deserves another," said the Major. "I'll play you a tune before I go," and taking up the fiddle he rendered "Hell Broke Loose in Georgia" with such spirit and skill that Old Uriah jumped up, hugged Pinkey and cut the pigeon wing all over the rooms.

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

As a member of the Legislature, he favored and voted to call the famous Secession Convention. With becoming consistency he did not, like many others fail to take up arms for his country. He volunteered at once and enlisted as a private in the Fairfield Fencibles, did his duty according to the transmitted qualities of his great ancestor of the French and Revolutionary wars; and on the reorganization of that great regiment, the famous fighting sixth, he was elected Major. He was seriously wounded at Dranesville. On recovering from his wounds he enlisted again as a private in the 20th regiment, and was soon given again his same rank, and tendered the position of Quartermaster of the regiment, which he accepted.

This regiment was attached to Kershaw's brigade, and he followed its colors to the end of the war, surrendering with Johnston at Greensboro, N. C.

After the war he took his place in the ranks of peace, but there was no peace for a man like him in such times. He gritted his teeth and determined with that old resolution of his ancestry, that he would not have such peace as the radicals were giving us, at any price. He was sent to all the meeting of the Tax Payers Union, and was one of a committee sent to Washington to acquaint the country with the infamies of the scalawag government in this State. His money, his time, his voice, his education and his great physical endurance were freely used to elect Governor Hampton, Col. Henry A. Gaillard, Col. J. Feaster Cameron and Maj. Woodward, under the wise direction of General Bratton, did about as much, if not more, to redeem South Carolina than any three men of those times. One admirable thing about Major Woodward was that he was not envious of his co-laborers. He was most loyal to General Bratton and would allow no comparison of himself to General Bratton by his kin people who thought he was just as great.

He succeeded General Bratton as County Chairman in 1880, and represented this county in the State Senate for twelve years. In that position he took high rank and was perhaps the most personally beloved of that body.

Major Woodward was the first to realize the great possibilities of the granite industry in Fairfield County. At the beginning he associated with himself only two men, Col. James H. Rion and Col. A. C. Haskell. He gave the right of way through his plantation and commenced development. Afterward some Charleston gentlemen came in and in the manipulation of directors and finances he was finally euchred out of his holdings. He at least should be given credit for the origination of the great enterprise.

In after years the Senate requested of his widow, Mrs. R. V. Woodward, a portrait of Major Woodward to hang on its walls. The presentation was made in a formal session of the Senate by the President pro tempore, Senator Mauldin, of Greenville, who was Lieut. Governor a part of the time during Maj. Woodward's service in the Senate.

The oil painting appears to great advantage as the morning sunlight comes through the east windows and irradiates the chamber, to show in light and shadow the face of a brave soldier, a patriotic man, a go all the way friend, and a provident, loving husband.

Capt. Robert Hayne McMeekin

On April the 21st, the oldest and most honored citizen of Monticello, Capt. Robert Hayne McMeekin, passed from this life to the beyond.

In the life of this excellent man, another has been plucked from the already thin ranks of that type of high-toned, cultured character which is a product of that splendid civilization and culture, that reached its zenith in the South prior to the Civil War.

“Capt.” as we all called him, came of good Irish stock. His father, Thomas McMeekin, married a Miss Brummitte and settled in Union County, near Carlisle now stands. To them was born on November 20th, 1832, a boy named Robert Hayne. Three years the father died and the little boy came to live with his grandfather, Gen. Thomas McMeekin, near Monticello, in Fairfield County.

His primary education was obtained at Mt. Zion, in Winnsboro. Prof. Hudson was at the head of this excellent old school at that time, and took special pride in this bright pupil.

From Mt. Zion he entered the junior class at the South Carolina College. Two years later, 1854, he graduated in the A. B. course. He stood high in the estimation of the faculty and student body.

Prof. Wardlaw says of him: “He was one of the oldest and most honored of the alumni of our institution”.

I have before me a list of the class of 1854: very few, if any, are still living.

He was a scholar and student. His mind retained its vigor and he continued to be a student to the very end of his life.

After leaving college he engaged in teaching in the schools of Fairfield County.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was elected captain of Company F, which position he held until the end of the war. This company was assigned to the 12th Regiment and attached to General A. P. Hill’s Division.

This company was composed of Fairfield boys. Only two of the number that went with the company are still living: viz: D. L. Glenn and William McDowell. Three of those who entered later are living, viz: Oscar Chappelle, James Timms and Frank Austin. This little band, under Capt. McMeekin, saw service in many of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. At the Seven Pines, when Hill and Longstreet, with two divisions, fought and held back for three hours seventy thousand Union troops, Capt. McMeekin was slightly wounded.

As a soldier and officer, Captain McMeekin never shirked a responsibility. He was firm with his men, yet gentle. They all loved him.

In the early eighties he was elected to represent this county in the lower house of the General Assembly. Here he served with distinction for one term, and then retired to his farm.

Again in 1890 he was called by his fellow citizens to serve them as county treasurer, which he filled for eight years.

In his public life he was fair, just and considerate toward all, thus winning the esteem and confidence of everyone. He was no politician, after the modern meaning of this term. He did not seek popularity by making a demonstration of his ability, yet he was universally popular. This he won by just letting the splendid qualities of his character shine out through the action of his life, thereby attracting his fellow men to the real and lasting worth of the man himself.

Capt. McMeekin was a brilliant man, yet without any affectation. You had to know him to appreciate his intellectual culture.

He was a scholar and student and did his own thinking, for which he was thoroughly competent. He was a firm as a wall of stone, yet as gentle and kind as a woman-always considerate of the rights of others. "The soul of hospitality and the essence of generosity." Monticello is noted for its unstinted hospitality, this largely the result of the influence of Capt. McMeekin.

In 1856 Miss Sarah Gibson, daughter of Stephen Gibson, became the wife of Capt. McMeekin, and shared with him life's sorrows and joys for 55 years. To them were born eleven children, eight of who are still living. The surviving ones are: Mrs. C. B. Rabb, Messrs. S. G., F. R., T. J. H. A. McMeekin of Monticello: Mrs. Jackson and Dr. W. P. McMeekin of Columbia and Mrs. Gist, of Carlisle.

Monticello has lost her first citizen. The little town seems like a ring with the jewel removed.

"His is not dead, but slepeth."

J. P. Isenhower.

From the June 20, 1906 Issue of The News and Herald

They Skinned the Hog

Mr. Gilbert Tells of How He and a Comrade, Secured Meat to Supplement Their Corn Rations.

It was during the winter campaign in East Tennessee in 1862-63 and our regiment (the old 6th) was on the march from Knoxville, Tenn., to Richmond, Va. We had gone into winter quarters at Morristown. Rations were very scarce during this winter; also clothing. For some time our ration was one ear of corn per day to the man. This we prepared for eating by shelling it into an oven and pounding it into a coarse hominy, for we were too hungry to take up much time in its preparation. I recall one snowy day while in these winter quarters, when the snow was knee deep on the ground and the men had absolutely nothing to eat in their haversacks, one of my comrades (William R. Garrison) and myself went up into the mountains in search of food or as we then expressed it, "we went foraging." We were both in bad plight for marching over the rough mountains covered with ice and snow, our feet being tied up with rags to hold our worn out shoes together and keep our feet from freezing. We hunted a long time and could find no animal or meat for a distance of more than five miles. At last in joyful surprise we came across a sow and four nice shoats. They were near the owner's house, but some "old reb" must have been after them before, for just as they spied us the shoats began to "buff, buff" and made for the house, but the old sow was not so shy, or too poor and weak to run. We thought it "neck or nothing," and we soon had her skin off - this was our way of cleaning a hog. She was so poor that you could almost see through the meat. We divided her equally and each taking a half set out for camp, where we arrived about sundown, hungry and worn out, but proud of our success.

W. B. Gilbert, Co. C, 6th, S. C. V. Inf.

Furman's Fairfield Days 1837 – 1851

**Loulie Latimer Owens
Winnsboro, S. C.
1949**

Furman's Fairfield Days

1. Introduction

Furman Institution (later Furman University) was in Fairfield County from February 1837 to February 1851. Yet very little has been written about this period. Those who were a part of it are long since gone, and handed down traditions have become increasingly unreliable. Even official records are surprisingly scarce.

The purpose of this booklet is to gather together as much as possible of the facts concerning Furman's Fairfield days. It is prepared with the sincere desire to preserve an important phase of Baptist and Fairfield County History.

2. Background of Fairfield Church

About 1760 Philip Mulkey came down from North Carolina an established Congaree, the first Baptist Church in the up-country of South Carolina, in the district now known as Fairfield county. The church was located on the Little River off Broad in the southwest section of the district. Mulkey had been baptized by Shubal Stearns, best known leader of the "Newlights" in North Carolina. "Newlights" was a term applied to the movement of zealous converts of George Whitefield's revival. (This movement, made up of both Baptists and Pedobaptists, soon split over the question of infant baptism, and the Baptists branch became known as Separates or Separate Baptists.

In establishing Congaree, Mulkey placed Christian education and especially Furman under lasting obligation to him. The separate Baptist were very enthusiastic and alert. They infused a "lets go" spirit into the people about them and soon a number of churches were organized. Among these were Rock Creek Church, organized in 1790 about a mile north of the present site by William Woodward (this name uncertain).

But Furman University is doubly indebted to Philip Mulkey. It was he who baptized Joseph Reese, and Joseph Reese baptized Richard Furman. Richard Furman was therefore originally a Separate Baptist and appreciated the Separate viewpoint. (The separatists however, were supernaturalists to such an intense degree that the regular Baptists were not harmonious with them at first. The influence, largely of Richard Furman brought these two groups together in South Carolina, incorporating the best in both).

Among the members of Rock Creek Church was the Davis family of Monticello. Rock Creek Church ordained Jonathan Davis to the gospel ministry and in 1820 he organized Fairfield Baptist. This was the same year that Rock Creek moved to its present location.

The site selected for the building of Fairfield Church was about three and a half miles south and west of the town of Winnsboro in the direction of Monticello. The church faced south. The membership increased rapidly and, because the community was made up of wealthy planters, the church soon grew to a position of strength and prestige. Baptists throughout the state came to regard it as one of the strongest country churches in the convention.

3. The Davis Family

It is impossible to separate the Furman's Fairfield days from the Davis family. This influential family had moved to Monticello from Virginia in 1771. One of their homes, a plantation mansion, built before Furman's Fairfield days, still stands at Monticello. About a mile from this house on a road no longer used for public travel, is the family cemetery. The older Davis home was located near this cemetery.

The cemetery, now in a state of complete abandonment, furnishes an extraordinary record which is given herewith:

In Memory of Mrs. Mary Davis relict of the late James Davis, who was born in March A. D. 1741 and departed this life the third day of July A. D. 1840 Aged ninety-nine years.

This monument erected by her only son Jonathan Davis

To the Memory of Captain James Davis who served our republic as a faithful soldier during the Revolutionary War and continued a firm patriot to his death 1822, aged 68 years
Jonathan Davis, only son of Capt. James Davis. He was born near this spot 18th Aug. 1786 and died 5th Oct. 1855. Inheriting from his sire the patriot spirit, he spent his life of generous activity in the promotion of public interest. The improvement of agriculture, of education, and of the public morals, elicited his earnest exertions. The suffrages of his fellow citizens placed him in early life in the command of a regiment and among the Legislature of the state. But higher duties awaited him and as a minister of the Gospel he gave himself without pecuniary remuneration to unsparing labors for more than 30 years. In preparing him for the glory to be revealed it pleased God to carry him through a furnace of affliction. Desiring to rest beneath the epitaph "a sinner saved by grace" he died in assured hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Mrs. Davis, and 6 of 11 children survived him.

Sacred to the memory of Harriet E. Furman eldest daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca Davis, consort of James C. Furman. She possessed a vigorous understanding and ardent affections. In her youth she became a follower of the Son of God. A long and severe illness preceded her death, in the midst of which she exulted in the most joyous hope of everlasting life through the blood of the lamb. She was born the 23rd of September 1814 and died the 17th Aug. 1849. Her husband and 4 of 7 children survived her.

In memory of John Davis, son of the Re. John Davis, Pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Boston, grandson of the Rev. David Davis who emigrated from Wales in 1710 and who was pastor of the Welsh Tract Church, Pa. He removed to London Co., Va. and from thence to this place A. D. 1771. He had seven sons engaged in the War of the American Revolution, but two of whom survive that memorable contest. Three of his sons were successive captains of the same company. He departed this life March 15, 1785 in the 66th year of his age and died as he had lived a Christian

In memory of Rebecca Ann Davis daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca Davis who died in the triumphs of faith August 18, 1838 aged 20 years.

In memory of Davis ___ Davis son of Jonathan and Rebecca Davis who died Feb. 1823, aged 1 year and 1 month.

Sacred to the memory of Jane Rebecca, first daughter and second child of Dr. James B. and Mary E. Davis. She was born Feb. 6, 1834 and departed this life June 14, 1839.

Beneath this marble slab sleep the remains of a sinner saved by grace, Sarah Margaret Zimmerman Davis, wife of William K. Davis, born Sept. 14, 1815, died December 29, 1857

Sacred to the memory of Eliza Kincaid, first daughter and second daughter of William K. and Sarah M. Davis. She departed this life November 5, 1840, aged 3 years

Davis Furman, infant son of James C. and Harriet Furman who died Aug. 11, 1845, his twin brother sleeps beside him.

The writer makes no apology for giving this record in detail. The cemetery is difficult to reach and the stones are almost illegible. If the record is to be kept, it should be written down now. *(Editors note: These gravestones were moved to Little River Baptist Church when Lake Monticello was constructed.)*

The first tie between the Furman Institute and the Davis Family was made on April 3, 1833 when James C. Furman was married to Harriet E. Davis. In 1856, after the removal to Greenville, upon request of his first wife shortly before her death, James C. Furman returned to Monticello and married a second daughter of Jonathan Davis, Mary Glenn.

4. Furman Institution Before Fairfield

“The State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina” on December 20, 1825 received from the legislature an act of incorporation for the establishment of “an academical and theological seminary for the education of youth, generally, and of indigent pious young men, particularly, who may be designed for the gospel ministry”. On January 15, 1827, with one instructor, the institution was opened in the village of Edgefield, Joseph Andrews Warne was this first instructor.

Thus there came into existence the school dreamed of by Oliver Hart in the middle of the 18th century and zealously agitated for many years by Richard Furman. Richard Furman died on August 25, 1825 without seeing his hopes fulfilled, but so closely did Baptist identify Christian education with their esteemed leader that they named the institution for him.

Having located Furman at Edgefield in order to be near their Georgia brethren from whom they expected joint support, South Carolina Baptists were disappointed when this support failed to materialize. By the close of 1828 the institution was on the verge of collapse.

To prevent this, the trustees gave up the classical school for the time being, and placing three ministerial students then enrolled under the care and tutelage of the scholarly Jesse Hartwell, moved Furman to High Hill of the Santee, now called Stateburg. For five years the school, operated exclusively for ministerial students, remained in this location. Equipped at best with only a few frame and pole buildings and racked by discord between the two professors, Jesse Hartwell and Samuel Furman, it closed its doors at the end of 1834 almost swamped in debt. Those who had pledged their financial support simply failed to live up to their promises.

During 1835 and 1836 the school was closed, but by no means dead. Baptist leaders were active in their efforts to find a plan that would make the school succeed. N. W. Hodges was elected agent to solicit money.

5. Nicholas Ware Hodges

Inasmuch as Hodges played an important part in Furman's Fairfield years, the following facts about his life are in order.

Nicholas Ware Hodges was born in Abbeville District on January 1, 1779. He was baptized at Horn's Creek Church, Edgefield District in May of 1826. The church at Edgefield licensed him to preach in June of that year and a year later, on June 17, 1827 ordained him. From that time on he was a tireless preacher of the gospel and worker for Furman Institution.

In 1829 he became pastor of Mt. Moriah Church, five miles south of Greenwood and remained there until elected as agent of Furman. He founded Hodges Institute in Greenwood "which served for many years the purpose of Christian education in that community".

Hodges, along with Judge Belton O'Neill and Basil Manly, Sr., was an ardent advocate of manual labor schools, and it was largely through his influence that the trustees gave it a trial in Fairfield.

Hodges died at Greenwood of consumption on Oct. 7, 1841, soon after the death of his second wife by the same disease. He is buried directly behind Mt. Moriah Church building, which was erected in 1835 while he was pastor.

Other faithful men besides Hodges labored for Furman in Fairfield, but facts about them are either well recorded by Dr. McGlothlin and others or else are unknown to this writer.

6. Removal to Fairfield

On December 17, 1835 at Charleston, Rev. Jonathan Davis was elected president of Furman's Board of Trustee. This board included on its list some of the ablest Baptist in South Carolina during that period.

Davis dreamed of moving the school to Fairfield and spared no effort to make his dream come true. Davis knew the ability of Fairfield congregation. He was familiar with the fine displays of carriages, livery, horses, and drivers that arrived in front of Fairfield Church on meeting Sundays. The description of these is still handed down in Fairfield County to remind the present generation of the lost splendor of days before the war.

In a letter to his son-in-law in 1835, Mr. Davis wrote:

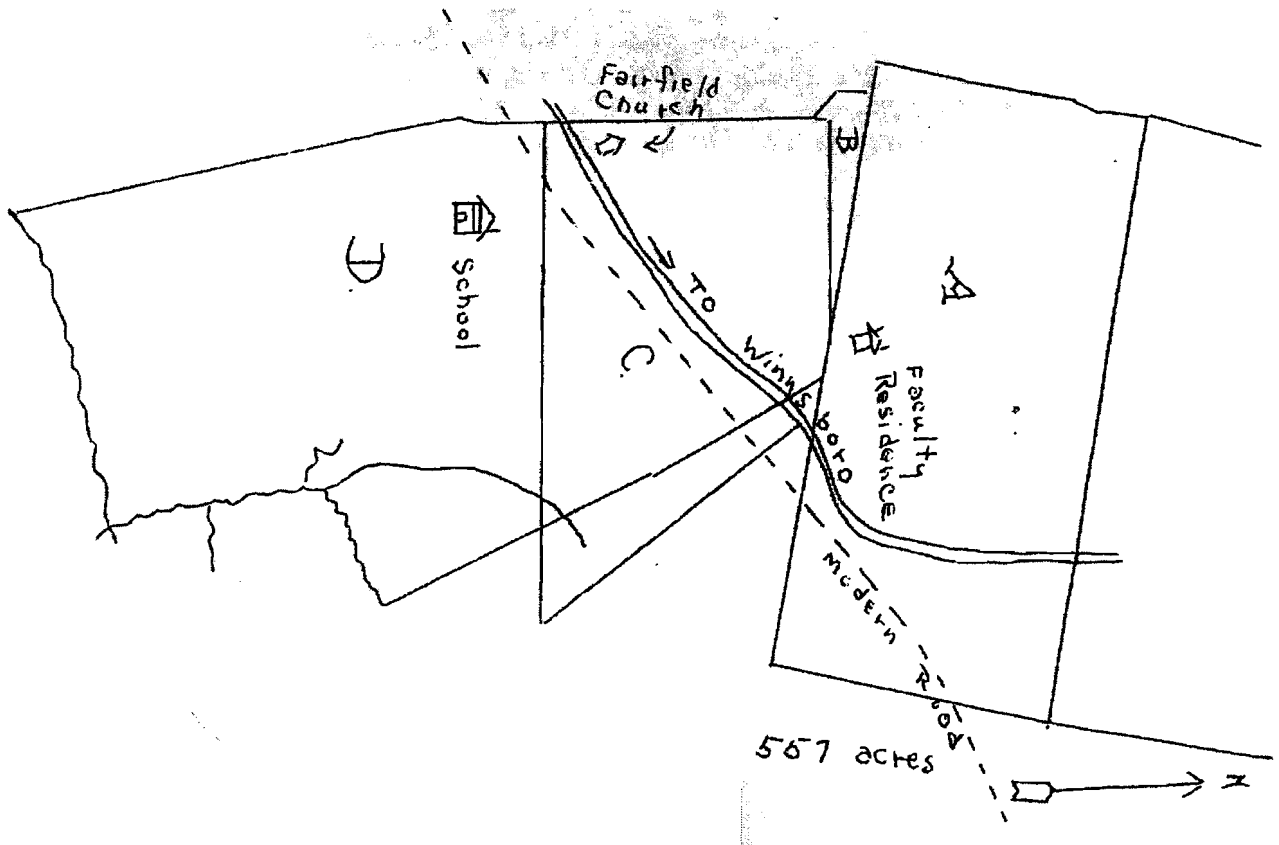
"I have made an effort as a commencement for a site for the Institution and have subscribed in the bounds of Fairfield Congregation \$3,000. Today the Committee have examined a site (Jesse Nelson's) fronting the church, highly delighted with the nicer situation and quality of the land. 600 acres, 300 of which acknowledge to be good for 30 bushels of corn to the acre, price \$5,000, which I think fully worth that sum. The committee (is) fully persuaded if the money can be raised without the old funds of the convention, that Fairfield will get the location. I think I can (pledge) Fairfield to raise \$5,000.

(The Life Work of James Clement Furman by Cook, PP. 51-52)

The first meeting of the Furman Board of Trustees in Fairfield County was held in Fairfield Church on May 14, 1836, with 11 attending. Plans of that time called for two buildings, the northern one to be used for the theological seminary.

After further study of available land and after lengthy negotiations, Mr. Davis obtained 557 acres of land immediately surrounded the church (the same land described above) from Jesse Nelson for the sum of \$7,400. The deed to the lands was signed on March 8, 1836. It is registered in Deed Book MM, p. 502 in Fairfield County courthouse.

Accompanying the deed is the plot as traced below:



Part A represents part of a tract originally granted to William Summerall for 350 acres on the day of April 177 . Part B of a tract originally granted to Benjamin Owens. Part C a tract originally to Thomas Woodward.

7. Ups and Downs in Fairfield

A slight hill, which commands a view of all the surrounding countryside was selected as the site for the building of the Furman Institution. A frame building, 120 feet long by 30 to 40 feet wide was erected on this hill facing the church. It housed the students, class-rooms, and library.

“The first session, “ according to Dr. McGloghlin, “opened the first Monday in February, 1837. “By April there were 50 boarders and 13 local students. Each of these was required to work 2-1/2 hours per day in the fields under direction of a farmer and the faculty members were expected to go with them to the field.

The principal of the English and Classical school was Prof. W. E. Bailey. Leader of the Manual Labor feature was William Davis, assisted by N. W. Hodges. The theological department did not get started until the next year.

The best remembered single event of the Fairfield years was the fire, which occurred on May 1, 1837. The school building, which also housed the students, was totally destroyed, along with its entire contents. The fire took the life of one of the students and he was buried on the hill near where the building stood. Local farmers took the students into their homes and fed and clothed them until other provision could be made for their care. Prof. Bailey refused to close because of the fire.

Undaunted by this disaster, plans for rebuilding were begun at once. Between May of 1837 and January of 1838 small one and two-room cabins were erected on the hill to house the students. These were paid for by individuals. They were arranged in a semi-circle about the site of the original building and eventually numbered about a dozen. On the site of the burned building the new building was constructed. It was made of brick with tall ceilings, thick walls, and was three stories high.

Across the road leading to Winnsboro and about a quarter of a mile distance, a two-story brick residence for the faculty was erected at the same time the new school building was built. It was in this home that the first Mrs. Furman died in 1894. Her death was dramatically described by her husband in a letter to members of the family and has been preserved on pp. 110-118 of Dr. Cooks biography of James C. Furman.

When the theological department opened on January 1, 1838 with Dr. Hooper in charge, Rev. J. S. McGinnis was elected to give half of his time to the theological department and half to the classical. From the start the theological department did better than the other departments because of the financial support, which South Carolina Baptist gave to their ministerial students.

Problems began to plague the school afresh, however, the manual labor feature did not succeed as the students became rebellious and shirked their work. The school operated at a loss. Land and equipment for the manual labor division had been bought on credit and now debt began to harass the institution again.

In 1839 the trustees authorized the sale of all property such as horses, stock, provisions, all moveable (reserving 2 mules, an ox cart and oxen with provender for their sustenance). This marked the beginning of abandonment of the classical school and the manual labor feature.

Even liquor shops in the neighborhood contributed to the demoralization.

The session of 1843 was shaken by a quarrel between the faculty and the steward over price of board. The faculty, after investigating prices charged by other schools maintained that \$10 per month per student was too high to pay for board. They determined to elect a steward who would board the students for no more than \$8.50.

Several neighbors in 1844 sent a courteous petition to the school to repair fences around the steward's hall because some of their cattle had wandered through the broken gates and fences and been killed by (presumably the steward).

Funds were scarce during this period that a petition to make repairs on the faculty residence was turned down.

In 1845 the faculty passed several regulations of interest. They declared that no student who had not entered the course in theology could "make any engagements for preaching statedly". Those in Junior and Middle classes in theology might have a regular monthly appointments for preaching and those in the Senior class might "preach statedly two Lord's Days in each month". Any student, however, might preach occasionally at the discretion of the President of the faculty.

A program for morning and evening prayers was set up. Morning prayers were held at sunrise every morning and conducted by students in alphabetical order, each student taking his turn for a week. The leader was required to call the roll, and absentees had to present excuses in writing at the end of each week. Faculty members conducted evening prayers, which were held at a half hour before sunset each afternoon.

In 1846 for the Institution James C. Furman was sold 619 acres of land on Little Cedar Creek in Fairfield County, some miles from the Institution campus, for \$5 by Christian Entzminger. This gift was followed by others of money and time by Mr. Entzminger whose descendants are still prominently identified with the Baptists cause.

Members of the Fairfield Church in 1846 asked the Board of Trustees of Furman to release James C. Furman from all teaching outside the theology department in order that he might become their pastor. They offered him \$400 per year and told the board that the Institution could thereby be saved that much expense. The Board agreed to the proposition and reduced Dr. Furman's salary to \$600.

Dr. McGlothlin in his *Baptist Beginnings in Education* has described the rapid turnover in faculty and administrative officers during the Fairfield era. This indicated the lack of stability, which characterized the entire period.

It is safe to say that the Fairfield years were unsettled and unhappy years. In spite of this, however, Dr. McGlothlin says that the theology department grew to be the strongest Baptist theological school during the tense forties and in December 1849 the classical department was reopened.

8. The Removal to Greenville

Soon after the closing of the classical and manual labor departments of 1841 discussion began over moving the Institution. The open country was fine for a manual labor school, but it was no place to train preachers. After lengthy discussion of removal, complicated by the question of opening a general seminary, Greenville, Anderson, Greenwood and possibly others places bid for the school. Dr. McGlothlin says, "It was generally agreed that the institution should be removed to this section (upper part of the state) because of the more salubrious climate, the larger proportion of white people, the cheaper living conditions, the denser Baptists population, and the great number of streams providing water power for future manufacturing developments".

Although the foregoing reasons were the deciding factors in removal from Fairfield, local tradition claims that there were two others. This writer cannot document these, but merely states them as surviving traditions. These were: the failure of the railroad to pass by the institution property and a strained relationship between Furman and Mt. Zion Institute, which had been in Winnsboro since 1777. It was inevitable that Furman should encroach upon Mt. Zion's constituency.

Greenville was chosen as Furman's new home and \$70,000 was set as the minimum sum necessary to make the move. At the meeting of the convention at Pendleton in December 1850, \$30,000 had been subscribed through only two agents. Convinced that the remainder could be raised easily, preparations were made for immediate removal. The expense of moving was only a "little more than \$500 since there was not much to move—the library, the furniture, the household goods of the professors, and little besides".

There were only three professors in 1851, Drs. Furman, J. S. Mims and Peter C. Edwards

Edwards. On an old minute book of Furman faculty meetings held during the Fairfield days some unknown doodler drew a number of clever sketches. None are identified by name and the writer could not recognize but one, a reasonable likeness of James C. Furman. This rough sketch, giving some idea of how Dr. Furman looked about this time, is copied herewith



In answer to the demand for a college or university which could offer a complete and finished education, the institution, upon removal, was re-chartered as "The Furman University" with plans for addition of law and medicine to the classical and theological departments. The first classes in Greenville were conducted on the first Monday in February 1851.

On March 10, 1851, H. W. Pasley, agent of the State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina sold to John R. Shurley of Fairfield District for \$2,500, 317 acres of land. This was all the land on the south side of the Winnsboro road and opposite Fairfield Church. On it was located the school building and cabins.

On the same day Pasley sold to Rev. Carolus Felder of Fairfield District for \$2,800, 233-1/2 acres. This was all the land on the north side of the road and beside Fairfield Church. On it was the faculty residence.

The 619 acres of land on Little Cedar Creek given by Christian Entzminger had already been sold on Jan. 11, 1850 for \$2,000. W. B. Johnson, agent of the convention, sold it to Thomas Nelson.

9. Since Furman Left

Soon after Furman left, Fairfield Church became involved in controversies. The exact cause of these is buried in obscurity, but some tradition claims that there were arguments over some property that had once belonged to the Institution. There is some documentary evidence to uphold this. At any rate, Rev. Jonathan Davis died in 1855 and the quarrels increased after his death until someone burned down the church, together (it is believed) with all the church records.

In 1858 all but two of three members of Fairfield Church withdrew and organized the First Baptist Church of Winnsboro. Following the War Between the States old Fairfield Church went practically out of existence and no meetings were held until 1882. In that year a Rev. Hugh Mahon of Union came and held a revival meeting in the log school house about a mile and a quarter west of the original site of Fairfield Church. Eight converts were received and three women who had once been members of old Fairfield Church. These, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Gregg and Mrs. Robertson, met in Mrs. Young's home and voted in the new members. From that time on Fairfield Church has continued though on a new site near where the log school building stood.

The earthquake of 1886 caused so much damage to the school buildings, then and ever since used as a residence, that the owner removed the third story and used the brick thus discarded to build a small addition in the rear.

The old groves that once surrounded this building are gone. Gone too are the small buildings, the fences and gates. The building shorn of its porches, still commands the hill and can be seen for a long distance in every direction. Across the road the faculty residence, also remarkably well preserved after 98 years, still stands, shaded by its ancient cedars.

People of the community bought up the cabins and some claim today that the sills of their present homes are laid on material taken from the cabins.

The only reminder of old Fairfield Church of Furman days is a group of grave-markers in the abandoned cemetery.

Long since gone from Fairfield is Furman Institute. Gone are those who remember when it was here. But the blessing that Furman left behind will be felt forever in Fairfield.

Information found on Gravestones in Fairfield County

Jane Anthony	Born in County Monaghan, Ireland
James Harper	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Jane Harper	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Jane Donovan McMorries	From Belymena, County Antrim, Ireland
William McMorries	From Belymena, County Antrim, Ireland
Robert Aiken	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
William Brice, Sr.	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
Moses Camack	Native of County Down, Ireland
David Doe	Native of Bally Carn, Ireland
Thomas Lauderdale	Native of County Down, Ireland
William Lauderdale	Native of County Down, Ireland
James Lemmon	Born in County Down, Ireland
Margaret Miller	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
Elizabeth Burney Milling	Born in Scotland
Hugh Milling	Native of Drumbo, County Down, Ireland
Elizabeth Mundle	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
William Mundle	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
James Neely	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
Nathaniel Neill	Native of Dunean, County Antrim, Ireland
Rachael Neill	Native of Dunean, County Antrim, Ireland
John Sloan, Sr.	Native of Ireland
John J. Brice	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Mary Brice	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
James Cabeen	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Sarah Cabeen	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
James Chisolm	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Rachel Chisolm	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Thomas Chisolm	Born in Larne, County Antrim, Ireland
James Dunbar	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Martha Dunbar	Born in County Antrim, Ireland
Jane Stephenson	Born in County Armagh, Ireland
Jennet Stevenson	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
John Stevenson, Sr.	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
John L. D. Young	Native of County Antrim, Ireland
H. P. Kerr	Born in County Louth, Ireland
William B. Murray	Born in County Antrim, Ireland

From the June 27, 1906 Issue of the News and Herald

The Passing of Dr. Thos. G. Douglass

On the 6th of June at his home in Fairfield County, Dr. Thomas G. Douglass passed away after an illness of some days. At the time of his death he was 71 years of age, and nearly all his life had been spent in Fairfield County. He was born near Jenkinsville; he enjoyed good school advantages, such as country boys of his time, and graduated in medicine at the Charleston Medical College.

Not long after graduation Dr. Douglass practices medicine with the noted physician, Dr. Thomas Furman, who lived about three miles south of Monticello. The Furmans were a rich family, of the best standing in the state; and Dr. Thomas Furman's reputation as a physician was of the highest order in Fairfield County. And Fairfield County was in those days rich and beautiful. Splendid homes nestled in great clumps of evergreen and flowering bowers. The prevailing type of architecture was colonial – large wooden structures with heavy pillared porches, painted white with green shades.

When the war came on Dr. Douglass was practicing medicine with Dr. Furman. It was no doubt of incalculable advantage for a young doctor, fresh from college, to be associated with a physician of Dr. Furman's skill and standing.

For a few years after the war Dr. Douglass practiced medicine in Chester County, not far from his brother-in-law Samuel McLurkin, who was himself, or came to be a physician of unusual skill.

Later, Dr. Douglass came into possession of a bachelor uncle's estate nine miles northwest of Winnsboro, and here for more than thirty years he lived and followed his profession. The Brice community was settled by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, a people of fine energy and thrift, and section came to be the richest farming section in Fairfield fifteen or twenty years after the war. This was partly due to the fine quality of the land for cotton growing, partly to the management of a people of fine gifts.

For many years Dr. Douglass was very prosperous in his profession. My own brother, Charles Rabb, who graduated in Charleston, assisted Dr. Douglass for a time in his practice, which reached from the Charlotte railroad on the east to Broad River on the west, from Monticello on the south to the Chester line on the north. My brother often spoke of his association with Dr. Douglass with great pleasure, for besides their being brothers-in-law, they were always warm friends. Later, brother Charles practiced by himself in the Feasterville community where he died in 1894.

Dr. Douglass was called in the most serious cases of fever, meningitis, accident, pneumonia, in consultation with other physicians; or families realizing that loved ones were near death frequently turned to his skill. I may say that Dr. Douglass was a splendid physician.

I desire to call attention to a few points in his life and character, which are worthy of emulation.

He was a great worker. Dr. Douglass seldom in his active career, rode in a buggy, he was in his saddle day and night at times. He usually rode a fine horse with a good easy gait and seldom went out of a moderate gait, even in serious illness. He was a nervous man, so nervous at times as to be unable to express his thoughts; but he was always in possession of his powers at the bedside. He did not hurry, but went with the decision of a hard worker. No man can tell what an amount of work Dr. Douglass accomplished in the past forty years. He frequently went to the very limit of his endurance.

He was a student. Dr. Douglass was always ready to put aside the old for the new, if he was persuaded that the new was better. He read much in his profession, and succeeded in a marvelous way in keeping abreast of the times. In company with other doctors, or even with intelligent lay hearers, he was extremely fond of dwelling on new developments in medicine. His was an inquiring mind. He was seldom dogmatic, but kept his mind open to suggestion. I am not aware that he was ever accused of "getting into ruts".

Dr. Douglass was of a hopeful turn. He did not speak of his own trials with freedom. In fact, I do not recall ever hearing him complain of being mistreated, or of being neglected, through I have known him all my life and have been much in his home. He was not a bitter man. He was not severe, but gentle. He was not crusty. I believe that he always tried to be gentle and tender with his patients.

He was social, yet prudent. He never showed malice, so far as I knew. He was patient under annoyances, as a rule. He loved to meet people and converse in their homes. And his coming to take dinner after one of his hard rides was a great treat to his friends. I believe that he was always a welcome guest. I record it with great pleasure, that Dr. Douglass was a very prudent man in his habits, he was prudent in speech and in hearing. And it is worth saying, that throughout a long professional career of more than forty years no slander was ever attached to his name.

My sister Charlotte was ever a great helper to her husband, Dr. Douglass. She has been a brave and strong wife to the man of whom I have written. Being a woman of splendid gifts she always sought to be of help in furthering her husband's interests.

At New Hope Church, upper Fairfield, the body of Thomas G. Douglass was laid to rest June 7th. His was a long and blessed ministry of healing. When a young man he avowed his faith in the living Christ, and now he rests from his labors. He leaves a good name and we who knew him indulge the strong hope that the passing from this world to the unseen world was no disappointment to him. His memory is sweet, for his work was well done.

Robert Morris Rabb
Port Norfolk, Va.

Editor The News and Herald:

I desire to add something to the brief but appreciative notice of the death of Dr. Thomas G. Douglass, which appeared in a recent issue of your paper. He died on the 6th day of June, 1906, within a quarter of a mile of the place where he was born on the 12th day of August, 1835, his birthplace being now owned by his son, Charles H. Douglass. There he passed the first eight years of his life, and in 1844 removed with his parents to the place now owned by his brother Charles B. Douglass, near Jenkinsville, S. C.

He received his early education in the neighborhood schools, principally in the academy, near Shiloh Church, and afterwards he received a higher course of mental training and instruction in the Presbyterian High School at Greenwood, S. C., which was established by "the Greenwood Association of Abbeville District," a corporation chartered in 1835 by the legislature of this State for the promotion of education.

He received his medical education in the Medical College of South Carolina in Charleston, where he graduated in March 1860. He practiced his profession at Long Run, S. C., until in 1861, inspired by the patriotic feeling which then actuated the young men of the State, he joined Company C of the 6th Regiment of South Carolina Cavalry, and served as a private until he became a surgeon

in the Confederate service, and he served faithfully in this capacity until the close of the War Between the States.

After the war he practiced medicine successfully in copartnership with Dr. Samuel B. McLurkin at Halsellville, in Chester County for about three and a half years, their extensive practice also included a considerable section of Fairfield County.

In the latter part of 1868, he removed to the place where he died and continued in the active and successful practice of medicine, inspiring confidence in his skill and affection, in the hearts of his numerous patients and patrons. About two years ago, on account of his failing health it became necessary for him to give up to a certain extent, the active practice of his profession, and to leave the principal part of the work of attending to professional calls and administering to the relief of sick patients to the skill and active energy of his son, Dr. J. E. Douglass, who for many years has been associated with him in the practice of medicine.

His father was Charles Douglass, who died in 1851, when the subject of this sketch, his eldest son, was sixteen years old. His mother was Sarah Crosby, who survived her husband many years. Three sisters predeceased him, and one brother David S. Douglass, who was a member of Co. F, 12th S. C. V., and died from wounds received in the battle of Gaines' Mill on the 27th day of June, 1862.

He was buried in the cemetery of New Hope Church, of which church he was a member for many years; and many, whose hearts had been drawn to him as their beloved physician, came long distances to pay their last tribute to his memory.

He left surviving him his widow, Mrs. Lottie Douglass, a daughter of Mr. Jonathan Rabb, deceased, and four sons, Dr. J. E. Douglass, T. J. Douglass, Chas. H. Douglass and Dr. J. W. Douglass, and one brother, Charles B. Douglass, and two sisters, Mrs. Mary A. Chappell and Mrs. Martha McMeekin, wife of Joseph McMeekin.

A. S. D.

From the August 1, 1878 Issue of The News and Herald

A Pleasant Gathering – The Tournament and Picnic of the Fairfield Light Dragoons.

On Tuesday morning the Fairfield Light Dragoons, Captain Herron in command, and the Gordon Light Infantry, Captain Jordan in command, assembled in town for a picnic at Major Woodward's place – the Gordons being the invited guests of the Dragoons. The two companies fell in at their respective places of rendezvous, and proceeded to the corner of College and Zion streets, where a line was formed, the Gordons on the right. The column moved down Congress street as far as the freight depot, where the Gordons broke ranks and availed themselves of the conveyances provided by the Dragoons. A short drive brought the party to the tilting-ground, a level spot near Major Woodward's mill. After a short delay, the Dragoons formed in line and after riding over the track, being the tilting. The exercises consisted in cutting off heads (we mean wooden heads, of course) and taking rings. There were three heads to be taken off – right cut, ground cut and left cut – and two rings. The first head counted two, the second four, and the third five, each ring counting three – making the possible maximum for each run seventeen. The judges were Maj. T. W. Woodward, Capt. J. P. Macfie and Mr. R. J. McCarley. The following is the score, the names of the riders being in the order of which they ran:

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Total		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Total
Capt. Herron	0	4	2	6	Lieut. Brice	0	0	8	8
Lieut. Dantzler	9	6	6	21	Neal, F. A.	3	6	0	9
Rabb, E. A.	0	0	7	7	Rabb, C. K.	11	5	14	30
Pope,	2	2	6	10	Milling, A. Y.	4	7	4	15
McCants,	4	4	14	22	Harden	11	5	7	23
Lemmon	5	9	7	21	Gibson, E. A.	5	2	4	11
Rabb, W. R.	5	2	0	7	Wilson	0	0	0	0
Robinson	0	12	6	18	Neal, W. A.	7	7	6	20
Milling, D. M.	14	14	7	35	Beckam,	0	4	0	4
Steele,	6	3	0	9	Stevenson	4	4	6	14
Stewart,	0	10	2	12	Clarke	0	0	0	0

At the close of the tilt, the prizes were awarded, as follows; first prize, a German student's lamp, to Private D. M. Milling; second prize, a silver goblet, to Sergt. C. K. Rabb; third prize, a silver cup, to Corp. W. M. Harden. The prize for horsemanship was awarded to Lieut. O. M. Dantzler. The prizes were presented, on behalf of the judges, by Major Woodward, who made a few graceful and well-chosen remarks. Mr. Jno. S. Reynolds, being called on for a speech, responded briefly, thanking the company for the compliment, congratulating them on the success of their organization, and extending the best wishes for their future prosperity.

After the tournament, the Gordons drilled a little, but the sun was too hot, and the exercise was soon suspended.

The crowd now repaired to the grove near the mill, where a most bountiful and delicious dinner was served – which, of course, was greatly enjoyed by everybody.

After dinner, the Gordon Light Infantry engaged in target exercise. The target used was of the Creedmoor pattern, and the distance one hundred yards. To strike the bull's-eye counts five; within the first ring, four; within the second ring, three; within the third ring, two; all other shots counting nothing. On the present occasion each man had three shots, making the possible score fifteen. The following is the result:

Capt. Jordan	4	4	3	11	Lieut. Elliott	3	2	4	9
Sergt. Cummings	5	4	4	13	Sergt. Robertson	5	4	4	13
Sergt. Beaty	3	5	4	12	Corp. McCreight	2	3	3	8
Aiken	3	3	4	10	Beaty, W. A.	4	4	5	13
Boag	0	0	0	0	Buchanan	3	2	2	7
Crawford	4	4	3	11	Center	0	0	3	3
Chandler, C. M.	3	4	3	10	Chandler, E. S.	4	3	2	9
Donly	0	0	2	2	Elliott, W. J.	3	4	4	11
Elder	2	4	2	8	Fant	3	0	0	3
Gibson	0	0	0	0	Habenicht	3	3	2	8
Harden	4	3	2	9	Jordan, T. M.	4	3	3	10
Ketchin	4	4	5	13	Lauderdale	3	0	4	7
Landecker, L	3	4	4	11	McMaster, J. F.	2	4	3	9
McMaster, H. B.	4	3	3	10	Milling	3	4	4	11
Propst	3	4	4	11	Romey	3	4	3	10
Seigler	3	3	4	10					

There being a tie between Messrs. Cummings, Robertson, W. A. Beaty and Ketchin, these four shot over, when Messrs. Cummings and Ketchin again tied, each making four points. These two shot again, and the former scored four, to the latter's three. The first prize was therefore awarded to Sergeant Cummings, and the second to Private Ketchin. Altogether, the shooting was very fine, as well be seen from the score. The best single shot was made by Sergt. T. R. Robertson, his bullet striking about an inch from the center of the bull's-eye.

The company was re-formed near the mill, and the prizes – consisting of a silver goblet as the first, and a set of silver tablespoons and the second – were presented to the winning men by Mr. Jno. S. Reynolds. The command then broke ranks, and everybody left for home.

Thus passed off one of the most delightful gatherings we ever had the pleasure of attending. Long live the Fairfield Light Dragoons and the Gordon Light Infantry!

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