



# Fairfield Genealogical Society

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 20 Number 2

20<sup>th</sup> Year

June 2007

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### 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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P. O. Box 93  
Winnsboro, S. C. 29180

or

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### Cemetery Volume I Updated

Volume I of the Cemetery Books has been updated and includes all graves up to July 2006. This book includes a list showing the row and number of each grave. This will allow the researcher to know who is buried nearby. This book along with other Society books may be purchased from the Fairfield County Archives and History.

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January 12, 1898 Issue of the News and Herald

### THE LYLESES AND THE INDIANS

An Interesting Event in the Colonial History of Fairfield

To the Editor of The State:

I sent you the following about the early settlers of Fairfield, which will doubtless be of interest to your readers in that county. I obtained it from Robert Mill "Statistics of South Carolina".

"The first settlement of this district took place about the year 1745. Col. John Lyles and his brother, Ephraim, were among the first settlers; they located themselves at the mouth of Beaver creek, on Broad river. Ephraim Lyles was killed by the Cherokee Indians in his own house, but by a wonderful interposition of Providence, the Indians went off and left Lyles' wife and seven or eight small children in it, after killing a negro, who was outside of the house. The Lyles were natives of Brunswick, Va., but removed to this county from old Bute County, North Carolina.

"About the time of the settlement of the Lyles Capt. Richard Kirkland settled on the Wateree River. Kirkland was a Virginian and a man of great wealth in those early times; he owned 50 brood mares."

The above account of Ephraim Lyles' death forms one of those incidents of Carolina's Indian history, which are almost forgotten and are only found scattered about in different works. It is just such events as these, which are treasured up in New England and told again and again until the history of that section seems more interesting and stirring than our own history, when in reality it is not. Had Ephraim Lyles lived in Massachusetts, Connecticut or Rhode Island I presume many of our school children could have told about his murder by the Cherokees, but as it was, he was an early settler in South Carolina and I venture the assertion that even his name is unknown to the school children of Fairfield county.

McDonald Furman  
Ramsey, Privateer Township, Jan. 3

## History of the Mount Zion Society

September 18, 1867 Issue of the Fairfield Herald

History of the Mount Zion Society, and the College Established under its Auspices in Winnsboro, S. C., by D. B. M'Creight.

No. 12

1783. While the Society was engaged in Charleston in reviving its effort to promote the cause of education in the State, its subordinate branches were not idle. Of these there were at least three, but where they were exactly located, there is no report to show. Besides the one in Winnsboro, there were two others, one of which was styled "The Committee of the Congarees," and the other "The Turkey Creek Committee." The reference is, since the XXIII Rule required these Committees "to be titled from their location situation," that the one was in the upper part of the District of Camden, and the other in the lower part. This would place the Turkey Creek Committee about the line between York and Chester Districts, and the Committee of the Congarees in the lower part of Richland. These sections were called counties, and were embraced in Camden District.

The earliest record at hand of the proceedings of the Winnsboro Committee after the war, is that of a meeting held in Winnsboro, at the house of Capt. Baker, on the 23d of May, 1783.

It is well to state at this point that whenever the Winnsboro Committee is alluded to in these papers, it will be denominated simply "The Committee", as no record of the other two Committees can be found. Nor must the reader confound the Mount Zion Society, which held its sessions in Charleston, with the Committee of the Mount Zion Society which held its meetings in Winnsboro.

The Society now meets in Winnsboro, but as will appear in the sequel, it was not transferred from Charleston to this place until many years after its original formation.

At the meeting of the Committee at Capt. Baker's house, alluded to already, an election was held for officers. It would appear from this that the Committee had not been as prompt as the Society in reorganizing. Though there is good reason to believe that the very unsettled condition of the country, and especially of the interior of the State, retarded the progress of the Committee's work. We can well imagine what bickerings, what crimination and recrimination must have succeeded the long and angry strife in which the State had been involved, developing as it did the conflicting principles and acts of Whig and Tory. Nor had hostilities even yet been proclaimed. It was not until the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, 1783, that this was done. It is but just to state, however, that so far as the record goes, there must have been more unanimity of feelings in this immediate section than in many other parts of the State.

At this election the following was the result: Gen. Winn. President; Col. John Winn, Senior, Senior Warden; Hugh Milling, Junior Warden; Capt. John Woodward, Treasurer; Francis Pringle, Secretary; and Capt. Thomas Baker and Kemp Strother, Swards.

Of these officers, three joined on the day of the election, viz: Kemp Strother, Thos. Baker and Francis Pringle. As the Pringles were citizens of Charleston, the only reason that appears plausible why Francis Pringle was elected Secretary, which evidently implies that he was residing in Winnsboro at the time, is that he was a refugee from Charleston.

Col. John Winn, elected Senior Warden, availed himself of the privilege allowed in Rule IX, and declined to serve. It will be remembered that he was the first President of the Society. How many offices he filled up to this election does not appear. Mr. James Hart was elected Senior Warden in his stead.

At this meeting the extract from the proceedings of the Society, dated May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and calling for a statement of the condition of the Mount Zion buildings etc., was taken up for consideration. That extract has been given in the previous number of this series of papers. Capt. J. Milling, Capt. Farrar and Col. Henry Hampton were appointed a Committee "to draw up an answer to a letter received from Mount Zion Society;" which answer "was approved of, ordered to be engrossed and signed by the Secretary," and is as follows:

Winnsboro, 6<sup>th</sup> June 1783

Gentlemen:

We received yours of the 2d May, in which you requested a particular account of the temporary buildings of the Mount Zion Society at this place, which is as follows, viz: They continue in possession of Col. Winn, who has them in the best repair; and from his personal attention to the good of the Society, we are well assured they will be kept so—and cannot find any way by which they can be appropriated to more advantage to the Society, than be continued as at present. However, should anything offer which will answer a better purpose or you think proper to give us any instruction upon the occasion, we will gladly comply.

On the same day the above was written describing the condition of the buildings, another letter was addressed by the Committee to the Society announcing the destruction of the journals of the former. It states that these Journals were "entirely destroyed by the enemy," and contains the request that the Society will transmit to the Committee a catalogue of the names of its members, as well as inform it "what mode had been fixed upon for the collection of the arrears due the Mount Zion Society."

At this time it was agreed that the meetings of the Committee should be every fortnight, at 12M., on Saturday; and an effort was made to require the members to attend regularly. To effect this a committee was appointed "to draw up a resolution for a limitation of members to attend, and to ascertain fines for their non-attendance." Captains Hugh and John Milling, Col. Jno. Winn, Maj. Ellison and Lieut. Minor Winn composed the committee. The plan was to fine members residing within 12 miles of Winnsboro one shilling and two pence for non-attendance at each meeting: those within 20 miles, six pence; and those within 30 miles, one dollar for non-attendance at the Annual meeting. Thus the members thirty miles off were excused from attending any other than annual meetings.

But this method must have proved a failure, for the resolution enforcing it were rescinded in December of the same year.

## The College Lands

1783. On the eleventh of October a committee was appointed “to run out the Mount Sion land,” the following gentleman composing it: Gen. Richard Winn. Col. Henry Hampton and William Boyd.

It would be a matter of interest in this connection to know by what means and when the Society can in possession of its lands. There is a discrepancy between the record and tradition in regard to this matter. It is said by some now living, who received what they think to be the true version of it from those who were contemporary with the time in question, that although the titles were made to the Society by Gen. Richard Winn, yet the land was really a donation from Col. John Vanderhorst. It is difficult to reconcile this discrepancy, as there is no record of the real facts in the case.

There were evidently donations made twice to the Society. It may be that Gen. Winn and Col. Vanderhorst, each made a donation of land, the latter making the first, and the former, the second.

Eleven days after the committee was appointed to run out the land they reported “that they had run out the land, but that the plat was misplaced, so that they could not make a full report at that time,” therefore requested further time—which was granted.

Seventeen days afterwards, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November, the same committee reported the plat of the land, which had been run out, and on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December Messrs. Kemp Strother and Francis Pringle were appointed a committee “to draw up the deeds of Mount Sion Land.” There is nothing to show by whom this tract of land was given, if given at all, to the Society. There can be no doubt that it was a small tract fronting on Congress (or Main) Street, just where the stores of Mr. J. P. Matthews, Jr. and Capt. Thos. Jordan now stand, and ran back as far as the residence of the latter gentleman stands.

No other action seems to have been taken in reference to the College lands, until the Fall of 1787, when the attention of the Committee in Winnsboro was called by the Society to the fact that parties had committed “great waste on the Society’s’ land.” But there had been in the meantime a donation of one hundred acres made the Society, and this is the gift about which the difference of opinion exists as to who is entitled to be called the benefactor. But, while there may be a discrepancy as to who gave the first tract of land of the Society, there can be none as to these hundred acres; for the original deed of conveyance has come down to the present day, and forms a part of the records of the Society which have been preserved. It is recorded upon parchment, dated July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1785, and is signed by “Richard Winn,” attested by Josiah Smith, D. DeSaussure and Geo. H. Smith, Jr., and examined and recorded by D. Mazyck, Register M. C. Though this last was not done until the 27<sup>th</sup> September 1786.

But there is further proof that to Gen. Winn the Society is indebted for this generous donation. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 1788, the Committee of Correspondence of the Society in Charleston, addressed a letter of some length to the Committee at this place, in which, among other things, they again called attention to the depredation committed upon the College lands. It seems that from some cause the Society had failed to receive information that the Committee acted promptly upon the instruction given the previous Fall in regard to taking action to stop the depredations. As this correspondence will appear in full in another part of this history, only so much of the reply of the

Committee to the Society will be given as will suffice to establish the point now at issue. The following is the extract:

“A committee was appointed sometime ago to run round and mark the Society’s lands, but a plat could not be found.” [This is the plat reported in the proceedings of November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1783; for although two donations of land had very probably been made to the Society, yet only one survey had been made. The committee here alluded to was appointed November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1787.]

The letter continues—“Gen Winn now informs us that he had the plat, and as soon as the weather permits he will run out the land and plat the additional one hundred acres adjoining the former *which he gives the Society*, and will execute titles hereof with a plat annexed, and transmit them to town as soon as possible.

“One hundred acres adjoining the former.” Who gave that “former” tract, or whether Society bought it, it is impossible to tell.

The College land at this time was composed (1) of a part of a tract of two hundred acres originally granted to Robert Wilson in April, 1768; and (2) of a part of another tract of five hundred acres granted to Archibald McNeil in 1772. The tract of Wilson’s grant embraced what is now the northern (inhabited) half of Winnsboro.

When the Committee appointed for that purpose—who were Col. John Winn, Mr. McCaule (the first president of the College after the war) J. Milling and Gen. Winn—made the second plat of the College tract, the lands bounding it on the northern side belonged to Kemp Strother and those on the southern side, to Colonel John Vanderhorst.

Since the Society has been removed from Charleston to Winnsboro, several parcels have been cut off and sold from the College lands until the amount has been reduced to about twenty acres.

Note to No. 6—The author has been called by two gentlemen to an apparent error in the sketch given Capt. Thos. Woodward—that it was on Little Dutchman’s Creek, instead of Cedar that the Captain was killed. There is no discrepancy in the case since the fork of Big Dutchman’s Creek, where this event occurred, was at that time called “Cedar Fork” and was so denominated and marked upon the maps of the State.

No. 14

Neglecting History, 1783—Accession of Members

Biographical Sketches

A digression here in order to call public attention to a matter worthy of its consideration, will not be amiss. The subject before us suggests it.

In the course of the proceedings of the Committee for the year 1783, it was agreed that the President should “get the minutes of the Mount Sion Committee fairly copied into a book, and in less than two months that resolution was declared null and void.” This action seems to be characteristic of the makers of history—and where is the corporation or community or section that does not make history.

There is a felt want of material whenever history has to be recorded, whether it be general or local history. But it is the aggregate of the latter that makes up the details of

the former. What care then should be exercised to have these details full and fair. Take, as a case in point, the history of Fairfield during the past seven years. Will that, so far as the record has been made and preserved in the midst of passing events, satisfy the citizens of this District when he comes to read it incorporated in the history of the State?

It required organized efforts to secure these details. Where are even the names of those who embarked upon the billows of a stormy revolution seven years ago, and since, - where are the events recorded which made up the career of squads and companies for Fairfield? Where is the organization to map out the District into sub districts, and its committee to canvass them respectively, and gather all the details, the woof and warp of our local history? Where is the Historical Society of Fairfield District?

One thoughtful Clerk of Court for this District showed some appreciation of "fairly" recording passing events. It was when the company of volunteers from Fairfield took up the line of march for the Everglades of Florida. But he stopped short of this undertaking. He simply recorded the fact that those volunteers left this place for Florida on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February, 1837. There is no list of names of the members of that company. That brief record, however, stands among the archives of the District, and is regularly indexed. An individual appeal was made last year, and again this year, to all the citizens of the District whom it concerned—and who does it not?—to lend their aid in putting the history of their own District upon the record, but the response was as feeble as the flame flickering in the socket.

1783. The membership this year in its increase was encouraging. Beside the three names already given, are the following, which were enrolled by the committee: Minor Winn. Benj. and Jas Harrison, Jas. Kennedy, Francis Kirkland, Charles Miles, Daniel, Isaac and Francis Huger.

The fact that so many gentlemen from Charleston became members of the Society through the Committee at Winnsboro, is strong evidence that these were a number of refugees from the dangers on the City by the sea. Nor was that the last time that the Society gained strength in numbers in that way.

Francis Kirkland, of Fairfield, served in the American army in the Revolution. He was imprisoned by Lord Rawdon in the jail in Camden, under condemnation of death, but was released upon the interposition of the Winns, very probably Col. Winn. About 1802 he went to Charleston on business on behalf of his benefactor, between whom and himself there was an intimate friendship, and while there Mr. Kirkland contracted the yellow fever, returned home and died of it.

Isaac Huger was a member of the Provincial Congress and was elected by that body Lieut. Col., of the first regiment. When in March, 1776, it was resolved to raise two regiments of riflemen, he was appointed Colonel of the first. Before the close of the war he became Brigadier-General.

Francis Huger was a commissioned Captain in the first regiment.

Benjamin Guerard was made one of the victims of Lieut. Col. Belfour's retaliatory scheme, when in May 1781, he caused to be seized one hundred and thirty unarmed citizens in Charleston and confined them on board the prison ships. After the war he was highly honored by the State, having been chosen Governor for the term embracing 1783-84.

One of the most remarkable men who enrolled themselves among the members of the Society this year, was Commodore Alexander Gillon. A very interesting sketch of his

life is found in Johnston's Traditions of the Revolution. He was a merchant in Charleston, and did a very extensive business. In 1777 and '78 the royal navy blockaded the port of Charleston. At one time there were three vessels on duty off the city, which proved very troublesome to the blockade runners. Alexander Gillon proposed with the sanction of the Governor, at attack them with the only armed vessel in the port of Charleston. Consent being given, the gallant merchant put out to sea, and by a most ingenious device captured all three of the annoying blockaders and brought them safely into port, without firing a gun. This act of daring "transferred him from the counting house to the quarter deck of the finest frigate then afloat," for soon after it, the State resolved to purchase three frigates, and Alexander Gillon was elected Commodore of the navy of South Carolina. In his various cruises he inflicted heavy damage upon the British commerce. Commodore Gillon could converse in seven different languages and write in five of them. After the Revolution, he was elected Senator in U. S. Congress, where he served for many years. When not there he was a member of the State Legislature.

He was a principal part in two episodes in the proceedings of the General Assembly, one of which is here given: Once, in a debate, Mr. Charles Pinckney, to elucidate the subject, introduced a Latin quotation in that body where very few of the members understood that language. When he resumed his seat, Commodore Gillon replied to him and in the course of his remarks observed, "that the learned gentleman had enlightened the minds of his audience by a Latin sentence, and he would follow his good example as far as possible, but would prove the reverse of his position by a quote from High Dutch, which he hoped would be equally well understood by his hearers. He then gave the house a sentence from a German author, which he assured them was applicable to the subject before the Assembly. This put a stop to quotations from dead of foreign languages for that session.

August 1, 1935 Issue of the News and Herald

## **Historical Stories about our County**

W. W. Dixon writes interesting facts about Fairfield County and People

Tragic Events:

Two Hall brothers and a Negro girl made an effort to cross the river at the mouth of Rocky Creek in a boat. All three drown in 1821.

Isaac and Jacob Meek, workers on the canal were drown in 1830.

John Montgomery was drowned while bathing in the river in 1833.

Arthur Owens, while playing leapfrog with a companion, pitched head foremost in to the creek near the mouth of Haynes Branch and was drowned in 1830.

Capt. Charles Thorn was killed and his body thrown into the river by his slave Bob, in 1835. The Negro was executed, his head cut off and stuck on the end of a pole and the pole erected on the roadside. It remained there until it was thoroughly decayed.

Thomas Pickett was stabbed to death in a fight with John Sweat. This occurred in Link's Tavern in 1830.



An infant which had been murdered and thrown into Rocky Creek was caught on Pickett's mill dam in 1830. Diana Sweat was supposed to be its mother.

Willie D. Scott, son of Dr. L. S. Scott, was killed by the accidental discharge of his gun in 1868.

Tillman Lee Dixon (uncle of the writer) was drowned while swimming in Gladden's mill pond, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1887.

Mansel Hollis was accidentally killed by discharge of a gun in 1891.

John Turner and four of his sons were fishing in a boat near Hill Island. They got into rough water. Turner and one of the boys were drowned in 1894.

J. Rinaldo Massey was out in a boat near Hill Island and was accidentally killed by discharge of a shot gun in the boat in 1895.

Stark P. Martin was called to his back door and shot by Henry Nettles, a Negro, in 1900.

Fred Hobernicht of Winnsboro, was drowned near the "Point of Rock" in 1903.

#### Some of the Men of Rocky Mount Worthy of Note

Doctors McCollough and Edwards were the earliest physicians. Dr. Briggs came next. A woman with a tongue as long as her stocking for gossip and slander got out a report on him, destroying his usefulness and he drank himself to death in a short while.

Thomas Minton was a useful man repairing watches, clocks and the cotton mill machinery.

Berry Montgomery was the surveyor and auctioneer.

Timothy Connor was a master mechanic and built the most important houses during his time.

Barney O'Neale was known as the "Spring Lizard" for the many rock bound springs he made.

Tacitus Cassidy was the fisticuff champion of his day. He met and overcame all opponents. He was a loyal friend. On one occasion he was subpoenaed as a witness in a lawsuit at Winnsboro. He knew his evidence was very damaging to his friend. When the case was called, he filled himself to the full with red liquor, to make himself bold. When sworn he took the witness stand and said in a very loud voice "Nolus bolus, bull and injuns." Judge, I'm a horse! The judge told the sheriff. "Mr. Sheriff, stable this horse and curry him off with a ten dollar bill when you let him out." Tactus had accomplished his purpose and his friend paid the fine. This is on the court records of 1830, Judge O'Neale presiding.

John C. Totten taught the school in 1843. The lessons in geography were sung to the tune of "Old Dan Tucker was a Fine Old Man." He used to ride his daddy's ran. Each lesson had a separate time. The patrons were very much pleased with him and the progress of the pupils.

Dr. Ira S. Scott was graduated at the medical college in Charleston in 1843. He was the county's physician for 50 years. His practice extended from Beckhamville down the river into Kershaw. He walked with a crutch being a cripple from childhood. In all the years he lost less than 3 per cent in typhoid cases and people believed him unexcelled in cases of obstetrics. He died in 1888 unusually esteemed and lamented. Being a cripple he always rode on a ladies' side saddle.

William Dixon Benson was an invalid all his life. He kept a small shop near Gladden's Mill, where he worked on clocks, watches and almost anything made of leather, wood or iron. During the war his skill was used in working iron buttons, spinning wheels and hand looms. He made a pistol that would kill a burglar on opening a door, a shooting lock. He also made a burglar catcher. When this was set anyone stepping through the door would be jerked up by an unseen iron loop and held securely until released. He died in 1885 respected and loved by all.

Dr. Wm. E. Hall was the wealthiest man in this community. He attended to the slaves on his five plantations in South Carolina. He also owned one plantation in Georgia, one in Florida and one on Red River in Louisiana. His plantations were paying ones. He displayed the love of God in loving and being benevolent to his neighbors. He was a strong pillar in Bethesda Church. No one ever went to him for a favor and came away empty handed.

William Robertson began life poor and amassed a fortune.

William Nichols was a boatright, died in 1887 in his 91<sup>st</sup> year.

Mansel Hollis died 81 years old, leaving a considerable wealth.

Thomas Bradshaw Lumpkin perhaps was the man of greatest mental caliber and scholarly attainment in his day. He wrote two poems that had a wide circulation. His vocal chords must have been phenomenal for he called a boy a mile away to come drive the Ford Gin and in half an hour the boy appeared. He lived to be an old man.

This section of the county has always excited me from boyhood. The first Saturday in May found everybody hitching up buggies to the annual picnic at the "Falls." The custom began when man's memory runneth not to the contrary. My greatgrandfather was 75 years old in 1893 and he said the celebration he attended in 1824 was an old custom then. Perhaps it originated about 1784.

August 22, 1935 Issue of the News and Herald      (August 8<sup>th</sup> Issue is missing)

## **Historical Stories about our county**

W. W. Dixon Writes Interesting Facts About Fairfield County and People

The writer has been asked to make a correction in last week's article on the early history of Fairfield county and is glad to acquiesce. It is in regard to the burlesque duel between Mr. J. C. Caldwell and Mr. Thomas Hall. It was Mr. Caldwell who challenged Mr. Hall. Mr. Hall being the party challenged had the choice of weapons and chose double-barrel shotguns, loaded with buck shot, at twenty paces. Contestant to advance and fire the second shot. The denouement was recorded in our last article.

A similar duel took place between John G. Mobley and the late Col. Joseph K. Alston, at the Kings Mountain Military at York, years afterward.

Men are not always courageous according to their size. When Col. Province married a daughter of Daniel Hall, Jr., her father gave them a plantation in the western part of the county and there they lived and really prospered. His intimates were Trez. Feaster and Dr. Francis Fant. One day Col. Province and Dr. Fant were taking a train for Columbia, Province was a small man. A large drummer (traveling salesman) preceded them into the coach and took the only available seat. (The train was crowded.) Province followed by Dr. Fant, stopped at the seat and said, "Sir, you have my seat." The

drummer made room saying, "It is big enough for two." The Colonel took out his watch and said. "I am Col. Province. I will give you just ten seconds to vacate my seat sir." The portly drummer arose and slunk down the aisle.

After being seated and the laughter of the occupants of the coach had subsided, Dr. Fant said: "Province do you realize that was a dangerous thing to attempt? Suppose the giant had refused to give up the seat; what would you have done?" The Colonel laughed and replied: "Why I would have just slunk down the aisle as he did, but you had better enjoy our seat."

The Colonel's body was interred at Rock Creek Church. His widow remarried, in our estimation, a sage and truly great man, Samuel McCormick of Longtown, and had two children, a daughter, Hallie and a son, Samuel McCormick, Jr., who married the oldest daughter of our esteemed friend, Charlie S. Ford, Sr., who was so esteemed as a first rate orator and on the stump as having many purple patches of English in his forensic debates with his contestants. Many amusing things I could relate that transpired in this western part of the county, told by my law partner, the late Glenn W. Ragsdale. I shall venture one to complete this article:

One of the great characters in this section about 1890 was Dr. John Wallace, who in politics was an inveterate foe of Ben Tillman. When Dr. Wallace and friends boarded the train for Columbia to attend a political convention, he sat immediately behind the venerable Presbyterian divine, Dr. Plummer. In discussing Tillman, Dr. Wallace emphasized his opinion with a few interspersed oaths. Dr. Plummer half rising, said: "My friend, it pains me to hear you to take the name of God in vain." Dr. Wallace apologized. Not far along he forgot himself again in the discussion and repeated the offense. Again Dr. Plummer remonstrated and Dr. Wallace apologized. Just before getting to Columbia the offense was repeated and the remonstrance this time was accompanied with a hectoring note of hell fire. In leaving the train Dr. Wallace extended his hand to Dr. Plummer saying: "I am Dr. Wallace, what is your name?" Dr. Plummer drew himself up and replied, "I am a follower of my Lord and Master, the meek and lowly Jesus of Nazareth, sir!" Dr. Wallace rejoined with sarcasm: "Well you may be a follower of the Savior of men but you are a damned long way behind him sir."

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February 13, 1879 Issue of the News and Herald

The Florida Veterans – The forty-third anniversary of the departure of the Fairfield company for the Florida war was celebrated on Tuesday. The survivors met in the Town Hall, Lieut. B. H. Robertson presiding, and Private B. W. Macon acting as secretary. The roll was called, and the following named survivors were found to be present: Ensign B. H. Robertson; Corporals T. T. Robertson, R. E. Ellison, Sr., and Joshua W. Hendrix; Privates B. W. Macon and Edward A. Gibson. On motion of Dr. E. A. Gibson, the chairman was requested to appoint a committee of three whose business it should be to make proper arrangements for the next annual reunion. The chairman appointed the following named gentleman: Dr. E. A. Gibson, Dr. T. T. Robertson and Mr. R. E. Ellison, Sr. After an interchange of views, the veterans partook of a dinner at the Winnsboro Hotel, and then adjourned.

## Old Post Office Information

### Cookham

Established as Broom's on April 3, 1826  
Name changed to Cook's on January 22, 1831  
Name changed to Cookham on June 13, 1836  
Discontinued on June 16, 1853

<u>Postmasters</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>
Charles Broom	April 3, 1826
Philip D. Cook	January 22, 1831
Charles Broom	June 13, 1836
Josiah Hinnant	October 10, 1840
Lewis A. Brown	December 21, 1852

No geographical site report

Mail route #3107, covering the period 1847-51 shows that Cookham was 20 miles from Columbia and 9 miles from Winnsboro

### Bell's Store

Established on February 29, 1828  
Discontinued on October 31, 1831  
Reestablished on January 12, 1839  
Discontinued on October 18, 1854, but the postal records do not show where its mail was thereafter sent

<u>Postmaster</u>	<u>Dates of Appointment</u>
Robert Bell	February 29, 1828
James Bell	April 15, 1830
Charles Bell	January 12, 1839
William Hamilton	August 12, 1845
James Lemmon	May 6, 1846
John P. Bell	May 6, 1846
James Lemmon	October 18, 1854

No geographical site location report. Mail route #3106 covering 1847-51 shows that Bell's Store was 6 miles from Jackson's Creek post office, 13 miles from Brown's, and 4 miles from Buck Head. The direction was not given.

### Rocky Mount

Established on July 18, 1843  
Discontinued September 25, 1866

<u>Postmasters</u>	<u>Dates of Appointment</u>
James Barkley (or Bailey)	July 18, 1843
Jeremiah T. Caither	August 12, 1845
Robert C. Bailey	January 7, 1847
Robert Ford	May 26, 1860

No geographical site location report. Mail route #5669 covering 1866-67 shows that Rocky Mount was 6 miles from Galdden's Grove. The direction is not shown

### **Gladden's Grove**

Established on June 28, 1824

Discontinued on October 8, 1866 (no reference to where the mail was thereafter sent)

<u>Postmaster</u>	<u>Dates of Appointment</u>
Thomas McCullough	June 26, 1824
Daniel McCullough, Jr.	February 21, 1844

No geographical site location reports. Mail route #2204 covering the period 1839-43 and #2273 covering the period 1830-34 show that Gladden's Grove was 8 miles from Popular Springs and 9 miles from Bechamsville. The directions are not shown.

### **Oakville**

Established as Hall's on January 14, 1831

Name changed to Oakville on August 10, 1832

Discontinued on August 7, 1833

<u>Postmaster</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>
David H. Huff	January 14, 1831

No geographical site located report. Mail route #2283 covering 1830-1834 shows that Oakville was 6 miles from Monticello and 5 miles from Hogg's Store. No directions are given

### **Crosbyville**

Established in Chester County on January 28, 1833

Discontinued on September 29, 1866

Reestablished on June 3, 1867

Date located in Fairfield County is not given

Discontinued on April 30, 1906 and its mail was thereafter sent to Shelton

<u>Postmaster</u>	<u>Dates of Appointment</u>
Coleman Crosby	January 28, 1833
Chesley Crosby	July 3, 1851

John A. Dupree	March 11, 1852
Andrew I. Hoffman	November 7, 1853
Chesley Crosby	May 10, 1854
Mrs. Charlotte Crosby	June 3, 1867
Chesley Crosby	December 8, 1876
W. Walker Crosby	August 28, 1882

1868: 3 miles east of Broad River  
 1-1/2 miles north of John's Creek  
 Halsellville 8 miles east of it  
 Winnsboro 33 miles southeast of it  
 Shelton 7 miles southwest of it

1890: West Chester 5 miles north of it

1895: Wolling 3 miles south of it  
 Feasterville 6 miles southeast of it  
 Shelton 6 miles southwest of it

### **Smallwood**

Established on July 1, 1901

Discontinued on March 15, 1906, and its mail was thereafter sent to Ridgeway

<u>Postmaster</u>	<u>Dates of Apointment</u>
Richard A. Meares	July 1, 1901
John T. Robinson	February 27, 1903
Ebbenezwe G. Tennent	June 21, 1904

1901: 2 miles north of Ridgeway  
 5 miles south of Blythewood  
 5 miles southeast of Myrtle  
 100 feet west of the Southern Railway tracks

August 23, 1876 Issue of the News and Herald

### **Fairfield Sabre Club**

At the annual election for officers of this Club, held on Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., the following selections were made:

J. B. Davis, Captain; F. J. Cameron, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut.; T. R. Robertson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut.; J. D. McCarley, 3<sup>rd</sup> Lieut.; W. J. Herron, 1<sup>st</sup> Sergt.; T. W. Rawls, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sergt.; W. W. Brice, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sergt.; Iraneus Pope, 4<sup>th</sup> Sergt.; A. E. Davis, 5<sup>th</sup> Sergt.; J. W. Brown, 1<sup>st</sup> Corp.; F. A. Neil, 2<sup>nd</sup> Corp.; J. W. Lyles, 3<sup>rd</sup> Corp.; J. W. McCreight, 4<sup>th</sup> Corp.; E. A. Rabb, 5<sup>th</sup> Corp.; J. W. McCants, Sec. and Treas.; M. F. Pope, Color bearer; Dr. J. C. Mobley, Surgeon. The Club numbers at present fifty-five men.

October 10, 1935 Issue of the News and Herald

## **Bravery Shown by Confederate Color Bearer in Action**

This story is Taken From An Old Scrap Book of W. H. Flenniken

I have written in a crude way an outline of some of the deeds of our private soldiers of the Confederate War.

This is just what occurred and few are aware of it. John Rabb, a lad of 18, slightly built, with bright blue eyes, was raised on a farm within four miles of Winnsboro. He enlisted in the Sixth South Carolina Regiment the first year of the war. On account of his build he was not cut out for heavy service and being appointed color bearer for the regiment exempted him from the severer work of the other soldiers (such as guard and picket duty). However the color bearer has the most hazardous position in the army.

At the battle of Seven Pines, the enemy had arranged an abatis to hinder our advance. Up to that time our army had enjoyed almost constant successes. When the army reached this abatis, those who were active went over the top and those not active crawled through and under.

Of course this made our line irregular. The color bearer, Rabb, being young and active, climbed over the top and kept on advancing, not waiting for the rest of the line. General Bratton, observing the colors thirty paces or more in advance of his line, thought that Rabb was going to raise the colors to the enemy. The General called out, "Color Bearer, align your colors with the line of your regiment." Rabb was going to lose the colors the regiment with the colors. General Bratton was so impressed with Rabb's coolness and valor in such trying time that he took off his hat in acknowledgement.

The firing was very heavy and orders could hardly be heard. General Bratton gave the command to double quick and join the colors. The command not being understood, the line construed it to be "charge", which they did and the enemy gave way and the victory was won. General Bratton said that the victory that day was due to a great extent to the valor of Color Bearer Rabb, as that point was a hotly contested position. The next day cost Rabb his life. Bearing the colors aloft, when shot he walked a few steps, the blood from his wound spurting on the flag.

Rabb's remains were brought home and buried at the Old Brick Church at Kincaids Bridge where his parents sleep.

We would like to welcome our latest member:

Dorothy Light Allen  
111 Gordon Drive  
Lebanon, Tenn. 37087-2605

tnmoon@prodigy.net

She is researching the Light, Lemley Kennemur and Stephen Jones families





Item #5003	<b>Old Brick Church ca. 1788</b> (History & Cemetery Records) 35 pages, softbound	\$12.00
Item #5004	<b>Fairfield County Plats</b> , 1880-1881 from Deed Books AG and AH. (All plats found in these deed books have been cleaned for easier reading; also included full index of people owing property and adjoining property); softbound	\$20.00
Item #5005	<b>Reminiscences of Old Winnsboro</b> (Written by Preston Rion in 1906; also includes map of Town showing locations and full index); softbound	\$12.00
Item #5006	<b>Confederate Pensions for Fairfield County, S. C.</b> , 1919-1943 (This book is an abstract of the Confederate Pensions; includes such items as birth dates, marriage dates & death dates, full index); softbound	\$20.00
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Item #8002	<b>Through the Years in Old Winnsboro</b> , hardbound	\$40.00
Item #9001	<b>Fairfield Pictorial History</b> , hardbound	\$40.00

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This is what your news letter  
will look like without your  
participation.

April 8, 1879 Issue of the News and Herald

The Municipal Election – The Winnsboro Democratic Club held a meeting in Town Hall on Friday evening, for the purpose of making nominations for intendant and wardens of the town, to serve for the ensuing municipal year. Mr. George H. McMaster, the president of the Club, called the meeting to order, and after stating the purpose for which it had been called, announced that nominations for the office of intendant were now in order. Mr. James A. Brice, the present incumbent, was nominated. There being no other nominations, on motion, it was agreed to vote by acclamation. The vote was then taken upon Mr. Brice's nomination, and he was duly chosen as the Democratic candidate for the office of intendant. There was but one dissenting vote. Nominations for four wardens being next in order, the following named gentlemen were nominated: J. H. Cummings, T. R. Robertson, W. N. Chandler, G. A. White, A. P. Miller, T. K. Elliott, F. Gerig, Jno. P. Matthews, Jno. D. McCarley, R. W. Phillips, S. R. Fant and J. M. Beaty. Messrs. Gerig, Matthews, McCarley, Elliott and Miller declined. The vote was taken and resulted in the nomination of the following named gentlemen: J. H. Cummings, S. R. Fant, T. R. Robertson and W. N. Chandler. The meeting then adjourned.

Fairfield Chapter – SCGS  
P. O. Box 93  
Winnsboro, S. C. 29180