



Fairfield Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

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20th Year

September 2007

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Articles, Bible Records, Lineage Charts, Queries

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

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

Or to

Jon and Barbara Davis
Email: davis925@mindspring.com

To the editors of the Fairfield Genealogical Society newsletter,

I wanted to add some information to the June 2007 issue's "Lylese and the Indians" letter reprinted from the 1898, Jan 12 issue of the News and Herald. The writer McDonald Furman repeated from Robert Mill's Statistics of 1826 that Ephraim Liles was scalped by Cherokees in about 1761-64. This is one version of the story carried down in the traditions of my family and of the area, but a later writer in the mid 1800s described the murder as having been committed by white men who were bitter about some land dealings over a barony in Butte County, N. C. If that is not vague enough, William Edrington in a 1901 edition in the News and Herald, wrote that my fifth great grandfather was murdered by Tories. Ephraim supposedly settled near the mouth of Beaver Creek on the Broad River (now Fairfield County) in the 1740s and soon began a family. My 4th great grandfather, Arromanos, was born in 1748, and is traditionally said to be the first white child to be born in what would become Fairfield County. Our family stories say that Ephraim was scalped in the 1760s, before Tories, or supporters of King George had become a household name as "the bad guys." To complicate the story, there is a family of related Lileses in Anson County, NC, who had in their traditions the tale of an Ephraim Liles who mistakenly shot into a party of Indian deer hunters, stalking their prey wearing deer hides. As the hunter hit by his shot was likely to die of wounds, Ephraim tried to bargain with trade goods among the others in the hunting party. They insisted though that if their friend died, the custom was "an eye for an eye". Ephraim saw fit to successfully escape in the night by walking as far as he could down the streambed of a small inlet running into the Pee Dee River. The settlement he eventually founded near there is called Lilesville.

Did the really happen? Somewhere amongst all these stories are grains of truth. For my interest in a good tale, I would like to think that the tribes of Indians in that area of NC sent word through the Carolina grapevines that a white man named Ephraim Liles should be killed if found. Our Fairfield County Ephraim may or may not have been a nephew or cousin of the other, and may have taken the blame for the hunting accident is not-so-distant Anson County, NC. What a great web could be woven on this pretense!

Pelham Lyles, Director
Fairfield County Museum
231 S. Congress St.
Winnsboro S. C., 19180

Editors Note:

We have received several inquiries about grammar and/or spelling errors in the various articles in the newsletter. When we copy an article, we make every effort to copy it exactly as it was printed, including apparent misspellings and grammar.

We would like to thank Damien and Susan Argon for editing and sending the following information. This is the first of several parts of the address.

ADDRESS

of

MAJ. THOMAS W. WOODWARD,

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

SURVIVORS' ASSOCIATION OF, THE, SIXTH
REGIMENT SOUTH CAROLINA
VOLUNTEERS

AT

Chester, S. C., on 9th August, 1883.

Fort Sumter to Dranesville.

COLUMBIA, S. C.

Printed at the Presbyterian Publishing House

1883

Major Woodward has kindly furnished a copy of his Address for publication, in response to resolutions offered by Major B. C. McLure, viz.:

Resolved, that the hearty thanks of this Association be tendered to Major Thomas W. Woodward for his able historical address that has so vividly carried us back to the times that tried men's souls.

Resolved, that the Address be printed in pamphlet form for preservation by us and our descendants; and that the Charleston News and Courier be requested to publish the Address among its "War Stories."

ADDRESS.

Brother Survivors: The 20th of December, 1860, had come and gone. The Ordinance of Secession had been ratified, and South Carolina was preparing to put her house in order for the storm which might soon assail her. Of the causes which led to this action, and of her right so to act under the law of the land, I shall not treat on this occasion. These have been written of by abler pens than mine, and spoken of in far more eloquent and convincing language than I could command. If there were nothing more, it would be enough for all fair-minded men throughout the world to state that, like the followers of Washington, we thought we were right. But even this is unnecessary; for who is he, unbiassed by prejudice, that witnessed your deeds of devotion and heroism, or that has counted the odds which you encountered, or who has read of the trials and suffering which you so cheerfully endured for the Lost Cause, that dare say these were not the acts of a high-minded, honorable people, guided by conscientious convictions, and battling for their liberties and their principles? I will leave these matters to the unprejudiced historian of the future, and will at once address myself to the subject assigned me by your Executive Committee "The Sixth South Carolina Regiment, from its Formation to the Battle of Dranesville."

A call had been made for troops, and Chester and Fairfield were asked to furnish a battalion each, of five companies, which, when formed, were to be united into a regiment under such officers as should be selected by the ballots of the command, and with the usual staff appointed by the colonel. The regiment was to be numbered according to the date of its reception into the service of the State; and being the sixth formed and accepted, we were designated the Sixth Regiment. Chester furnished the Chester Blues, under McLure the Calhoun Guards, under Secrest; the Chester Guards, under Hardin; the Catawba Guards, under Straight; and the Pickens Guards, under Moore. Fairfield furnished the Fairfield Fencibles, under Rion; the Boyce Guards, under Shedd; the Buckhead Guards, under Means; the Little River Guards, under Brice; and the Cedar Creek Rifles, under Harrison. The regimental organization was completed by the election of J. H. Rion to the colonelcy A. J. Secrest to the lieutenant colonelcy, and T. W. Woodward to the majority. Our staff consisted of Julius Mills, Adjutant; J. J. McLure, Quartermaster; Isaac H. Means, Commissary.; the venerable and eminent John Douglass, Surgeon; J. D. Palmer, Assistant Surgeon; C. B. Betts, Chaplain; W. B. Creight, Sergeant-Major; W. S. Rabb, Quartermaster-Sergeant; and J. Newton Wylie, Commissary-Sergeant. After the election of Rion to the colonelcy, First Lieutenant Bratton was promoted to the captaincy of the Fencibles, and Lieutenant Walker

succeeded Secret in the command of the Calhoun Guards. The Regiment being thus organized, the commander sent the following letter to the President of the Confederate States:

HEADQUARTERS 6th REGIMENT, S. C. V.,
WINNSBORO, S. C., 20th March, 1861.
Hon. Jeff. Davis, President of the Confederate States:

The Regiment which I have the honor to command was raised especially for the defence of South Carolina; but the same spirit of patriotism which actuated this Regiment to volunteer in the defence of their State has caused them to authorize me to tender their services in defence of our common country, the Confederate States, in the following contingency, to wit: That in the event of a conflict of arms becoming imminent, volunteers from this State are needed for active service in the field. In this contingency we tender our services to you for twelve months, provided that the Governor of the State will consent to our transfer to the volunteer service of the Confederate States.

This Regiment is composed of ten uniformed companies, eight infantry of the line and two rifle companies--with an average strength of eighty-five (85) men each.

Very respectfully, JAS. H. RION, Colonel¹.

We were afterwards ordered to Charleston, and arrived on the night of the 11th of April, 1861, preceding the bombardment of Fort Sumter. Distinctly do you recall the thrilling scenes of that ever-memorable morning--how we were awakened by the boom of the first gun from Fort Johnson; how you rushed out, formed your companies, and clamored for your arms, which were here for the first time issued to the command, and then the march to the battery, where we remained silent but eager spectators of the conflict which was going on around the harbor.

¹ To show President Davis, appreciation of this tender, and his recollection of events connected with the war, I give a copy of a letter written in reference to an invitation from the Executive Committee to attend the reunion at which I delivered my address:

Col. Jas. H. Rion: Beauvoir, Harrison Co., Miss., 2d August, 1883.

My Dear Sir: Please accept my sincere thanks for your kind letter inviting me to the reunion of the 6th Regiment, S. C. V., C. S. P. A. It would give me great pleasure to meet the survivors of the Regiment which so promptly tendered its services to the Confederate States as to be in advance of any requisition upon South Carolina; and it would specially gratify me to take you by the hand, whose gallantry at the battalion of Drury's Bluff attracted my official notice and personal compliment on the field.

The state of my health will not permit me to be with you as invited, but you will please assure your associates or my grateful remembrance and best wishes for their prosperity and happiness. For yourself, please accept the high regard and esteem with which I am faithfully yours,

Jefferson DAVIS.

On the evening of the first day of the bombardment, Gen. Beauregard ordered Col. Rion to take command of the "Posts on the Stono", and sent him by a Steamer through Wappoo Cut, with the Fencibles and Buckhead Guards, for Battery Island, and the Boyce Guards for Cole's Island. On the same evening, before leaving, Col. Rion, in response to a requisition from Gen. Beauregard for "two reliable companies," detailed the Calhoun Guards and the Catawba Guards, who were sent under cover of night to Sullivan's Island via Mt. Pleasant.

Upon the fall of Fort Sumter, Lieut. Col. Secrest and myself were sent to Morris Island with the Cedar Creek Rifles, Pickens Guards, the Blues, the Chester Guards, and the Little River Guards.

Afterwards, the Chester Guards were stationed, at Fort Johnson, and I was sent to Cole's Island with the Blues. We were soon joined by the Calhoun Guards and the Catawba Guards. After this, Lieut. Col. Secrest arrived and succeeded me in the command of Cole's Island; and the Pickens Guards, the Cedar Creek Rifles, and the Little River Guards were ordered to report to Col. Rion, at his head-quarters, Battery Island.

These last stated positions were maintained by the several companies until we were ordered to Summerville, early in June.

At Cole's Island we found the Boyce Guards, who had been drilling as heavy artillerists and manning the two 24-pounders mounted in the fort called Fort Palmetto; and from this little concrete fort, which had been built by the Spaniards of old, we fired occasional shots of defiance at the majestic Niagara as she steamed up and down the coast on her blockading duties, hoping to draw her near enough to blow her out of the water with our formidable battery. Fortunately for this portion of the command, shallow water intervened between us and that certain destruction which would have resulted to ourselves and fort if she could have approached near enough to strike us only with a single shell.

It was thought by commodore Hartstein that on the first night of the bombardment, the Pawnee (which he had once commanded) would attempt to reënforce Fort Sumter via the Stono and Wappoo Cut; and Gen. Beauregard supposed that the enemy might attempt (as they afterwards did) an approach on Charleston by passing up the Stono River. Hence these positions on the Stono were regarded as of the great importance and responsibility. The armed steamer, the Wm. Seabrook, and the cutter, the Howell Cobb, were ordered to put themselves in communication with the troops at Cole's Battery Islands.

Before, and for some time after, Col. Rion was assigned the command of these posts. Those splendid companies the Washington Artillery, Capt., Geo. H. Walter; Charleston Riflemen, Capt. Jos. J. Pope; a detachment of the Rutledge Mounted Riflemen, Lieut. Rivers; the Marion Artillery, Capt. Parker, and the Lafayette Artillery, Capt. Kannapeau, were stationed, the first three at Fort Pickens, Battery Island, and the last two at Cole's Island. There existed an *entente cordiale* between these companies and the members of the 6th Regiment, that continued throughout the war. Upon their being relieved and reaching Charleston, the first two companies elected your colonel an honorary member of their respective organization; the Charleston Riflemen extending the compliment to the whole staff of your Regiment.



Friends of the Museum

"Once Upon a Time in Fairfield..."

October the 20th, 2007 will be a big day for the Friends of the Museum. It's our second annual membership gathering in the backyard of the Museum and we are planning a fantastic program of afternoon events with a Native American-style supper under a big top tent. Tim Labeau of the **Pee Dee Indian Tribe** of Chesterfield/Marlboro is coming to Winnsboro to prepare a traditional Indian harvest banquet. The evening's presentation will be given by well-known archaeologist Chris Judge, who has been instrumental in South Carolina's efforts to protect and preserve our archaeological sites. The evening will also feature the opening of an exhibit of Catawba pottery, along with some important Indian artifacts from other local collections. Dr. Tom Blumer's important Catawba pottery collection, recently purchased and loaned to us by Lindsay Pettus of Lancaster, is planned to form the nucleus collection for the future Lancaster museum. We are indebted to Mr. Pettus and Dr. Blumer for allowing the Fairfield County Museum to bring the collection here as a premier museum showing.



During the afternoon, we will set up display tables for visitors to present their arrowheads, pottery shards, and other artifacts to be examined by visiting experts. Well known Catawba potter Keith Brown will display his pottery for sale and demonstrate the making of a traditional pot on site. Ray Gaillard and Rick Baker will demonstrate aboriginal skills such as flint knapping (arrow-head making), fire starting with sticks and fibers, basketry, and other primitive technologies. Look for information on dinner reservations and other details to follow.

Also... To add to the excitement of the autumn offerings, the SC Railroad Museum outside of town will be joining "Once Upon a Time..." to offer excursion rides on a steam engine that will be brought in

from out of state (Oct. 13-14 and 20 - 21). As advertising for their two weekends of steam has already gone out, you should contact them right away about reserving tickets (803-635-9893 or info@scrm.org).

Many More Goings on...

It would seem that time would only stand still in a historical museum, but volunteer Yvette Howard and I are witnesses to *time flying* here in this museum due to the constant flow of events and happenings. This spring, the museum offered its resources for several interesting researchers. Masonic historian Stephen Campbell came in from Mt. Gilead, NC looking for local historical information for a history of Free Masonry in the colonial to early republic years of our country. Federal Judge Eugene Wilson of Seattle, a noted defense lawyer in war crimes trials at the Hague, came to seek his Fairfield ancestral roots from the late 1700s. Interestingly, he discovered that his missing great grandfather is buried in the abandoned Richardson cemetery behind the house of *yours truly*.



And...

Roger Manley, an American writer from Paris, France, came looking for local tales to include in a book just released by Barnes and Noble. The book contains photos and articles about the Anderson quarry, Anvil Rock, Ridgeway's *World's Smallest Police Station*, the witch persecution of 1790, and a phenomenon we photographed in the museum in 2005, the *ghost in the museum mirror*. *Weird Carolinas* is stocked for sale in our gift shop.

On June 16, the FOTM conducted a Saturday family educational presentation of the group "**Common Knowledge.**" This is a group of historical interpreters from the Brattonsville / Rock Hill area who demonstrate early domestic skills such as cooking in pots over a fire, basketmaking, weaving, spinning, dyeing, early clothing and medicinal herb demonstrations, etc. Story teller and



Can you see the image that appears sideways in the mantel mirror?

traditional musician Carroll Pope and historical “school teacher” interpreter, Linda Rowe, entertained the youngsters present.

Archeological Matters

On two weekends, FOTM volunteers Johnny and Connie White and Longtown Presbyterian Church hosted Saturday archeological digs on adjacent church property where several historical features were located. On the area where many remnants from a nineteenth-century schoolhouse were discovered, we also dug up several very nice pre-historic arrowheads, the discovery of which pointed to the many eras of habitation that had been there.

Other volunteer scouting projects have helped us to identify what had been thought to be an Indian mound in the Blackstock area. Further research has shown that it is the raised site for one of the up-country’s first industrial sites in use previous to the American Revolution, Lee’s Mill. It was mentioned in many accounts of military movements about travel on the “road from Lee’s Mill to Mobley’s Meeting House.” If you are interested in working with our volunteer archeology and site mapping project, please call us (635-9811).

On Apr 26, the *Teaching American History* Project sponsored by the Old English District Education Consortium at Winthrop and Chester held a **teachers’ workshop** in the parlor of the museum. Twenty teachers from surrounding counties were able to see the resources that our museum offers for use in future educational tours and lessons. Some TAH Project grant funds have been provided to our museum for the purchase of cameras, camcorders, and other equipment for our outreach programs.

Two weekends were scheduled in May for work on the **McCreight log barn**. Two side shed wings were constructed and the volunteers will plan another weekend later in the fall to add the rear shed and finish siding everything.

One shed will be perfect for assembling the portable cotton gin that has been stored on my property awaiting a display area. Please consider helping if



you would like to learn some of the carpentry skills of our forefathers. Call 635-9811.

Captured Moments

One of the museum programs that have been long in

planning has begun to take shape, thanks to the joint efforts of many individuals and organizations. The oral history project was proposed during the museum’s strategic planning thrust in 2004. Initiated in 2005, the project *Captured Moments* began under the leadership of local artist Michaela Brown. She worked with Julianne Neal and her Fairfield Central High School theater students to produce dramatic readings for a community audience at the Pinetree Theater. These vignettes were taken from some of our county’s WPA Slave Narratives that were recorded during the Roosevelt Administration in 1936 and 1937.

This year, grant funds from the TAH project and the U. S. Institute for Museum and Library Services have allowed us to move ahead with our plans. Volunteers from the Friends of the Museum, summer student workers Martika Minger and Aundrea Brown, along with individual volunteers and students from Marvin Miller’s prize winning *Fairfield County Career Center* graphics program have begun digital video taping of interviews with elders throughout the community.

It is one thing for a museum to display traditional material collections, but spoken words that tell of historical and private stories from the not-so-distant past will help us to document more of our history that might otherwise be lost. Recent recordings being edited to DVD have been made with Brother Lyles, Larry Irby, Jr., Hannie and Johannie Mae Milling, Bill McDonald, and Viola Hall. Plans for coming months require additional volunteers to help with coordinating the work we plan with the county students who want to work with the project. Please consider calling us to offer some of



Martika listens to Brother's war tales.

Changes within the Walls...

In early summer the museum began its transition to a new state of operation as a full department of the Fairfield County Government. The former historical

commission has evolved into the museum's county council-appointed advisory committee. The change will allow for the stretching of the museum's budget funds with the use of additional county services, along with the accountability of being a full-fledged service institution for public use.

On- and Upcoming Events ...

Janice Miller has almost finished the refurbishing of the second-floor Victorian bedroom exhibit. Charleston designer and former Winnsboro resident Roberta Ketchin is contributing some beautiful hand-made period window curtains for the finishing touches. The room will be completed for viewing at Christmas. Janice has also converted the third-floor rooms into tidy and efficient storage and work spaces that we have always desired to effect a more professional museum management plan. The complete collections are now entered onto the museum data base for record keeping and research.

We are planning our annual Christmas Open House for December 9 at 5 PM. In addition to the usual Sunday afternoon festivities, we will conduct an *Early Christmas Traditions and Crafts* program for children on Saturday morning, Dec. 8. Please listen out for more details at our October membership event.

Membership:

Membership renewal time is indicated if there is a * on your mailing label. Please submit your renewal to FOTM at P.O. Box 6, Winnsboro, SC 29180.

I would like to join the Friends:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Please consider letting us send to your email address to save postage costs:

Email _____

Sign me up (or renew my membership) as:

"Once Upon a Time in Fairfield..."

October 20, 2007, 7 pm.

Meal Reservation \$15 single__ \$20 non-members____
 \$25 per couple__ \$30 non-members__

Plus membership renewal or application

The evening meal will be served in the backyard under the tent. Come enjoy the Native American specialties catered and served by Chief Tim Labean and members of the **Pee Dee Indian Tribe** of Chesterfield/Marlboro. Venison stew will be served. Please indicate here if you would prefer grilled chicken _____.

Logan's History of the Upper Country

Many of you have reserved pre-publication copies of the upcoming recreation of this classic book. As the county is working with the Reprint Company of Spartanburg to print the books in hardback format, we are sorry to announce that prices are now higher for those who did not order before now. A form is included in below for orders. Order now and avoid the higher shelf cost when the book comes out on the market.

A HISTORY OF THE UPPER COUNTRY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, FROM THE EARLIEST PERIODS TO THE CLOSE OF THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

by DR. JOHN H. LOGAN.

THE PREPUBLICATION SALES PRICE IS \$30

(plus \$3.50 shipping and handling unless you plan to pick yours up in Winnsboro.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL.# _____

EMAIL _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT: CHECK _____

CH.# _____ CASH _____

INDICATE HERE IF YOU DESIRE A RECEIPT _____
 SEND CHECKS TO THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUSEUM, P.O. BOX 6, WINNSBORO, S.C. 29180

From the November 21, 1935 Issue of the News and Herald

A Communication From Rev. Horace Rabb
Due West, S. C.

Dear Sirs:

I have been interested in reading Mr. Harvey Fleniken's article concerning "The Bravery of a Confederate Color-Bearer," John Rabb, 31st of May 1862. And for the benefit of those who may care to know who this John Rabb was, I will say that it was John Watt Rabb, oldest son of John Glazier Rabb and Mrs. Nancy (Watt) Rabb.

Concerning that incident, and for the benefit of your readers, I would like to quote from Gen. John Bratton, in his speech before the Survivors of the 6th S. C. Regiment, on the battle field of Seven Pines, August 6, 1885, taken from "THE MEMORIAL EDITION," of The News and Herald of May 25, 1916. The title of the article from which I quote is: "The 6th at Seven Pines: General Bratton's own account of the great fight."

Concerning that Memorial Edition, I'd like to say that, if possible, the material of that edition, with much that might be added, ought to be put in permanent form. The newspaper form is too unwieldy, and is hard to preserve.

Since the article referred to is too long to be quoted in full, I will begin at the point where, after quoting General Anderson's order to "Move your regiment across the abettis, and take the crest beyond, Gen. Bratton. (a little further on says: "When about ½ way across a grand volley was poured upon us from the thicket beyond, and although nobody cried 'lie down' the entire regiment squatted involuntarily in the brush. As the crash of the volley died away, I shouted; 'Forward' but none seemed to hear it, save our color-bearer, and before I could repeat, the roar and rattle of the regular battlefire opened upon us and drowned human utterances. He advanced on and over the obstruction, as he could not move under, even under the highest without lowering his colors, alone, with a stride unnaturally steady, considering the character of his footing. None, who saw it can ever forget the splendid picture presented by our glorious and handsome boy, John Rabb, on this occasion. Never were colors borne with a loftier devotion to duty, or a quieter disdain of danger. He advanced, thus alone, nearly half way to the enemy, and it looked s though our colors would be handed over to them, when our entire regiment seemed, simultaneously, to take in the situation, and made a desperate rush to overtake them. Our line poured, like a wave over and under and through the obstruction, and coming up with the colors, continued the impetuous advance, until we swept over theirs. Emerging from the thicket from which they were driven, and hastily adjusting our ranks, we pushed towards the crest and soon encountered the most formidable line and became engaged in the fiercest fight of the day.

John Watt Rabb, the color-bearer, was NOT killed the next day, as Mr. Fleniken suggests; but did receive a severe wound, from a shell, which first struck the flagstaff. He was stunned, and was left behind by his regiment, and while confined in the hospital for a while, he sufficiently recovered to rejoin his regiment and was killed while carrying the colors of the regiment in the battle of Grimes Mill, on the 30th of June.

Rev. Horace Rabb, brother of John Watt Rabb

From the August 29, 1935 Issue of the News and Herald

Historical Stories About Our County

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

There hangs on the brick wall of the Woodward Baptist Church a marble tablet bearing this inscription.

Sacred
To the Memory of
William Woodward
Who departed this life in the year of Our Lord 1820, on the 23rd day of July, aged 57 years, 9 months
and 18 days.

This tablet is erected to his memory by this church, which he planted by his instrumentality through the indulgence of a kind Providence, A. D. 1789.

In consideration of his many virtues this church has unanimously consented to be known in the future, the Woodward Baptist church of Christ.

The subject of this sketch is the second son of Thomas Woodward, the Regulator, by his first wife, Jemima Collins. He served with gallantry as a soldier of the Revolution at the battle of Eutaw Springs and was Colonel of a regiment in the War of 1812. We find in the U. S. Census of 1790 that he was a large land and slave owner. He became a member of Congress from this district, pursuing at the time studies in surgery and medicine and became a physician near Monticello. He became a member of the old Rock Creek Baptist church. He married Nanya Barrette, a French woman, an immigrant and refugee from France to the Island of St. Martinique, in the West Indies. She was a remarkable woman, highly educated and of unusual business sense. On a visit to the old Marquis de Lashmatte, who then resided about where Michael Brice now lives, she met William Woodward and took him for "better" rather than "worse." I like to think. She was steeped in nationalism and the writings of Rousseau, Voltaire and the humanities of Victor Hugo. She never could be induced to join a church although her husband became a Baptist minister.

She occupied herself with the plantation operations and slave affairs, while her husband alleviated sickness and suffering, indulged in politics and statesmanship and preached the Gospel on the Sabbath, without money and without price.

The children of this wedlock were Nancy, who married a Rabb, ancestor of the late W. R. Rabb. Ellen, who married an Ellison, ancestor of the late Sheriff R. E. Ellison and descendants. Mary C., who married Thomas Lyles.

In these articles we have traced the descendants of this marriage. John, who married Mary Mobley, ancestor of the late Capt. W. B. Woodward, of Woodward, S. C., and Joseph Addison, who first married a Miss Bones. Of this union all the Palmers of Ridgeway are descended and he will be the next subject of articles on the Woodwards

General Valentine

You may remember that we mentioned the Colonial family of Valentine some time ago in these writings. The last time we were in Columbia we found some of Gen. Green's and Gen. Richard Winn's military orders. We abridged them and note two here.

Headquarters, Charles Town, March 14, 1778

William Valentine is hereby appointed Deputy Commissary General of the Continental Troops in South Carolina, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

(Signed) Green

It was a daughter of this General Valentine that Colonel Aramames Lyles married and the name has been preserved in the name of Mrs. Rebecca V. Woodward.

ORDER GENERAL WYNN

Winnsborough, 4th May, 1887.

You will be pleased to order a general muster of your regiment at Beaver Creek on Wednesday, the 30th of this Ins. The Governor and myself will be at the review.

I shall leave all other matters to your good sense and judgment.

Sir, your most obedient servant

Richard Winn

This may strike you as rather crude, a Brigadier General subscribing himself a servant, but it was the humility of true greatness. All that has perished and been swept away with the leveling processes of democracy and the idea that if you are only a biped you are the equal of any other biped.

Preliminary to our next article we are printing a letter from Congressman Richards.

Mr. W. W. Dixon
Winnsboro, S. C.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I have your letter of April 39th requesting information at to Congressman William Woodward and Congressman Joseph A. Woodward, who were in Congress from South Caroline.

The records in Congressional library give the following:

“William Woodward, of Monticello, South Carolina, was in the 14th Congress, and served from March 4, 1815 to 1817.”

“Joseph A. Woodward was born in Winnsboro, South Carolina, April 11, 1806, died in Talladega, Alabama August 3, 1885. He served from March 4, 1843 until March 3, 1853. He declined to run for Thirty-third Congress. Moved to Alabama in 1853 and took up his law practice there. “

I hope this will be of some help to you. Call on my any time I can be of assistance.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,
J. P. Richard, M. C.

So it will be observed that there were twenty-six years to pass before the son succeeded the father in the National House of Representatives.

From the August 19, 1937 Issue of the News and Herald

It Happened in Fairfield County 150 Years Ago, by Kathleen Lewis

July 26 – William Boyd Gent is the Sheriff first mentioned for Fairfield District; Burr Harrison was this day elected Coroner. Overseers were appointed to guard the following roads in this county: From the County line near Lee’s old place to Cockrall’s; Court House to Cedar Creek; Cedar Creek to Round Top or County Line; On the new blazed road to Camden to be cut 30 feet wide – from Thomas Hill to the Wolf Pit; Wolf Pit to County Line; On the new blazed road to Congaree to be cut 30 ft. wide – From the blazes below Thomas Hill’s to Cedar Creek, Cedar Creek to County Line; On the road from Winnsboro to Liles’ Ford to be cut 30 ft. wide – From Winnsboro to Col. John Winn; Ederington’s Road to Liles’ Ford; County Line to Sandy River to Alcorns old place; Col. Winn’s Mill road to Thomas Nelson; Thomas Nelson opposite to Danl. Wooten; Danl. Wootens to Joseph Gibson, Senior; Joseph Gibsons to Little River; Little River to Cedar Creek; Road to Shiver’s Ferry – Hills old place to Hills Creek; Hills Creek to Little River; Little River to Forks Congaree Road; Forks Congaree Road to Shivar’s Ferry; James Alcorns to County Line towards Sandy River; The old road from Winnsboro-Camden; Charleston Road to Wateree Creek, Dutchman’s Creek to Tolersons old place; Tolerson’s old place to County Line; Rocky Mount Road – From fork of old Camden Road to Rocky Mount Road to James Loves; James Loves to Mountain Gap; Mountain Gap to County Line

Jacob Brown was elected County Attorney.

Among the first Judges mentioned in the Court Minutes were John Winn, Richard Winn, John Buchanan, James Craig, Wm. Kirkland, H. Hampton and John Pearson

1785

July 27 – “James Lewis petitioned the Court for a tavern license. “The Court then proceeded to appoint the place for erecting the Court House and gaol, when it was unanimously agreed that Winnsborough being the most central part in the County; the building should be erected there.

1786

January Court-

“We the Grand Jury of the County Fairfield do make the following presentments:

1st – We present as a grievance the selling spirituous liquors contrary to law by Thomas White. Phillip Shaver, Jacob Bethney, Henry McDonald, Wm. Tyrie, John McMullin.

“Informants James Andrews, Fred Hart.

2nd – We present as a grievance for bastardizing for nine before the date thereof – Ann Neel, Elizabeth Lathan, Elizabeth Hollis and Mrs. Gladden on the Wateree. Mary Bell, Firraby Broom and a free negro M. Porter.

3rd – We present as a grievance that a hundred of weights and measures are not provided and put into the hands of Clerk of the Courts.

4th – We present as a grievance the not erecting a Court House and Gaol and Stocks as directed by law.

5th – We present as a grievance the distressed situation of indigent persons who by reason of old age and infirmities are not capable of supporting themselves.

6th – We present as a grievance the great necessity of having some legal mode immediately entered upon of established for the regular support of orphans and poor children who have no trustees or guardians.

7th – We present as a grievance the want of Direction Posts set up at Forks or Cross Roads in the County.

8th – We present as a grievance the privileges daily taken by the inhabitants of this County in hunting through and about their neighbors plantations without lease or approbation, particularly on the Sabbath.

9th – We the Grand Jury of the County aforesaid recommend the several persons informed against in the clause first to the mercy of the said Court.

Henry Hunter, Foreman

August Term-

“Richard Winn, John Winn, Minor Winn, John Buchanan, James Craig, Henry Hampton and Isaac Love, Esquires present.

“Court being opened, the Reverend McCandle preached as excellent sermon on the occasion.

George Lott was fined forty shillings for contempt of Court, and ordered to give security for his behavior. He appeared in Court the next day sober, and asked the pardon of the Court whereupon the Court ordered him to be dismissed without cost or fines.”

1791

June 14 – Robert Martin petitioned the Court that Elijah Ivey an orphan boy be bound to him to learn the planting trade. The Court granted. “You the said Robert Martin do at a proper time give the said orphan schooling to read, write and sypher and when he attains the age of 19 years, to give him a decent suit of clothes and during the time of his apprenticeship to find him in clothing and wholesome food and lodging.

“State vs. Robert Jennings.

Indictment for stealing a saddle.

Grand Jury returned a “True Bill”; but when tried by jury was found “Not Guilty”.

State vs. Alexander Kincaid

Grand Jury found a “No Bill”

June 18 – Saturday

“David Read Evans being appointed Deputy Clerk for the County Court of Fairfield took the oaths of office and allegiance as prescribed by law. This refutes the idea that this gentleman was the first Clerk of Court in this District.

“The treasurer was ordered to contract with someone on the most reasonable terms to put pillars under the Court House when necessary.

Several of the inhabitants of the County petitioned for a road to be cut from Morris Branch to Dennis Burns on the Winnsborough Road, to Camden. Charles Lewis and Thomas appointed Commissioners to lay off same. Charles Lewis appointed overseer.

“Ordered that the new road from Winnsborough to the New Meeting House on Jackson Creek be a public road and that same be kept open.

From the September 2, 1937 Issue of the News and Herald

It Happened in Fairfield 150 Years Ago

1792

June 15 – Tavern Rates Fixed.

Jamacia Rum, when carried away, per qt. 3 S; West India 2 S 3 P; Northward and Taffia 2 S; Good West India, per half pint 1S; Northward, 7 P; Good Peach Brandy per at. 2 S 6P; Good Peach Brandy drank in grog at Tavern, one half pint 1 S; Good Proof Whiskey, per at. 2 S 4 P; Gin per glass, 3 P; Good French Brandy, per qt., 3 S; Maderia Wine per bottle, 4 S 8P; Nidonia Wine, 3 S 8 P; Port Wine, 3 S 6 P; All other inferior wines 2 S 6 P; Draught per qt. 1 S 6 P; Bottled Syder per bottle, 2 S; Draught, 7 P.

Meals of Good Healthy Provision – Breakfast 8; Dinner 1-2 S; Supper 8.

All bespoke dinners where a bill of fare is given to the parties to agree on price.

Lodging-

In a feathered bed with clean sheets 6 each nite, On mattress, 4.

For stabling a horse one night on corn blades or good hay, 8.

For 2 quarts of Indian Corn or 3 qts. Oats 4.

For one night in a good pasture, 3.

“Ordered that these rates be strictly adhered to by all concerned and that the same be affixed and constantly kept up by the persons licensed in the most publick room in their respective houses. Otherwise in failure thereof be confined for contempt of Court.”

June 16 – “James Cook and Richard Hightower cited to show cause why they should not be fined for removing the Court House benches.”

A process was the same day issued by the County Attorney against John Badgers for abusing a stray horse held in his possession.

June 19 – “William Kirkland and James Craig appointed Commissioners (to the County Line between Counties of Richland, Kershaw and Fairfield) on the part of Fairfield County and that notices be sent to the Judges of the said County Courts to appoint the and the Commissioners for running the said line on their respective parts.”

“D. Evans petitioned the Court for license to retail spirituous liquors, etc. Granted.

January 15 – “Ordered that Court House be finished out of the sum that the county is now assessed for, and that the Clerk do advertise for any person or persons willing to undertake the finishing of the same.”

“Ordered that a road be opened from Badgers Ford on Little River, and that Mr. Burrell Cooke be permitted to place a gate on the river bank to prevent creatures trespassing on his fields.

The State vs. Wm. Adams

Indictment for stealing

Found guilty by the Jury and ordered by the Court to receive 15 stripes on his bare back at the public whipping post.

January 17 – “The Grand Jury has been requested to inspect the gaol and report to the Court upon the same. “It is the opinion of the Grand Jury that the gaol as far as it is gone is executing the plan delivered by Mr. Strother and also that when finished will be equal to the purposes intended. “

John Cooke, Foreman

January 23 – “Ordered that the Clerk to have the dimensions of the upper floor of the Court House together with the partitions for Jury rooms taken, and a bill of the same made out, the flooring plank to be inch thick, for the partitions inch and quarter, also inch thick plank for Jury tables, benches and doors for Jury Rooms and window shutters and that Clerk do purchase the same at the most convenient mill and on the cheapest terms, also plank for stair case.”

“Ordered that as soon as gaol completed that the Sheriff do take charge of the same.”

Archibald Douglas appeared in Court and was duly qualified to act as Constable for Fairfield County.

June 19 – “Several propositions for undertaking the finishing of the Court House having been laid before the Court, it appeared to the Court that the proposals of Francis Palmer were the lowest, whereupon it was agreed that he should be employed for the above work agreeable to proposals by him rendered in on his giving bond and security for the completing the same on or before the 12th day of January next in a workmanlike manner. Also that the Clerk be empowered to procure the necessary iron mongory and have the plank brought to the Court House.

1791

January 15 – James Gray was appointed as one of the Judges of Fairfield appeared in Court and took Oath of office.

January 17 – “Ordered that a rule issue against the Sheriff, and Clerk of the County, and County Attorney to show cause why they should not be fined for neglect of their respective duties.”

Francis Palmer was paid the sum of 23.7 pounds for his work of finishing the Court House.

Signed – D. Evans, C. C. P.

1795

“July 18 – Judges proceeded to elect Sheriff of Fairfield County where upon Wm. McMorris was duly elected.

State vs. Nicholas Ringer, indicted for corn stealing.

Ordered to receive ten lashes on bare back within one-half hour.

State vs. Hugh Gourly, indicted for Assault.

Found Guilty. Sentenced to stay in stocks two hours, be imprisoned in gaol two weeks, be fined ten pounds and stand committed until costs are paid.

July 27 – “Ordered that the presentments of Grand Jury of this term be printed in Columbia Gazetter excepting only such clauses as related to police of this county.”

“The Clerk was requested to notify the Judges of Kershaw County that Minor Winn and Chas. Pickett had been chosen Commissioners to run out the Kershaw-Fairfield County Line.

1796

January 16 – “The waters being out and all creeks impassible none of the judges attended; therefore Clerk called Court adjourned til Monday the 18th.

D. Evans, C. F. C.

January 18 – “Capt. John Buchanan petitioned Court for license to keep house of entertainment and retail spirituous liquors.”

“Daniel Brown, Esq. was charged with having neglected his duties; therefore William Smith was appointed to act pro temporary as County Attorney.”

July 18 – “James McCreight and Bartholomew Turnipseed petitioned Court for license to keep a tavern.”

July 23 – “On applications of Hugh Milling, Esq., acting Adm., of John Milling Estate-ordered that a negroe fellow, Abraham, belonging to estate of John Milling be sold on first Saturday in September next at Winnsboro on a credit until December 1, 1837.”

From the September 9, 1937 Issue of the News and Herald

It Happened In Fairfield County 150 Years Ago

1795

January 17 – “The Office of Clerk of Court being vacant by decease of David Evans the court proceeded to elect one Samuel Whorter Yongue, who was formerly the Treasurer. John Buchanan was appointed Treasurer in his stead. Mr. Buchanan was instructed to call upon the executors of David Evans for all money due County of Fairfield. Also to pay all monies to Gen. Richard Winn, without special order of Court until a certain bond is discharged which has long since been given by the Judges to Mr. James Brown for building the Court House in the Town of Winnsborough.”

1798

July 16 – Gen. Richard Winn took oath of office as one of Judges of Fairfield, having been appointed by General Assembly.

July 17 – “Court balloted for Sheriff, Wm. McMorris’ time having elapsed, Capt. Hugh Milling, Esq. was unanimously elected. John Bell was unanimously elected Coroner.”

Charge given to Grand Jury: “You as foreman of this Grand inquest for the body of the District of Fairfield shall diligently inquire and true presentment make of all such matters and things as shall be given you in charge, the States Council your fellows and your own, you shall keep secret. You shall present no one for envy, hatred of malice, neither shall you leave anyone unrepresented for fear favour of affection reward or help thereof, but you shall present all things truly as they come to your knowledge according to the best of your understanding, so help you God.” The same oath your foreman hath taken on his part you and each of you shall truly observe and keep on your part, so help you God. You shall well and truly attend this Jury as a constable you shall keep them together separate and apart from all people you shall not go into them yourself neither shall you suffer any other person unless ordered by the Court neither shall you suffer them to have drink or firelight until they shall have agreed in their verdict. You shall serve well and truly. You as foreman of the Grand Jury for the Body of the County of Fairfield shall well and truly enquire a true presentment make of all such matters and things as shall be given you in charge of shall come to your knowledge the States Council you own and your fellows you shall keep secret you shall present no one through hatred or malice nor leave anyone unrepresented through fear favor of affection nor for any reward of hope thereof. So help you God. The same oath your foreman hath taken on his part you and each of you do swear to keep and observe on you and each of your respective parts. So help you God Evangelist, Evangelist.”

Signed Samuel Whorter Yongue

1800

William Woodward is mentioned as Tax Collector. The Jury box was made up in the following manner. The names on the return of the Tax Collector were placed in the box. (At this time 795 names were on the Tax Collector's list). A list of 72 were put in the box known as "Sales Jury". The others were placed in the regular box for drawing.

March 3 – "One presentment of the Grand Jury, ordered that the solicitor do take steps to prosecute Obadiah Henson, for his inhuman treatment of his slaves."

Also: "The Court ordered that a copy of the second presentment of the Grand Jury, which is the irregular arrival of all the mails at Post Office of Winnsboro be forwarded by the Clerk of Court enclosed in a letter to S. W. Bacot, Esq., Post Master at Charleston."

October 19, 1801 – "The Court was opened agreeably to adjournment and being the last day of the term and none of the Judges of the Court of Common Law in the State attending to hold the Court, the Clerk and Sheriff in open Court and in presence of David Hamilton, Esq., a Justice of the Peace within the District proceeded to draw the necessary Juries to serve at the ensuing term as by law provided, the said Clerk and Sheriff and the said Justice having first been duly sworn for that propose before David Reid Evans a Justice of the quorum and Edward Martin a Justice of the peace within the said District agreeably to the act of the General Assembly."

1807

April 16 – "Elias Hendrix a Juror of the Court having absented himself yesterday without leave, and not returning to his duty, nor standing any excuse, the Court ordered that he be fined in the sum of \$10, and that Exon., issue for same."

Robert McCreight, Exor. Margaret his wife, vs. Benjamin Owens, Slander, Verdict – Comprised at Defendant's Costs.

Wm. Smith vs. George Eleazer, Attachment.

Negro woman Dorcas, her three children, Negro woman named Doly and her three children, a bay horse and set blacksmith tools be sold to satisfy debt \$188, interest and cost.

The same day Stewart Grafton, James Barly, Alexander Kincaid, Robert Barkly, John McGuire, Hugh Barkly, Samuel Johnston, all aliens, who had presented petitions to the United States Government to become citizens, appeared in Court and were examined and took the oath of citizenship.

Nov. 17 – "At a Court of Common Pleas begun and holden at Fairfield Court House for Fairfield District, agreeably to an act of the General Assembly of the State of S. C., in such case made and provided. Present, Hon. Thomas Waties, Esq., one of the Associate Justices of the said State.

Petit Jurors called and answered to their names. These were then divided into Jury 1, and Jury No. 2. This is in contrast with our present day method of drawing the juries from the hat.

From the September 23, 1937 Issue of the News and Herald

It Happened In Fairfield County 150 Years Ago

1808

Nov. 19 – The State vs. Phillip Thurmon. Indicted for stealing

“The Defendant was brought to the bar and the following sentence was passed upon him – That you be taken hence to the place from whence you came, and that on the 3rd Monday in December, next between the hours of 10 o’clock in the forenoon and 4 o’clock in the afternoon you be taken from thence to the place of publick execution in this district and then and there be hanged by the neck until you be dead, AND THE LORD HAVE MERCY ON YOUR SOUL. And the prisoner was remanded to the gaol.”

1817

July 13 – “An extra session of the Court of General Sessions was held this day. State vs. Charles Pickett, Indicted for killing a slave. Found guilty. Found guilty and fined three hundred fifty pounds current money and the cost of the execution.

1828

“Commission of J. B. Oneal, Associate Judge filed. Commission signed by Stephen D. Miller, Governor of South Carolina, attested by R. Starke, Secretary of State.

1830

“J. Elliott, C. C. C. P. Term of Court of Common Pleas, April, 1830
I, David Walker, a native of Ireland, and formally a subject of the King of Great Britain and Ireland, the United Kingdom come unto this Court and declare on oath that it is by bona fide intention as soon as admitable by the laws of the United States to become a citizen of the U. S. and do renounce and adjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign prince potential State of, Sovereignty whatever and particularly to the King of Great Britain and Ireland of whom I have been a subject. Sworn to in April Court April 13th 1830.

Ordered that the above notice annexed report be filed and recorded in the Clerk’s office, April 13th, 1830, John R. Oneal.

State of South Carolina, Fairfield County

We certify that we have known David Walker, the petitioner since his statement in this State which was in or before the year 1822, that he has conducted himself as a sober industrious and moral man and that in our opinion he would make a good citizen.

Hugh Barkley, James Barkley, William Moore

Report of Alien – David Walker: David Walker, age 47, from Ireland, County of Antrim.

Mary, his wife; and five children Hugh Andrew, Maria Esther, Isabell Stute, John Alexander, Francis Elizabeth.

1832

November term – “Grand Jurors drawn to serve: Jonathan Crankfield, Joseph Holmes, James Cameran, John D. Gwinn, John Castles, Jr., Daniel Hoffman, Abner Mooty Sr., Samuel Arledge, James Elder, William Mouner, David C. Mobley, Samuel Camak, John M. Feaster, Abner Dickey, T. Harrison, Robert Bankhead, James Beard, Jephtha Arledge, John Mobley, Nathan Mann, Thomas Griffin, Minor Gibson, William Chapman, John Dawkins.

Petty Jurors: Simon Ccokrall, Robert McKemir, Abel Gibson, John McKinstry, Robert Chapman, Samuel Cathcart, Robert McDonald, Andrew Hodge, Peter Mason, John Lightner, Josiah Blizard, Alex Hindman, Thomas Laughrider, Alexander Dougals, Joseph Hagg, William Kennedy, Joseph Cloud, John Douglas, Derril Ford, Daniel Mickie, Simeon Pannel, Thomas Richardson, Jeremiah Glenn, Benjamin Harrison, Benjamin Nevitt, Hugh Aiken, George Pearson, Doctor Wm. Boyles, James Gladney, Jr., Wm. Cork, John N. Harvey, Alexander Calhoun, John M. Coleman, Lucas Brown, John Martin, Jacob Gibson, Wm. Becker, Daniel D. Finley, Charnel Durham, Griffin Coleman, Andrew Boyd, Jonathan Davis, Thomas A. Rabb, George Hamiter, Wm. Caldwell, Tobias Eshler, James C. Brice, and Littleton Crankfield.

From the Court Minutes the following are a few of the Judges and Associate Judges mentioned: John Faunkeraud Grimke; Judge Boye, Joseph Brevard, Samuel Wilds, Lewis Trezevant, David Reid Evans, Langdon Chevis, Josiah J. Evans, William d. Martin, Boyles J. Earle, I. S. Richardson, John B. Oneal, Richard Gantt, Theodore Gillard, Daniel Elliott Hugker, William D. James, and Abraham Nott.

Law firms mentioned are:

Pearson & Nott, Buchanan, A. W. Thompson, Player, Woodward & Gregg, Eaves & Beaufort, Law & Ellison, Weatherston, Gregg & Hudson, and W. Elliott.

QUERY

I am trying to find information on Asaph Hill (b 12/25/1804, d 10/10/1872 and Jannet Weir Stevenson Hill (1824-1857), born I think, in Fairfield District, South Carolina. She was the daughter of James Stevenson (1783-1861) and Eleanor Weir Stevenson (1794-1861). According to information I have, after Jennet's death and after the Civil War, Asaph and their five remaining children moved to Mississippi. The oldest James S., died in the war in South Carolina. I have a feeling that Jennet as well as Asaph's first two wives are buried in S. C., but I have not been able to locate their graves. The first was a Meadows and the second was Mary Mobley. He had two children with Mary Mobley, Elizabeth and William E. Asaph is buried in Miss. I also am looking for information on Jessie Wallace McGraw, born 1/17/1812, in Fairfield District, South Carolina. He married Margaret Elizabeth Wilson (b 1812). They had 7 children born in S. C. before moving to Mississippi sometime between 1845 and 1847.

If anyone has any information about these relatives or ours, we would appreciate hearing from you.

Roy & Minnie Jo Hill
186 County Road 112
Houston, MS 38851
662-464-4028
mjhill@1-stopnet.com

The Committee alluded to in this blank letter consisted of Messrs. Hutson, Tate, Huger, C. C. Pinckney and Richard Winn. This committee had communicated with two gentlemen in relations to taking charge of the school; one of these was the Rev. Thos. Harris McCaule, of North Carolina, and the other Mr. Isaac Fuller, of Charleston.

The reply of the latter gentleman is first in order, and is as follows:

Charleston. April 17th, 1784

Sirs: I received yours of the 10th inst., should have been happy to have been informed more decisively in reference to the school; as matters were to be circumstanced, could not have expected any other answer. Relying upon your friendship, I shall come by the first opportunity. Upon the safe delivery of my chest, be pleased to be paid unto the deliverer of it, three dollars and a half.

From your most obedient

And very humble servant

[Signed]

Isaac Fuller

Gen. Richard Winn

This is a quaint letter, as appears from its form and expression. In the original the article “the is spelt in the old from ”ye.”

Rev. T. H. McCaule, replied in the following communication, addressed to Gen. Richard Winn and Captain William Tate, with the request that it be laid before the “committee of the Mount Sion Society:”

Rowan, April 19th, 1784

Gentleman: Yesterday I had the honor of yours of the 16th of March addressed to me by the Chairman of your committee, Mr. Hutson, of the City of Charleston.

I feel myself under obligations for the honor you have done me. I flatter myself the era is not far distant when the Arts and Sciences shall begin to display in Carolina. Even in these dull shades of obscurity I have entertained secret wishes that part of the superior wealth of South Carolina were appropriated to the advancement of Literature, the founding of Colleges, &c. I am now averse from attempting to contribute my personal services I can render my fellow citizens.

The proposal you are pleased to lay before me is new. My little family must share in the consequences, as well as myself; therefore previous to a decided answer, I hope to be indulged a few weeks for deliberation. Should the Committee not permit themselves to be so long detained in a state of suspense, I beg them to lose no time in making the overture to another. In the interim, should I be honored with no more communications from you on the subject, I shall transmit my final answer about the 16th of next [month] either by letter to one of you, gentlemen, or, which is most probable, by waiting upon you in *propria persona*. Should I accept to proposal, my removal might take place about Christmas next. If your Academical affairs have not been thrown into too great derangement—if students and the necessary accommodations of books, buildings, &c., can be had sooner, the removal in question may come on as early as the first of November next.

The bearer can bring me notice whether you are willing to wait for my final answer as long as the 16th of May next.

I am gentlemen,
your most obedient and very
humble servant

T. H. McCaule

Reopening the College after the War

No. 16

1784 It appears that the Committee were disposed to abide the time asked by Mr. McCaule to consider the proposition made to him to take charge of Mount Zion College, but in the meantime, further correspondence was carried on with him on the part of the Committee. On the 9th of May, 1784, in reply to a letter from Gen. Winn, Mr. McCaule, writing from Rowan, N. C., addressed the General as follows:

Sir: Yours by Maj. Ellison arrived this morning. Being just about to set out for church, I have only time to acknowledge the honor of Maj. Ellison's waiting upon me, and of your very polite letter.

I shall use every exertion to attend at Jackson's Creek on Sunday next. Maj. Ellison invites me to lodge with him on the evening of that day. Soon after that I shall be ready to enter upon particulars respecting your Academy. Should I not suit you, or the place not answer my wishes on inspection I will not hold the Committee long in suspense. Should I accept of the appointment, my few and small talents shall be devoted to your service and that of the Muses in South Carolina.

I have the honor to be, &c.

T. G. McCaule

The appointment made by Mr. McCaule was fulfilled, and on the 17th of May he arrived in Winnsboro, the Committee meeting that day to hear his final decision as to accepting the control of the College. On that day he addressed a note to the "Presidents, Wardens and Members of the Mount Sion Committee, viz:

Gentlemen: On the 19th of April I was honored with an appointment in a letter from Charleston under the signature of Messrs. Hutson, Tate, Hugher, Pinchney, and Winn, a committee of Mount Sion Society. I hereby beg leave to signify my acceptance of the said appointment on conditions matters can be adjusted agreeable to you, gentleman, and your most obedient humble servant,

T. H. McCaule

Winnsboro, 17th May 1874

It is proper before proceeding further to give some history of the Rev. Thos. Harris McCaule. The difficulty of securing the services of an efficient master of the College, induced the Society and the Committee to make haste slowly in their selection. This fact will be more fully appreciated when we reflect how few in the country then enjoyed the advantage of either a professional or liberal education. For many years the opportunities of receiving such education were to be found no nearer that the College of New Jersey.

Efforts were made to establish a first class school in Charlotte, North Carolina, many years before the Revolution, but twice did the King by proclamation repeal the charter granted for the purpose by the Colonial Legislature. After the Revolution had commenced, however, better success attended such efforts. In April, 1777, the Legislature of North Carolina granted a charter to the institution formerly called Queen's Museum under the new name of Liberty Hall Academy. Fifteen trustees were named, among whom was the Rev. Thos. H. McCaule. This divine was a graduate of the College of New Jersey, as appears in his proposition to the Society when about to accept the chief management of the College. Scarce of the medium height, of a stout frame, and full body, of dark, piercing eyes, a pleasant countenance and winning manners, with fine voice, he was popular both as a preacher and as

a man. Public spirited, he encouraged the Revolution; and in the time of the invasion, went with his flock to the camp; and was beside General William Davidson when he fell at Cowan's Ford, gallantly resisting the troops under Lord Cornwallis. Of so much repute was he, as a public spirited man, that he was once run for the Governor's chair, and failed in the election by a very small vote.

Application was made to Mr. Fuller to secure his services as a tutor. His reply by letter has already been given. Subsequently he came to Winnsboro himself. But in the meantime the Secretary of the Committee was directed to write to the Society in Charleston to make particular enquiry into Mr. Fuller's character and abilities as a Tutor. At the following meeting the Secretary was directed to write to the Society informing them that the Committee did not think Mr. Fuller a proper person to be employed as tutor, for the Committee themselves had seen him. The objection to him whatever it was, does not appear.

It was at this meeting May 17th, that an election was held for officers of the Committee for the ensuing year. Col. John Winn made President; Burr Harrison, Senior Warden; Kemp Strother, Junior Warden; John Woodward, Treasurer; David Evans, Secretary, and Benj. Harrison and Wm. Owens, Stewards.

With a fair prospect of placing Mount Zion College under able management, the Society set itself the task of preparing for the accommodations of the facility and the students. This consisted in repairing the old, and raising new, but temporary buildings. The original design of erecting a college building commensurate with the purpose of the Society had not been abandoned, notwithstanding the low state of the funds in the treasury as well as in the country.

The large experiences of Mr. McCaule came in very opportunity to assist in the necessary preparations, as will appear in the sequel.

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