

THE CONNECTOR

FALL 2010 VOLUME 14, ISSUE 4

Preserving the Past...For the Future

SHILOH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

On December 23, 1863, **Thomas Whitmel Davis** married **Penelope C. Jones** of "Crabtree," Raleigh, North Carolina, and took his bride to his home and plantation, "Cypress Hall." It was located on Cypress Creek in Franklin County, North Carolina.

The newly weds were both devoted Methodists and realized the need of a church in that section. It was through their efforts that Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church South was started. A one-room church was built on the Davis Plantation at a site known today as "The Rocks." It is believed the church was built in 1870.

Prior to 1915, no individual records were kept of Circuit churches, but it is believed the church was placed on the **Youngsville** Circuit on 6 Dec 1874 with **Pastor M.J. Hunt**, Presiding Elder **J.P. Moore**, and **Bishop E.M.**



Shiloh Methodist Church

Marvin in charge. Shiloh was transferred to the **Bunn** Circuit in 1919, and has been on the Louisburg Charge since 1925.

In 1890 or 1891, a new one-room church building was erected for Shiloh Church in its present location, 7 miles southeast of Louisburg, North Carolina,

(Continued on page 3)

SECRETS IN THE BUTTON BOX

How many of you had the pleasure to explore an old button box when you were little? Most children didn't realize it was a way to keep the little ones quiet when they were allowed to string all those buttons with a big heavy needle

and thread. That could take hours if they tried to match up sizes and colors particularly when the box was full of buttons. Keep in mind that buttons were like pennies from heaven. You were told never to throw a button away. Recycling was the name



of the game, and the buttons were very carefully cut off of all fabrics when the clothes became no longer wearable.

I remember having this pleasure when I

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TAR RIVER CONNECTIONS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 8764
ROCKY MOUNT NC 27804

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Submission of Articles

We are looking for articles on the history and genealogy of the North Carolina counties of Person, Vance, Granville, Franklin, Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt, Beaufort, Warren, Halifax and Wilson which are the northeastern North Carolina counties through which the Tar River and feeder creeks flow.

Email articles to sadowski@pbtcomm.net or mail:

Janet Sadowski
2019 Calks Ferry Road
Lexington, SC 29073

FROM YOUR EDITORS

Membership in the Tar River Connections Genealogical Society is from January 1st to December 31st. Dues are \$20.00 and include the newsletter *The Connector* which is published quarterly. Please help us by mailing your check early to continue your membership. Checks should be sent to:

Tar River Connections
PO Box 8764
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

We would like to thank our members who contribute more than their dues—those special members that contribute their family research, articles and stories they run across and those that take the time to send us a note. Thank you for taking your time in helping us bring you a quarterly newsletter. We welcome and encourage submissions.

On another note—we are aware of two county Heritage Books that are still “in the works” and would like to encourage our members in either submitting a story and/or purchasing a copy.

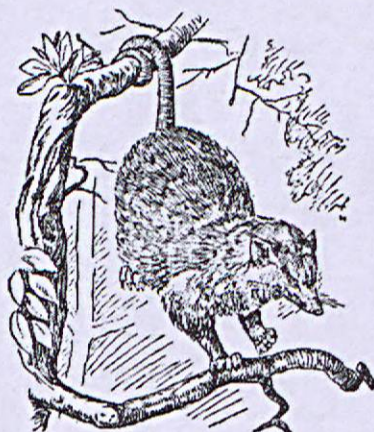
Nash County has closed accepting submissions and are now in the process of editing the Nash County Heritage Book. Copies are still available for pre-purchase.

The Heritage Society of Franklin County has extended their deadline for submissions on the Franklin County NC Heritage, Volume II, to January 20th, 2011. Contacts are:

Pat or Gerald Leonard (919)853-3293; Annette Goyette (252) 492-3820; and Joe Pearce (919) 496-3321.

Because these are limited edition books, only those who order and pay in advance are guaranteed to receive a copy.

OPOSSUM RECIPE



—Scald with lye, scrape off hair, and dress whole, leaving on head and tail; rub well with salt and set in a cool place over night; place in a large stone pan with two pints water and three or four slices

bacon; when about half baked, fill with a dressing of bread crumbs, seasoned with salt, pepper and onions if liked. After returning to pan place sweet potatoes, pared, around the opossum, bake all a light brown, basting frequently with the gravy. When served place either an apple or sweet potato in its mouth.

From the 1885 *Dixie Cook-Book*

(Continued from page 1)

on Franklin County Rural Road #1001. The one-room frame building was painted white with a wooden shingle roof. It was 40'6" by 26'6". On the north and south there were three large windows. Behind the pulpit, there were two smaller windows. The front of the church faced east and had one door, painted mahogany. Just above the door was a large 2'6" star made by Mr. **Pat Knowland**. It was painted a soft yellow on a blue background within a circle.

There was one aisle leading to the altar and pulpit. On each side of the aisle are ten benches and two benches in the "Amen Corner," to the left of the pulpit. **James O.B. Alford** made these benches of solid pine in 1892. In the early days, the women and children sat on the right, while the men and older boys sat on the left. If a child misbehaved, he or she was taken behind the church. That experience was never repeated by the same child twice.

The older men sat in the "Amen Corner." When they agreed with the minister, they let it be known by a loud "Amen." The more Amens the preacher received the better preacher

he was thought to be.

Three-foot solid pine wainscoting was around the four sides of the building, and the walls were white plaster. The ceiling was solid pine, arching to the roof from one side to the other. The benches, wainscoting, and window frames were mahogany.

The original communion rail was solid pine, 10' long and 2'2" high. The pulpit stand, also of pine, and enhanced by carving on the front and sides, was made by Pat Knowland in 1893. The church was feebly lighted, when necessary, by eight kerosene oil lamps, each set in a bracket fastened to a window frame.

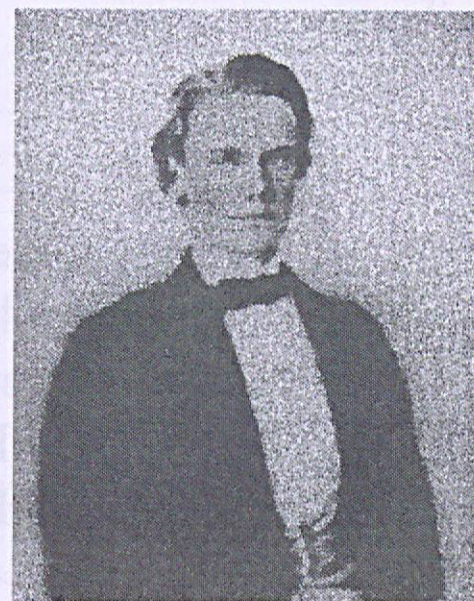
In the good old days, the church was heated by a large cast iron wood-burning stove placed in a box of sand for fire prevention. Sometimes, a member would haul, by wagon and mule, a load of wood to the church, but more often, wood was put in the back of the buggy and taken to the church on Sunday morning by those who went to preaching. The first person to arrive made the fire.

On 16 July 1892, 4/8 of an acre of land was donated and deeded to Shiloh Methodist Episcopal

Church South by Thomas W. Davis and wife, Penelope C. Davis. The trustees who accepted and signed the deed were **D.E. Best, T.W. Davis, John R. Ross, J.E. Matthews, J.O.B. Alford, M.E. Joyner, and C.C. Harris.**

Some of the early pastors were: **M.J. Hunt**, 1874; **C.C. Durant**, 1888-89; **R.H. Whitaker**, 1890-91 and 1897-1900; **W.B. Moore**, 1892-93; **J.T. Draper**, 1894-95; **Albert S. Barnes**, 1896; **G.R. Rood**, 1901-02; **G.T. Simmons**, 1903-04; **D.B. Parker**, 1905-08; and **F.B. Noble**, 1909.

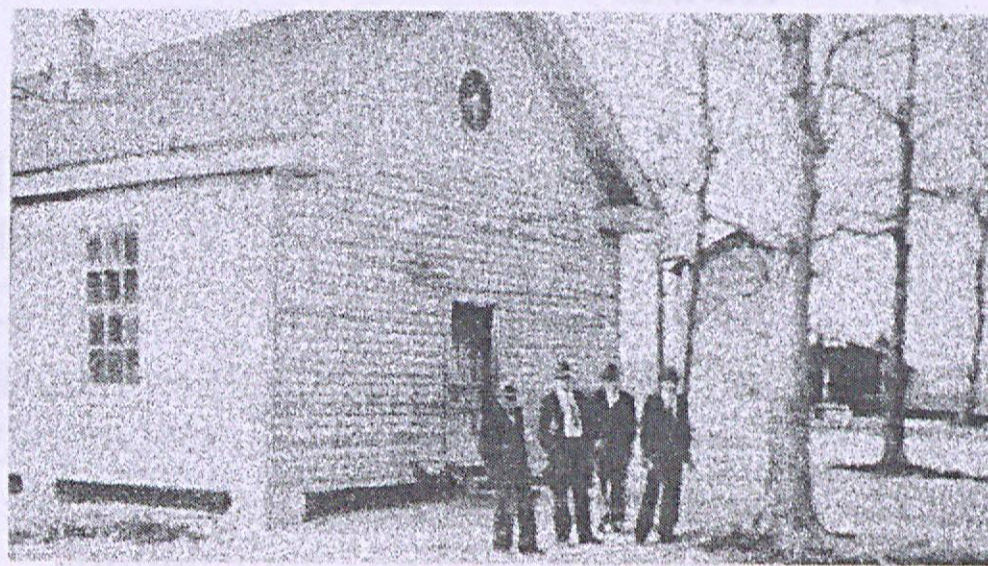
[Taken from *History of Shiloh United Methodist Church, Louisburg Charge, Franklin County, North Carolina, 1870-1970*, by Penelope (Neppie) Wilson Dick, Historian.]



Thomas Whitmel Davis



Penelope C. Jones Davis



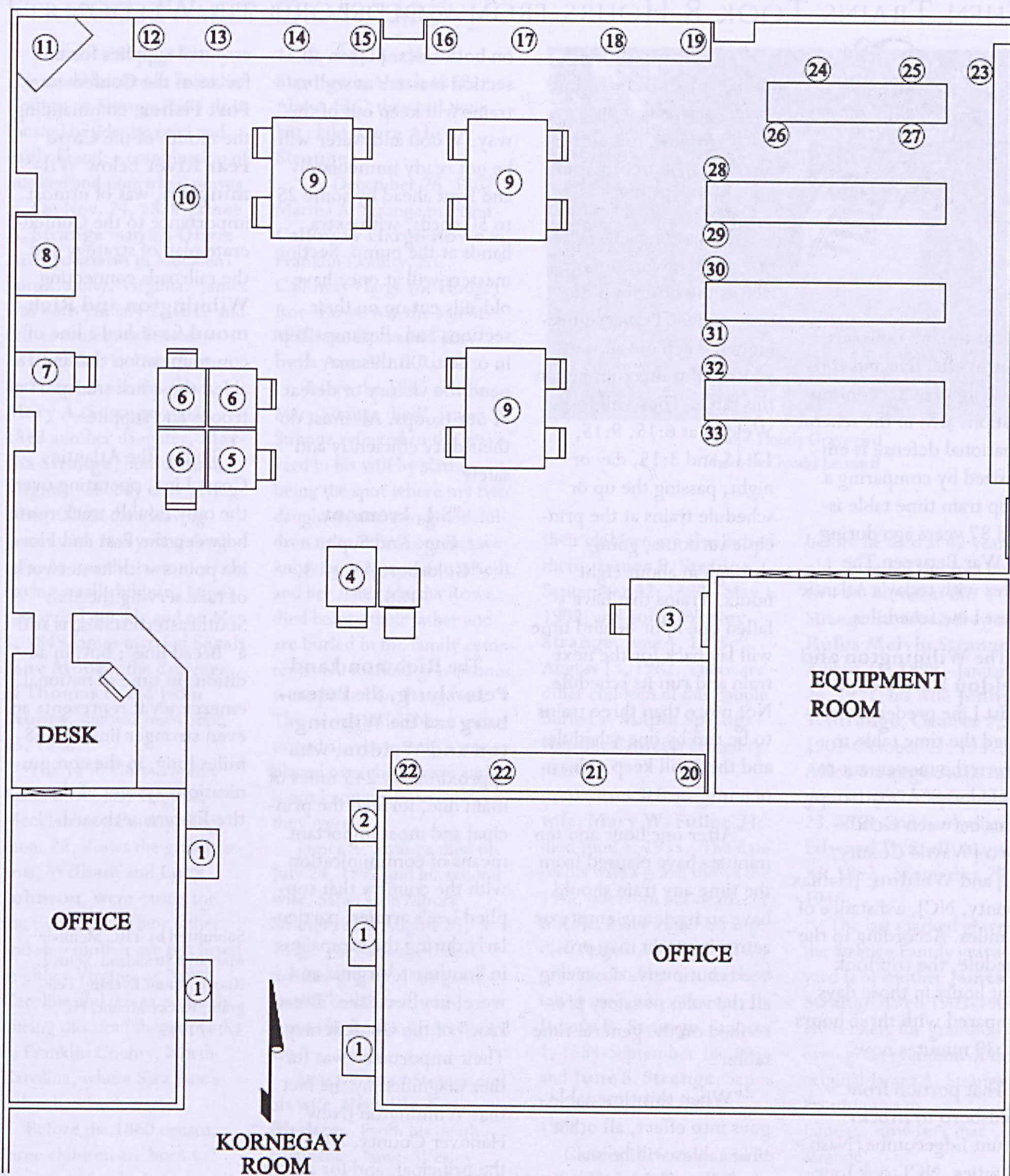
Original Shiloh Church

Braswell Memorial Library
KORNEGAY ROOM

LEGEND

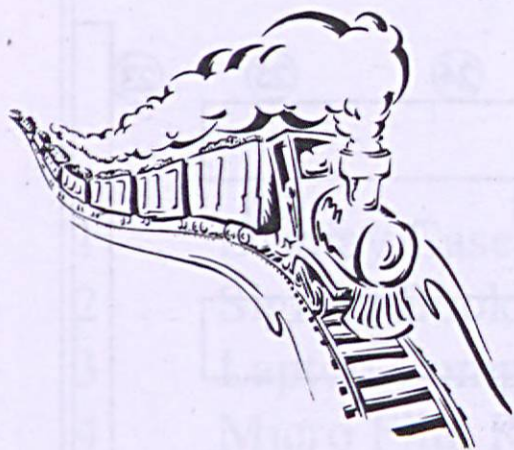
- 1 Display Cases
- 2 Sign In Book
- 3 Laptop Computer Table
- 4 Micro Film Reader / Printer
- 5 Micro Film Reader / Printer / Scanner
- 6 Computer – Genealogical Research
- 7 Micro Film Reader / Printer
- 8 Maps
- 9 Reference Tables
- 10 Magazine Rack
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- 12 Family Files
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- 14 Empty
- 15 Empty
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Thank you TRCGS Member Wallace Abernathy for the map and legend!



BRASWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Rocky Mount, NC

WHEN TRAINS TOOK 8 HOURS FROM GOLDSBORO TO WELDON



That today's railroads form an effective and constantly improving communications arm in the scheme of national defense is emphasized by comparing a troop train time table issued 87 years ago during the War Between The States with today's Atlantic Coast Line schedules.

The **Wilmington and Weldon Railroad**, a Coast Line predecessor, issued the time table to govern the movement to Confederate Army troop trains between **Goldsboro** [Wayne County, NC] and **Weldon**, [Halifax County, NC], a distance of 78 miles. According to the schedule, the trip took eight hours in those days compared with three hours and 39 minutes now.

That portion from Goldsboro to [Rocky Mount Edgecombe/Nash Counties, NC] took four hours and 15 minutes in 1862. Today it is a one hour and 40 minutes run.

W.D. Rice, retired lumber mill foreman, Emerson [railroad] shops, Rocky Mount, found the old time table recently in his father's trunk.

Also holding special interest is the wording carried at the bottom of the time table: "Trains returning will keep out of the way of all trains running on this table. They will leave Weldon at 6:15, 9:15, 12:15 and 3:15, day or night, passing the up or schedule trains at the principle turnouts, going through in about eight hours. Trains that have fallen one hour behind time will lay back for the next train and run its schedule. Not more than three trains to be run by one schedule and they will keep at least one mile apart.

"After one hour and ten minutes have elapsed from the time any train should have arrived, any empty or returning train may proceed cautiously, observing all the rules of safety prescribed on the general time table.

"When this time table goes into effect, all other time tables will be suspended until further notice. It will be announced by telegraph and an extra engine running with flags

on both sides. [T]hen all section masters as well as trains will keep out of the way. Wood and water will be got ready immediately and kept ahead by some 25 to 50 cords, with extra hands at the pump. Section masters will at once have old sills cut up on their sections and all pumps kept in order. On this may depend the victory or defeat of our troops. All must do their duty efficiently and safely.

"S.L. Fremont.

Eng. And Sup't.

"Goldsboro, April 3, 1862."

The **Richmond and Petersburg**, the **Petersburg** and the **Wilmington and Weldon**, with approximately 245 miles of main line, formed the principal and most important means of communication with the country that supplied Lee's armies, particularly during the campaigns in Southeast Virginia and were, in effect, the "Bread Line" of the Confederacy. Their importance was further magnified by the fact that Wilmington [New Hanover County, NC] was the principal, and for a long time, the only open port that could be used by blockade runners bringing

essential supplies for the forces of the Confederacy. **Fort Fisher**, commanding the mouth of the **Cape Fear River** below **Wilmington**, was of utmost importance to the Confederate plan of strategy and the railroads connecting **Wilmington and Richmond** furnished a line of communication that enabled the quick transport of troops and supplies.

Today, the Atlantic Coast Line, operating over the only double track route between the East and Florida points with its network of rails serving the six Southeastern states, is still a "Bread line"; but, in addition, in time of national emergency it represents an even stronger link, 5,568 miles long, in the communications system of the entire Eastern seaboard.

Submitted by TRC Member Margaret Strickland Source: Rocky Mount Evening Telegram, Rocky Mount, NC, 3/19/1949

STRANGE FAMILY GRAVEYARD

There is a Strange family graveyard located in Franklin County on Strange Road. It is located beside the road and easily found; a combination of marked and unmarked graves.

On Nov. 24, 1838 **James A. Strange** married **Olivia Ann Johnson** in Mecklenburg County, Virginia. James was born January 2, 1812 and Olivia sometime between 1810-1820. In 1846 James and Olivia had a daughter, **Mary A. Strange** and in 1848 another daughter, **Martha Strange**, both born in Virginia. Shortly after giving birth, Olivia died leaving James with two young daughters. As was the custom when having small children, James remarried quickly and on May 1, 1849 James married **Sarah Jane Moore**, the daughter of **Thomas E.** and **Julia Moore**, she was born Sept. 15, 1828.

The 1850 United States Federal Census, Virginia, Mecklenburg County, Regiment 22, shows the grandparents, **William** and **Lucy Johnson**, were caring for the two girls. Their father and step mother are not listed in either Virginia or North Carolina and it was probably during this time they moved to Franklin County, North Carolina, where Sara Jane's father had land.

Before the 1860 census, three children are born to James and Sarah: **James Wesley Strange** on February 28, 1853; **William S. Strange** on January 27,

1857; and **Charles H. Strange** in March 1858. About 1862 they had their last child, **Cora Alice Strange**.

On December 26, 1867 Martha A. Strange married **Calloway Harge Rowe** in Franklin County, NC. Calloway Harge (or Hodge) Roe/Rowe was the son of **William Roe** and **Elizabeth Ann Wall Roe**.

Before the 1880 census Mary Strange died. James Strange referred to the graveyard in his will by stating, "it being the spot where my two daughters and two grandchildren now lie". From this we know both Mary (unmarried) and her sister Martha Rowe died before their father and are buried in the family cemetery. No marked gravestones were placed on the graves. The two grandchildren mentioned also have only a stone placed over their grave and it is not known whose children they were.

James A. Strange died on July 24, 1892 and his second wife, Sarah Jane Moore Strange, died August 25, 1894. They are the oldest marked graves in the graveyard. The other marked graves in the family graveyard are:

James Wesley Strange and his wife, **Priscilla A. Bledsoe**. From his death certificate, James Wesley Strange died January 4, 1920 although the date on the stone shows the 5th and Priscilla died July 11, 1940. Two of



Strange Family Graveyard
Photo by Gerald Leonard

their children are also buried there: **James P. Strange**, September 22, 1882 - May 1, 1902; and **John Wesley Strange**, June 4, 1895 - August 13, 1982. There are other children of this couple buried at **Maple Springs Baptist Church** cemetery nearby.

William S. Strange and his wife, **Mary W. Fuller**. He died June 4, 1935. The date on his wife's grave shows the 15th, but from her death certificate, Mary Fuller Strange died August 18, 1930. Two of their children are also buried at the family cemetery: **Bessie R. Strange**, January 1, 1884 - September 14, 1966 and **June S. Strange**, September 15, 1888 - July 2, 1906.

Charles H. Strange and his wife, **Martha Grey Johnson**. He died in 1909 and his wife Martha died May 22, 1933. They had 7 children

before he died at 42 years old. Five left the area but two are buried at the Strange Family Graveyard: **Rufus Melvin Strange**, August 15, 1899 - January 26, 1971; his wife **Jenny T. Strange**, October 2, 1902 - October 22, 1937; **Alice Strange Stell**, August 3, 1895 - September 23, 1964; and her husband **Edward D. Stell**, March 13, 1882 - September 20, 1946.

The last marked grave at the Strange Family graveyard is of another **James Strange** dated 1903-1903. He is likely the grandson or even great grandson of the original James A. Strange. From James to James....now isn't that Strange.

Contributed by TRCGS Member Janet Sadowski.

CHRISTMAS HELD PRISONER

Richard Christmas was born April 3, 1752 in **Warren County**, NC and before the Revolutionary war moved to **Orange County**, NC. He volunteered May 1, 1777 and served one month as private in **Captain Eli McDaniel's** company, **Colonel William O'Neal's** NC regiment. He again volunteered April 1, 1779, and served 4 weeks as private in **Captain Jones' Company**, **Colonel William O'Neal's** NC regiment. He volunteered a third time on August 15, 1779 and was commissioned February 25, 1780, Captain of a company of militia, in **Colonel Hugh Tinning's** NC regiment—

marched to the defense of Charleston, SC, where he was taken prisoner, May 12, 1780 by the British when that city surrendered, but after being held in Charleston, eight or ten days, was paroled and returned home.

Once again, Richard Christmas entered service July 15, 1781, for the term of 3 months, in **Captain Abram Allen's** NC company, was in battle of **Kirk's Lane** and served until he was taken prisoner again by the British at Hillsboro in September 1781, was confined on board the prison ship, "**Eske**" at Charleston until July 1, 1782 or nearly a year when his exchange was effected

by his brother, **Nathaniel**, then captain of the militia.

Richard Christmas died March 18, 1833 in Orange County and **James A. Craig** of that county was appointed executor of the estate. He applied for pension due the estate on account of the Revolutionary service and the claim was allowed March 25, 1834. No reference to wife; but heirs were referred to .

This information was obtained from the papers in pension claim S8196, based upon service in the Revolutionary war.

Source: Abstracts of Pensions of NC Soldiers, Annie Walker Burns, 1960. TRC601



The Shakespeare Club of Tarboro, 1880

<http://www.lib.unc.edu/ncc/pcoll/01edgecombe/edgecombe.html>



WHEN COAL WAS NEW as locomotive fuel, John Carpenter, shown in this old photograph, was engineer for the first locomotive out of Goldsboro, N. C., to have been converted from a wood-burner to coal. His great-grandson, J. C. Carpenter, is also an ACL engineer who is presently assigned to the south end of the Richmond Division.

From the Collection of
The ACL & SAL Historical Society
Copied from ACL News, May-June 1966 by hb

Submitted by TRCGS Member
Helen Brabham

DID YOU KNOW...

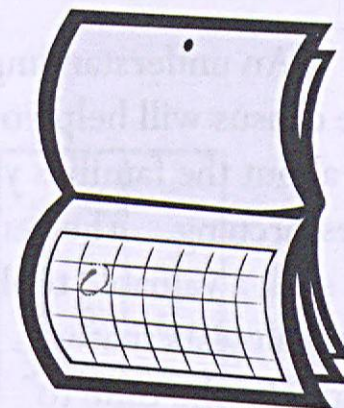
Before the year 1752 the Julian calendar was in effect for the English Colonies. The first day of the year started on what we know as March 25th and the last day of the year

was on what we know as March 24th.

The Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752 which, besides deleting 11 days, made the first day of the year Janu-

ary 1st and the last day of the year December 31st.

Submitted by TRCGS Member Billie Jo Matthews



YOUNG LADY BURNED TO DEATH

Saturday afternoon a most deplorable accident occurred at the home of **Mr. Billy Strum**, who lives a few miles in the country, when his step-daughter, **Miss Clyde Brewer**, aged about fifteen years was horribly burned by the explosion of a can of kerosene oil. The young lady was preparing dinner and attempted to light the fire with use of oil, when the can burst enveloping the unfortunate girl in a sheet of flame. She ran out into the yard near the kitchen and her cries for help attracted Mr.

Strum who was working in the field and who hastened to her assistance and endeavored to extinguish the flames which were roasting the girl alive. Mr. Strum also received painful burns about his hands and face. Miss Brewer's mother, who is in feeble health, was in the house at the time and the cries of her burning daughter were mistaken for cries for help to extinguish the flames now devouring the kitchen, and was not aware of the terrible plight of the unfortunate girl. So severely was she burned that she died about eight

o'clock that evening after great suffering.

The sad affair has cast a deep gloom over that community and causes a shudder of horror to those who learned of the deplorable ending of this bright young life. The occurrence is an awful lesson to all those who use oil in starting fires and is almost the invariable result of such practice.

The *Nashville Graphic*, Nashville, NC, 28 September 1905

NEAL GALBRETH

Neal Galbreth, of Scotland, settled on Tar river of North Carolina. He has a son named **Torcal**, who married a **Miss McLooking**, and they had — **Catharine, Mary, Elizabeth**, and **Neal**. He was married the second time to **Catharine Graham**, by whom he had —

Marion, Ancus, John, Daniel, Sally, Margaret, and **James**. Mr. Galbreth removed from North Carolina to **Kentucky**, and in 1819 he settled on the **Auxvasse** in **Callaway county**. He built the first water mill in Callaway county, on that stream. The work was done by

John and George W. Burt. Mr. Galbreth had the plank sawed for his coffin several years before his death, which occurred in 1825. **Sirenus Cox** made his coffin.

Contributed by TRCGS Member Danny Bunn.
Source: *A History of the Pioneer Families of Missouri*, page 336

FEDERAL CENSUS RECORDS 1790-1820

An understanding of the census will help you learn about the families you are researching. The census is such a valuable tool for genealogists that we should take the time to fully understand what information each census contains.

A Federal census is taken every 10 years - it is an official count of the population. People usually think of a census as being for the count of people - but can include other things such as statistics about agriculture and business. These different types of census are referred to as "Schedules". The First Federal Census was in 1790 - and the census takers (called enumerators) were given their instructions, then ruled their own census on blank paper and

wrote in the headings. The 1800-1820 census were forms provided by the State (the first page may be a printed form) and the 1830 census was the first census that was uniformly printed nationwide.

Each census was supposed to be a snapshot of the population as of a particular date during that year. Of the published census, only the 1920 census used the date January 1st. Carefully consider what date was used when figuring possible birth years because ages are given as of the census date.

Things to keep in mind when working with the census

- Source your information! Keep a record of the Census year, State, County, page number,

house number and/or family number.

- Age discrepancies are common - be flexible
- Consider all spellings when searching including phonetic. Think about how the names sounded to a census taker who may not be familiar with the family.
- Accept the fact that all information may not be correct. If the family wasn't home, the census taker may have asked a neighbor for information.
- The children in the home may not be a child of the head of house and his spouse. If not specified, they may have been nieces and nephews, grandchildren, or even unrelated.

- Don't assume all children are those of the listed wife. Many women died in childbirth, leaving the father with young children to care for. The solution was to find another wife in short order.

1790 Federal Census -

The First Federal Census

The official census date was the first Monday in August. The names of the heads of families were included, whether they be male or female, and separate columns for the census taker to place the number of:

- Free white males 16 years and upwards
- Free white males under 16 years
- Free white females
- All other free persons
- Slaves

1790 Census Example (Franklin County) Column Headings

Names of Heads of Families	White males upwards of 16 years including heads of families	White males under 16 years	White females including heads of families	All other free persons	Slaves	Amount
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<i>Names of Heads of Families in Franklin County</i>	<i>White males upwards of 16 years including heads of families</i>	<i>White males under 16 years</i>	<i>White females including heads of families</i>	<i>All other free persons</i>	<i>Slaves</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Andrew Thomas</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Andrew Thomas Jr</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Abner Thomas</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>

In the 1790 census the OLDER males are listed in the first column

The official census date for both was the first Monday in August.

1800 and 1810 Census (Example is 1810 Census for Pitt County) Column Headings

Names of Towns and Counties	Names of Heads of Families	White										All other free persons	Slaves
		Males					Females						
		to 10	10-15	16-25	26-44	45 & up	to 10	10-15	16-25	26-44	45 & up		

[illegible]

- Number of persons engaged in Agriculture
- Numbers of persons engaged in Commerce
- Numbers of persons engaged in Manufacturing

1820 Census (Example is 1820 Census for Edgecombe County) Column Headings

Names of Towns and Counties	Names of Heads of Families	Free White										Foreigners	Agriculture	Commerce	Manufactures	Slaves								Free Colored								All other except Indians not taxed
		Males						Females								Males				Females				Males				Females				
		to 10	10-16	16-18	16-26	26-45	45 & up	to 10	10-16	16-26	26-45					45 & up	to 14	to 26	to 45	45 & up	to 14	to 26	to 45	45 & up	to 14	to 26	to 45	45 & up	to 14	to 26	to 45	

[illegible]

HISTORICAL RECORD CORRECTED

"MR. GREY, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS AND IS A GHOST."

The Town of Rocky Mount was incorporated or chartered on February 19, 1867, less than two years after the close of the long and tragic Civil War. The North Carolina General Assembly enacted House Bill 311 as introduced by Edgecombe County Representative **Joseph H. Baker** which granted municipal status on the small community of some 350 persons situated along the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad south of the Great Falls of the Tar River.

The legislation designed the corporate boundaries of the new town and set a general election for the first Monday in April. It also named six commissioners to serve as the interim governing board until five new commissioners were elected in less than two months. **Dr. Richard C. Tillery, W. W. Parker, T. H. Griffin, Robert Ricks, G.W. Hammond** and **A. J. Grey** were listed as the original commissioners in Chapter XCV of the "Public Laws of the State of North Carolina Passed by the General Assembly at the Sessions of 1866-1867". Printed in Raleigh on 1867 by **Wm. E. Pell**,

State Printer.

Meeting minutes and other records of the Town Commission from 1867 to 1881 have not survived nor was there a local newspaper in Rocky Mount during the formative years of the Town. For those subsequent early years when there were newspapers printed, only a very few editions have survived. The major newspaper of this region at the time was the *Tarborough Southerner*, but it rarely reported news from its smaller sister to the west, although the Rocky Mount Community had existed and prospered at and adjacent to the Great Falls for over 50 years prior to 1867.

As a part of an ongoing project to identify and collect information on Rocky Mount's elected and appointed officials during its 140+ year history, efforts to document the Town's earliest leaders fell short for one reported member of the original six commissioners—Mr. A. J. Grey. The other five members were all well known if not prominent citizens of the community, and the historical record provides a reasonable amount of biographical information on each. Mr.

Grey, on the other hand, was and is a ghost. There was simply no such person in the Rocky Mount area at the time who could be found. Could such an unknown have been considered important enough to have been honored as a member of the inaugural leadership of the new Town? Or, is there some other explanation?

Upon closer examination, however, there is fairly substantial historical information on a contemporary of the other members, **Andrew J. Garvey**, a local landowner, merchant and saloon keeper. Could he have been the A. J. Grey as reported and printed in the 1867 Session Laws? Indeed he was, as it turns out.

While searching through the 1867 Session Records of the General Assembly at the North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh, the original handwritten bill and subsequent versions of the final enacted law incorporating Rocky Mount were found. The name A. J. Garvey was clearly and legibly written in these documents as one of the original six commissioners, not A. J. Grey. When the official journal

(Continued on page 13)

WILL OF ABNER NASH OF NORTH CAROLINA

To **Thomas Haslin** and my daughter **Margaret**, his wife, seventeen negroes, and I confirm the £200 which I gave him; to my son **Abner**, thirteen negroes, and a sum of money not exceeding £1,000 to purchase a tract of land on Tar River; Also one half of the lands I hold on the western waters, which lay on west side of Appalachian Mountains; to my daughter Margaret, her heirs forever, the other half of said lands: if my son Abner should die before he arrives at the age of twenty-one, all I have given him to be divided—one third to his sister Margaret, one third to his sister **Justina**, and the

other third to the children of my present wife; his plantation to be stocked, and I appoint the Hon. **William Blount**, Esq., his guardian until he arrives at lawful age; to my daughter Justina, six young negroes, and all the houses, lots of land I possess in the Town of Newburn; the new house opposite Oliver's tavern shall be furnished for her; to my wife, all my negroes which I obtained by marriage with her, and one third of my plantation stock and household furniture; the residue to the children of my present wife to be equally divided among them. I appoint Jacob **Blount, Sr., Alfred**

Moore, Thomas Pearson, and William Blount, Esq., executors.

Dated November 22, 1786. Witnesses, **John Coebran, Charles McKnight, Willie Blount**, of North Carolina, at present a student in College of New York.

Codicil. The money arising from the sales of the Indigo in the hands of **David** and **Matthew Duncan**, and the hands of Gardner and Wilson, be paid into the hands of **Mrs. John Ramsay**, that my son be continued at school at this place and supported out of the said money. Mr. Ramsay to

pay my Doctor's bill, Mrs. Sebring's account for board and lodging, and all my just debts. He to lay out such goods as he shall judge best for the New Burn Market, and ship the same to Mr. **Thomas Pearson**, one of my executors.

Dated November 25, 1786. Witnesses, **Elizabeth Sebring**, Willie Blount, Proved, December 12, 1786.

—Source: The Surrogates Office, City of New York, Volume XIV, June 12, 1786-Feb. 13, 1796, pp 98 of the New York Historical Society, Volume XXXVIII, for the year 1905. Submitted by TRGS Member Danny Bunn

(Continued from page 12)

or record of the 1866-67 sessions was subsequently printed and published in Raleigh, the printer either misread or misprinted Garvey's name. To add some credence to this printing error, Dr. Tillery's name was spelled "Tilley" in that official record.

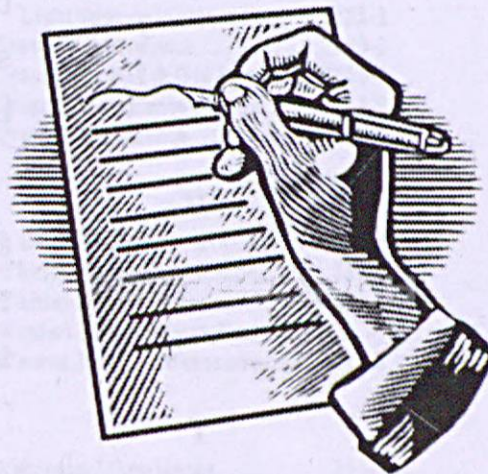
Now, 143 years later, the historical record is corrected and Rocky Mount's original Town Fathers are accurately identified and known. But, least the reader conclude this discovery solves the out-

standing questions (or mysteries) related to Rocky Mount's first 13 years as a Town, the writer is obligated to pose several more as yet unanswered questions.

Why were there six interim commissioners named by the legislature in the Act of Incorporation when only five were to be elected in April? Was one of them to have been appointed interim mayor? Or, was **William T. Gay** named interim mayor as a local legend purports? If, as numerous historical accounts declare, **Benjamin H. Bunn** was the first

elected Mayor in April 1867, who were the Mayors from 1868 to 1872, the years for which no documentation has been found? Who were the Town Commissioners during the first 13 years? These and other enigmas cause Rocky Mount's earliest years to remain shrouded in uncertainty and mystery, as least to local history enthusiasts.

Written and Submitted by Stephen W. Raper, City Manager of City of Rocky Mount.





Ezekiel Z. Works, father of
Orval and Raymond
1853-1937



Drucilla Hale Works
Mother
1858-1900

(Continued from page 1)

visited my grandparents in Kentucky. Out came the button box with the needle and thread. There were four buttons that had been carefully wrapped in a piece of fabric. These were oval, black jet with gold edges. Every year I wanted to look for those particular buttons when we visited Kentucky and many years later my step-grandmother gave me those buttons to keep. She never explained to me where those particular buttons came from. Imagine my surprise when looking at a picture of Sally & Zeke Works married in 1903 I discovered that my four little buttons were from her wedding dress. I still have them and plan to pass them on to my granddaughter one day.

My own mother had her special covered basket that belonged to her mother. Within you would find things like knitting needles, crochet hooks, pieces of patterns, tatting needles, all types of thread, small instruments such as button- hooks for high top shoes and buttons, buttons, buttons!

The greatest gift of all came from a button box that belonged to my father's half sister. Her

granddaughter, Patricia True Marshall Cavanaugh, and I had been exploring family history. We had traveled to Kentucky from NC in the early 1990's on several occasions. Since both of our parents and grandparents hailed from the bluegrass state we decided we needed to take a look at all possibilities. Pictures were some of the first things we investigated, then boxes of notes, and finally this cherished button box that had never been explored by any member of the family. Long after the individuals involved had passed away the granddaughter became heir to this jewel and she decided to look within.

Tucked away in the corner was a folded up piece of paper with many wrinkles which had to be carefully ironed out. After carefully reading this my cousin discovered it was a letter written to her grandmother, Lura Works Marshall, when her mother was not expecting to live in 1900.

Patricia True Marshall Cavanaugh called me immediately. Read me the letter with tears in her voice and we both cried over the telephone for an hour. Of course the telephone lines were used hot

and heavy during those exploration days.

Her grandmother was my Aunt Lura, She was my father's, Raymond Works, Sr., half sister. This letter was so touching that Lura had never shared it with anyone. She did stay in close contact with her little brother Raymond, my father. His brother, Orval, died at the age of 18 from scarlet fever. When Raymond Works, Sr. moved to NC in 1922 he always brought his family from KY to visit. Lura traveled to NC many times and finally Raymond talked her son and his family into moving to Goldsboro, NC bringing Lura in closer contact to Rocky Mount, NC. Look for your hidden memories. There are button boxes out there everywhere, and you never know what will surface. This treasured letter still brings tears to my eyes....

Lura I don't feel like I can live long and I will write these few lines for you to read when I am gone. This is a hard letter for me to write but God will give me strength and help me to lose all my troubles. Lura I want you to mind your papa and don't do anything to give

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

him trouble. And I want you all to try to manage and save so he can pay out and have a home for you all to live. And I want you to see and care for my two darling babies Orval and Raymond. The same mothers blood and flesh that brought you to this world brought them. I was spared to care for you

but I can't care for them. The Lord knows best. I want you to have them mind you teach them right from wrong and that they don't use bad language and when you have to make them mind use a little switch. Don't slap them with your hand. Lura I feel glad and proud of you. It gives me great satisfaction that all you did you did well. Sorry that I could not

do more for you. Always keep good company a good reputation is worth much to anyone in this world. And when you go to the Lord in prayer remember those two darling babies of mine and George for they will have no mother to pray for them. I love you children so much. And hate to leave you but it is all well with me. My Lord knows best. Love my dear

child. Meet me in heaven. Mother.

Even though my father never had a chance to read the letter written by his mother, Druscilla, it will always be in the hearts of all members of his family. This is what genealogy is all about. Keep your treasured stories alive.

Submitted by TRCGS Member
Billie Jo Matthews.

STANTONSBURG PHONE DIRECTORY

INSTRUCTIONS

HOW TO DIAL -- (General):

Remove receiver from hook, listen for dial tone and dial number desired. If, after dialing, you hear a series of buzzes, this is the busy tone and indicates the number you called is busy. Hang up receiver and call later. After talking, you may wish to put in a second call, in which case hang up your receiver for about five seconds, remove the receiver and dial again.

The first three figures of each number indicates the line number and the last figure indicates the ringing code. For instance, the number 245-1 represents line No. 245 and ringing code No. 1; the number 271-6 represents line No. 271 and ringing code No. 6. The ringing codes are as follows:

Tel. No.	Code No.	Ringing Code
221-1	1	1 long ring
221-2	2	2 short rings
221-3	3	3 short rings
221-4	4	4 short rings
221-5	5	1 long & 1 short ring
221-6	6	1 long ring
221-7	7	2 short rings
221-8	8	3 short rings
221-9	9	4 short rings
221-0	0	1 long & 1 short ring

A

Applewhite J W store.....241-1
Applewhite Jim Bill service station.....246-1
Applewhite Jim Bill residence.....255-6
Applewhite W H & Co office.....237-1

B

Barnes Wiley store Appie NC.....216-7

PARTY LINES--

To call a subscriber on your own line, first take down your receiver, when dial tone is heard dial No. 7 and the last figure of your own number and the last figure of the subscriber's number desired. Hang up the receiver. The bells of both telephones will ring alternately, when your bell stops ringing this indicates that the other party has answered, then lift your receiver and talk.

Ring on your own telephone may be stopped by momentarily removing your own receiver from the hook.

To call Long Distance dial 0.

To call Information dial 0 and ask for Information.

To report telephone trouble dial 0 and ask for Repair Clerk.

Do not move receiver hook up and down. This will cause wrong numbers, or if you are talking, will cause the line to disconnect.

Bass Dan residence.....229-1
Batts Howard residence.....248-6
Best Rex Residence.....247-6
Best Rex Motor Co.....245-1
Bryant Albert S residence.....214-7
Bunn B.G. res Walstonburg, RFD 1215-4
Bynum Cora Mrs. residence country 216-2

TO CALL LONG DISTANCE DIAL 0

C	N
Carolina Tel & Tel Co office.....900-0	Norfolk & Southern Station.....243-1
Coley Nannie Mrs farm.....217-3	
Condon J E residence country.....217-1	
Craft Gin R E office Saratoga NC.....215-7	
Craft Joe residence Saratoga NC.....215-2	
Crocker S H Dr residence.....257-1	
Crocker W H residence.....247-1	
D	O
Darden D B Dr office.....252-1	Overman L J residence.....256-6
Darden D B Dr residence.....252-2	Owens P A & Sons Store.....235-6
Davis Will residence.....255-1	
Davis J E residence country.....218-1	
Dawson Nicey Mrs residence country 218-7	
E	P
Eagles CS Dr residence Saratoga NC 215-6	Person T E Dr office.....251-2
Edmundson Ada Mrs res country.....217-2	Person T E Dr residence.....251-1
Edwards J L residence country.....218-2	Pittman W W store.....242-1
Edwards L K residence.....227-1	Planters The Bank.....230-1
G	R
Gardner L A & Co Saratoga NC.....215-1	Rogers W R residence.....253-1
Grantham H S residence country.....218-3	
H	S
Hales Dora Mrs residence.....253-6	Saratoga Supply Co Saratoga NC.....214-1
Harrell Britton residence country.....214-2	Saratoga Teachers Saratoga NC.....215-3
Herring W R Mrs residence country 216-8	Shelton W L residence.....219-1
Hunt C A residence.....256-1	Shingleton Hardware.....244-1
Hunt Furniture Co.....238-1	Speight J S Mrs residence country.....216-6
J	Standard Service Sta Saratoga NC.....214-6
Jenkins J L residence.....220-6	Stanton G W residence.....217-6
Jenkins Sam farm.....218-8	Stantonburg Drug Co.....239-1
Jones J S residence country.....218-6	Stantonburg Lumber Co.....248-1
L	Stantonburg Teachers.....250-1
Lane W S residence Faro NC.....217-7	Stancil T L residence country.....216-3
M	T
Masonic Hall.....235-1	Thompson Lena Mrs residence.....216-1
Mercer H M Service Station	Town of Stantonburg Town office.....234-1
Walstonburg RFD 1.....215-8	Light Supt residence.....258-1
Mercer S E Rev residence.....249-6	Tyson M A residence.....240-1
Moye M T residence.....249-1	Tyson M A Mill & Gin Saratoga NC 215-9
	Tyson S H residence country.....214-8
	Tyson S N residence.....219-2
	W
	Walters Tom E Rev residence.....228-6
	Whitley Norwood residence.....219-6
	Whitley J H residence.....259-1
	Winders Jake residence Faro NC.....217-8
	Wooten Julian residence country.....214-3
	Y
	Yelverton J L residence.....254-1

A STALLINGS FAMILY IN THE CIVIL WAR

Hilliard and Emily (Daniel) Stallings lived at Cedar Rock in Franklin County, NC. They had five sons known to have served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. Tragically only two would survive the War. *Moore's Roster of North Carolina Troops 1861-1865 Vol. V*, a Roster compiled by **Weymouth T. Jordan, Jr.**, 11th - 15th Regiments history shows **Cornelius Haywood, Langdon Cheeves and William Rufus Stallings** served in the 15th Regiment of the North Carolina Volunteers. The 15th Regiment was originally the 5th Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers, and was then composed of twelve companies. It was organized at **Garysburg, NC**, about two miles north of **Weldon, NC**, about the 10th of June, 1861. About the last of June 1861, the regiment, numbering about eleven hundred officers and men, was ordered to **Virginia**, and arrived at **Yorktown** about the first of July. They pitched camp southwest of the old British works on the edge of the town, near the **First North Carolina**, or **Bethel Regiment**. They became at once actively engaged in doing camp and fatigue duty, throwing up breastworks day and night, with occasional marches down the Peninsula toward Bethel and Hampton, until early in August. Yorktown was a very important Fort keeping the Federal

Forces from entering the York River and on to Richmond. The Battle of Big Bethel Church was just about 5 miles away June 10, 1861 and a Confederate Victory.

The health of the regiment had become so bad, at least eighty percent were stricken by those terrible diseases which occur from malaria and which are so easily contracted by persons coming from a hill or mountainous country, surrounded by low swamps in midsummer, that the commanding general ordered the regiment to **Hobby's Point**, on the north side of the **York River**, first sending a large number up the river to **King and Queen County** and to **Gloucester Court House**. Many of these never lived to return. During the early part of September there was less than ten percent of the regiment able to perform camp duty. The loss by death and disability during the months preceding winter was greater than from battle during any one year afterwards, being over fifteen percent. (Source, *Fifteenth Regiment by H.C. Kearney*, 1st Lt., Company E.) As one soldier would write, "Our meal consisted of a small piece of hard tack and a cup of muddy water". **Cornelius Haywood Stallings** and his brother **Langdon Cheeves Stallings** both contracted typhoid fever which would claim their lives.

Cornelius Haywood

Stallings completed his medical studies at **Jefferson Medical College** in Philadelphia before the war and began practice in Franklin County. He made his early decision to serve in the line rather than on the medical staff and at the age of 27 on May 20, 1861 he enlisted in the 15th Regiment, Company L. of the North Carolina Militia. The North Carolina Standard, Raleigh, NC dated October 30, 1861 published the following obituary. "Died, near Yorktown, on the 2nd inst., of typhoid fever, **Cornelius Haywood Stallings, M.D.**, in the 27th year of his age. The commencement of hostilities found Dr. Stallings in a profitable and increasing practice in his native county of Franklin where his excellent qualities of mind and heart made him loved and respected by those who had known him from his childhood. Heeding his country's call for volunteers, he entered the Franklin Rifles as a private, thus placing himself by the side of hundreds of others of wealth, intelligence and social position whose ambition from the first has been, not for their rank, but to render efficient service in difficult times of their country's need. In this honorable position Dr. Stallings was found, cheerfully performing all duties of the common soldier when the desolating camp fever which at one time threatened to decimate the 6th (?) N.C. Regiment called him with his medical skills and he was transferred to the hospital. How he labored in this department by night and by day, in sickness and

in health until prostrated by the disease from which he had been the honored means of rescuing so many of his comrades-the medical staff and every officer and soldier of the regiment bear cheerful and cordial testimony and those who witnessed his uncomplaining resignation can add that which will give his friends even more abiding consolation that he died in the comfort of a reasonable religious and holy hope and is ever with God and perfect charity with the world." (There is one correction to the above story, he actually died at his home place of typhoid fever in September 1861 according to family records. Nell A Stallings.)

Langdon Cheeves Stallings, enlisted in Franklin County as a private at "**Davis Crossroads**" at the age 21, on March 24, 1862, in **Company K, 12th Regiment NC Troops** for the war. He was present or accounted for until he died "at home" on or about July 15, 1862 of typhoid fever. Only the first page of a letter from **Langdon** written to his cousin, **William (Billy) Jackson**, probably the grandson of **Leroy and Sallie (Daniel) Jackson**, dated Yorktown, VA July 26, 1861 survives in which he writes: "Dear Billy, I received your letter of a few days since and was very glad to hear from you but I do not feel much like answering it. I want to write something that will be good and pleasing but I cannot this time.

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The death of my poor brother Rufus renders me miserable. Yes Billy my brother is dead and perhaps you saw his corpse and saw him buried before my letter could get to you. He died among his friends and two brothers close by his side for we were going down to Newport News when the gun went off and I looked around an there lay my brother dead. I thought before I saw who it was that it was brother, Haywood or Rufus and sure enough it was Rufus lying with all the top part of his head shot off and his brains all out of his head and two of his fingers wounded. I hardly know how this accident happened unless when he went to get up he drew up by his gun and about the time the muzzle of the gun got against his head Billy Collins gun struck the trigger of Rufus's gun and it went off. He didn't have time to even say farewell brothers. He didn't bring but one breath. Billy I never expect to witness such a death again. I never want to I know. Brother Haywood and myself tried to get home but the Col. said that he couldn't let us come he said he would if it was in his power but it was not..." The remainder of the letter was lost. (Nell A. Stallings)

William Rufus Stallings, enlisted in Franklin County on May 20, 1861 in the 15th Regiment, Company L. of the North Carolina Militia. He was present or accounted for until he was "killed accidentally" on July 23, 1861 at Yorktown VA his brother Langdon Cheeves Stallings gives the gruesome

details above. It was probably on a march from Yorktown down to Bethel and Hampton that the accident occurred when they stopped for a rest break. As an old hunter knows it was the custom to sit on the ground with their rifle lying across ones lap. When the order to "fall in" was given it was not usual to grasp ones rifle and use it to raise ones self up. It appears from Langdon's description of the accident that Rufus hand was resting over the top of the barrel of his rifle as he raised him self up and at the moment his head was over the barrel, Billy Collins rifle butt stuck Rufus firing mechanism, causing the rifle to go off mortally wounding Rufus on July 23, 1861. It should be noted there were no safety features on these weapons.

Oliver Clinton Stallings, of Franklin Co., was a school boy prior to enlisting there on May 20, 1861 at the age of 16 in Company B. 13th Battalion NC Infantry. He was present or accounted for until discharged on December 4, 1861, by reason of "Inability to do military service". His arm was shot off by his own gun in an accident similar to the one which killed his brother Rufus. He later served in Company B. 13th Battalion, NC Infantry. After the War he attended medical school in Baltimore MD, after receiving his doctorial of medicine he settled at Dawson's Crossroads near Enfield, NC where he put his medical knowledge to work. (Source GBH

Stallings)

John Monroe Stallings was a miller; as such he was exempt from service in the army until late in the war. He did however pay for his substitute at that time. In a letter dated Louisburg, NC, September 6, 1863 **Martha R. Kerr** writes, "*The Militia are called up John left yesterday for Rocky Mount... There are but four men left in the neighborhood Mr. Boon that has a mill, Mr. Webb and Jim Glaus they are too old and Mr. Brewer and he can hardly hear. They have taken Henry May and he is about as deaf as Mr. Brewer.*" John Stallings would be assigned to guard duty of the railroad bridge in Weldon until the end of the war. I can find no evidence that either of these brothers every fired a shot at their enemy, disease and accidents were their worst enemy after all.

Not everyone came home a hero. There were those that served meritorious nearly to the end, wounded and weary having survived the many horrible battles of the war; now faced with starvation they simply walked away. They came home only to be shunned by their families and ostracized by the public. Many ended up in mental institution suffering from a condition diagnosed as "mania." Many turned to alcohol and opiates

for relief of their pain and depression, called the "Soldiers Sickness." Long after the cause was lost, there were the politicians and men of pride that would have spilled the last drop of blood in defense of the cause, many no doubts as long as it was not theirs. Records show that one Stallings family members net worth in the 1860 census was \$40,000.00; in the 1870 census his net worth was \$1,400.00, so much blood, so much treasure, "What Price Glory."

Submitted by TRCGS
Member Callie J.
Stallings

Confederate	
15 N.C.	
<i>William R. Stallings</i>	
Priv. Co. L. 15 Reg't North Carolina Infantry (Volunteers).	
Appears on	
Company Muster Roll	
of the organization named above,	
for <i>July 1 Aug.</i> , 1861.	
Enlisted:	
When <i>May 20</i> , 1861	
Where <i>Louisburg NC</i>	
By whom <i>William F. Green</i>	
Period <i>12</i>	
Last paid:	
By whom	
To what time <i>1861</i>	
Present or absent	
Remarks: <i>William R. Stallings</i>	
<i>Killed accidentally</i>	
<i>July 23, 1861.</i>	
<small>The 15th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (Volunteers) was organized in June, 1861, with twelve companies, A to M. Its designation was changed to the 15th Regiment North Carolina Infantry (State Troops) by S. O. No. 222, A. & I. G. O., dated November 14, 1861. Companies L and M were transferred to the 22d Regiment North Carolina Infantry (State Troops) by S. O. No. 164, A. & I. G. O., dated July 4, 1862, becoming (2d) Company K and (2d) Company L, respectively, of that regiment.</small>	
Book mark:	
<i>W. M. Stallings</i>	
Copyist	



Chief Calhoun was the first Chief of Police for the Rocky Mount Police Department

HISTORIC PHOTO GALLERIES AND SLIDESHOWS

In the last newsletter we listed free web sites of interest—since that time one was submitted that is notable for it's historic content. The web site of the City of Rocky Mount has a section on historic photos and postcards as well as pictures/lists of city Majors, Managers, Clerks, Attorneys, Police Chiefs and Fire Chiefs. On the left side of the page is a

link for the Sunday Telegram Centennial Edition (Sunday, May 14, 1967) and the Evening Telegram American Bicentennial Souvenir Edition for Tuesday, July 6, 1976. Every page is full of information.

If your family history crosses the Rocky Mount area it is a good site to explore. Thank you City of Rocky Mount for

the interesting information! www.rockymountnc.gov/aboutrm.html

If you find an interesting web site—please share with us as well so we may all enjoy.

Thank you TRCGS Member Debbie Peacock for bringing this web site to our attention.

SNIPPETS

Whitakers Mill—

The store of the **Messrs. Barkley** is being thoroughly refitted. They are erecting a building, the lower story of which is to be used as a store and the upper as a coach and buggy manufactory. We also observed that a small framed building, intended we believe, for a store, was being put up near the store of Barkley & Bro.

It gives us much pleasure to have it in our power to record the evidences of such progressive spirit in our neighbors.

[*The Battleboro Advance*, Jan. 3, 1873]

Death Notice—

John D. Abernathy of Nash County died January 19, 1858 Duplin County.

Raleigh Register January 27,

1858.

In Memoriam—

Departed this transitory life, in Edgecombe county, at the residence of L.R. Cherry, Esq., Walter, infant son of John K. and M.E. Cherry, aged about fifteen months.

[*The Battleboro Advance*, Jan. 3, 1873]

THIGPEN, JOSEPH, soldier of the American Revolution, aged 76, and a resident of Perry County; private N.C. militia; enrolled on September 24, 1833, under act of Congress of June 7, 1832, payment to date from March 4, 1831; annual allowance, ?20; sums received to date of publication of list, \$50. —

Revolutionary Pension Roll, in Vol XIV, Sen. doc. 514, 23rd Cong., 1st sess.,

1833-34.

—Heras Odom, a little boy, about 16 years of age, son of Mr. H. E. Odom of Battleboro, planted 2/3 of an acre in tobacco, and cultivated it by himself, which he sold on the hill last week to Mr. J. W. York, for the sum of \$250. Are there any boys of his age who can beat that?

[*The Little Clipper*, Rocky Mount, NC, 10/3/1885]

Married—

At the residence of the bride's father on the 18th December 1872, Mr. **S. L. McElhany**, of Mecklenburg, N.C. to Miss **Celestia T. Rice**, daughter of **Henderson Rice** of Nash County.

[*The Battleboro Advance*, Jan. 3, 1873]

WEB SITE:
NCDOT COUNTY
MAPS

[WWW.NCDOT.ORG/
TRAVEL/
STATEMAPPING](http://WWW.NCDOT.ORG/TRAVEL/STATEMAPPING)

NORTH CAROLINA COURTHOUSE FIRES

The destruction of courthouses greatly affects genealogists in every way. Not only are these historic structures torn from our lives, so are the records they housed: marriage, wills, probate, land records, and others. Once destroyed they are lost forever. Even if they have been placed on microfilm, computers and film burn too. The most heartbreaking side of this is the fact that many of our courthouses are destroyed at the hands of arsonists. However, not all records were lost.

Alleghany - 1932 (fire, record loss)
Alexander - 1865 (civil war, record loss), 1967 (fire)
Craven - 1712 (records destroyed by Indians)
Anson - 1868 (fire)
Ashe - 1865 (fire, records fragmented)
Bladen - 1770 (fire), 1800 (fire), 1893 (fire)
Brunswick - 1865 (civil war, record loss), 1957 (clerk's office fire)
Buncombe - 1830 (fire), 1865 (fire)
Burke - 1865 (civil war, record loss)
Cabarrus - 1876 (fire)
Cherokee - 1865 (fire), 1895 (fire), 1926 (fire)
Chowan - 1848 (records destroyed by acting clerk)
Clay - 1870 (fire, records destroyed)
Craven - 1712 (records destroyed by Indians)
Currituck - 1842 (fire)
Davidson - 1866 (fire)
Gaston - 1874 (fire)
Greene - 1876 (fire)
Guilford - 1781 (fire), 1872 (fire)
Harnett - 1892 (fire), 1894 (fire)
Haywood - 1932 (records destroyed in move to new courthouse)
Hertford - 1830 (fire), 1822 (fire)
Hyde - 1789 (fire), 1827 (fire)
Iredell - 1854 (fire)
Jackson - 1913 (records lost when county seat moved)
Jones - 1862 (fire)

Lenoir - 1878 (fire), 1880 (fire)
Lincoln - 1797 (records may have been destroyed by fire in private home)
Martin - 1862 (fire)
Mitchell - 1907 (some records destroyed in move to new courthouse)
Montgomery - 1835 (fire), 1840 (fire), 1886 (may have suffered record loss from courthouse fire. The clerk said that he saved the records but that they were "in a state of great confusion.")
Moore - 1889 (fire)
New Hanover - 1789, 1819 & 1840 (all 3 courthouse fires may have destroyed some records)
Onslow - 1752 & 1755 (records destroyed by storm)
Orange - 1781 (records destroyed when buried in woods to avoid capture or destruction by Cornwallis)
Pitt - 1857 (fire)
Rowan - 1865 (civil war, record loss)
Rutherford - 1907 (fire)
Sampson - 1921 (clerk's office fire)
Swain - 1879 (fire)
Wake - 1832 (register's office fire)
Warren - 1935 (Some early County records may have been destroyed)
Washington - 1962 (County records destroyed by bombardment in Civil War)
Watauga - 1873 (fire)
Wayne - 1781 (records may have been destroyed in courthouse fire)

Information source: www.ncgenweb.us/transylvania/home_html/North-Carolina-Courthouse-Fires.html. The information submitted was courtesy of Diane Siniard, coordinator for NC GenWeb's NC Cemetery Project and Special Projects, and was submitted for the newsletter by TRCGS Members Gerald and Patricia Leonard.

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