

The Connector

Newsletter of the Tar River Connections Genealogical Society
Preserving the Past ... for the Future

Summer, 2002

Billie Jo Matthews & Peggy Strickland, Co-Editors

Volume 6 Number 3

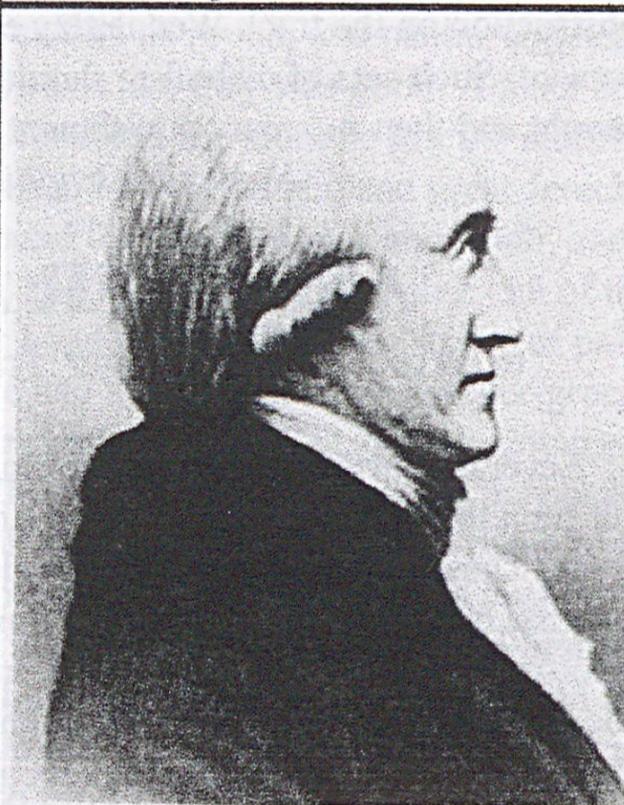
Benjamin Hawkins: A Lifetime of Service

"Tustenuggee Thlucco will sign," said the Indian chieftain of mixed blood whom whites knew as **Big Warrior**. As he stepped forward to make his mark giving consent to the treaty framed by **Andrew Jackson**, **Benjamin Hawkins** burst into sobs. Later he explained to his son that "Twenty years of my life were wiped out by a single stroke of the pen."

Eyes still moist with tears, Benjamin Hawkins that night resigned as Indian Commissioner for the region south of the **Ohio River**. He had done all he could to help native **Americans**, and he had seen years of effort wiped out by a treaty widely described as "unequalled for exor-

bitance."

Hawkins had served as a mediator among the Creek Nations for 16 years, during which time there was



peace among the tribes. About 1812, **Tecumseh**, a **Shawnee** warrior had set about to unite the Indians against the **United States** government. **Tecumseh** and his warriors, including the "**Red Sticks**," a faction of the **Creeks**, waged war throughout **Alabama**, **Georgia** and **Mississippi**. Hawkins raised a force, led by **William McIntosh**, to fight against the outlaw Indians along side of **Andrew Jackson** and his Volunteer troops. **McIntosh** was a well respected leader of the Creek Nation. His mother was Creek. His father was a **Scottish** trader.

After Jackson had succeeded in subduing the Indians, he had sent word to Hawkins to gather all the chiefs at Fort Jackson on August 1,
SEE HAWKINS, PAGE 5

Edgecombe County Farmer Enlightens Congress

"In its august majesty, the forty-fourth Congress of the **United States** decided to find out how the common man of the western world was spending his money and whether he had any of it left over at the end of the year.

It was 1874. Congressional investigators were sent to the plains of **Russia**, to the **Roman** countryside, to the fjords of **Norway**, to **Sweden**, **Norway** and **Denmark**. **French** and **Spanish** farmers gave up their se-

crets to the persistent prying of gilded age junketeers, as did those of **Portugal**, **Mexico** and **Canada**.

SEE CONGRESS, PAGE 7

E

44

BENJAMIN HAWKINS

Member Continental Congress,
United States Senator, 1789-
1795, U.S. Indian Agent to the
Creek Nation, 1796-1816. Home
was 5 mi. S.W.

US 401(S Main St) at Franklin
Street in Warrenton, Warren Co., NC

Weather Warning Greatest Drought

"In another letter, from the same Place, and same Date, it is said, that they had had the greatest Drought, for upwards of three Months, ever known, there, all their Wells and Springs being in a manner, dried up, so that in some Places they had hardly Water enough to dress there Victuals with."

[Extract of a letter from **Edenton** in **North Carolina** 19 October, 1768. It appeared 17 Nov 1768, *Pennsylvania Gazette*]

QUERY GUIDELINES

1. Members may submit three queries annually to the address below. A fee of \$5.00 must accompany each query submitted by a non-member.
2. The query should be in the form of a typed or printed letter (easy on the eyes!) and should include a time frame and as much pertinent information as possible.
3. Queries should concern someone who has resided in the following counties: Person, Granville, Vance, Franklin, Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt, Beaufort, or adjacent counties linked to the Tar River by streams and creeks.
4. Please include all that you know pertaining to the question you are asking.

Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Don't expect a miracle!!

Tar River Connections Genealogical Society

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TRIED TO WRECK TRAIN.

Some scoundrel or scoundrels made another effort to wreck passenger train No. 76 on Wednesday evening at the trestle about one mile below the **Nashville** depot by fastening a piece of iron on the track. Fortunately for passengers, crew and all the piece of iron was large enough for the "cowcatcher" to strike it, and thus a terrible wreck was averted. Had not this been done the whole train would have been thrown into the ravine below and many lives lost besides total destruction of cars and other properties. It was only a short while ago that a switch was thrown open between here and **Spring Hope** and a wreck occurred. We are authorized by the **Atlantic Coast Line Co.** that it will pay a reward of one hundred dollars for the capture of the party of parties who put this obstruction on the track Wednesday evening and for evidence that will convict. Such acts of diabolism should be ferreted out and the scoundrels caught and then summary punishment meted out to the guilty.

[*Nashville Graphic*, Jan. 21, 1909]

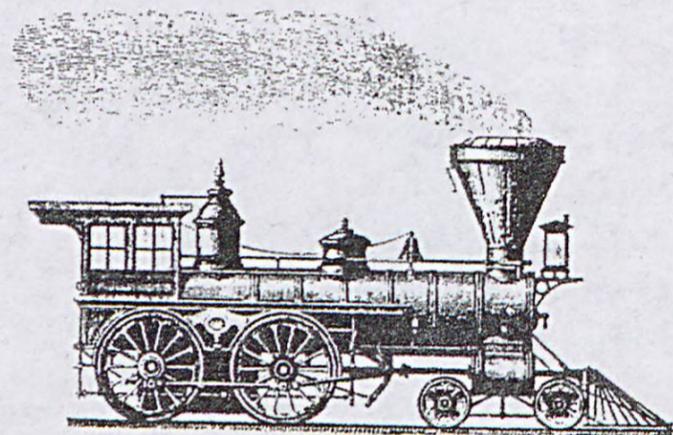
ANOTHER ATTEMPT.

to Wreck the Passenger Train On Nashville Branch.

Several efforts have been made since Christmas to wreck the passenger train that runs twice a day from Rocky Mount via this place, to Spring Hope. These efforts to wreck are made usually in the evening when darkness has come on, to catch the last down going train to Rocky Mount. Another effort was made last Friday night by setting fire to the trestle about two miles from this place, and had the train been a few minutes later in going down, the whole train would have been precipitated into the ravine below and many lives doubtless lost. **Engineer Swindell** stopped his train as quickly as possible, but not till having passed over the burning timbers, and the crew put out the fire.

It is very earnestly hoped by all good citizens that the scoundrel or scoundrels making these efforts to wreck will be caught, and when caught should be summarily dealt with and hung, as high as Haman. The Coast Line has a standing reward offered, but this should not be the only incentive to capture the bad men who would destroy the lives of many in order to get revenge, or redress for a fancied, personal wrong.

[*Nashville Graphic*, Feb. 11, 1909]





ORAL
HISTORY
PROJECT

Nash County Arts Council

Marcus Clifford Gulley, My Father

AS TOLD BY REBECCA
GULLEY SHUMATE

My daddy, **Clifford Gulley**, was a remarkable man. He was born in 1886 and lived 91 years. He had an assortment of unusual careers. He started out on the family farm, but left the farm to work in a retail store in **Clayton, NC**, when he was 18 years old.

He came to **Nashville** in 1910 when he was 24 years old and went to work at **Arrington-Bissette Company**, a general store. Fifteen years later, he opened **Gulley's Hardware**. He said he went in the hardware business because the stock didn't get old or go out of style.

Besides running the hardware store, he served from 1929 to 1949 as county coroner. In the early 50s, he served briefly as sheriff. He was appointed to the office when **Mr. Legs Faulkner** died. Daddy's turn as sheriff was short because he wasn't a politician and refused to campaign for re-election. Daddy was also the fire chief of Nashville's **Volunteer Fire Department** for about 15 years.

Daddy was good at fixing things. When he opened his hardware store, he ran an ad saying that he would pay \$10 for any fixing job he failed to do. One

SEE GULLEY, PAGE 9

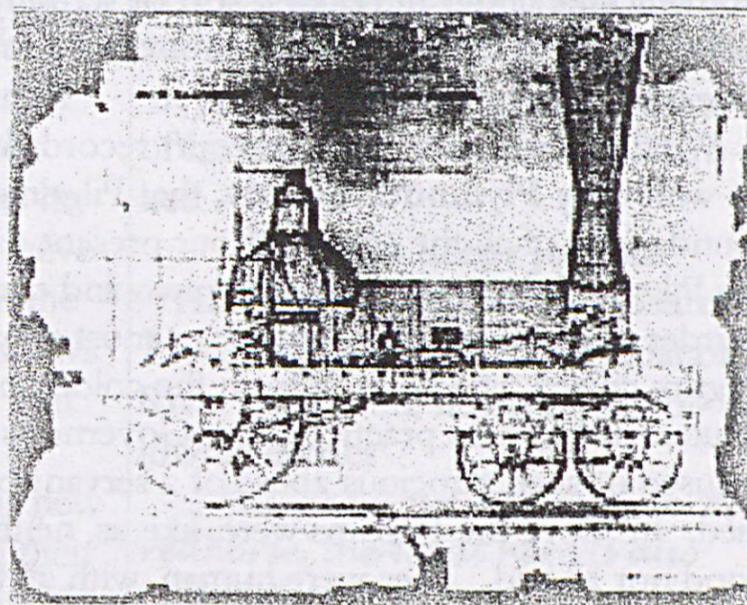


A Greenhorn on the Locomotive

"**Mr. Snodgrass, Junior**, has been 'scooting through' at the West, and as some of his experiencing are rather amusing, we copy an extract as follows:

When we got to the depot, I went around to get a look at the iron hoss. Thunderation! it warn't no more like a hoss than a meetin' house. If I was goin' to describe the animule, I'd say it looked like—well, it looked like—darned if I know what it looked like, unless it was a regular he devil, snortin' smoke all round, and pantin' and heavin' and swellin' and chawing up red hot coals like they was good. A feller stood in a house like, feeding him all the time; but the more he got the more he snorted. After a spell a feller caught him by the tail, and great Jerecho! he set up a yell that split the ground for more'n a mile and a half, and the next minit I felt my legs a waggin' and found myself at t'other end of the string o' vehickles. I wasn't skered but I had three chills and a stroke of palsy in less than five minits, and my face had a curious brownish-yeller-green bluish color in it, which was perfectly unaccountable. 'Well,' says I, 'comment is supper *fluous*,' and I took a seat in the nearest wagin, or car, as they called it—a consarned long steamboat looking thing, with a string of pews down each side, big enough to hold about a man and a half. Just as I sat down, the hoss hollered twice and started off like a streak, pitchin' me head first at the stomach of a big **Irish** woman, and she gave a tremendous grunt, and then caught me by the head, and crammed me under the seat; the cars was a jumpin' and tearing along at nigh onto forty thousand miles an hour, and everybody was a bobin' up and down like a mill-saw, and every wretch o'm had his mouth wide open _____ hear nothing; the cars kept such a racket. Bimeby they stopped all at once, and then such another laff bursted out of them passengers, as I never hern before. Laffin' at me, too, that's what made me mad, and I was mad as thunder, too. I rise up, shakin' my fist at em, says I, 'Ladies and gentlemen, look a here! I'm a peaceable stranger—' and away the darn train went like small pox was in town, jerking me down in the seat with a whack like I'd been thrown from the moon, and their cussed mouth's flopped open, and the fellers went to bobin up and down again. I put on an air of magnanimous contempt like, and took no more notice of 'em, and very naturally went to bobin' up and down myself."

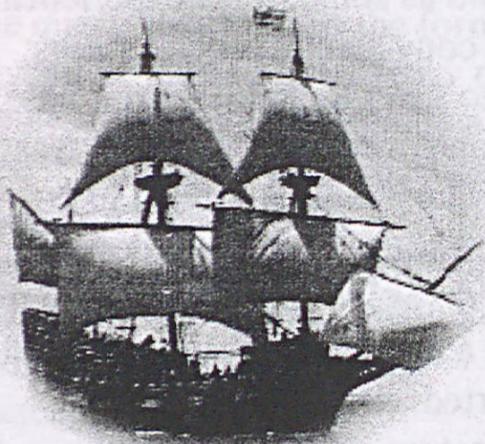
[*American Eagle*, Louisburg, NC, Jan. 23, 1858]



Saints and Sinners

BY CAROLYN AND JACK MARCH

The **Pilgrims**, the people who arrived in **North America** in 1620 aboard the **Mayflower**, as well as others who came on later ships in that first decade of migration, didn't think of themselves as on a pilgrimage. They were **English** men and women transporting English customs, values, and beliefs to a place where they could make a better life for themselves



and their children. A certain minority among them was also concerned with being able to worship in a different way from the way decreed by the **Church of England**.

The Pilgrims were a product of **England's Elizabethan Age**, a lusty contentious lot for the most part.

Superstition and fervent belief in witchcraft co-existed with their Christian beliefs; the Devil was blamed for disease and deformities. People were judgmental and intolerant; punishment for real or supposed misbehavior was public and severe. Sexual conduct of men and women came under the closest sort of scrutiny and it was definitely a man's world when it came to money, property and power.

We find, on examination of court records having to do with early **Plymouth Colony**, that Pilgrims were found guilty of all the crimes of our present day. One of the Pilgrim fathers was hanged, drawn and quartered for murder of his neighbor. Another, a most prominent Pilgrim citizen, was banned from the colony because of fraudulent business practices. The Governor's niece was accused of such atrocious abuse of a servant boy that he died. In short, the Pilgrims were, like us, neither all good nor all bad. They were human, with all the flaws that being human entails. They were both saints and sinners.

Separatists was the name given to the radical thinkers in England who, in the late 1500s, believed that each church should function as a separate body and not be tied to the national religion, the Church of England. Due to their persecution by **King James I**, in 1607 one of these Separatist congregations in eastern England mi-

grated to **Holland** where they were free to worship as they chose. After living in poverty in Holland for more than a decade, the group decided to move to **North America**.

First they needed a patent, or license, from the king, allowing them to settle in England's part of the New World. They also needed financial backing. A company of 70 **London** merchants came forward with a contract to obtain the necessary patent and to supply the money, hoping to make a big profit on the fish, furs, lumber, naval supplies, etc. that the colonists would send back to them. The contract stated that for seven years the colonists would work on a communal basis with all profits going to the company. Their houses and all of their working time would belong to the company; at the end of the seven years, all that they would own would be an allotted amount of land plus personal belongings. This part of the contract didn't please the settlers and several changed their minds about continuing with their plans to join the venture. The **Merchant Adventurers**, as the investors were called, had to recruit other people to replace the ones who backed out. These replacements didn't share the radical religious views of the Holland group, as their motive in emigrating was solely economic betterment.

In July of 1620 the group from Holland left for England on a small ship called the **Speedwell**. A larger ship, the **Mayflower**, with the new recruits aboard, met them and together they departed from **Southampton**.

Leaks in the **Speedwell** caused the ships to return twice to England for repairs and finally she had to be abandoned in **Plymouth**, causing some



people to be left behind. In early September they departed for the last time, a diverse group of 102 men, women and children.

Although the **Mayflower** was a sizable ship for its time, it was extremely crowded and uncomfortable. The fall storms made for a rough passage westward across the **North Atlantic**; provisions were scanty and unpalatable; there was no way to wash themselves or anything else; sanitary facilities consisted of an open bucket.

SEE SAINTS, PAGE 8

HAWKINS, CONT. FROM P. 1
1814. Of course, Hawkins and the chiefs of tribes that had assisted Jackson against the rogue Indians expected to be rewarded for their loyalty, but it was not to be. Jackson treated all Creeks alike. The aging Hawkins was present when Jackson demanded huge amounts of land from the Creeks. Former allies and former enemies were told that they had only hours to decide whether they

would
cede
tribal
land to
whites
or be
exiled
to the
region
near
**Pensa-
cola,
Flori-**



William McIntosh

da. Knowing they had no chance in a stand against Jackson, most Indian leaders followed the lead of Big Warrior. That night they signed away more than half of the Creek land, an estimated twenty-three million acres, including most of present-day Alabama and much of Georgia. Hawkins' lifetime of working with the Indians had come to this!

Tar River Connections

But who was Benjamin Hawkins and how did he come to be at the table when the treaty was signed? Hawkins was the son of **Col. Philemon Hawkins** and **Delia Martin Hawkins**. Prior to her marriage, Delia had been living with her brother, **Captain John Martin** on **Sandy Creek** in **Edgecombe Co., NC** (now **Franklin Co.**) Benjamin was born in 1754 in what was once **Bute Co.,**

and is now **Warren Co., NC**. He attended **Princeton University** and was a senior when the revolution began. Having studied **French**, he became a valuable interpreter for **General George Washington**. In 1779, he became an agent for the state of NC, commissioned to obtain supplies of all kinds to support the war. Elected as a delegate to the **Continental Congress** in 1784, he displayed a keen interest in Indian affairs. In 1789, he became a US Senator from NC where he served until 1796. He was so successful in negotiating with the **Cherokees, Choctaws, and Chickasaws** that George Washington took notice of his successful diplomacy and asked him to be Indian agent for the Creeks and superintendent of all Indian tribes south of the **Ohio River**.

Col. Hawkins was in the prime of his life when Washington begged him to give it all up and live among the Indians. He was a successful statesman, from a well-known family, with a profitable plantation on the **Roanoke River**. He gave up this elegant life to live among the Indians in Georgia. He devoted the rest of his life to the Indians—a life he could never have dreamed of as he grew up in NC, How could he have been content to bury himself in the Georgia wilds? The evidence shows that he had only one goal, and that was to serve his country.

Benjamin Hawkins began his new job by studying the people and their customs. He encouraged them to improve their lives—showing them how to farm and raise livestock more productively. He built mills and storehouses and established a trading post. On his own behalf, Hawkins established a large plantation where he raised huge crops of

corn and other staples. He raised cattle and hogs, and it was said that he often put his brand upon five hundred calves in a single season. Milk was churned by machinery activated by water power or horse power. Tools and implements made at his plantation were distributed to Creeks and other natives. He brought his slaves from his Roanoke plantation and used them to teach the Indians. Those willing to do so could spend weeks on the **Flint River** farm, learning how to use tools and to select and plant seeds. So respected was Hawkins by the Indians that animals carrying his brand were never taken during his lifetime.

Hawkins had a common-law Creek wife, **Lavinia**, widow of **Chief Long Side of Tuckabatchie** who was killed in a raid. Benjamin and Lavinia had several children and she lived with him at the Creek agency in Crawford Co. Ga. Benjamin married Lavinia when he thought he was on his death bed, in order to legitimize his children, but he lived on for several years and had another daughter. As evidence of his devotion to his Indian friends, one of his daughters was named Cherokee.

Hawkins keeps journal

Hawkins kept a journal and late in 1796, soon after he left his Roanoke River plantation, he made the following entries:

... Sturgeon, trout, perch, rock, redhorse, the trout here is also called the chub. ...

Friday, 16. [1796]

I amused myself this day in riding thro' the neighboring woods, visiting and conversing with the Indians. The lands every where covered with acorns and hickory nuts. ... [Some women] sent me a

CONTINUED PAGE 6

THE DRUNKARD'S TREE

The
Sin of

DRUNKENNESS

Expels Reason, drowns
Memory, & distempers the Body,
Defaces Beauty, diminishes Strength,
Corrupts the Blood, inflames the Liver,
Weakens the Brain, turns men into walking
Hospitals, causes internal, external, & incurable
Wounds; is a Witch to the Senses, a Devil
To the Soul, a Thief to the Purse, the
Beggar's companion, a Wife's woe,
And Children's sorrow; makes
Man become a Beast, and
A self murderer, who
Drinks to others'
good health and
robs himself of
his own! nor
is this all;
It exposes to the
Divine

DISPLEASURE HERE!
and hereafter to
ETERNAL DESTRUCTION

Such are
some of
the evils spring-
ing from the root of
DRUNKENNESS!

[Taken from *Raleigh Star*, June 17, 1830]



HAWKINS, CONT. FROM P. 5
present of bean bread and
dumplings, some oil of hickory
nuts, pleasant to the taste, and
some milk of the same nuts. The
process is simple, they pick up the
nuts, dry them, pound them with

a mortar, fan them, to free the
kernels as much as possible from
the shells. They then apply water,
mix up the mass with their hands,
and work it something like the
bakers kneading their bread, as
the oil rises they separate it from
the remains which is the milk.

Sunday, 18 Dec

... I saw Mr. Bailey's 20 bee
hives, he says they do well, and
that there are wild bees in the
country in every direction. They
are extending themselves west,
and some hunters informed him
they had lately discovered some,
the west of the Mississippi about 30
miles, that they had but recently
arrived there, as the trees they feel
had young comb only.

Tuesday 20

Mr. Weatherford showed me
this morning some fine horses
raised by him, on his plantations,
they were blooded nearly full, 13
hands high, looked well, their feet
somewhat too flat, owing to their
being raised in flat swampy
lands. ... to be seen near his house
5 conic mounds of earth, the
largest 30 yards diameter, 17 feet
high, the others all small, about
30 feet diameter and 5 feet high.

... The honey in this country is
poisonous in the month of March,
some negroes and Indians have
been killed at that season. At that
season on the small branches,
there is a plant in bloom called ...
wolves tongue, or fire leaves, ... it
has a long stem with yellow blos-
soms ... poisonous ... Milk had
been the only efficacious remedy
discovered here for this poison.
The last season a bee tree was tak-
en in this neighborhood and all
who eat of the honey sickened
instantaneously, they retired to
the house, except a black boy, and
took some milk which restored
them, the boy was unable to get to
the house, and altho' aid was sent
him, in 2 hours he was dead.
Those who eat of the honey are

first taken with a giddiness, then
blindness accompanied with
great pain and uneasiness, and
thrust.

Sunday, 25

... I spend my Christmas in the
hospitable house where I am. This
good woman as cleanly as any of
her sex, is very particular in cook-
ing, altho' she has hands, has
many conveniences about her,
and is nice and clean in every



King of the Creeks

thing. ... She some times beats the
meal for bread, sifts it and bakes
it herself. ... She gives me daily,
coffee, bread and butter, and a
relish of some kind of meat, the
butter of her own make, a dinner
of fowls and pork, with rice, and
a dish of tea in the evening.

The Creeks, Cherokees, Chicka-
saws and Choctaws—the Four Na-
tions—recognized Benjamin
Hawkins' efforts by giving him the
title **Iste-Chate Lige-Osetat-
Chemis-te-chango—Beloved Man
of Four Nations**. This good man
died brokenhearted in 1816, only
two years after Andrew Jackson's
seizing of Indian land nullified the
work of a lifetime.

No. 652

Department of Virginia and North Carolina,

Washington, N. C., Jan 20 1864.

Arcadia Howard

has taken and subscribed the Oath and Parole required by General Order No. 49, for a loyal citizen of the United States, residing in a State ever in rebellion, or who has sympathized with the Seceding States.

A. H. Johnson
Capt. & Provost Marshal



Printed by Engelbert Leins.

CONGRESS, CONT. FROM P. 1

The men of the forty-fourth Congress, in short, visited every major western nation and a great many minor ones.

Nor did they neglect their own. And so it happened that one spring morning a frock-coated team of its economic agents stepped off a passenger coach of the **Wilmington and Weldon Railroad** at the country town of **Tarboro**, in the heart of **Eastern NC's** farm country.

Checking their carpet bags at the local hostelry, our investigators set out into the countryside, where they soon encountered a planter, his wife and five small children working together on a one-mule farm.

Would the farmer be kind enough to help them in their study?

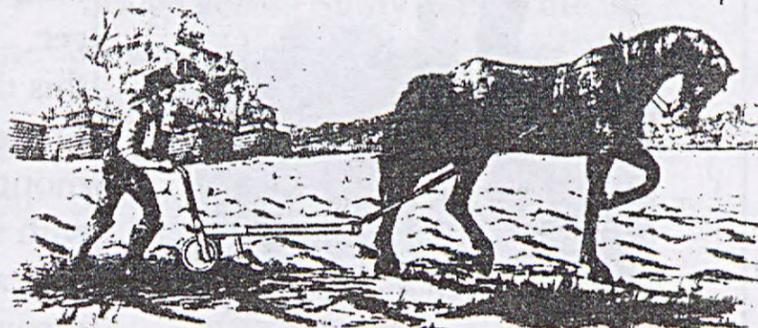
Well, yes, he reckoned he would, if he could.

So they took out pen and paper and set to figuring.

What did it cost him a year to live? The farmer obligingly pulled out his receipts and bills. In an aver-

age week, he calculated, he spent about a dollar and twenty cents for flour and a dollar seventy-five for meat. Lard cost him sixty cents and butter seventy-five. Beyond that there was:

Sugar and molasses .60



milk	.10
coffee	.30
tea	.35
fish	.30
soap, salt, pepper, vinegar	.15
eggs	.20
potatoes and vegetables	.40
fruits	.20
fuel	.10
oil and other light	.10
spirits, beer, tobacco	1.30

(A man, after all, does not live by bread alone.)

educational, religious and benevolent objects .20

His total weekly outlay: \$8.30

This adds up to \$431.60 a year.

Now, include \$114 for clothes, \$182.40 for seed, feed and farm supplies and \$4 for taxes. The yearly total: \$732.

What? Is it possible? Seven hundred and thirty-two dollars for an entire year's expense! Was this the golden age of the planter?

Let's look more closely. It cost him \$732 a year to live, but his income averaged only

\$14 a week, or \$728 a year. The arithmetic was distressingly clear.

After twelve months of backbreaking work he was \$4 in the hole.

If he worked hard, and if there were not bad years, if there were no drought, no flood, no sickness, just bright, gentle weather, he would, at the end of fifty years of labor, bequest to those five children...a *two hundred dollar debt!*"

[*Tales of Tobacco Country* by Thomas A. Williams, 1979.]

SAINTS, CONT. FROM P. 4

On Nov. 10 they sighted land; it was **Cape Cod**, a position much farther north than they had planned. Shoal water made it impossible for the *Mayflower* to navigate southward around the elbow of the cape so the captain put into what is now **Provincetown Harbor** at the cape's tip. They must find a place to settle and do it quickly for winter was upon them.

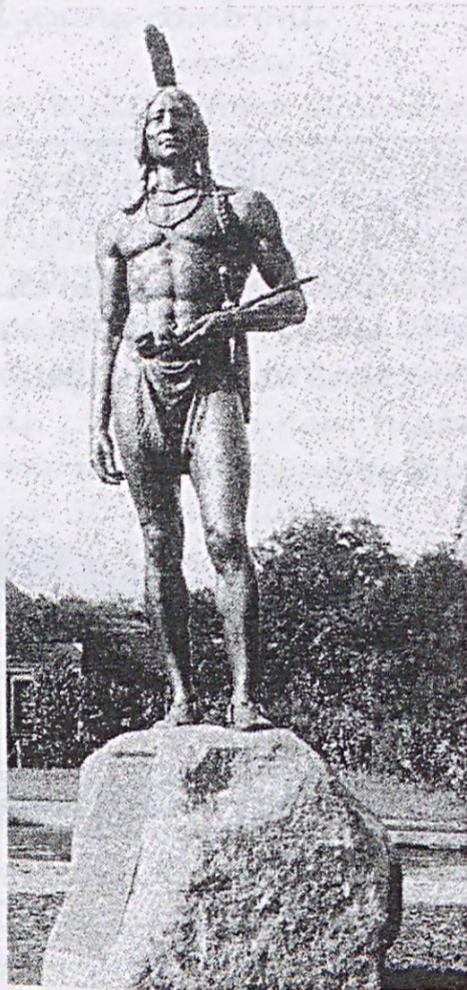
There had been talk of mutiny on the part of some of the settlers as the *Mayflower* approached land. The leaders of the Separatists, who had assumed leadership for the group as a whole, hurriedly drew up a formal document stating that each signer would be loyal to, "a civil body politic", and invoking God as witness. 41 men signed the document, enough to quell talk of rebellion. After this event, men were allowed to go ashore to explore the new land.

Exploration of the outer cape didn't yield any suitable place for settlement, although an exploring party did find a stash of seed corn that they appropriated for their own use. Across Cape Cod Bay they discovered a spot with a good harbor, abandoned cornfields, and plenty of fresh water that obviously, had once been the site of a native village. Here, they decided, was the spot they had been looking for.

Now the colonists began to sicken and die in great numbers from scurvy, pneumonia, and tuberculosis as a result of constant exposure to the winter weather and icy water, as well as from poor nutrition. At times during the seemingly interminable winter, only six or seven people were well enough to care for the sick and dying. Somehow the little band was able to begin erecting houses and common buildings and by the middle of March all the passengers could leave the *Mayflower* to live on shore.

Food supplies were completely inadequate for their needs, and death among the settlers continued on through the spring and into summer. By that time about half the original population remained alive. Death hit the ship's crew just as hard as it did the Pilgrims and the *Mayflower* wasn't able to leave for England until the first of April. None of the colonists chose to go back home in spite of the terrible winter just past.

During the winter, the natives of the area had not been in evidence but as spring arrived they began to be seen. **John Carver**, the company's governor, and the **Wappanoag** overlord of the area, **Massasoit**, worked



Massasoit—Plymouth, Mass

out a peace treaty that lasted for the next forty years. A native named **Squanto** came to live with and to advise the Pilgrims on all aspects of life in their new surroundings. Without his help they couldn't have survived.

During the summer the settlers established a promising fur trade with neighboring Indians. So far their plans to fish had not been successful

and neither had their crops, except for corn. In spite of being on short rations, they planned a harvest celebration in October and invited the friendly Wappanoag chief and 90 braves. For three days they feasted on roasted waterfowl, shellfish, eels, bread, berries, and wine, and played games of skill and chance. The celebration was considered to be a great success, although the Pilgrims did not regard it as a day of thanksgiving. A real thanksgiving would have involved fasting rather than feasting.

The Pilgrims had much to be thankful for at the end of their first year in the New World. They had succeeded in making the perilous journey. They had found a suitable place to establish their colony. They had a good crop of corn. They had made peace with the neighboring Indians and established a thriving fur trade with them. Squanto had come to their aid. The colonists had erected several buildings. There had been no more talk of mutiny and the settlers had coalesced into a solid unit, having shared hardship and danger. Toil and privation lie ahead but this doughty band will persevere and prevail in spite of all. In another month the ship **Fortune** will arrive with more settlers and the "Great Migration" will continue on down through the years to our present time.



Look Here,

THE subscriber will sell a fine young *Mare*, by Andrew, in foal by a thorough bred horse, Also a tip-top saddle and harness *Horse*. Persons wishing to buy will apply, or address me at this place.

J.W.W. DRAKE

Nashville, Jan. 4th 1839

[*Tarborough Press*, Jan. 12, 1839]

Search and Research Early Nash Co. Townships

State of North Carolina

Nash County December 17th 1868.

The Board of County Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment.

Present **J.J. Walker** Chairman,
W. P. Walker, N.L. Bennett, C.E. ??, W. H. Renfrow

... The Board then proceeded to make out a Report on Townships to be submitted to the Legislature which was substantially as follows:

Nash County, NC

Boundaries of Townships:

Washington Township No. 1.

Bounded as follows. Beginning at the Bridge across **Stony Creek**, near **Nashville-Louisburg road**, thence along said road to the **Halifax road**, near **Mrs. Martha Battles**, thence along said road to the **Halifax [County]** line, thence along said line to the **Franklin [County]** line, thence along said line to **Stony Creek**, thence down said creek to the beginning:—

Liberty Township No. 2.

Bounded as follows. Beginning in the **Halifax** line, corner of Township No. 1, thence along said line to the **Edgcombe** line, thence along said line to **Tar River** thence up said river to the mouth of **Stony Creek**, thence up said creek to the bridge near **Nashville-Louisburg road**, thence along said road to the **Halifax road** near **Mrs. Martha Battles**, thence along said road to the beginning:—

Union Township No. 3.

Bounded as follows: Beginning at **Stony Creek Bridge**, near **Nashville-Louisburg road**, thence up said creek to the **Franklin** line, thence along said line to **Tar River**, thence down said river to **Stricklands Bridge-Nashville road**, thence along said road to **Nashville**, thence along the **Louisburg road** to the beginning.

Middleton Township No. 4.

Bounded as follows: Beginning at **Stricklands Bridge** on **Tar River Nashville road**, thence along said road to **Nashville**, thence from **Nashville** along the **Louisburg road** to the bridge across **Stony Creek**, thence down said creek to **Tar River**, thence up said river to the beginning.

Spring Field Township No. 5.

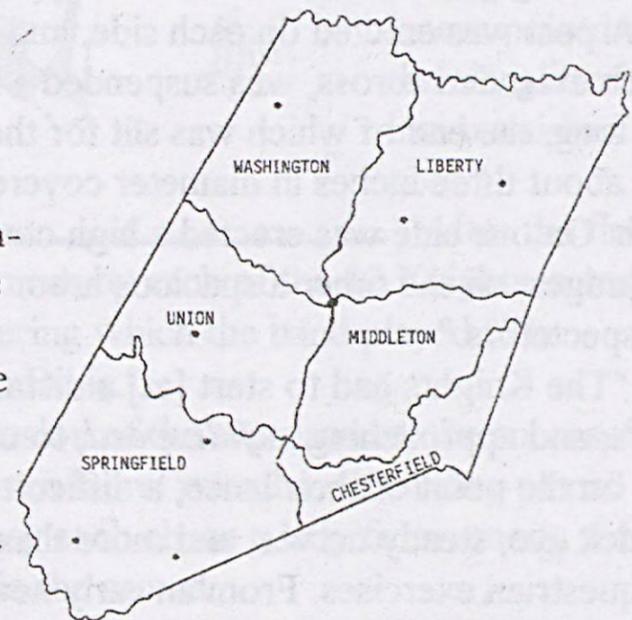
Bounded as follows: Beginning at **Stricklands Bridge** on **Tar River** thence the road by **Kinesberry Eat-**

mons old place to the **Wilson [County]** line near **Mr. Eatmons**, thence along said line, to the **Johnston [County]** line, thence along said line to the **Wake [County]** line, thence along said line to the **Franklin** line, thence along said line to **Tar River**, thence down said river to the beginning.

Chesterfield Township No. 6.

Bounded as follows: Beginning at **Stricklands Bridge** on **Tar River** thence the road by **Kinesberry Eatmons** old place to the **Wilson** line near **Mr. Eatmons** thence the **Wilson** line to the **Edgcombe** line, thence along said line to **Tar River**, thence up said river to the beginning.

There being no further business the Board adjourned to meet on **Monday December 27th 1868.**



GULLEY FROM PAGE 3

woman brought him a corset that was too long. It had steel stays in it, and she wanted it shortened. He shortened it about four inches. Then he gave it to her and told her to take it home and try it on because he wasn't a corset-fitter. After she tried it on, she said it fitted just fine.

He also fixed the kind of things you would expect him to fix, broken irons and toasters and bicycles and farm equipment or leaking pipes. He would charge a person 50¢ or a dollar

if he had to crawl under their house to do plumbing or electrical work.

Mother always said she had to be careful when she told Daddy that something needed fixing. If they were eating a meal, and she said, "Clifford, the back steps need fixing," he would get right up from the table and go fix them right then.

Daddy held strong religious convictions and believed in community service. He was an active participant of his church, and he served outside of the church. He fixed many things without charge for people in need.

Fishing was what my daddy did for fun. He fished at the reservoir, and he liked to go down to **Barnacle Bill's Pier** at **Topsail Beach**. He always said that time spent fishing didn't count against your allotted days. He was blind for the last six years of his life, but that didn't stop his fishing. His friends would take him, or we would take him.

Clifford Gulley lived a long, full, rich life; and he leaves my family and my community with special memories.



Southern Knights' Tournament of Rings



"Having received an invitation to be present at this splendid affair, we left Warrenton late on Monday evening, in one of Wilson's comfortable four horses stages, and was soon landed safe at Shocco [Springs]. We found the establishment crowded with guests..."

Thus begins the account of one of the earliest ring tournaments in NC. It appeared in *The Tarboro' Southerner*, Sept. 26, 1857. These jousts were spectacles of horsemanship and pageantry patterned after the sport of medieval days. Riders drove their horses rapidly over a designated course in the attempt to remove, with a long lance, rings which had been suspended on a hooks fastened to a bar. *The Southerner* described the scene:

"The tilting ground was on the road approaching the hotel. A post was erected on each side, and from the rope which extended across, was suspended a rod about four feet long, the end of which was slit for the insertion of a ring about three inches in diameter covered with red cloth. On one side was erected a high covered stand for the judges, on the other a spacious arbor with seats for the spectators."

"The Knights had to start [at] a distance of eighty yards, and approaching at *full speed*, to carry off the ring on the point of their lance; a difficult feat, requiring a quick eye, steady nerves, and more than ordinary skill in equestrian exercises. From an early hour in the morning until eleven o'clock carriages filled with company were constantly arriving. About eleven o'clock the shrill notes of the trumpet announced all was ready; and the Lady Judges were summoned to take their seats, to which they were escorted by Gen. M. W. Ransom and the Counsellors. The following were the Ladies selected: Mrs. Burgwyn, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Battle, Mrs. Ransom, Mrs. Meares, Mrs. Brinkley, Mrs. Branch and Mrs. Johnson, assisted by Gen. Ransom as Judge, and Mr. Jno. Watson, Dr. Drake, Gov. Branch, Dr. Gibbes, Col. Meares, Gen. Bailey and Mr. Battle, as Counselors."

"Marshal, Erasmus Daniel, Esq., of Warren co., distinguished by a pink scarf, and mounted on a beautiful charger, led the Knights, nine in number, to the stand, ... then proclaimed the Knights as follows: Col.

Watson, of Johnston [Co.], N.C., Knight of the Island; Dr. Knight, of Edgecombe [Co.], N.C., Knight of Edgecombe; Wm. A. Hawkins, of Texas, Unknown Knight; Robert Hendrick, of Mecklenburg [Co.], Va., Knight Black Cross; G. Shepard, of Florida, Knight of Florida; Jno. Thorne, of Halifax [Co.], N.C., Knight of the Garter; Wm. Davis, of Franklin [Co.], N.C., Knight of the Black Plume; J.T. Alexander, of Mecklenburg, Va., Knight of the Golden Cross; _____ Royster, of Granville [Co.], N.C., as the Black Knight; G. W. Davis of Mecklenburg, Va.; Knight of Milford Haven."

"Three courses were then run by each Knight, ... " Loud cheers, mingled with bursts of martial music greeted the contestants as they made their runs. "The Judges decided that the Championship was between the Unknown Knight and the Black Knight, they having carried off the ring each course. After an exciting contest the Black Knight was victorious. The next contest was between the Knight of the Black Cross and the Knight of Florida, which was decided in favor of the former. The Knight of the Black Cross, by permission of the Judges, challenged the Champion to another trial, which he gallantly accepted; and after a deeply interesting display of skill, in which victory alternately changed sides, the Black Knight maintained his position, and was again hailed victor."

"... The Judge, having announced the victors, demanded of them to lead their ladies to the Stand, which was done in the following order: _____ Royster ... led forth Miss Hodge Davis, as Queen of Love and Beauty; W.A. Hawkins ... with Miss Irwin, as First Maid of Honor; Robert Hendrick ... with Miss S. Somervill, as Second Maid of Honor; G. Shepard ... with Miss Burgwyn, as Third Maid of Honor."

"A splendid carriage being in attendance, the Queen, accompanied by her Maids, escorted by the Knights, and followed by a long train of carriages, was conveyed in triumph to the Hotel."

The tournaments usually concluded with an evening coronation ceremony. This was as much a part of the pageantry as the tournament itself. The queen was

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

crowned with a wreath of flowers and seated upon a flower bedecked throne. Later came the maids, escorted by their knights, to pay homage and receive their crowns. The royal party then led the opening dance of the ball.

Johnston Co. Tournament

On October 21, 1869, a similar tournament was held in Clayton in Johnston Co. Laura Elizabeth

Lee described it in detail in

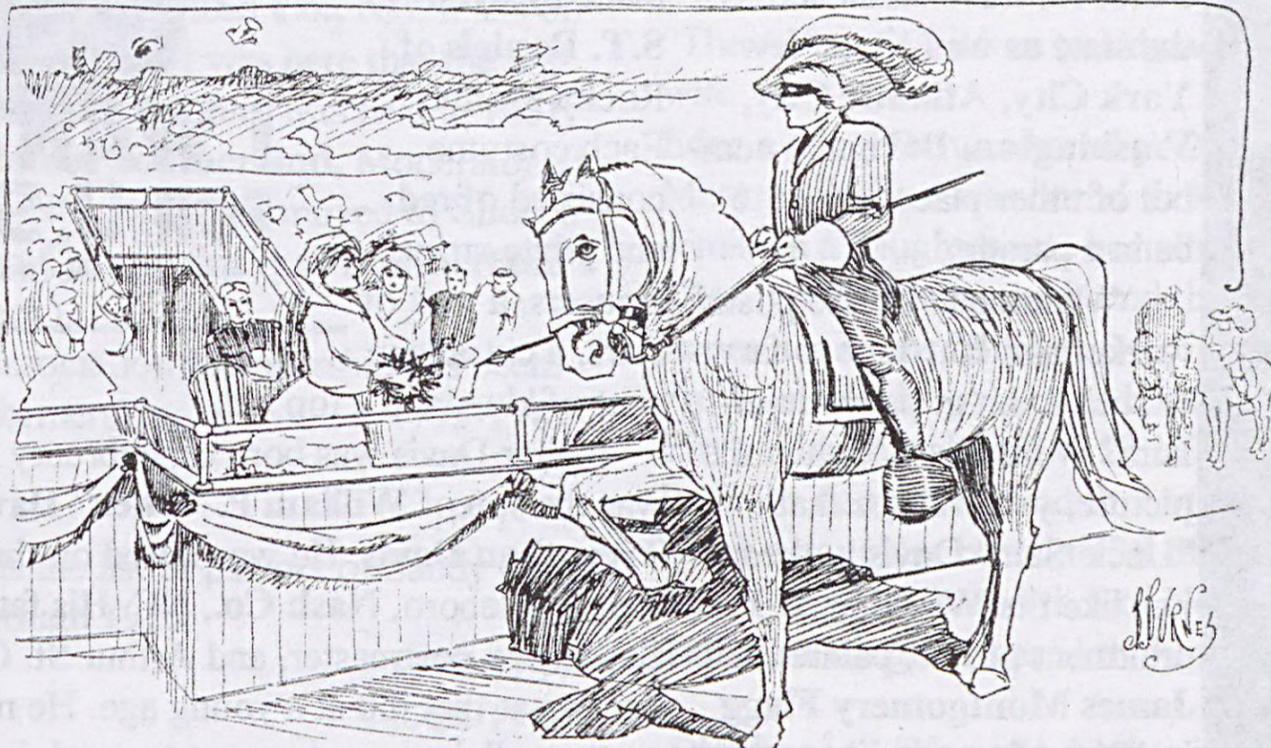
Forget-Me-Nots of the Civil War, 1909. Laura

Lee later married Jesse Mercer Battle, brother of George and Walter Battle.

"Old family coaches with fold-up steps and with rumbles in the back, rolled into town, trunks

tied on. Young men and girls rode horseback. The crowds grew dense making for the grandstand at the race track." Knights came from around the state including, from Johnston Co: **Ashley Sidney, Nat Tomlison, John Dodd, and Jesse Ellington. George Battle** represented **Rocky Mount** and **Archie Rhodes** was from **Wilson**.

Miss Lee described many of the costumes. One was of purple velvet with gold trimmings, white silk stockings, a helmet with a white plume waving in the breeze, and white gauntlets. Another Knight wore blue velvet trimmed in white lace, white silk hose, a large diamond buckle on his garter and a diamond star over his heart. George Battle wore a rich scarlet velvet, trimmed in silver lace. His helmet had scarlet plumes. "The Unknown Knight, whose identity was unknown except to the judges, was costumed in white and gold satin. His helmet was white with golden plumes, and a small black mask covered his eyes and mouth. He carried a shield of gold and on it was emblazoned the coat of arms of NC. He was the most elegant of all the knights."



"The great bell near the judges' stand clanged, bidding the knights to come forth. Its tones gradually died away as the bugler, clad in armour rode forth, filling the air with the 'Turkish Reveille.' In his wake came the twelve noble knights riding four abreast in a blaze of light and color. Their horses were decked in colors in keeping with their masters' costumes. They halted in front of the judges' stand to receive the instructions

and rules of the tournament."

The Knights drew a number and were assigned positions in the race.

"Clapping spurs to their chargers, they made a dash around the mile-long track with long yellow lances poised in the air, glittering like burnished gold."

After the first course had been run by each of the 12 Knights, a rest was allowed, during which the band played "The Sweetest Girl in Dixie."

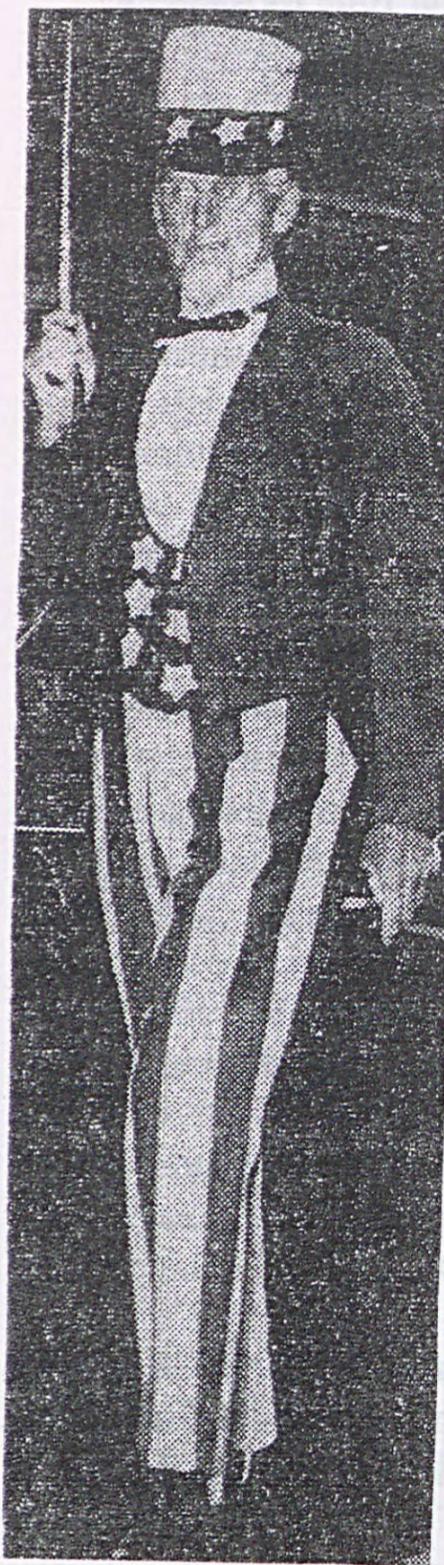
At the conclusion of the tournament, the successful knights were given laurel wreaths which they placed on their spears. They each chose a lady from among the galaxy of such in the crowd.

At the Coronation Ball that evening, the ladies wore their finest costumes: white mull, with a touch of old Brussels lace, and a necklace of pearls; pale pink lute string silk with cream Spanish lace trimmings; pale blue organdy; white dotted swiss trimmed in Valenciennes lace.

Four little girls preceded the couples as they entered the ballroom. Dressed in white, they carried crimson velvet cushions on which rested the jewelled crowns for the Queen and her Ladies. Each knight crowned his lady.

[Shocco Springs, about 9 miles from Warrenton, Warren Co., NC was famous in the 19th century as a recreational, social and health resort]

Uncle Sam Davis



Arthur St. Clair "Uncle Sam" Davis loved a parade! He marched in every parade in Rocky Mount, NC and the surrounding area for years. But he didn't stop there. He traveled all across the state as well as to New York City, Atlantic City, Washington, DC and a number of other places—just to be in a parade.

What made simple postal worker and Battleboro farmer such a hit at patriotic affairs? Well, if you look at the picture, you will see that "Uncle Sam" Davis looked just like the World War I recruitment poster, painted by James Montgomery Flagg in 1916-17, reminding us that "Uncle Sam Wants You."

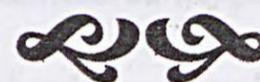
The prevailing theory about the origin of Uncle Sam is that the name came from Samuel Wilson, who was born in Arlington, Mass., on September 13, 1766. During the War of 1812, Wilson was in the business of slaughtering and packing meat. He provided large shipments of meat to the US Army, in barrels that were stamped with the initials "U.S." Supposedly, someone who saw the "U.S." stamp suggested that the initials stood for "Uncle Sam" Wilson. The suggestion that the meat shipments came from "Uncle Sam" led to the idea that Uncle Sam symbolized the federal government.

Arthur St. Clair Davis' career as a parade participant and Uncle Sam look-alike began in the 1930s when he cut his chin shaving and had to let his beard grow. An old friend said, "Mr. Davis, you work for Uncle Sam, you look like Uncle Sam, and that's exactly what you should be in the parade." The parade was the annual *Gallopade* in Rocky Mount.

His first costume was made by a Mrs. West from an inexpensive flag, and without a pattern. Later, a Mrs. Fields made him another. His third outfit was made by Mrs. S.T. Daniels of Rocky Mount. Each costume consisted of red and white striped trousers, a vest of stars, a cut-away coat of blue, and a top hat.

Arthur Davis was born on February 23, 1879. He was the son of William P. "Phez" Davis and Alice Trevathan Davis. He was raised on the family farm near Battleboro, Nash Co., NC. His father was the Battleboro postmaster, and Arthur St. Clair began helping him at that job at a young age. He must have liked it pretty well, because he went to work in the Rocky Mount Post Office at age 40 and continued there for 28 years.

Braswell Memorial Library has, in its history and genealogy room, a life sized bronze bust of "Uncle Sam"



Corn Beer

MARIA MASSEY BARRINGER

Take a pint of corn, boil it until soft, and add to it a gallon of water sweetened with a pint of brown sugar. Cork it tightly and set it in a warm place, and put into it a small quantity of yeast if the weather is cold. In warm weather omit the yeast. Add a few roots of bruised ginger, and a few sliced lemons. The same corn will answer for a year.

When you pour out a pitcherful of beer, put in one of sweetened water.

[Dixie Cookery, 1867]

Sandy Creek Baptist Church Franklin County, NC

Sandy Creek Baptist Church had its beginnings in the early 1790s, and is still in existence today. Church documents have been found dating back to 1723. Located near **Centerville, Franklin Co., NC**, it sits on the banks of **Sandy Creek**. It was here that the first **Tar River Associational** meeting was held in 1831, presided over by **James Southerland**, Moderator, (a native of **Tarboro, NC**, who later moved to **Shocco Springs** in **Warren Co**, and finally to **Southerland's Mill** on **Sandy Creek**).

The church's Association Membership has been:

Kehukee (Non-reformers)	1775-1789
Kehukee	1789-1831
Tar River	1831-

The following is the list of pastors of Sandy Creek Baptist Church through 1925:

William Walker	1770-1784
Lewis Moore	1784-1798
John Pemberton, Jr.	1799-1801
Moses Bennett	1802-
William B. Worrell	1826-1832
Gideon Bass	1832-1837
Thomas Wilcox	1838-
T. Swanson	?
Joseph G. Barkley	1865
Nicholas A. Purefoy	1866
Joseph G. Barkley	1867
James A. Pitchford	1868-1889
George Mark Duke	1890-1918
John Henry Harper	1918-1920
Jackson Uriah Teague	1921-1922
George W. May	1922-1925

Sandy Creek Baptist Church Records Document Carlile Family

While doing research in **Asheboro, Randolph County**, **Larry Cates** who is the **Piedmont Director** for the **North Carolina Genealogical Society (NCGS)** noticed that the names contained in a book of church minutes were not those common to **Randolph County**. What were thought to be minutes for the **Sandy Creek**

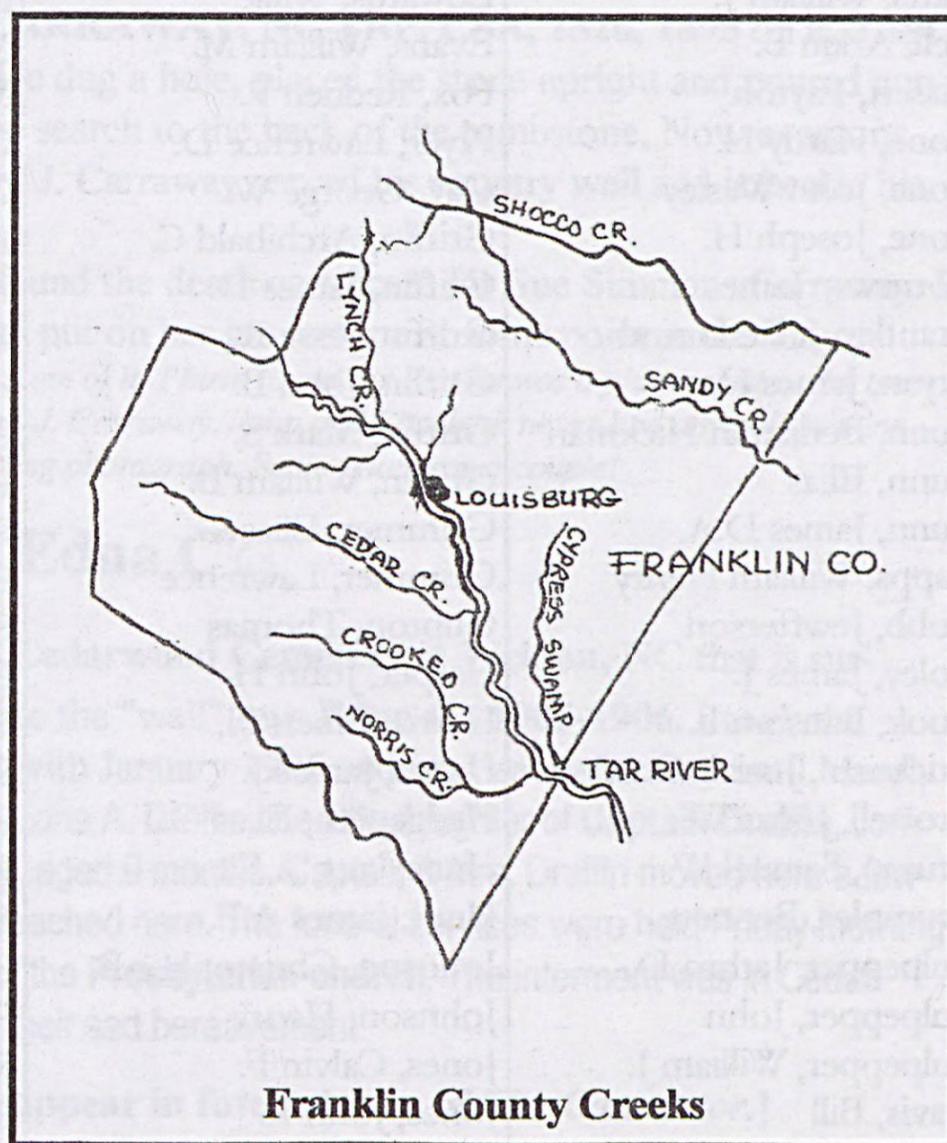
Primitive Baptist Church established 1755 in **Randolph County** were actually those for a **Sandy Creek Baptist Church** in **Franklin County, NC**.

Larry in turn contacted **Tim Rackley**, a **NCGS Director at Large**, and charter member of **TRC**, concerning this discovery and provided a copy of some pages from this book. One of the pages provided to Tim was the family record of **Edward Carlile** who lived in **Franklin County, NC**. Below is that record:

"The Ages of Children to Edwad Carlile and Sary his wife

Edee a daughter was bornd ye 22 of October 1746
 Mary a daughter was bornd th 30 of January 1748
 Jemimah a daughter was bornd th 3d of May 1751
 Charity a daughter was bornd th 30 of December 1753
 James a son was bornd th 24 of May 1756
 Prewdence a daughter was bornd th 29 of April 1758
 Piety a daughter bornd th 22 of October 1760
 Rachel a daughter bornd th 7 of March 1763
 Sarah a daughter bornd th 30 of August 1765
 Ann a daughter bornd th 5 of November 1767
 Tabitha a daughter bornd th 4 of October 1771"

[We hope to bring you further information from Sandy Creek Baptist Church Minutes in the future.]

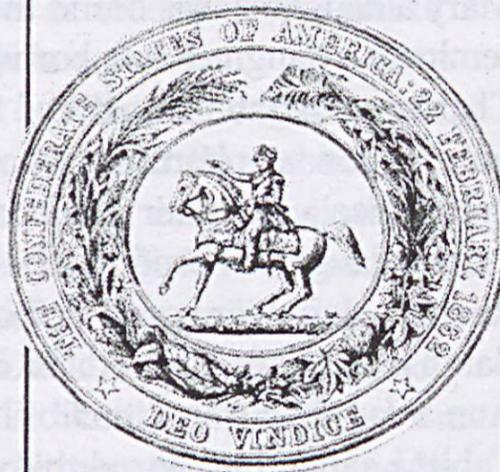


Franklin County Creeks

Roster of Company I, 30th Regiment N.C. Troops Raised in Nash Co., NC on September 10, 1861

Abernathy, Edward
Addison, Quincy E.
Anderson, Thomas J.
Armstrong, Gray
Arrington, Kearney W.
Arrington, Peter W.
Arrington, William T.
Barkley, James H.
Barnes, Bryant B.
Bass, John S
Bass, Richard H.
Bass, William
Batchelor, Andrew J.
Batchelor, Elkanah
Batchelor, Henry H.
Batchelor, John W.
Batchelor, Nelson A.
Batchelor, Redmun W
Batchelor, Ruffin L.
Batchelor, Samuel M.
Batchelor, Thomas R.
Batchelor, Van Buren
Batchelor, William D.
Battle, Lawrence F.
Batts, William J.
Bell, Arkin B.
Bissett, Payton
Bone, Hardy H.
Bone, John Wesley
Bone, Joseph H.
Borrows, James
Brantley, J. Redmond
Bryan, James H.
Bunn, Benjamin Hickman
Bunn, Elias
Bunn, James D.A.
Capps, William Henry
Cobb, Jewfferson
Coley, James J.
Cook, Ransom L.
Crickman, Josiah Gordon
Crowell, Jonas W.
Crump, Samuel W.
Crumpler, Bennett
Culpepper, Jethro D.
Culpepper, John
Culpepper, William J.
Davis, Bill

Davis, Miles
Deans, William
Denson, Alexander
Denson, Benjamin E.
Dorthridge, Richard J.
Dozier, James W.
Eason, Haywood
Eason, William
Edwards, Edwin
Edwards, James



Seal of the Confederacy

Edwards, Robert C.
Edwards, Solomon
Edwards, Willie
Evans, William M.
Fox, Redden P.
Fryer, Lawrence D.
Gay, George W.
Griffin, Archibald C.
Griffin, James D.
Griffin, Jesse R.
Griffin, John B.
Griffin, Mark S.
Griffin, William B.
Grimmer, Elias G.
Grimmer, Lawrence
Gupton, Thomas
Harper, John H.
Harris, Elbert H.
Harris, James J.
Hedgepeth, Elias G.
Huneycutt, A.E.
Hunt, James A.F.
Johnson, Christopher B.
Johnson, Henry
Jones, Calvin F.
Jones, John R.

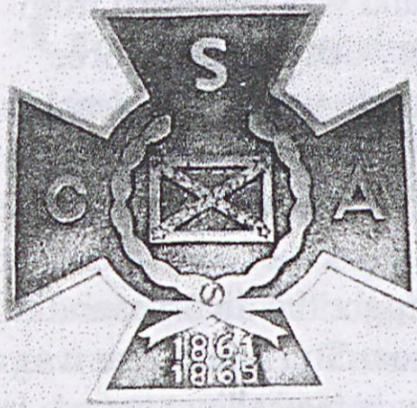
Joyner, Alsey M.
Joyner, Ashley G.
Joyner, Calvin M.
Joyner, George W.
Joyner, Ira E.
Joyner, James A.
Joyner, Jonas A.
Joyner, Little Berry
Joyner, Nathan T.
Joyner, Nelson V.
Joyner, William B.
Lamm, Jacob
Langley, Singleton
Lewis, Arnold L.
Lewis, Edward W.
Lewis, John A.
Lindsey, Nelson A.
Lindsey, Richard
Lindsey, William A.
Manning, James D.
Manning, Jeremiah D.
Manning, John E.
Manning, Moses V.B.
Manning, Richard M.
Manus, Francis
Matthews, Hilliard
Morgan, Moses B.
Odom, David M.
Odom, Jacob E.
Parker, Josiah
Pender, John
Perry, Sidney R.
Pitt, Frederick C.
Pitt, James W.
Pitt, John W.
Pitt, William M.
Pittman, William B.
Poland, Alford
Poland, Simeon H.
Price, Joel L.
Pridgen, Alexander
Pridgen, Drewry
Pridgen, Henry H.
Pridgen, Josiah J.
Rackley, James M.
Rackley, Parson N.
Renfrow, Perry V.B.
Ricks, John A.

Rigsbee, William C.
Robbins, Edward J.M.C
Robbins, Willie H.
Robertson, Robert
Ruffin, Charles H.
Sherwood, Edwin
Sherwood, George A.
Smith, Albert
Stallings, Franklin
Stallings, Willie
Strickland, Henry Q.
Sykes, William Jordan
Taylor, Bolling
Taylor, Calvin
Taylor, Egbert H.
Thorn, William A.
Tisdale, Thomas B., Jr.
Tucker, Lemuel D.
Turner, Walter S.
Vick, Benjamin H.
Vick, Exum R.
Vick, James F.
Vick, Joseph J.
Vick, William H.
Vick, Willie R.
Walker, Benjamin F.
Walker, Berryman
Walker, John Blount
Walker, Richmond D.
Walker, Worrell P.
Westray, Archibald H.
Whitfield, John W.
Whitfield, Patrick L.
Whitley, John S.
Whitley, Jolley B.
Williams, Henry H.
Williams, Joseph J.
Williams, Micajah Thomas
Williams, Nathan C.
Williams, Wright J.
Williford, Burton B.
Winbourne, Ruffin F.
Winstead, G.J.
Winstead, George T.
Winstead, Hilliard H.
Winstead, Theophilus T.
Winters, George
Wood, James
Wood, William
Woodard, Coleman W.W
Woodard, John E.

Let's Look Back

BY BETSY HOLDFORD HUDGINS

The Iron Cross Mystery



At the Methodist Church Cemetery in the town of Halifax, North Carolina, an iron cross denoting a Confederate soldier stood without a name connected to it for many years. One day I decided to see if I could find out who was buried beneath that old cross.

Just to the side of the cross was a grave for Sue Simmons Carraway. There were no dates for this tombstone so I had no idea when she was born or when she died. Near the Carraway stone were John Brown, Elizabeth Simmons Brown, and Bernard Simmons. To the side of Sue Simmons Carraway were Mattie Feild and Elizabeth Brown Feild (3 years old). This added to the confusion. Why were all these different surnames in the same area with an old CSA iron cross?

When I ran across a list showing the names of the Confederate soldiers buried in the Halifax Methodist Cemetery, I found Captain Henry J. Carraway. Further searching showed:

- Captain Carraway married Sue Simmons in Halifax County, North Carolina on Oct. 2, 1872.
- Sue Simmons had a sister named Elizabeth Simmons who married John Brown*.
- Sue and Elizabeth had a brother named Bernard Simmons.
- Captain Carraway and Sue had two daughters—Mattie and Minnie.
- Mattie married Dr. David Meade Feild so 3-year old Elizabeth must be their child.
- Minnie married R.P. Hale according to an announcement.
- Captain Carraway died on October 4, 1895 (obituary in *The Roanoke News*, Oct. 10, 1895).

Finally, I took all the information I had found to the Veterans Service Office and talked with Kaye Cooke. She completed the correct forms and sent them to "the powers that be". One day a transfer truck delivered a beautiful white tombstone with 1ST SERG, HENRY J CARRAWAY, NC TRP, CSA, 1826, 1895 on it. Then I found someone (my husband) with a good strong back. He dug a hole, placed the stone upright and poured concrete around it. He then put the iron cross that started the search to the back of the tombstone. Now everyone who goes into the cemetery will know that Captain Henry J. Carraway served his country well and is beside his wife for all time.

Incidentally, when I was in Perquimans County, I found the death certificate for Sue Simmons Carraway. I hope to find the funds to have her years of birth and death put on her gravestone at some point in the future.

**John Brown's tombstone has a mortar and pestle etched at the bottom of it. I have found out that he was a pharmacist in the town of Halifax and was in business with his brother-in-law, Capt. Henry J. Carraway. John and Elizabeth never had any children but someone has sent me a picture of them. It looks almost like a wedding photograph. Such a handsome couple!*

Who was Edna C?

A Mystery Cleared Up: There is a large plot in the Cedarwood Cemetery in Weldon, NC that is surrounded by a low concrete wall. The only tombstone inside the "wall" says Edna C., 1905-1906. I took the newspaper for Weldon (*The Roanoke News*) and started with January 1906 and read each obituary until March 29, 1906. On that date I found: DEATH OF AN INFANT.—Edna A. Draffin, the little daughter of Captain Draffin, conductor on the Seaboard Air Line, died here Thursday morning, aged 9 months. Captain & Mrs. Draffin moved here a few days ago from Columbia, S.C. The child was sick when they reached here. The funeral services were held Friday morning at half past ten o'clock and were conducted by Rev. Mr. Orr, of the Presbyterian church. The interment was in Cedarwood cemetery. The afflicted parents have much sympathy in their sad bereavement.

[*"Let's Look Back" by Betsy Hudgins will appear in future issues of The Connector.*]

The Richest Woman in Edgecombe Co.

AS TOLD BY MONICA FLEMING

Mary Lewis was born in 1778 in the midst of the Revolution. Her father died about 1790. In her father's will, she was apprenticed out as an indentured servant to another family. She had an older brother who was not able to take care of her, so she worked for this family.

During the 1790s, Tarboro was a bustling little community. It had almost become the state capital. The legislature had met there. There were a lot of business men coming into the area. One of those business men was **Joseph Ross**. Joseph and Mary met, fell in love, and had a child— also **Joseph**. But Mary and Joseph could not marry. It is not known why they couldn't marry, but it may have been because she was an indentured servant. At any rate, Joseph left Tarboro and went to **Raleigh** where he went into business and was quite successful.

Before Joseph left Tarboro in 1795, he bought a little house on **Church Street** for Mary. (The house has since been moved.) Mary started a boarding house—renting rooms and serving meals in the little house. In 1806, **Evan Gregory**, a traveler, came through the area. He stayed at Mary's boarding house and became interested in this nice lady—she was a good cook, and, according to the law at the time, anything she had would become his upon marriage. Evan Gregory saw a quick way to become fairly well-to-do, and so he married Mary, thinking that he would eventually inherit her business her boarding house. However, about a week before the wedding, Mary went to the court house and had the house deeded to her 10 year old son so that it was no longer in her name. When Captain Gregory later

tried to use the house as collateral in a poker game, he found out it wasn't his to use.

A verbal fight ensued, and Gregory left the area in 1807. He went to **Tennessee** and was not heard from again until 1814. In 1814, Mary decided to divorce him. At that time, to get a divorce, you had to petition the legislature. It had to be debated before the **General Assembly** just as a law would be debated. Mary petitioned for the divorce on the grounds of desertion. Captain Gregory heard about it, fought the divorce, and said Mary was not running a boarding house, she was running a brothel. A lot of ugly name calling passed back and forth. Mary brought in character witnesses. Mary Gregory won her case. Capt. Gregory was told that not only was he divorced, he had no claim to any of Mary's property whatsoever. This was in 1815. The 1850 census indicates that Mrs. Gregory owned \$25,000 worth of real estate in Tarboro. She owned a huge hotel, a livery stable, a grist mill, 2 warehouses. She also had \$20,000 - \$30,000 worth of personal income property.

Mary Gregory died in 1858. Her obituary read: Died in this place, on Thursday morning the fifth of August, Miss Mary Gregory in her ninetieth year. In her were united to a remarkable degree strength of mind and vigor of constitution. Left at an early age to the guidance of her own footsteps in life, she has shown uncommon capacity in the management of her private affairs and leaves behind her a name and reputation that will long be held in affectionate remembrance by her relatives and friends. For more than half a century, she has been known as the proprietress of the popular hotel in this village. It can emphatically be said of her that she was the architect of her own fortune, commencing life without a penny she has by her own energy, foresight, and perseverance accumulated a large property—the largest we believe ever accumulated by a woman in this county.

Braswell Memorial Library Acquisitions

1. *The Nashville Graphic Obituary Index for September 1983 through*

1987. Donated and compiled by Mr. James Price, TRC Member
2. *1960 Hill Rocky Mount City Directory*
3. *East Carolina University, the Formative Years, 1907-1982* by Mary Jo Jackson Bratton
4. *Ghosts from the Coast* by Nancy Roberts
5. *The Civil War in Coastal North Carolina* by John S. Carbone

6. *The Varnell Family of Eastern North Carolina* by Charlotte Varnell Beck
7. *Granville County North Carolina Deeds, 1755-1782* by Tim Rackley, TRC Member
8. *Nash County North Carolina Court Minutes, Volume XII 1829-1830* by Tim Rackley, TRC Member

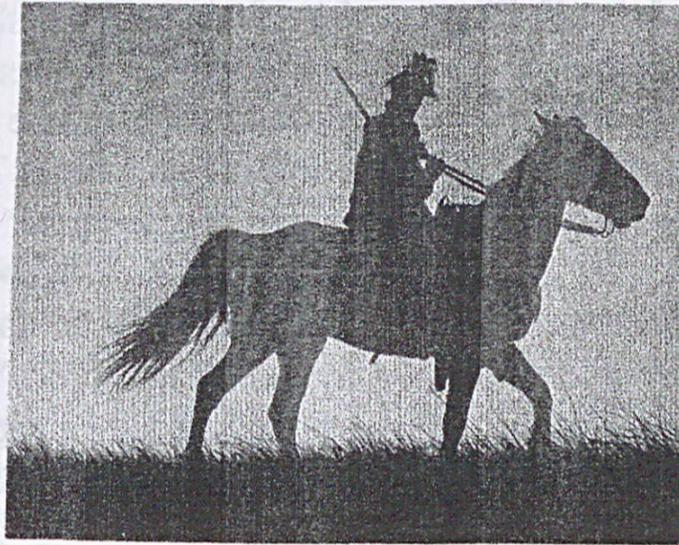
Governor Burton's Apparition

"Governor [Hutchings G.]

Burton had a summer home in the western part of the county [Halifax] near Ringwood named Rocky Hill, at which he was residing at the time of his death. He had bought a large tract of land in Texas and had started to see it, with a view of removing if he liked it. Reaching Salisbury, where he had some business in court, he met with his cousin, Robert Burton of Lincoln Co., and started to spend some time with him. They stopped at the Wayside Inn, with some other lawyers to spend the night, when he was taken with cramp and died within twenty-four hours. His last words were, 'Oh, my dear wife and children. Lord, receive my spirit.' He was buried in Unity Church yard, in Lincoln County, a Presbyterian church, of which he was a member.

"His wife had been on a visit and was returning to her home, Rocky Hill, which is on a high elevation-

—about dusk. She was driven in a carriage by her servant William and had with her a grandchild, an infant, and a nurse. At the same time, she and William saw Governor Burton riding down the hill on a white horse, which he usually rode. Just then the infant cried and Mrs. Burton turned her head to see what was



the matter. When she turned her head again expecting her husband to speak, the apparition had disappeared. She at once asked William where was his master. He did not answer and she repeated the question. He then said, 'Hush, Missus,' and told her he had ridden on down the hill and disappeared. He could never speak of it afterwards."

CONNECTOR

"On account of the slow mails of that day, Mrs. Burton did not hear of her husband's death until three weeks had passed, and found that the apparition had appeared at the very hour of his death."

Governor Burton was born in 1774 and died in 1832. He was 3-term governor of NC, elected by the legislature, from 1824-1827. Rocky Hill, his summer home, was near Medoc Mountain, a fairly high, rugged hill located in the flatlands of eastern NC. It lies on the east bank of Little Fishing Creek in western Halifax Co and is an elongated granite ridge which is the only remaining core of an ancient mountain range formed in the Paleozoic Age. Medoc Mountain was named for a vineyard established there in the late 19th century. The vineyard was named for Médoc, France. Medoc Mountain is now a state park with 2,287 acres and a network of trails.

History of Halifax County by WC Allen: Cornhill Publishing Co, Boston, 1918.

2000 Acres for Sale Enough to Keep 1000 Cattle for 1000 Years

To be Sold, by Charles Evans, Ferry-keeper on Tar River, 15 Miles from Speere'e Ferry on Roanoke River, in North-Carolina, at Ten Pounds Virginia Currency per Hundred, Two Thousand Acres of very good land, being Purchase Land, granted in the Proprietor's Time, at Six Pence per

Hundred Quit-Rents, for ever: And in the Banks thereof is a Copper Mine, twice tried in England. It runs 5 Miles on the River, is very commodious for Trade, with two Cyprus Swamps thereon, full of vast large Cyprus, and near adjoining to a Desert, called the Canetar; which is suppos'd to be 10 Miles wide, and 30 Miles long; and when fenced to the Desert at each End, you may keep 1000 Head of Cattle, without any Feeding, for 1000 years, being full of vast high reeds, and there is brave hunting the Bear.

[Virginia Gazette, Williamsburg, February 23, 1739]

New & Fashionable GOODS,

JUST RECEIVED,
By James McKeegan.



CALL and examine—have your order, which will be filled in the best manner and at the shortest notice.

\$U2523

Clothing and Furnishing Goods,
Cheap for Cash.

Tauboro', Sept. 3, 1858.

All My Worldly Possessions

Will of **SUSANAH FULLILOVE** of **Granville County, North Carolina**, 2 May 1774.

"Being sick and weak of body". To my cousin **Winneyfret Addams** my Negro girl **Janney** on her husband's paying 15 pounds **Virginia** money, and he shall have 4 years to pay it, my bay mare, one large pewter dish, my duch oven. To my son in law **John Fullilove** my cupboard, one large iron pot, my belmettle Skillet, & to his daughter **Susanah Fullilove** one half dozen mettle plates, & half dozen spoons. To my brother **Stephen Tatom** 10 pounds. To my sister **Nanney Graves** my saddle & blew wooling gound & one pair of leather woden heald shews, one pair of thread stockins. My daughter in law **Elizabeth Blalock** one large trunk & four chares & my cross bard petticoat, one capt, & handkerchief, & apron. To my sister **Jemima Carrington** my black calico gound. To my cousin **Agness Hicks** two cotton shifts, one pale blew woolen gound & stript woolen petticoat. To my cousin **Susanah Gravet** my white Hollan gound, one large Hollan apron, my gold ring, a purple floward ribbon, & 40 shillings **Virginia** money. To my sister **Sarah Chandler** 40 shillings **Virginia** money. To my brother **Benjamin Tatom** 5 pounds **Virginia** money & if he has Eiry one of his

daughters **Susanah** I give her 5 pounds and if not, nothing. Leave between my cousin **Hennerita Fullilove** & **Winneyfret Addams** my two stript Hollon gounds & a stuff gound, two black handkerchiefs, one par of black gloves, one guaze ribband to be equally divided between them, & two pair of thred stockins to **Hennerita Fullilove**. My black cap to **Kezia Goodwin**, my black quilt to **John Tatom** wife, one corse linen shift & my lin handerchief. To **Elizabeth Ann Tatom** to buy her a skir of what cololer she chuseth, one pair of gloves, & 20 shillings to buy her a ring. To **Salley Fullilove** & **Nancy Fullilove** one gound & 20 shillings cash to make each of them a ring. To my brother **John Tatom** 8 pounds. To my sister **Nancey Graves** & to her two son **John Graves** & **Stephen Graves** 12 pounds to be delivered to her at 20 shillings pr year. To **Jemima Carrington** 40 shillings. What remains over to my son in law **John Fullilove** and his two sons **Thos Fullilove** & **Ludwell Fullilove**. My brother **John Tatom** Executor.

Wit: **Barnet Tatom, Abel Tatom**

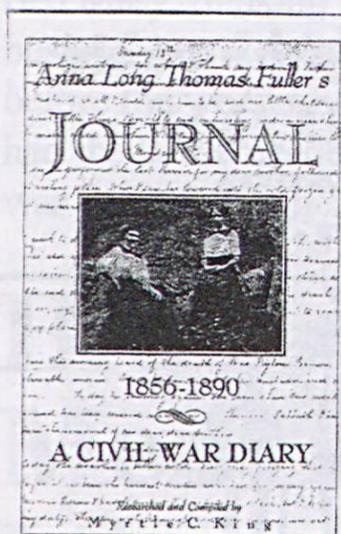
Susanah Fullilove

August Court 1774 proved by the oath of **Barnet Tatum** & **Abel Tatum**. **John Tatum** qualified as Executor.

[Contributed by Timothy Rackley, TRC member]

Reader's Choice

Local Color



Anna Long Thomas Fuller's Journal, 1856-1890, A Civil War Diary researched and compiled by **Myrtle C. King**, 1999.

Rumblings of war sounded over the **United States**. The little town of **Louisburg** in **Franklin County, NC** could not escape the dramatic change that was about to take place. In 1856 a young woman began a

journal of the daily happenings. Her duties as a housewife and mother, and the many activities she shared with her little community were carefully and in some cases poetically written down.

Anna Long Thomas Fuller describes the hardships of these unsettled times. At the beginning of her journal she is faced with the loss of her Mother. "When I saw her lowered into the cold frozen ground, my heart was wrung with anguish unspeakable." Her husband, **Jones Fuller**, is a cotton broker and merchant. He is away from home most of the time, but there is great rejoicing when he returns. Raising two children and taking care of the servants is not unusual, but **Anna** is a strong, capable woman and meets each day counting her blessings and

refuses to give in when the world around her begins to fall apart.

She views the loss of friends and family from diseases such as diphtheria and typhoid fever. She describes the beginning of the terrible conflict between the North and South, and later the assassination of **Lincoln**. She rejoices in keeping her husband, son and daughter within the family circle and not losing them in the conflicts of war. But her greatest fears are realized when the Yankees move into **Louisburg**.

This journal is written in two parts. The first part gives daily accounts of happiness, despair, inclement weather, sunshine, poverty. The second journal is written after the death of her husband **Jones Fuller** and the

SEE CHOICE, PAGE 19



Tar River Blounts: Ties to Tennessee Statehood

HALIFAX, (N.C.) December 21.J

Knoxville, Oct. 20.

Dear Sir,

The conference appointed to take place between **Gov. Blount** and a representation of the **creek nation** on the 10th inst. is over. There also attended a very full representation of the **Cherokee** chiefs and warriors, as well as deputies on the part of the **Chickasaws** and **Choctaws**—This general meeting or conference, has produced the most entire confidence in the peace at length so happily established between the Indians and the citizens of the **United States**—the **Indians** and frontier people are together in the settlements—the nation and the wilderness without the least apprehension of danger from each other—all is peace and friendship.

The emigration to this country this autumn, has greatly exceeded out most sanguine expectations—the road thro' the wilderness from this to **Nashville [Tenn]**, is strewed with waggons, pack horses and travellers, passing on at their leisure, without fear or dread—Sixty-six waggons have already passed this for Nashville; and we are informed that there are upwards of forty within thirty miles, on their way, that is, between this place and the iron works upon **Mossey creek**; pack horses have passed without inhabitants.

The enumeration of the inhabitants will not be completed before the 15th November; but it is in such forwardness, as to authorise me to say with certainty, the number will be sufficient (sixty thousand) to entitle the territory to become a state; and judging from the numbers already ascertained, it is believed that the whole number will exceed 80,000.

It is to be lamented that we cannot reach 99,000, which would give us three members to **Congress**.

This country at present, so far from being semi-savages, as a member of Congress has been pleased to call the people of the south western frontiers, is, from all I have heard (from the **Atlantic** states) in as great, if not greater state of peace and order, than any other part of the **United States**. They reattached to the present form of government, and in friendship with their red neighbours.

[John] Jay's treaty, however, is not without its opponents; but by the people in general, it is referred to their **Atlantic** fellow-citizens, to say and do what they think proper on the occasion.

I am, with the sincerest esteem,

Your obedient servant,
Willie Blount

Colonel Thomas Blount:
in his absence
Major Charles Gerrard, or
John Gray Blount, Esq;
Tarborough North Carolina.

[A letter printed in the Halifax, NC newspaper on Dec. 21, 1795. It was reprinted in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* on January 6, 1796.]

Choice, Cont. From Page 18

heartbreaking loss of her son **Edwin Fuller**. It reflects back on nine intervening years when Anna picks back up on writing in her journal again. She speaks of her second marriage to **Dr. William R. King**, a family friend, and his death in 1887.

This courageous lady, Anna Long Thomas Fuller King, never lost sight of her faith. Her two part journal provides a window to the past. The way it was!

*"Better to hope, though the clouds
hang low;
And to keep the eyes still lifted.
For the sweet blue sky will soon peep
through,
When the ominous clouds are
lifted."*



**Which Ship Brought
Your Ancestors?**



The Pennant Winners of 1907, Rocky Mount Athletic Association

The Two Great Games

BY GRANTLAND RICE

Life and baseball, game for game,
You'll find are pretty much the same;
In both, no matter what you do.
And when you make some brilliant
play
You'll hear the same bunch yell
"Hooray;"
But on the top or lowest roost
You'll find they'd rather knock than
boost.

In both you've got to "run 'em out;"
You'll find in both, when you have
tried,
To get there first you've got to slide;
And get around the bases fast
In both to reach home plate at last.
But more than all, ere you rank high,

You've got to have a "batting eye."

You'll find in both you have the need
of brains above brute strength or
speed—

You'll find both games are full of
curves

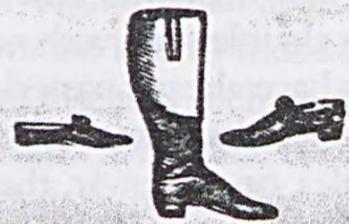
And twists that get upon your
nerves,

With "bad decisions: all along
That put you up against it strong.
Yet at the umps to take a fling
You'll find won't get you anything.

In both games you should listen to
The coacher who is helping you;
In both stand gamely to the plate
And swing before it is too late,
Remembering that none can hit
The ball that's in the catcher's mitt;
In other words, to make a name
In either, you must play the game.

[Raleigh Evening Times, July 1909]

1858. 1858.
Spring and Summer
Stock of Boots, Shoes,



Hats, Caps, Trunks, Valises,



Bonnet Boxes, &c.

G. L. Brockett & Co.

HAVE received their Spring and Summer stock of

Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, &c.

And will be pleased to wait on all who may want any article in their line.

Their stock is complete and all may rely upon being suited both in price and quality.

Tawboro', N. C. April 17th, 1858.