

# THE CONNECTOR

WINTER/SPRING 2013 VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1

*Preserving the Past...For the Future*

## NATHAN JOYNER—FOLLOW THE LAND

This article results from the request of a descendant of **Nathan Joyner** to determine if her ancestor Nathan was the son of **William Joyner** whose last will and testament was probated in 1785 **Nash County, North Carolina**. The land deeds for Nash County, North Carolina played a major role in providing the answer. In following the land three distinct Joyner men with the given name William were in the same immediate area. For convenience of discussion I have designated them as William I, William II, and William III.

William Joyner [ I ] was in the section of **Colonial Edgecombe County, North Carolina** that later became Nash County, North Carolina as early as 1752. On 17 February 1761 William was granted 180 acres on the north side of Tar River by **John Earl Granville** through his agent **Thomas Child**. In addition to files in North Carolina Archives the grant was also recorded in Nash County, North Carolina deed book 2, page 76. Nine years earlier on 12 October 1752 William had made an entry for land of the same de-

*(Continued on page 14)*

## IT'S A SMALL WORLD

About a year ago while researching maternal great-grandfather **John Benjamin Gerald** (1846 Camden, SC - 1931 Rocky Mount, NC) who traveled about the Old South (TN, AL, GA, FL; 1870-1910) on business for the **Home Sewing Machine Company**, I found this newspaper mention in *The Gainesville Daily Sun* of April 4, 1906. In those days, local newspapers

liked to report on the coming and going of folks in their social columns (I suppose that was the forerunner of what is now termed "social networking"), and this report merely notes John Benjamin Gerald's return from a business trip.

More recently I noticed that the next item in the column (bottom of the image) mentions a "**Clara Wimberly**, of West Lake, GA", who



Clara's mother  
Isolene Minter Wimberly

was visiting in Gainesville, and wondered if she

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Tuesday of each month (except December) at  
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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](mailto:sadowski@pbtcomm.net)  
or mail:

Janet Sadowski  
2019 Calks Ferry Road  
Lexington, SC 29073

## NEW BOOK AVAILABLE

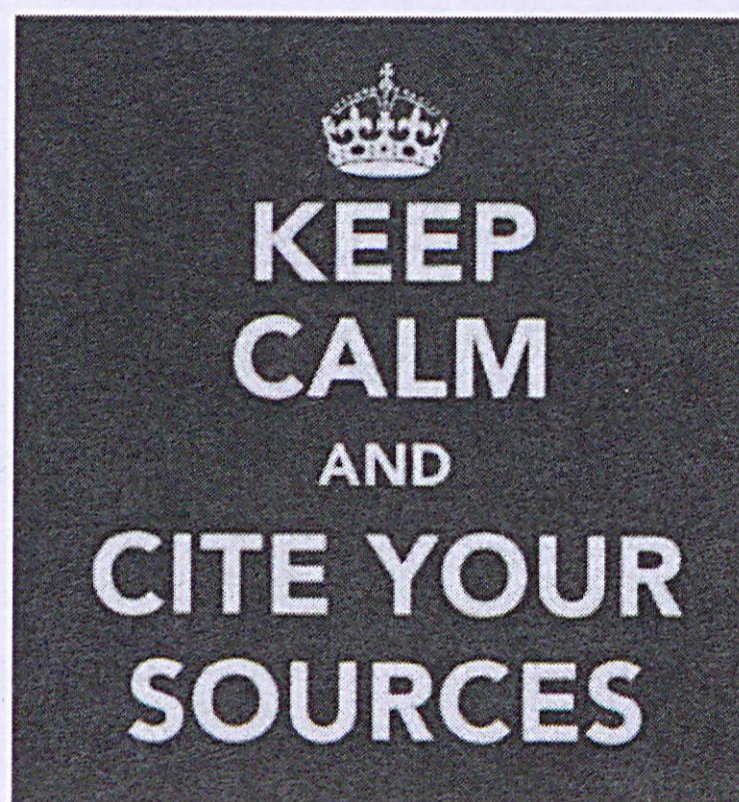
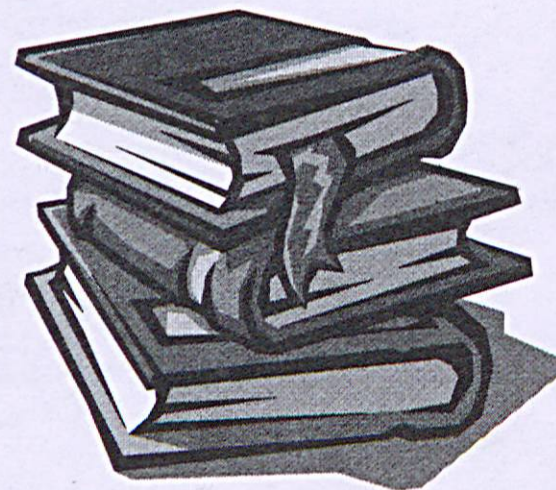
TRCGS Member Stephen W. Raper has completed his book *A History of Rocky Mount Newspapers, 1872-1932* and a copies are available in the local history room of Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, NC. The book contains a general discussion of newspapers in North Carolina, particularly eastern North Carolina and (obviously) Rocky Mount.

There were 29 newspapers published in Rocky Mount during this 60 year period including 6 african-american newspapers. Each newspaper is described in some detail and biographical sketches of each paper's editors, publishers and owners are included. The book also contains photographic copies of each paper's banner and

masthead, in those cases where there are surviving editions, and photographs of editor and publishers if known and/or available.

He is currently working on another book, entitled *Nash County Newspapers* which will be available later in the year.

Thank you Stephen Raper for all your hours of work and help in persevering the history of eastern North Carolina!





## THE LAST SURVIVING WIDOW OF A NC CONFEDERATE VETERAN

**Harriet Victoria Bone Pittman Stallings** was the last person known to have received a North Carolina state pension that supported Civil War veterans and their widows, when she passed away on June 28, 1986 at the age of 102. Victoria was the daughter of **Ashley Bone** and **Penelope Anne Charity Barnes** of Sandy Cross, Nash County, North Carolina, born November 2, 1883. She went to school at the **Baker's School** and the **Oak Level Academy**. She was believed to be eligible to teach all grades in the one-room school of the Oak Level community. Harriet Victoria was first married to **John Thomas Pittman** on June 28, 1900, "My father had to sign for me to get married because I was only sixteen". Seven children were born from the union, but only three were living at the time of Victoria's passing.

"My first husband, John, felt the call to the ministry in 1911, at age 36. He owned some land, which he sold, to go to Elon College at Elon, NC. Our children were quite small, so it was very hard for us during those years at Elon. John was called to pastor the Selma, North Carolina, Methodist Church, his first. We were there only about four to six months when he was taken with pneumonia and died. I had inherited some land which I sold, and bought a new property at Spring

Hope near Nashville. Here I raised my children".

Then in March, 1917, she married **Cyrus Henderson Stallings**, who was 68 years old at the time. Cyrus had been a private in **Co. A, 70<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry Regiment**, CSA and had enlisted at 16 years of age, as part of the defense force at Petersburg, Virginia in the closing months of the Civil War. Cyrus had been wounded by artillery fire at Petersburg, several months before the surrender. He was in a hospital near Appomattox, and was also in hospital at the old Charlotte County, Virginia courthouse. No matter the privation of the war, he stayed to the end. Cyrus then walked home to Spring Hope, North Carolina. Cyrus died on February 19, 1929.

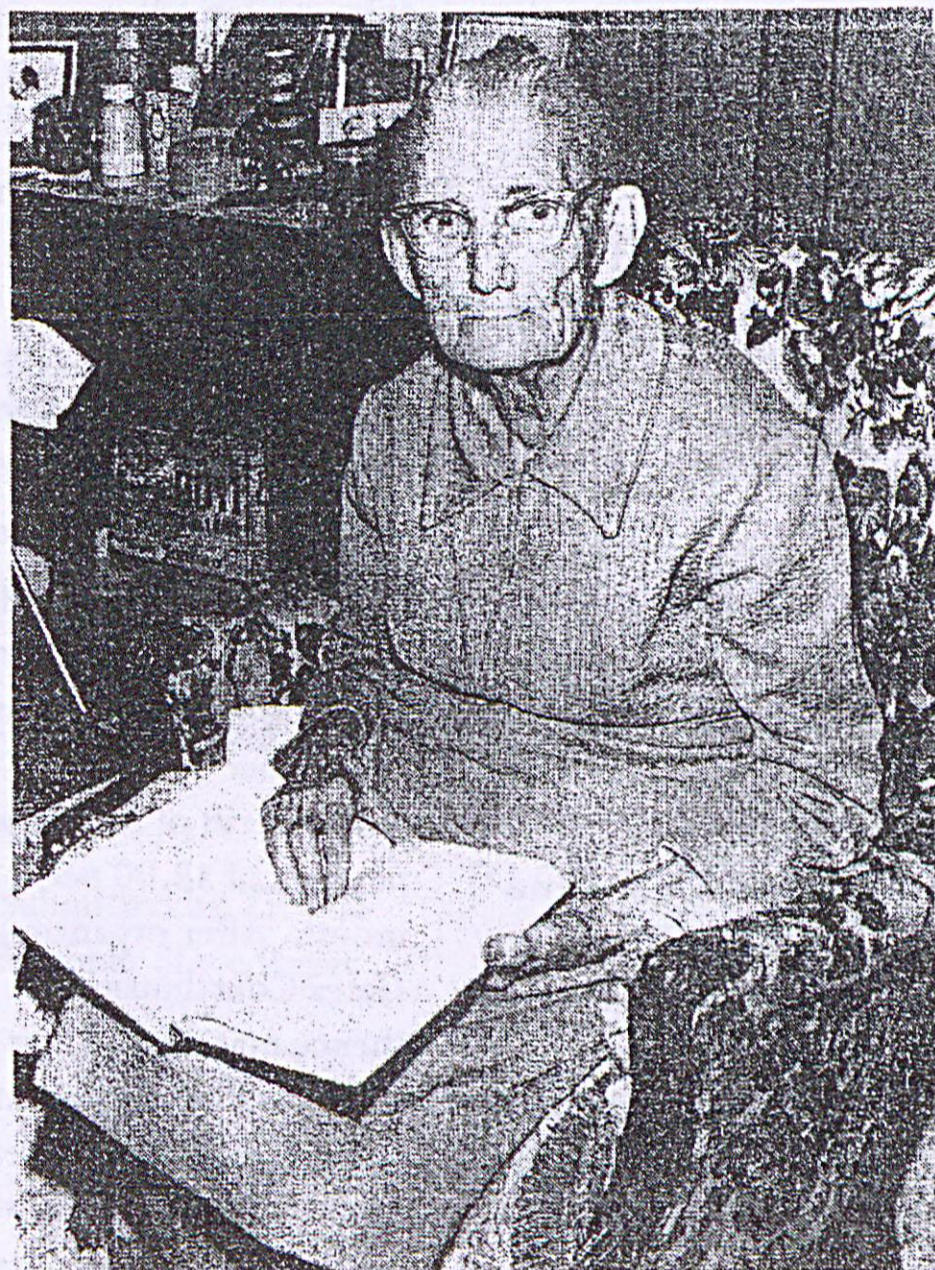
During the First World War, Victoria Stallings sewed and worked in a millinery shop. She sewed shirts and other clothing for the store. She worked every day of her lifetime until she was 95, when she fell and injured herself.

Harriet Victoria Stallings is believed to provide the prototypical life for his 1989 debut novel "*Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tell All*" by **Allan Gurganus** who was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. The chief character in that novel was Lucy who married at the turn of the last century, when she was fifteen

and her husband was fifty. Her husband was Colonel William Marsden was a veteran of the "War for Southern Independence".

Harriet Victoria Stallings is buried at the North Carolina, **Sandy Cross Methodist Church** cemetery located in Coopers Township, Nash County, Highway 58 and State Route 1717.

Submitted by TRCGS Member Frederick H. Cron.



Mrs. Victoria Stallings



## WILLIAM BALLARD

Norfolk, Virginia being threatened in the fall of 1814, **President James Madison** made a requisition on the State of North Carolina for a detachment of militia to muster into the service of the United States at Norfolk, in Virginia. Some fifteen hundred of the militia were to rendezvous at Gates County Courthouse, North Carolina. They were from the Albemarle military district including the counties of Nash, Edgecombe, Halifax, and Warren. The detachments were to assemble at the Courthouse by September 30 and under the command of **Brigadier General Jeremiah Slade** were then marched unarmed to Norfolk, where they were mustered into the service of the United States.

One of the Citizen Soldiers swept by the winds of war was **William Ballard**, a Private in the company of **Capt. Isaac Watkins, Co. B, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, North Carolina Detached Militia**, from the **Sappony Creek** area of Nash County, near Nashville, North Carolina. William and several of his immediate neighbors **German Mann, Asberry Lindsey, Bennett Ma-**

**son, John Poulan**, and **Lewis Tucker** hurried to meet the call.

The reason of this hurried activity had been the amphibious expedition against Washington on August 24 and the British fleet attack on **Fort McHenry**, Baltimore, Maryland, on Sept 12-15, 1814.

William Ballard wrote his will on September 23, 1814, Probated Feb Ct 1815: "In the name of God Amen" I, William Ballard of Nash County in the State of North Carolina being weak in body, but sound and desposing memory ..... I gave and bequeath unto my wife **Anna Ballard** ..... as will support her (Anna) and the child (**Pheraby**) one year. The unborn son, **William Edward Ballard** was not mentioned.

William was entered on to the Company muster roll on the following day, September 24 for a six month term of service at a pay rate of \$8.00 per month. After organizing at Gates Courthouse and thence marched to Norfolk, the First Regiment remained for weeks, ready and waiting for the British. They were spectators of the bombardment of **Cra-**

**ney Island**, where the British fleet was driven back. The troops were provided with thin tents and it was some weeks before they were properly housed, and they suffered from the lack of food, fire wood and proper woolen clothing. The United States did not furnish clothing or blankets to the Militia. These troops fell prone to disease. "At the Peach Orchard where the first Regiment was stationed, there were 61 deaths by December 7", ..... and so William Ballard died on January 6, 1815.

The Regiment soon afterwards returned to North Carolina. While the troops suffered from dreadful sickness, which carried off so many of the First, they lost none in Battle.

Ironically **Andrew Jackson's** great victory at New Orleans on Jan 8, 1815 and William Ballard's death on January 6, 1815, occurred after the war was over, for on Dec 24, 1814, a treaty of peace had been signed at **Ghent, Belgium**.

Ann Ballard was last mentioned in the public record in her husbands' will of Sept, 1814; we surmise that she died in 1815/

1816. **William Lindsey** (William Ballard's sister-**Charity's** husband) became guardian to their children in 1817; and then **John Babb**, brother of **Anna Babb Ballard**, also in 1817 after the death of William Lindsey. Phereby Ballard died previous to Feb 27, 1829 in **Henry County, Tennessee**. William Edward Ballard born after the death of his father, died in 1880 in **McMinn County, Tennessee**.

### Notes:

War of 1812 Muster Rolls for North Carolina, contribution by: Alice Griffin.

Muster Rolls of the Soldiers of the War of 1812, detached from The Militia of North Carolina.

Military Service Records, National Archives, GSA, Washington DC 20408 for William Ballard.

William Ballard's estate records, North Carolina State Archives.

*The Bone Family, Distant Voices as Heard from The Water's Edge* by Frederick Holmes Cron, copyright 1999, pages 152-156.

Plea for Aid, Local Militia in Dire Straits; Fall, 1997, Volume 1, Issue 4, of "The Connector".

Article submitted by TRCGS Member Frederick H. Cron



## MAD OX!

This article is from the recently discovered 1872 and 1873 editions of *The Rocky Mount Mail*. Traci Thompson of Braswell Library discovered a book of original editions in material stored in the library which were brought over from the old library. They have been microfilmed by N. C. State Archives. The new editions are quite valuable in local history research. The "Mad Ox" story was probably written by **Dossey Battle** who was the local editor of the *Mail* before moving to Tarboro in 1875 to edit the *Southerner*. The editor of the *Rocky Mount Mail* in May 1875 was **William L. Thorp**, Attorney and future mayor of Rocky Mount.



### MAD OX!

#### Exciting Scene!

#### THE WHOLE TOWN TURNS OUT UNDER COMMAND OF THE MAYOR

On last Sunday was witnessed one of the most exciting scenes that it has ever become our duty to chronicle.

An ox, belonging to **R. H. Ricks**, having been bitten by a mad dog, became suddenly very rabid and made for any and every living object which came in its sight, from a bantam chicken to the most portly man. It respected neither "race, color, nor previous condition of servitude," but seemed intent on destroying everything which came within its reach. The Mayor [**William T. Gray**], with nineteen armed men, promptly repaired to the scene of action, and in the defense of the town they nobly bared their breasts to the horns of the infuriated animal. After driving the enemy out of town into a branch thirteen shots were fired simultaneously into its ranks when it being evident that the files were in no way broken the Mayor, taking position on the top of a large log under cover of four huge oaks, ordered his men to climb trees and reload. It is said that after the shooting began the ox became even more desperate which rendered the order of the Mayor agreeable to the men, while it displayed an unparalleled degree of humanity and strategy in the commander. The men evinced the most perfect

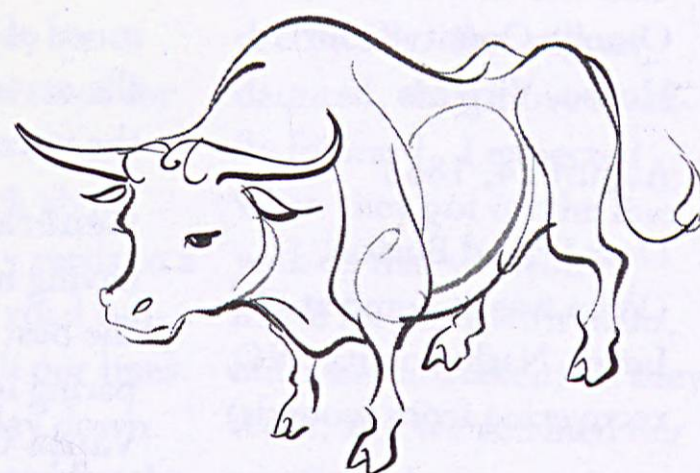
skill in climbing the branchless trees and after reloading and pouring forth another volley succeeded in killing the ox. It was deemed necessary even after this to order ten loads more to be emptied into the body of this bloody minded and dangerous aggressor.

Few men, if indeed any, ever before so freely and completely offered their lives in the defense of their country and the tale will be handed down and told around the hearthstones of generations yet unborn.

Long live the immortal nineteen.—May their daring deed be sounded over Carolina's fair land and reverberate from sea shore to mountain top.



Submitted by TRCGS  
Member Steve Raper



"AND THE TALE  
WILL BE HANDED  
DOWN AND  
TOLD AROUND  
THE  
HEARTHSTONES  
OF GENERATIONS  
YET UNBORN"



## A LETTER FROM THE FRONT

Orange County Court  
House, Virginia

August 24, 1863

Dear Friend Burton,  
(Who was at home at Oak  
Level, Nash County, NC,  
recovering from wounds)

Well, Burton, I suppose that you would like to read a little something about our trip in making the grand invasion. Really, I don't know, now that you have seen so many accounts, that I can add anything that will interest you, and I must confess that I scarcely know how or when to commence.

After **Chancellorsville** (May 3, 1863) where you were so badly wounded, we returned to our old camp outside of Fredericksburg. We again commenced picket work on the Rappahannock River, drilling and recruiting the broken ranks. We had clothes and shoes furnished us, and began to be ourselves again. Our Chaplain the **Rev. A. D. Betts** and other chaplains now began to do some very earnest work among the soldiers. The weather was pleasant and men began to think more about their spiritual condition, perhaps more than they had before, as they were beginning to see

more of the evils of war—the certainty of death, and the uncertainty of life.

**General Lee** was now having his army equipped the best he could and preparing for the **Pennsylvania Campaign**.

Previous to our leaving **Hamilton's Crossing** (on the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad) there was a grand review of the army by General Lee. Our Division was drawn up on the large open flat below Dickerson's House, east of our encampments. Many ladies graced the occasion with their presence, who with long feathers in their caps and long skirts reaching almost to the ground sat their spirited chargers as if they do know "something of War."

In a day or two came the order to "Comdg. Offrs. Of Cos. To reduce their baggage to mere change of clothing and without excitement to prepare leisurely but surely for a long march. The next day this order was practically carried into effect and long before day on the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> of June (1863) we were on the march in the direction of **Guiney's Depot** (Station). Various were the conjectures among the men as to our

probable destination; all illusions were dispelled by our making a sudden change of direction there near the depot---almost equal to a countermarch, and striking off in the direction of Culpeper C.H.

I need say little of our march or the little incidents that daily occurred — of the innumerable bouquets showered on us on all sides—of the waving of handkerchiefs, and the loud shouts of the soldiery— of the long marches per day or the wading of rivers. Suffice it to say that our march was a pleasant one much like a triumphal procession than otherwise.

We were in motion toward the **Shenandoah Valley**; our regiment proceeded by way of the Chester Gap to Cedarville in advance to **Berryville** and **Martinsburg** and the regiment crossed the Potomac River, eventually, before nightfall into **Maryland** at **Williamsport**. We rested at Williamsport two days, at **Hagerstown** two. The regiment proceeded toward our ultimate goal of **Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**, passing through Greencastle, Chambersburg to Carlisle. On the night of June 30 we received orders to proceed

the next day to either **Cashtown** or **Gettysburg**, where Federal troops had been reported. We camped that night about 14 miles from Gettysburg. For the first time when any work or fighting was to be done our Brigade was the rearmost in our (Rodes's) division and consequently we were rather late in getting off next morning. When about 6 miles from Gettysburg the boom of the cannon began to burst upon the ear & our march hitherto pretty rapid was increased in speed and we never halted until we got almost on the edge of the battlefield. Some of the Brigades in our division had already been engaged when we arrived and as we were entering the field in support of **Iverson's brigade, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Alabama Regt.** joined our Brigade. Our regiment now with two other regiments turned the enemy's strong position in a body of woods surrounded by a stone fence by attacking on his right flank, driving him back and getting in his rear. Soon a new line was formed along the edge of the stone wall. Just at this time our **Col. Parker** was wounded by a ball

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

that entered just below one eye and came out just below the other, cutting the nasal tubes- he passed on telling us that he was wounded but to move forward. We took a great many prisoners, but halted when we got into Gettysburg. We had succeeded with the others brigades combined, to drive the Federal infantry through the streets of Gettysburg to **Cemetery Hill** south of the town. Thus ended the first day of battle on July 1, 1863.

Alas! Alas! That our Generals should have ever decided on attempting to wrest that stronghold (Cemetery Ridge) from them. Before that hill lie thousands of the bravest youths that our Confederacy had to boast of. They were glorious boys, but now "They sleep, the sleep of death and hear of wars no more". I should say that we invaded Pennsylvania with full 80,000 men. If placed on the defensive, I think that we might have defied the combined armies of the U. States; in fact I honestly believe that it was the finest army ever carried on the field.

During the night and early part of the next day (July 2) the other Divisions of

our army came up and got into position. Everything was a dead calm save an occasional shot from a picket; it was only that which precedes a terrible storm. Running parallel with and about half a mile distance from the range on which the Yanks had taken position was another range but considerably of less elevation. At precisely 20 minutes past 4 o'clock p.m. more than one hundred field pieces opened their thunder and sent forth hissing and screaming through the air their missiles of destruction. And for 3 hours and 10 minutes this terrible cannonading continued, not once even slackening in the least. We were lying in the streets of Gettysburg and were completely out of danger. We were ordered to march off that night. It was cloudy and the moon had not yet risen, consequently it was quite dark as we advance in line of battle on the enemy's position on the Cemetery Hill. We were within 200 yards of the enemy position where batteries were discovered in position to pour upon our lines direct, cross, and enfilade fires. Two lines of infantry behind stone walls and breastworks were supporting these batteries. A careful reconnaissance had sufficed to demonstrate the

impracticability of a successful issue to our contemplated charge; hence the order was received for a retrograde movement. We dropped back about one hundred fifty yards to a small or narrow road running parallel with our lines. Here we halted lay down our arms and rested for the remainder of the night.

The next day—the third of the struggle—dawned beautifully—everything was as quiet as if no enemy were in miles of us. The day wore gradually on. By 9 o'clock the skirmishing had become pretty heavy in front, exposed to the artillery of the enemy and our own short-range guns. The enemy opened up on us with their batteries, throwing ball, shell, canister and grape in rapid succession. About one o'clock pm our batteries cease, and as far as the eye can reach on the right long rows of infantry clear the woods and enter the field and move down towards the line occupied by us, but to the right of us. It was a grand sight (**Pickett-Pettigrew Charge**), never did men move in better lines--- never did a flag wave over a braver set of men. The Yankees saw them as plainly as we did, and all the way down the inclined plane they throw shell into

their lines with as much precision as if in one hundred yards. But still undaunted, they move steadily forward. I expected when they got on the line with us that we would move forward with them, but I was mistaken; on they went, and we retained our position. I presume it was well enough—scarcely had they passed our lines an hundred yards when they commenced falling back by the hundred—wounded I suppose.

Alas! The newspapers have furnished you with the results of that fatal—I will not say unfortunate—charge. The prize for which we contended was a rich one, but in contending for it we lost the flower of chivalry—the pride of our country, I will not dwell on this any longer. That night at 12 o'clock we were waked up and marched back to the Hill and on the turnpike road, taking position just to the right of it and just against a Yankee Hospital. A little after day-break we had thrown up a pretty good breastwork and now stood prepared to receive the shock if the enemy felt prepared to give it. No sight of a Federal advance this day, raining for all day. About midnight commenced falling back toward Hagerstown-

(Continued on page 8)



(Continued from page 7)

marching very slowly, marching only about six miles the first day. Late in the afternoon we departed for **Falling Waters, Virginia** on the Potomac River. We arrived there after dark, remained until nearly midnight-commenced crossing- had to wade mud knee deep 3 or 4 hundred yards before we got to the river. This was rough & tough-waded the river striking us to arm-pits-crossed without accident- marched about 3 miles through the rain-lay down perfectly drenched and slept about two hours-waked up as wet and mangy a huntsman's dog-left here about 11 o'clock. Halted & camped near **Martinsburg**, left then early next morning and marched to **Darksville**, then ordered back to **Martinsburg**. Eventually we fell back in the direction of **Luray**, then fell back towards **Madison** — remained there a day or two fell back to **Orange C.H.**

Well, Burton, I have not given you "everything in detail" but I should say have written quite enough to wary your patience in reading unless it was more interesting. How are the

young ladies? I wish that I could get an opportunity to come home, but I think of giving way for Kearney (**W. Arrington**). I quarreled with him for not being in time this time. Present my respects to all. Tell Miss **Lucy (Williford)** that I am the one she ought to have sent her love to. Since I think that I am the greatest appreciator of female beauty and intelligence living-however I am very much obliged for the "small morsel" sent. —All send their kindest wishes-write soon — believe me as ever your friend.

**J. I. Harris**

P.S. Kearney furnishes the envelope. Excuse this short letter. I will do better next time. J.I.H.

Postscript:

**General Robert E. Lee's** Army of Northern Virginia of 72,000 men and the 97,000 man Union Army of the Potomac under **George G. Meade**, fought the **Battle of Gettysburg** on July 1-2-3, 1863. The two armies suffered between 46,000 and 51,000 casualties.

**Captain James I. Harris**, the author of this letter was the Register of Deeds for Nash County, NC from 1857-1861, before entering the service of his country with **Co. I, 30th Regiment**

**NCT** on September 10, 1861 at age 27. Elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant on September 10, 1861. Elected 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant on April 1, 1862 and promoted to Captain on July 1, 1862 after the death of **Captain William T. Arrington** at Malvern Hill, Virginia. After participating at the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, Capt. Harris was killed at the battle of Spotsylvania Court House on May 12, 1864.

The letter was addressed to 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant **Burton B. Williford**. Lt. Williford resided near Oak Level, Nash County where he enlisted at age 18, on September 10, 1861 with Co. I. Promoted to Sergeant prior to November 1, 1861. Elected 3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant on March 27, 1862, and was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant on July 2, 1862. Burton was wounded in the right groin and thigh at Chancellorsville, Virginia on May 3, 1863. Stonewall Jackson had been wounded the previous day, the wound led to Jackson's arm being amputated and his subsequent death of pneumonia on May 10 th. Lt. Williford resigned his commission on Dec 11, 1863 by reason of lameness; resignation accepted on Dec 14, 1863. He moved to Alabama, married, died in Dale county in 1902.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kearney W. Arrington was wounded in the left leg and captured at Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia on May 12, 1864, the same day that Captain Harris was killed. He survived the war, moved to Alabama, married, and died after 1900.

The "Lucy" mentioned in the letter, was Burton Williford's sister, born in 1846. She married the Reverend John Wesley Jenkins on November 9, 1864.

The Rev Alexander D. Betts, D.D of Methodist Episcopal Church, South, served as Chaplain 30<sup>th</sup> N.C. Troops. His "Experience of a Confederate Chaplain" recounted 1861-1865 of the War between the government of the United States and the government of the Confederate States.

"A Letter from the Front"-  
Notes from the author

The major portion of the article comes from *A Newly Discovered Account of Ramseur's Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign* by Capt. James I. Harris, edited and annotated by Michael W. Taylor, published by the Gettysburg Magazine, Issue # 17, and July 17, 1997.

The original letter descended, through five generations of **Willifords / Bones / Tousignants**, to this author.

Additional sources are:

Nash County, NCGenWeb,

*Experience of a Confederate Chaplain- 1861-1865*, by A.D. Betts

*North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865*, pages 314-321,

*Cos. H & I, 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment N.C. Troops*, pages 401-411,

*Field and Staff- Thirtieth Regiment*, page 503 & 532-535,

*Distant Voices as Heard from The Water's Edge* by Frederick Holmes Cron, page 59,

Submitted by TRCGS Member  
Frederick H. Cron



## ROCKY MOUNT IN 1870

The first U.S. Federal Census following the incorporation of the Town of Rocky Mount in 1867 was taken during the last several days of July 1870.

Who were the town's pioneers and what was the makeup of the town then? What does the census tell us about the people of this community situated along the **Wilmington and Weldon Railroad** in the western-most part of Edgecombe County? A review of the census data reveals some quite interesting and surprising facts about them and their new town.

Rocky Mount was then a very small town of a mere 357 residents. In contrast, the population of Tarboro that year was 1,040 and Wilson numbered just over 1,000 citizens. It should be noted, however, many hundreds of additional people lived outside of Rocky Mount in the Township and the Battle Mill area. Rocky Mount's population equaled just 1.5% of Edgecombe County's 22,970 residents. There were only 76 dwellings in town including a hotel with 22 residents. There were, of course, numerous stores, shops and other places of business. In terms of size,

the town constituted one square mile out of the County's total area which was then well in excess of 500 square miles.

Of the town's 357 residents, 53% (190) were white, 40% (143) were black, and 7% (24) were mulatto (a person of mixed Negro and Caucasian ancestry) as they were recorded then. Black is used herein to include both black and mulatto residents unless otherwise noted.

Females outnumbered males, 52% (186) to 48% (171), five years after the end of the Civil War. Males 21 years of age or older comprised only 24% of the total population. Unless otherwise disenfranchised, these 86 adult male residents (black and white) constituted the entire pool of eligible voters and public office holders at the time. The average age of adult white males was 35 years while it was 37 years for adult black males.

One in three (119) of all Rocky Mount inhabitants over the age of ten were not able to read or write. Not surprisingly in view of the institution of slavery in the area until the spring of 1865, only three blacks

were literate. On the other hand, all but 13 white residents age 18 or more were literate. Only three adult white males could not read or write. Of all children listed in the Census, only six whites attended school in 1870. Certainly, those not attending school (of which there were very few in or near the immediate area) may have been taught at home.

Of Rocky Mount's residents, the vast majority (91%) were born in North Carolina. 23 were born in other states with Virginia being the birth place of 18 people. Other states of birth were Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. Rocky Mount, then, did not experience the influx of 'carpetbaggers' or northern opportunists who came to many southern communities after the close of the Civil War. The town's small size and relative remoteness were likely factors in this. Another ten residents were born outside of the United States. Six were born in Prussia (Germany), three were from Ireland and one was born in England. Of the town's total non-white

population, just 3% were born outside of North Carolina.

The oldest living resident in 1870 was **Barbara Armstrong**, a black female who was 94 years old. The oldest living male was **Phillip Thorpe**, a black farm worker who had reached the age of 80. There were only eleven residents of the town who had reached the age of 60 or more, eight women and three men. The largest family was that of **Samuel and Martha Macklin** who had eleven children. The next largest family was that of carpenter **Bennett Whitfield** and wife **Mary** who had eight children. During the past year there were nine children born. In total there were 148 children, age 16 or younger, or about 41% of the entire populous. There was just one marriage recorded during the year.

Rocky Mount was not a wealthy community by and large. Only 30 residents indicated they owned real property, with values ranging from \$100 to \$10,000. Personal estate values listed ranged

(Continued on page 12)



## Braswell Memorial Library

Traci Thompson, CG, Local History / Genealogy Librarian, Braswell Memorial Library, Rocky Mount, NC

### ONLINE YEARBOOKS

(NEWS RELEASE) --

Braswell Memorial Library yearbooks from eight Edgecombe and Nash County high schools prior to 1963 are now archived together online, thanks to a project based at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center has scanned and posted the yearbooks at <http://digitalnc.org/exhibits/high-school-yearbooks>. They are part of the center's efforts to digitize and preserve high school, college, and university yearbooks from across the state. So far, the project has scanned more than 800,000 pages from 51 schools, said Nick Graham, program coordinator for the center.

History buffs and alumni can glimpse famous grads as young adults, such as Rocky Mount's **James Kern Kyser**, or "**Kay Kyser**" as he was popularly known during the Big Band Era.

In the College & University Yearbooks section, there is **Andy Griffith**, president of the glee club at Chapel Hill in 1947. Other photos show a young **Jesse Jackson** at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1964, ESPN reporter **Stephen A. Smith** at Winston-Salem State University in 1991, singer **Emmylou Harris** at UNC Greensboro in 1966 and a bearded **David Sedaris** at Western Carolina University in 1976.

But yearbooks offer more than celebrity photos. The yearbooks also preserve important traditions, such as the selection of queens for classes and majors at many historically black colleges. Genealogists use the yearbooks to identify and learn about ancestors.

Yearbooks also record what is important to each generation, and how student culture and life change. For example, 1920s yearbooks showed students posing in formal attire and participating in

activities such as glee clubs and debating societies, while yearbook highlights in the 1970s and 1980s included political rallies, rock concerts and beer drinking contests. "The one constant across the years has been sports," Graham said.

The North Carolina Collection at UNC's Wilson Special Collections Library manages the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center. The center works with libraries, museums, historical societies and cultural institutions across the state to publish historical materials online. The center has worked with Braswell Memorial Library to digitize scrapbooks, newspapers, photographs, city directories, and local histories.

The State Library of North Carolina supports the center with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library and Services and Technology Act. UNC

contributes the technical and administrative infrastructure and the expertise of staff consultants.

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center website is:

[www.digitalnc.org](http://www.digitalnc.org) A link to the project can also be found on the Braswell Memorial Library website: [www.braswell-library.org](http://www.braswell-library.org)

Submitted by Traci Thompson, CG

"YEARBOOKS  
ALSO RECORD  
WHAT IS  
IMPORTANT TO  
EACH  
GENERATION,  
AND HOW  
STUDENT  
CULTURE AND  
LIFE CHANGE."





**Braswell  
Memorial  
Library**

## *Genealogical Resources in the Kornegay Local History*

- Published abstracts and transcriptions of marriages, estates, wills, deeds, etc. for selected North Carolina counties
- Some original Nash County records on microfilm
- Area historical newspapers on microfilm
- Yearbooks for area high schools
- Ancestry Library Edition and other online resources
- Genealogical/historical society newsletters and other periodicals
- North Carolina state and county general histories
- Vertical files of newspaper articles, donated genealogical research, and other paper ephemera
- Historic maps of North Carolina and area counties
- Expert help!

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### **Some Useful Genealogy Websites**

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

Free site run by the Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) Church and volunteers. New information is coming online at a speedy rate; contains NC information not currently found anywhere else online, including 20<sup>th</sup> century marriage data and images of original estate records.

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) and [www.ancestrylibrary.com](http://www.ancestrylibrary.com)

Ancestry is a subscription (fee-based) site; the library version is free, but can only be used within the library (no remote access.) A good site for census records, North Carolina marriage bonds, North Carolina birth and death records.

[www.heritagequestonline.com](http://www.heritagequestonline.com)

Heritage Quest is a library product available remotely through the library's website. It is part of NCLive, a collection of databases covering many different topics. A library card is required for access. A good site for browsing census records (only some years are indexed), family history books, and periodicals.

<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/digital/ncfamilyrecords/>

North Carolina Family Records Online is a project of the North Carolina State Archives and State Library of North Carolina. The searchable online collection currently contains nearly 1,500 Bible records; indexed marriage and death announcements from five Raleigh, NC area newspapers from 1799 to 1893; and copies of genealogical research donated to the Government and Heritage Library.

[www.digitalnc.org](http://www.digitalnc.org)

A project of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the State Library of North Carolina, Digital NC is assisting libraries, universities, and other entities around the state with digitization of their collections. Collections of interest to genealogists are high school yearbooks, scrapbooks, and a newspaper digitization project.

[www.usgenweb.org](http://www.usgenweb.org)

Free, volunteer-run site with a variety of information for all 50 states and their counties. The usgenweb North Carolina site can be found at: [www.ncgenweb.us](http://www.ncgenweb.us)



from \$100 to \$20,000. Of the town's black residents just four individuals stated they owned property, with the highest value listed as \$500 and belonging to **Jane Howard**, a single mulatto home maker. The wealthiest resident at the time was merchant, express agent, farmer and large land owner **William W. Parker** who stated his total worth at \$30,000. In today's dollars, that amounts to \$525,000. Mr. **T. H. Griffin**, a merchant and farmer, listed values equaling \$16,000, now worth \$280,000. At age 25, attorney **Benjamin H. Bunn**, the town's first mayor, listed \$10,000 of values, the equivalent of \$175,000 today. Six women owned real property, three of whom indicated property worth in excess of \$2,000: **Mary Gray** at \$4,500, **Martha Howell** at \$4,000, and **Margaret Ramsey** at \$2,000.

128 residents stated they were gainfully employed or engaged in various occupations. Of these, 31% were in farm related work. This is a bit surprising in view of the rural character of Edgecombe (and Nash) County at this time. It likely indicated the beginnings of the movement away from the farm to towns and more urbanized jobs. Certainly, the collapse of the area's plantations and the freeing of their enslaved workers were reflected as well. As an example of nonfarm employment, 37 residents worked in mercantile and related jobs which amounted to 29% of all workers. There were also 13 tradesmen and nine professionals (4 lawyers, 3 doctors, 1 dentist and 1 teacher) living in town. About 15% of all workers were domestic servants, cooks, waiters and similar workers. Rocky Mount was the home of a butcher, tailor, barber, horse trader, milliner, coppersmith, hucksters, shoe makers,

constable, post master, hotelier, grocer, painters, carpenters, telegraph operators and blacksmiths. While there were five liquor dealers and saloon keepers, there were no resident ministers or preachers.

Only 12% (22) of all women of age worked outside the home. By far, more black females had jobs than did white women. 18% of all black women worked outside the home compared to 5% of white women. With the exception of a teacher and a milliner, employed women were farm laborers, servants, cooks and housekeepers.

Notable and now familiar families living in Rocky Mount in 1870 included the **Battle, Bodie, Bunn, Armstrong, Williford, Winstead, Joyner, Hammond, Gay, Tillery, Thorpe, Ricks, Griffin, Weston, Chapman, Parker, Sessoms,** and many other families.

Some of these residents and their decedents were or would become mayors and town commissioners, state and national legislators, judges, newspaper editors and publishers, bankers, successful businessmen and entrepreneurs. But in 1870 they were former enslaved persons, freedmen, ex-Confederate soldiers and just ordinary people all living peacefully together in this quite small community at its very beginning, all trying to provide for themselves and their families and to create a wholesome and prosperous place to live and earn a living. Now, some 143 years later, it is impressive to note what these hard working and determined pioneers and their successors have accomplished over a relatively short period of time.

Article written and submitted by TRCGS Member  
Stephen W. Raper

**Page No.** 1

Inquiries numbered 7, 18, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

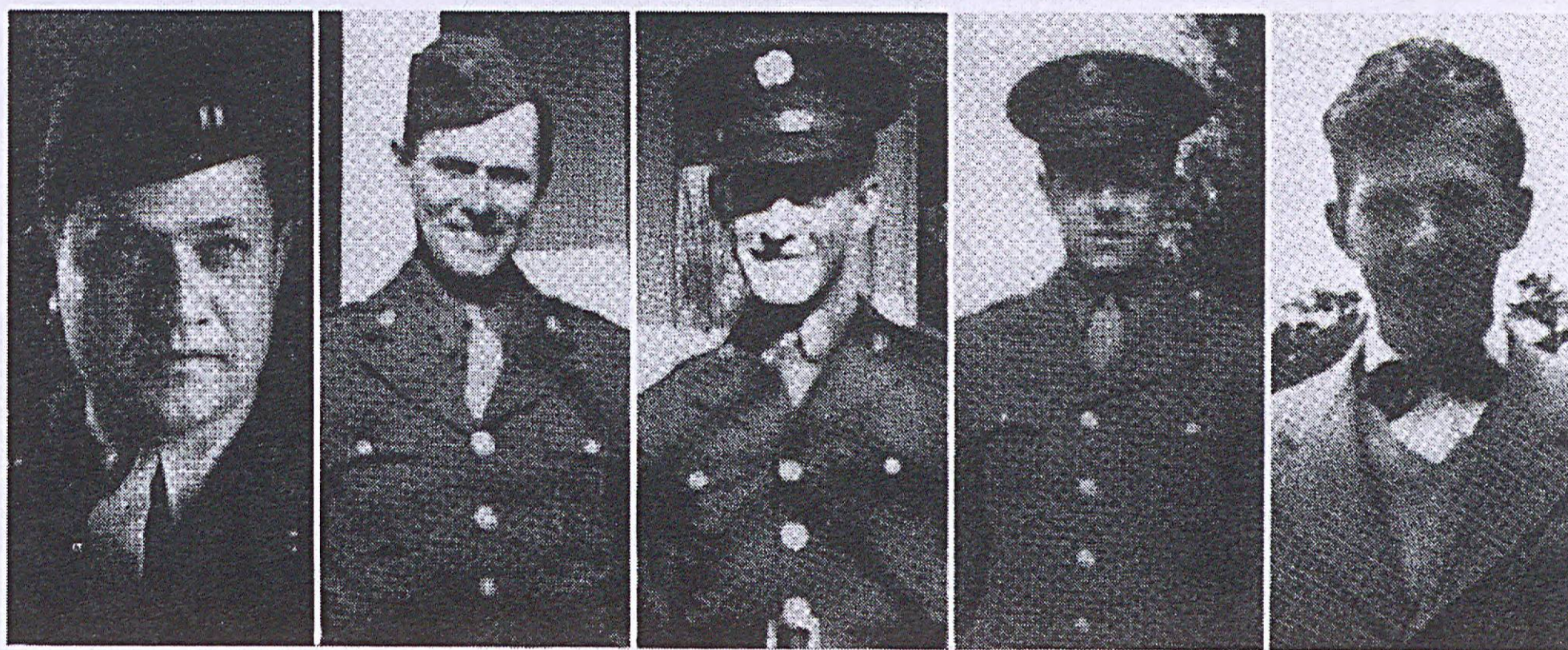
**SCHEDULE I.—Inhabitants in** Rocky Mount Township, **in the County of** Edgewood, **State of** Virginia, enumerated by me on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 1870.

**Post Office:** Rocky Mount, Ass't Marshal.

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Dwelling-house, as valued in the order of valuation.	Parcell, situated in the order of valuation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Description.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED.		Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	PAGEAGE.		If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.).	Transmitted within the year state month (Jan., Feb., &c.).	Attempted school within the year.	EDUCATION.		Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	CONSTITUTIONAL INFIRMITIES.	
			Age at last birthday.	If married, in husband's rank (Y).	Sex—Male (M.) Female (F.)		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.		Value of foreign birth.	Mother of foreign birth.				Cannot read.	Cannot write.		Under 18 years of age and under 21 years.	Under 18 years of age and under 21 years.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
/	/	Daniel J. Smith	25	m	m	Farmer	\$700	\$200	American						/	/		/	
		John Smith	20	f	f	Housewife			American						/	/			





### Five Brothers Serving In Armed Forces

Here is an unusual group of five fine young men, sons of Mr. J. D. Brown, Foreman, Metal Bridge Yard, Rocky Mount, N. C. Mr. Brown is proud of these sons and the *New3* finds delight in presenting them. From left, Captain Tom E. Brown, Herlong, Calif.; Corporal John

P. Brown, Geiger Field, Washington; Sgt. Allen E. Brown, in North Africa; Pvt. Wallace R. Brown, Coast Artillery, Camp Edward, Mass., and David Brown, A. S. Bainbridge, Maryland. Our publication is honored by having this distinguished group.

From the Collection of  
The ACL & SAL Historical Society  
Copied from Atlantic Coast News, August 1943 by hcb

### JOYNER OBIT

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

It is with deep regret we chronicle the death of **Mrs. Susan F. Joyner**, wife of **Mr. Jno. R. Joyner**, which sad event occurred at her home near Spring Hope, NC on September 2nd 1905. The deceased was in her 53rd year and had suffered for years

untold agonies from stomach troubles which gradually grew worse till death relieved her suffering. She desired to die at home and was brought back here, just a few days before the end came, from the sanatorium at Wilson, NC where she had gone for treatment. She was a consistent member of Elm Grove Baptist church, a godly woman, and seemed fully resigned to her Master's will; her

only regret being the departure from her loved ones, which was but human, but she was not afraid to meet her God.

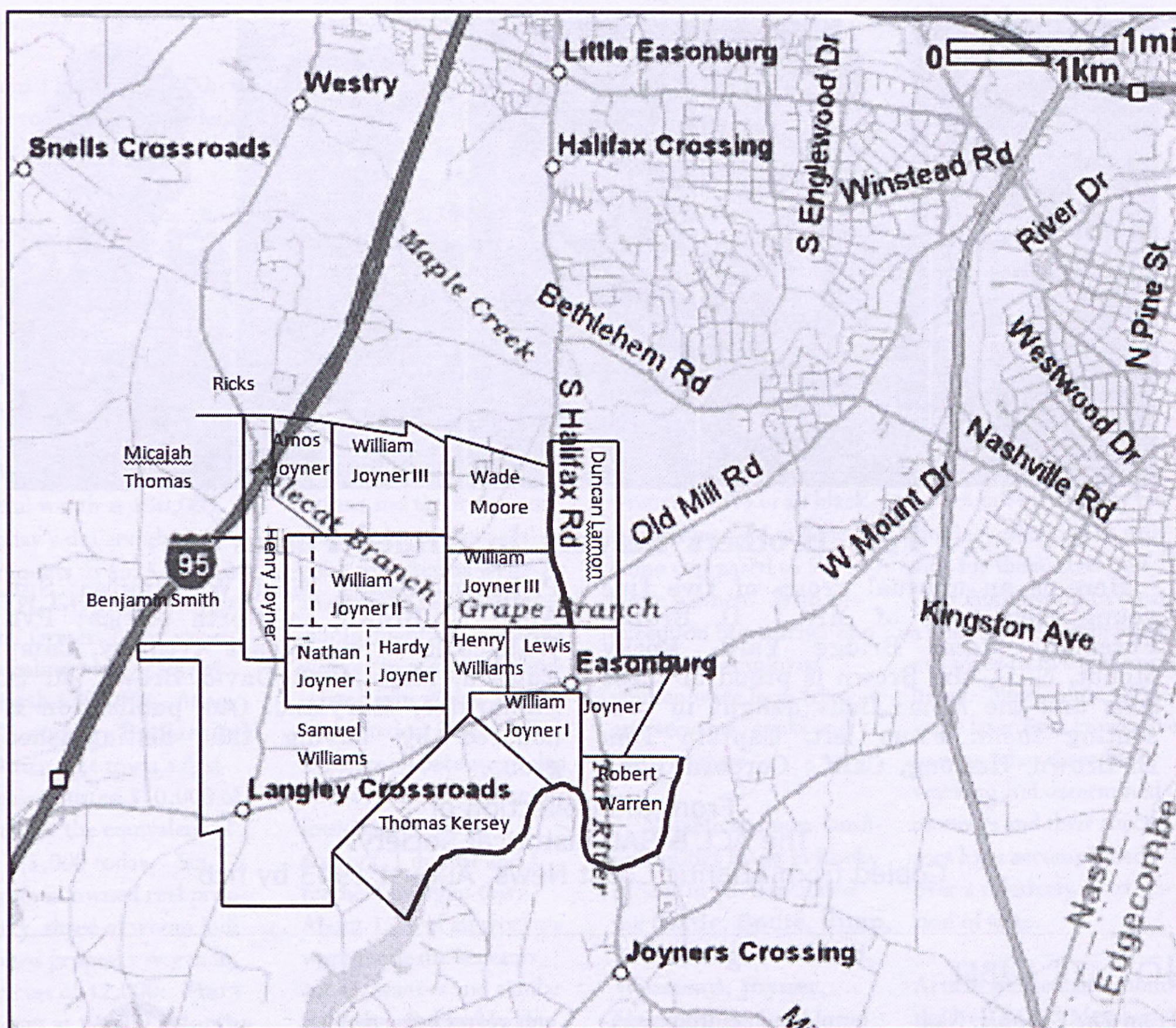
She leaves a husband, nine children, an aged mother and several brothers and sisters, besides a host of friends and relatives, to mourn their loss. To the bereaved we extend our sympathy.

-A friend



Submitted by TRCGS Member  
Marjorie Gardner





- 1-Robert Warren 26 July 1743    2-William Joyner I 12 October 1752    3-Thomas Kersey 1 March 1743  
 4-Samuel Williams 11 Feb 1761    5-Edward Moore 16 March 1761

Figure 1

(Continued from page 1)

scription. See Figure 1 for location of the land. Other evidence of William Joyner [I] living in this area in the 1750s is supported through the Colonial Edgecombe

County, North Carolina Militia list for **Cap<sup>t</sup> Hardy Cane's Company**.

According to Granville land grants on file at the North Carolina archives

and page 23 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 2 **Edward Moore** was granted 600 acres beginning on the south side of **Polecatt Branch** at a red oak, then S° 320 pol to a white oak,

the E° 300 p° to a black oak, then N° 320 pole to a pine, then W 300 p° to the first station. Edward Moore then sold 300 acres of this Granville grant on 5 March 1764 to William

(Continued on page 15)



(Continued from page 14)

Joyner for £8 proclamation money. The boundary description recorded on page 210 of Edgecombe County, North Carolina deed book C is given as beginning at the center of three oaks a corner agreed on, then south to a white oak, then east 300 poles to a black oak, then north to a pine corner tree agreed on, then west by a line of marked trees to the beginning. In other words William Joyner [I] had purchased the southern half of the 600 acres granted to Edward Moore in 1761. William eventually purchased the remaining 300 acres (northern half of this Granville grant from Edward Moore on 27 February 1770 for £25. The boundary description recorded on page 336 of Edgecombe County, North Carolina deed book D is given as beginning at the center of three oaks a corner agreed on, then east by a line of marked trees to pine corner tree agreed on, then north to a pine, then west 300 poles to red oak, then south to the beginning.

William Joiner Sen<sup>r</sup> [I] then sold 300 acres to William Joiner Jun<sup>r</sup> [II] for £10 proclamation money on 13

May 1779. As recorded on page 72 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 1 the 300 acres is beginning at the center of three oaks a corner agreed on, then south to a white oak, then east 300 pole to a black oak, thence north to a pine a corner tree agreed on, thence west by a line of marked trees to the beginning. The same day he sold 300 acres to Nathan Joiner for £10. The boundary description recorded on page 85 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 1 is given as beginning at a pine, thence westerly to a pine, thence to a white oak in **Samuel Williams** line, then along said line easterly to a black oak, then north to the first station. Note both deeds imply, according to the descriptions recorded, both William Jun<sup>r</sup> [II] and Nathan could have been sold the same piece of land. In following subsequent deeds the land sold to William [II] was the northern 300 acres while Nathan was sold the southern 300 acres.

William Joyner S<sup>r</sup> [I] is shown in the Nash County, North Carolina 1782 tax list in **Cap<sup>t</sup> Nicholson's District** as being taxable for 330 acres of land, 2 negroes under seven &

from fifty to sixty years of age, 4 negroes from seven to sixteen and from forty to fifty years of age, 6 negroes from sixteen to forty years of age, 6 horses & mules, and 33 cattle.

On 11 January 1783 William Joyner [I] wrote his last will and testament which was probated during Nash County, North Carolina's February Pleas & Quarter Court Session in 1785. In this document he lends the 180 acres "where I now live" to his wife **Sealey** which is then to go to their son **Drury** after her death or marriage. William further bequeaths 150 acres joining Nathan Joyner and William Joyner [II] to his son **Hard[y] Joyner**. Of his twelve children named in his last will and testament only Drury and Hardy are mentioned to inherit land. Since he had 180 acres on Tar River from the 1752 land entry which became a Granville land grant in 1761 and 600 acres he purchased from Edward Moore and of which he sold 300 acres each to William [II] and Nathan how did he acquire the extra 150 acres bequeathed to his son Hardy?

According to the early federal census records for present day Nash County, North Carolina three of his

sons (**Jacob**, **Nathan**, and **William [II]**) were born no later than 1754.

William Joyner [II] as mentioned earlier acquired 300 acres of the **Edward Moore** tract. According to land entry records in North Carolina Archives on 25 April 1778 he made a land entry for 300 acres lying between William Joiner S<sup>r</sup> [I], **Benjamin Smith**, and **Abraham Ricks**. This land entry was caveated by **Thomas Hunter** on 25 June 1778. Obviously as a result of this land entry he was granted 159 acres by the State of North Carolina 30 March 1780. The description of the metes and bounds can be found on Page 43 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 2. *See the land plat excluding the dash lines in Figure 1 labeled as Henry Joyner for location.* With 300 acres purchased 13 May 1779 and 159 acres granted 30 March 1780, he should be taxable for 459 acres in 1782. William Joyner Jun<sup>r</sup> [II] is listed as being in **Cap<sup>t</sup> Hatton's District** as being taxable for 480 acres which is a difference of an additional 21 acres.

Page 12 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 6 shows that

(Continued on page 16)



(Continued from page 15)

the sheriff (**Arch<sup>d</sup> Griffin**) sold 200 acres that belonged to **Hardy Brewer** to William Joyner [II] on 14 April 1794. The only description given in the deed is "bounded on the north by **Joel Ricks** and on the south by William Joyner and on the east by **Batson Smith** and on the West by William Joyner". See the land plat in Figure 1 labeled as *Amos Joyner for the location of this land*. Per page 138 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 7 William Joyner [II] sold this tract of land to **Amos Joyner** 10 August 1802.

On 12 November 1808 William Joiner Sen<sup>r</sup> [II] sold his 30 March 1780 land grant with an additional 41 acres taken from adjoining land for a total of 200 acres to Henry Joiner. See the land plat including the dash line area next to William Joyner [II] in Figure 1 labeled as *Henry Joiner*. On 12 December 1829 Henry's widow **Rachel Joiner** was allotted 69 acres of this tract as her dower which can be found of page 238 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 13. Pages 87, 88, and 96 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 15 reveal the heirs of Henry Joiner including Rachel sold their

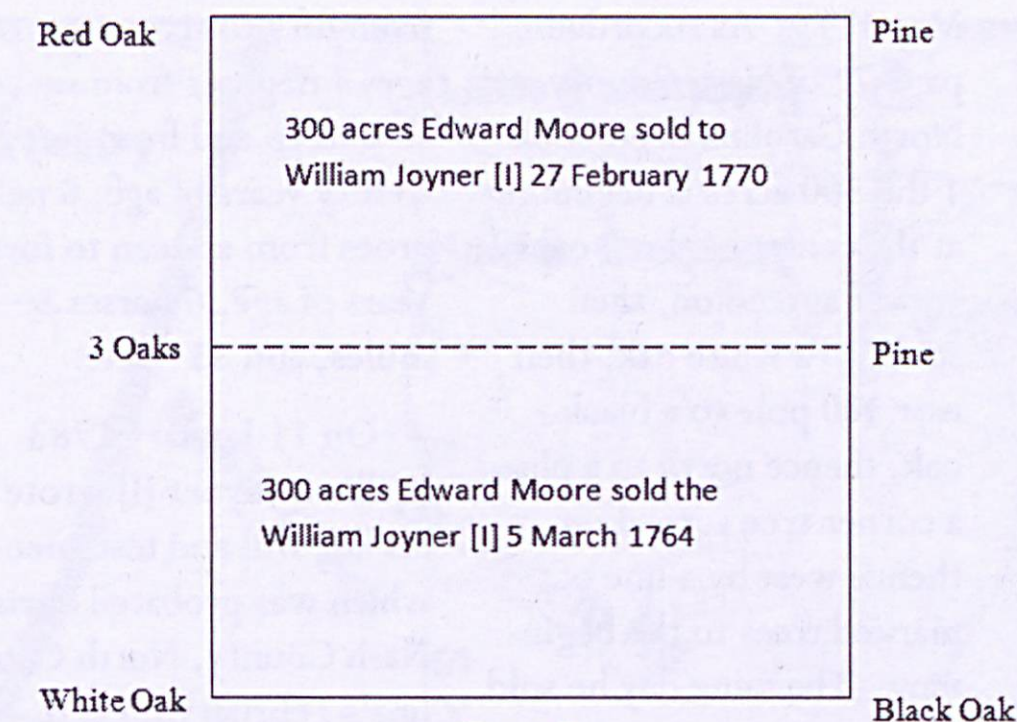


Figure II

individual shares to **William Griffin** during late 1830 and early 1831.

William Joiner Sn<sup>r</sup> [II] left a last will and testament which was probated during Nash County, North Carolina's November Pleas & Quarter Court Session in 1837. In this document he bequeathed the land and plantation (specified as being 259 acres) where he lived to his wife **Patience**. His grandson **William T. Griffin** was to receive 60 acres joining William Griffin, his daughter **Milbry** was to receive 50 acres, his daughter "**Mornen**" was to receive 50 acres, and the balance of his land was to be sold after the death of his wife Patience. On the surface the wording seems to imply he had land other than 259 acres; however page 332 of Nash County

Deed Book 16 and page 420 and the same deed book reveal the acreage divided among William T. Griffin, Milbry Joiner, and **Mourning Joiner** and the balance to be sold was the 259 bequeathed to his wife.

**James Watkins** sold land "near the Polecat Creek" to William Joiner Jun<sup>r</sup> [III] the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 1789. This deed of sale is recorded on page 72 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 5. William Joyner [III] later purchased a tract of land from **Wade Moore** in April 1795. This deed of sale is recorded on page 105 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 6. Batson Smith sold a tract of land to William Joiner [III] in May 1804 which can be found of page 238 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book

7. Page 78 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 14 shows the land purchased from Wade Moore was divided upon his heirs Joel Joyner and **Celia Joyner** on 8 May 1813. The same date the land purchased from James Watkins was divided among his heirs **Winnifred Joyner, Lucrey Pridgen, Delilah Joyner, and Meridy Joyner**. The land purchased by William III is shown in Figure 1 and labeled as *William Joyner III*.

As mentioned earlier, William Joyner [I] as recorded in Nash County, North Carolina deed book 1, page 85 sold 300 acres of the 1761 Edward Moore Granville grant to Nathan Joyner. Then in his last will and testament William [I] bequeathed 150 acres joining Nathan Joyner and William Joyner [II] to his son Hard[y] Joyner. Obviously, for whatever reason (s) William Joyner [I] regained possession of 150 or half of the 300 acres. According to land entry records in North Carolina Archives on 23 August 1794 one Nathan Joyner made a land entry for 200 acres "on the waters of the Great Branch joining my own line and **Benjamin Smith** so as to include the

(Continued on page 17)



(Continued from page 16)

surplus land within the bounds of **Samuel Williams** deced's line". There is no record to confirm this land was titled to him in the form of a land grant or by any other legal instrument.

In 1782 Nathan Joyner was taxable in **Cap' Hattton's District** for 150 acres of land, 2 horses and mules, and 14 cattle. His name on this tax list is immediately followed by the name W<sup>m</sup> Joyner Jun<sup>r</sup> [II]. Another "Nathan Joyner" was taxable in the same district with 300 acres of land, 2 horses and mules, and 3 cattle. This "Nathan" will be discussed later. Neither should be confused with the Nathan Joyner who was born in 1761 **Southampton County, Virginia** who later purchased 150 acres of land on the waters of Sappony from **Joseph Sealey** 10 September 1786. The land was located about half a mile south of present day **Sandy Cross** and the west side of highway 58.

Hardy and Nathan Joiner sold 150 acres to **Lewis Joiner** 19 January 1790. According to the description given on page 107 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 5 the plat began at a pine corner

a dividing line between Nathan Joiner and Hardy Joiner, then south by a line of marked trees to two black oaks, then east to a Black Oak, then north to a pine in William Joiner's [II] line, then west to the first station. Lewis Joyner then sold 150 acres of the same description to Hardy Joyner and Jonathan Joyner [his sons] 30 October 1803. This deed of sale can be found on page 162 of Nash County, North Carolina's deed book 7. Jonathan then sold his part to Hardy Joiner (page 227, Nash County, North Carolina deed book 10). The 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1832 the land of Lewis Joyner's son Hardy was divided among Hardy's heirs. The northern 3 lots of Hardy Joiner's land were specified to adjoin the land of **Jonas Joiner**. This land division is recorded in Nash County, North Carolina deed book 14, page 311. *See the land in Figure 1 labeled as Nathan Joyner and Hardy Joyner.*

Nathan the son of William Joiner [I] purchased 200 acres of land on the south side of Sappony Creek from **Peter Ballard** 21 April 1792. This deed is recorded on page 143 of Nash County, deed book 4. Nathan Joiner Sen<sup>r</sup> sold land of the same descrip-

tion to Nathan Joiner Jun<sup>r</sup> "his son" the third day of March 1798 per page 347 of Nash County, North Carolina deed book 6. This land was located on the north side of present day Sandy Cross road with present day Lindsey road running through the property.

Nathan Joiner [Senior] left a last will and testament dated 14 March 1824 which was probated during Nash County's November Term of Pleas & Quarter Court in 1825. No wife was mentioned. The only children mentioned were **Jonas Joiner** and **Mary Joiner**. Jonas was bequeathed 150 acres of land, one grey horse named Starling, and all the "Sider Casts".

Nathan Joiner [Junior] left a last will and testament dated 4 August 1836 and probated during the November Term of Nash County's Pleas & Quarter Court in 1836. He loaned to his wife **Annis Joiner** "all my land where I now live". After her death the land is to go to his daughter **Juda Joiner**. If Juda dies without an heir lawfully begotten of her body then the land is to return to his son **David Joiner**. Thomas Joiner is also named as being a son. Nathan further states in his last will

and testament that his brother **Matthew Joiner** is to be his executor.

In a letter dated the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 1853 Matthew Joiner stated that his mother died 20 March 1795 and his father died 17 August 1825. He further stated the living children of Nathan Joiner deceased are Mary Joiner born 24 February 1775, Matthew Joiner b. 4 September 1776, and Jonas Joiner born 23 June 1784. Each is stated to be a child of Nathan Joiner and **Delilah** his wife.

Between the last will and testament of Nathan Joiner [Senior], the last will and testament of Nathan Joiner Jun<sup>r</sup>, and the 1853 letter signed by Matthew Joiner; the sons of Nathan Joiner [Senior] were Nathan Joiner Jun<sup>r</sup>, Matthew Joiner, and Jonas Joiner. Since Jonas was bequeathed 150 acres by his father and the division of **Hardy Joiner's** [son of **Lewis Joiner**] land among his heirs in 1832 adjoined the land of Jonas Joyner there is no doubt **Thomas Joyner** who married **Amy Land** was the grandson of Nathan Joyner Senior and the great grandson of William Joyner whose last will and

(Continued on page 19)



## EYE WITNESS TO HISTORY

The **City of Hatteras**, North Carolina, Historical Marker says: "**Fort Hatteras** and **Fort Clark**, 2 miles s. west, fell to Union troops on Aug 29, 1861, after two days of heavy naval bombardment".

The battle is significant for several reasons: It was the first notable Union victory of the War; it represented the first application of the naval blockading strategy; it was the first amphibious operation, as well as the first combined operation, involving units of both the Union Army and Navy.

Cape Hatteras was the easternmost point in the Confederacy, although no physical evidence of the battle remains, the battlefield is preserved within Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

Manning the forts were 650 Confederate soldiers, with the exception of two companies garrisoning **Fort Bartow** on Roanoke Island, the entire **17<sup>th</sup> Regiment North Carolina Troops, CSA.** was captured. The commander was **Col. William F.**

**Martin.** Among the captured were **Ashley George Keel** and his brother, **James Oliver Keel**, both privates in Company G.

Ashley was born about 1836, resided in Martin County where he enlisted on May 10, 1861. He was confined in Ft. Columbus, New York harbor, and at Ft. Warren, Boston harbor until paroled on Dec 11, 1861. He was then sent to Ft. Monroe, Virginia. for exchange on Feb 20, 1862. He later served in Company E, 17th Regiment (2nd Organization).

Ashley was present or accounted for until hospitalized at the **Pettigrew General Hospital** No. 13, Raleigh, NC on March 10, 1865, with a gunshot wound of the right arm. Eventually four brothers (**William Gray Keel**, **Joseph Hunter Keel**, **James Oliver Keel** and **Robert Lorenzo Keel** and a brother-in-law **William D. Glisson**, would join Ashley in service to the Confederacy.

Out of a total male population in 1860 of

1,676 in Martin County, almost 1,000 left the county to serve the Confederacy.

In about 1870, Ashley married **Susan Louvenia Elizabeth "Bettie" Jenkins**, the daughter of **William "Billy" J. Jenkins** and **Susan Roebuck**.

"Billy" and three of his sons (**John H.**, **James W.** and **Benjamin R. Jenkins**) had also served in the War.

Four children were born of this union - **William Wiley**, **Susan Elizabeth**, **Ella Virginia** and **Mary Ashley "Accie" Keel**. On March 7, 1877 in Martin County, "Accie" was born two months after the death of her father. Ashley Keel died in Edgecombe County, near Tarboro, of injuries received from being dragged by a runaway horse. His widow "Bettie", left with four small children to support, the eldest six years old, moved back to Robersonville in Martin County to be near her family. An unmarried brother **Benjamin Roebuck Jenkins** (1845-1939), helped her rear her children. "Bettie", my great, grandmother died on Feb-

ruary 26, 1934 at age eighty-four.

My grandmother Ella Virginia Keel married **Ira Daniel Roberson**; in turn their daughter **Mary Margaret Elizabeth Roberson** married my father **Kenneth Early Bone**.

Story by Ella Margaret Bone Cron and submitted by TRCGS Member Frederick H. Cron

### Source Information:

*Battle of Hatteras Inlet Batteries* - Wikipedia.org

*Civil War on Hatteras Island* by Drew Pullen, The Island Breeze

City of Hatteras Historical Marker - Stopping Points.com

Civil War Daily Gazette.com


*Seventeenth Regimental History*, by Wilson G. Lamb, 2nd Lt., Co. F.

*Military Service Records*, National Archives, GSA

US Department of the Interior, National Park Service



**INFORMATION***To persons travelling North.*

 A FOUR HORSE POST-COACH will leave Tarborough at 8 o'clock every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning, direct for Washington City via Petersburg and Richmond, Va.—time occupied in going through, three days. Passengers will sleep first night at Halifax, N. C.—second at Petersburg, Va.—and third on board the steamboat between Fredericksburg and Washington. Fare through, about \$17. This line will also meet the James River steamboats at City Point and Richmond.

Stages for Norfolk will run as heretofore.

Also, a good two horse stage for Raleigh via Nashville, every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, at 4 P. M. arriving at Raleigh next day.

**H. R. BACKUS,**

*For the Proprietors.*

Tarboro', March 7, 1831. 29

The Newbern Spectator and Washington Union will insert the above once a week three months, and send their bills to the office of the 'Tarboro' Free Press for payment. H. R. B.

The North Carolina Free Press March 15, 1831, p: 3, c:4.

Submitted by TRCGS Member Danny Bunn

**The Fountains Have Flowed a Long Time!**

Vernon & Kotzebue Fountain

When Vernon L. Fountain, clerk, accounting department, SCL, Jacksonville, retired this past July, he had completed 40 years' service. He is perhaps the last of the railroading Fountains to serve SCL and its predecessor lines continuously since 1866.

A glimpse back into the history of the rail-oriented Fountain family discloses fascinating facts about the patriarch of the clan.

Spencer Kotzebue Fountain, Vernon's grandfather and that patriarch, was employed by ACL in 1866 as a telegrapher. Three years later he became the first ACL agent at Rocky Mount and served in that capacity until retirement in 1921. But, in addition to this long service, Mr. Fountain is perhaps better remembered as the founder and operator of Rocky Mount's first telephone system in 1894. His first switchboard remains on exhibit in Rocky Mount's Braswell Library as one of its most historic relics. Mr. Fountain also built and operated the first automobile in Rocky Mount. Primarily, however, he was a railroader.

Spencer Fountain's sons were also railroaders: William was an engineer, Lewis was chief clerk in a ticket office and Joseph was a ticket agent — all three with the ACL at Rocky Mount. A fourth son, Spencer T., father of Vernon, served the SAL some 42 years, retiring in 1944. Total railroad service of the Fountains comes to more than 300 years!

**From the Collection of  
The ACL & SAL Historical Society  
Copied Family Lines News, Nov-Dec 1976-hcb**

(Continued from page 17)

testament was probated in 1785 Nash County, North Carolina.

As mentioned earlier, one Nathan Joyner is on the 1782 tax list for Nash County, North Carolina taxable for 300 acres of land in Cap' Hatton's District. According to land

entry records in North Carolina Archives Lewis Joiner made a land entry 27 July 1778 for 300 acres "bordering William Joiner, Mr. Lamon, Hardy Flowers, Lassitor, & on both sides of Great Br.". North Carolina grant number 115 dated 30 March 1780 to Lewis Joyner for 300 acres matching the land entry description is

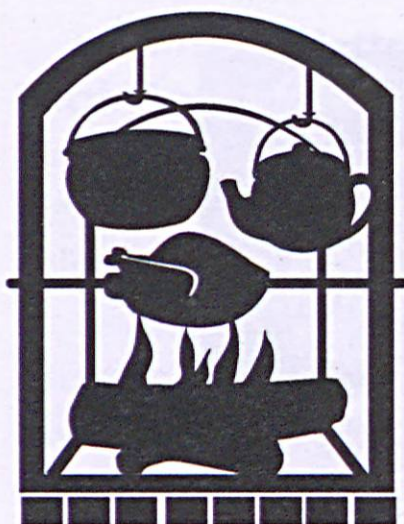
recorded in Nash County, North Carolina deed book 3, page 15. Considering the land was granted prior to 1782 and Lewis did not sell the land before 1782, he should be listed in the 1782 tax list. He is not listed. *The location of the 300 acres granted to Lewis Joyner is labeled as Lewis Joyner in Figure 1.*

Just finding an individual had a piece of land does not tell the story. The researcher needs to follow the land in order to grasp a more complete story.

Submitted by TRCGS  
Member Timothy Rackley



## OLD COOKBOOK RECIPES



I am a sucker for an old cookbook and love reading and trying those time tested recipes like they were secret insights into the past. I have been known to build a fire and get out my cast iron pot to duplicate and enjoy an old fashioned Brunswick Stew (my grandmother's recipe). I recently came across a list of old cooking definitions which explained some of those strange measurements.

### Oven temperatures:

Slow - up to 300 F

Very moderate - 300 F - 350 F

Moderate/Medium - 350 F - 400 F

Hot/Quick/Fast = 400 F - 450 F

Very Hot/Very Quick = 450 F - 500 F

### Definitions

- Addled - spoiled or rotten
- Anker = 10 gallons
- Bee Sweetin' - honey
- Boil to a height - boiling point of candy or crystallizing
- Butt = 126 gallons
- Butter Size of an Egg -  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup or 2 oz
- Butter Size of a Walnut - 2 tbsp
- Cake compressed yeast = 1 package active dry yeast
- Cauled - heated just below boiling point

- Clinkers - stale biscuits
- Coffee Spoons, Two - 1 tsp
- Coffee cupful - 1 cup or 8 oz
- Coffin - dish or mould in which a pie was baked in
- Coomb = 4 bushels
- Cornmeal, 3 cups scant - 1 lb
- Dash -  $\frac{1}{16}$  tsp
- Dessert spoon -  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tsp
- Dram -  $\frac{1}{8}$  oz or 3 scruples
- Drop -  $\frac{1}{60}$  tsp
- Eggs - med eggs
- Eggs, ten w/o shells - 1 lb eggs
- Fat = means butter
- Few grains - less than  $\frac{1}{8}$  tsp
- Five-cent jar - 8 - 12 oz jar
- Firkin = 9 gallons
- French Vinegar - usually tarragon vinegar
- Frizzle - cooking an item in butter or fat until it curls or crisps
- Gem - muffin or cupcake
- Gill -  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or 4 oz
- Glassful -  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup or 2 oz
- Handful - approx 1 oz
- Hint - a trace
- Hogshead = 63 gallons
- Hot closet - warming oven
- Indian meal - cornmeal
- Jar - 3 oz
- Jigger - 1.5 oz
- Kitchen spoon - 1 tsp
- Lard = use shortening
- Large rounded scoop in palm of the hand - 1 tbsp
- Last = 80 bushels
- Lump - approx 2 tbsp (refers to butter)
- Nun's toast - French toast
- Pinch -  $\frac{1}{16}$  tsp
- Pottle = 2 quarts
- Potage - soup
- Pound of eggs - approx 1 doz med eggs
- Puncheon = 84 gallons
- Quick oven - approx 375 - 400 degrees F
- Runlet = 18 gallons
- Salt spoonful - approx  $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp
- Saucer - approx 9 oz (heaping cup)
- Small rounded scoop in palm of the hand - 1 tsp
- Smidgen -  $\frac{1}{32}$  tsp
- Sour milk = buttermilk OR 1 tablespoon vinegar added to 1 cup whole milk
- Sweet milk = milk (whole is best for baking, but 2%, 1% and skim can be used successfully)
- Tad -  $\frac{1}{8}$  tsp
- Tea-cupful - a scant  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup (scant, meaning less than)
- Tumbler - 1 cup or 8 oz
- Tierce = 42 gallons
- Try, try out - render fat
- Wey = 40 bushels
- Wineglassful - approx  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup or 2 oz

Submitted by TRCGS Member  
Janet Sadowski

From web preparednessadvice.com/recipes/old-cooking-definitions/



(Continued from page 1)

may be a relative on my paternal side. My father's name was **Gg. Wimberly Wilkinson**, and my paternal great grandmother was **Louisa Whitfield Wimberly** of Edgecombe County. The Wimberly family arrived in this area of NC in the early 1700s. At an earlier point in my research experience I may have passed this by, but I have come to think it is indeed a small world. In particular I have learned how many, if not most of the land acquisition and development in Alabama and Georgia up to the War, especially as the former Indian lands were opened, was by prosperous families from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina looking to expand their land holdings to accommodate an ever-expanding progeny.

Research has revealed that Clara Wimberly (was indeed my 5th cousin, 4x removed. Our common ancestry came from the original Wimberly immigrant from England to the Virginia colony. That **John Wimberly** (born England 1634, arrived Virginia Colony 1658, died Virginia 1704) was the surveyor for the Tidewater region and Norfolk. The next several

generations of his descendants, the early and mid 1700s, migrated a bit south into Bertie County in the northeastern section of NC. My branch established stopped their migration in Edgecombe County in 1746. The cousins in Clara's branch left NC and "went South" into Georgia. There they prospered and became important, especially in Twiggs County, and later in the West Lake area, which became a neighborhood of modern Atlanta.

A further coincidence was Clara's ancestral home, Inglehurst Plantation, in Twiggs County, Georgia, was originally built by **Rev. Henry Bunn**, a distant cousin of the Bunn family of Rocky Mount and future relations by marriage into the Wimberly family. His family was connected with the

Wimberly family in several instances in NC, including that great uncle **Dr. George Lewis Wimberly** married **Mary Bunn**. The early Bunn family was notable in Rocky Mount's beginnings, and connected with local landmarks **Stonewall** (The Old Lewis Family Home), "**Benvenue**" and "**The Bennett Bunn Plantation**" in Zebulon.

Clara' Wimberly's husband was a Pope, and a distant relation to the Wimberly family, being also a descendent of the Edgecombe County branch of the **Pope family** whose ancestral home near Battleboro, "**Mimosa**", c. 1770 was near the Wimberly plantation, "**Marbluff**." c. 1803

Though unimportant these coincidences do re-

mind us what a small world it is, indeed. One wonders at the reaction could it have been known then to John Benjamin Gerald and Clara Wimberly, seeing their names juxtaposed in the newspaper that day in 1906 Gainesville, that five decades later - - actually 49 years, 2 months and 15 days - - their families would be united by marriage in Rocky Mount, NC by the union of **Ann Eugenia Duke** and **George Wimberly Wilkinson**.

But further pursuit of those parts of the story remain for another rainy day and another long-winded report.

Written by TRCGS member Ed Williamson

Gainesville daily sun., April 04, 1906, Page 8. Image 9

About Gainesville daily sun. (Gainesville, Fla.) 1907-1938

Image provided by: University of Florida

Image: 9 of 9. Page All Pages Issues All Issues View: Text All PDF Download: JP2 (4.4 MB) Clip Image

mons female magician who will be with Mrs. Wilson on Saturday and Monday. It don't cost anything to see her.

**J. H. Gerald**, general salesman for the New Home sewing machine, has returned from an extended trip through West Florida. He states that the people of that section were never in a more prosperous condition, and that money is plentiful.

Miss Clara Wimberly of West Lake, Ga. is to the city on a visit to friends.

(First corner Sou)

Open Until Midnight

Western

Miss Wimberly



## MAJOR SAMUEL T. WRIGHT

The following article appeared in the *Carolina Watchman* newspaper, Salisbury, North Carolina, on March 8th, 1883:

The New York Sun, relates the circumstances of the suicide of **Major Samuel T. Wright**, of Tarboro, N.C., in that city on Friday last. Major Wright was a brave soldier in the

Confederate army. He could brave the dangers of battle, but could not bear the disappointment of friends in business matters. He left an estimable family in Tarboro.

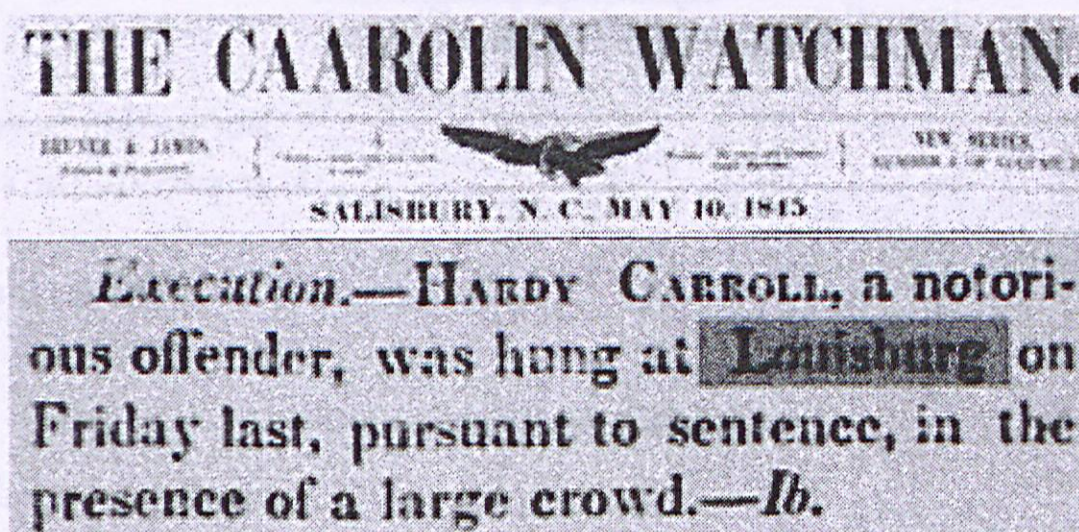


Submitted by TRCGS Member  
Danny Bunn.



Bridge over the Tar River at Greenville, ca. 1915. The sign on the bridge reads: "Warning, all persons are forbidden to ride or drive over this bridge faster than a walk. Five dollars fine for every offence by order of county commissioners."

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



This article appeared on page 3 of *The Carolina Watchman*, Salisbury, NC, dated 10 May 1845. Note the misplacement of the letter "A" in the newspaper title. Submitted by TRCGS Member Danny Bunn

## STORE BURNED SUNDAY

Thorne's Store, located a few miles from Rocky Mount, in No. 11 township was destroyed by fire Sunday morning about ten o'clock.

The building is the property of **Mr. J. J. Thorne** and the stock of goods in the building belonged to **Mr. P. L. Moore**.

Nothing was saved from the store, the contents being a total loss.

This loss is estimated to be about fifteen hundred dollars and there was insurance carried on the building or the stock.

The cause of this fire is unknown, and no one had been in the store since it was closed Saturday night.

Taken from *The Southerner* dated May 7, 1923.

## One Cent Reward.



RAN AWAY from the Subscriber, on Sunday, 26th ult., an indebted white boy named **OLIVER CHERRY**, about 12 or 13 years old. The above reward, but no charges, will be paid for his apprehension and delivery to me. All persons are forbid harboring or employing said boy, under penalty of the law.

**JOHN MOORING.**

March 15, 1843.

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The *Tarboro Press* April 1, 1843, p: 2, c:5.  
Submitted by TRCGS Member Danny Bunn



## SOCIAL NEWS

## Returned From Raleigh

— Mrs. M. B. Hart, Mrs. W. D. Bryan and Mrs. R. J. Walker have returned from a visit to Mrs. Barbee of Raleigh.

— To See Her Father, Mr. Bunn.

Miss Sue Bunn, of Washington, S.C., is here this week to see her father, Mr. H. S. Bunn.

Truck for Sale: One Huffman truck, ton and half; good condition. Sarah Bullock, Princeville.

*The Southerner* dated May 7, 1923



The American Tourist Camp at Henderson, ca. 1920s

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



## MINERAL SPRING NEAR LOUISBURG.

We called public attention some time since, to the discovery of this Spring; since which we are pleased to learn that it has been resorted to by a number of persons this Summer from the low country, many of whom have derived considerable benefits from the use of the water. Shoeco has a rival at Louisburg, which we have a notion, when it becomes more extensively known, will throw that celebrated spa into the shade, by the superiority of its curative properties, at least as much as it will more greatly attract by the favorable nature of its location, and the superior fashionable character of its neighborhood. Louisburg is the centre of a society unsurpassed in North Carolina, for refinement, intelligence and morality; and when the means of accommodation shall be extensively provided, (as we learn will be the case next Summer,) we see no reason to doubt but that "the Ancient Town" and its new Mineral Spring will be head-quarters for the fashionables and invalids of the State.—*Ral. Times*.

An article on page 3, The Carolina Watchman, Salisbury, NC, dated February 1836, pertaining to a mineral spring near Louisburg. Submitted by TRCGS Danny Bunn

# PATROL REGULATIONS

FOR  
*The Town of Tarborough.*

**RULE 1st.** Slaves residing in the country whose owners, masters or mistresses for the time being do not live in town, other than such as have wives in town, shall not come to town on the Sabbath day, unless to attend church, or in the night time without written permission from their owners, masters or mistresses for the time being, such permission stating the place or places such slaves shall visit—Provided that they may at all times, come to town, on the business of their owners, masters or mistresses for the time being, without written permissions.

**RULE 2nd.** No slave after the hour of nine, P. M. (a reasonable time being allowed for him or her to go home or to the place designated in his or her written permission after the ringing of the bell,) shall be on the streets, or absent from the premises of his or her owner, master or mistress for the time being—or the premises of the owner, master or mistress for the time being of his wife—or the premises of the person, where he may be authorized by his written permission to go—unless he or she be on the business of his or her owner, master or mistress for the time being.

**RULE 3rd.** If any slave shall violate the foregoing Rules, the Patrol shall have power and it shall be their duty (any two of their number being present) to whip the said slave, either at the time of the offence being committed or at any time within three months thereafter, the number of stripes not to exceed fifteen, unless the said slave shall be guilty of insolent behaviour, or make his escape from the Patrol, in either of which cases the number of stripes shall not exceed thirty-nine.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/tarboro/tarboro.html>



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