

The Connector

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

Spring, 1999

Peggy Strickland & Billie Jo Matthews, Co-Editors

Volume 3 Issue 2

Sir Archie—Fastest Horse of His Time

At the signal from the judges, the two comely horses approached the post, prancing, arching their great necks, and pulling at the reins in their anticipation of the coming 4-mile contest. The huge, noisy crowd of NC and VA racing fans lining the sides of the course at Scot-



land Neck in Halifax Co., NC to watch the race between two Thoroughbreds signalled their approval with loud applause. It was a beautiful, crisp autumn day; the ladies glowed like flowers in their finest gowns while the gentlemen sported their most fashionable outfits. Liquor, fine and not so fine, was abundant. The betting was heavy.

Blank, son of Centinel, had already won brilliantly during the

1809 season, crowning his achievements with a win at Belfield in Greensville Co, VA where he defeated a field of seven, including two half-brothers to Sir Archie. Sir Archie, also a winner that spring and fall, was a bay with a touch of white on one heel—vigorous, clean-limbed and swift with proportions ideal for a race horse. So respected were the two racing giants that no other horses were entered in the race.

The roll of the drum signalled the start of the race and they were off,

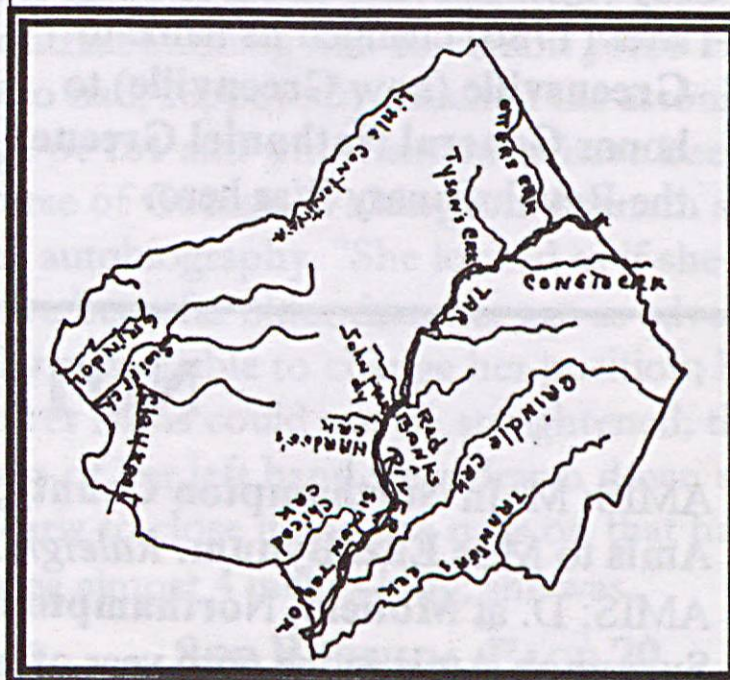
SEE SIR ARCHIE, PAGE 9

Down, Down The River—Pitt Co.

BY LOUISE FULLER

The Tar River becomes wider, deeper and more navigable after leaving Tarboro. It flows by Carr's Landing and the landing at Old Sparta until it reaches Penny Hill at the Pitt Co. line. It was here that the plantation of James Thigpen stood. In earlier days canoes, scows and flats engaged in river trade, carrying cotton, tobacco, lumber, naval stores, and a variety of other products. The river was the main trade artery, but there was no concerted effort to clear it of obstructions, so river travel was hazardous. With the advent of the steamboat, river travel increased greatly for both passengers and freight.

Pitt Co. had a large number of landings for loading and unloading the various products. Usually, there was a dirt road to the landing with a path alongside to drive livestock. Among the many landings on the Tar were: Thomas Dupree's on the north side of Otter's Creek; Robert William's between Otter and Tyson Creeks; Henry Ellis's on the south side of Tyson's Creek; SEE DOWN, DOWN, PAGE 9



Confederate Imprints

BY JOHN BASS

A Confederate imprint is any book, pamphlet, broadside, map, piece of sheet music, pictorial print, newspaper, magazine or other serial publication, including government, military and private sector items, published in Confederate-held territory. The item must have been printed between the time of a state's secession and the surrender in 1865. Not included in the definition are forms that required completion, and such items as currency, stocks, bonds, stamps.

In the early days of the Civil War, much was written in the Southern press about the need for the South to establish itself in writing and publishing, areas in which it had long lagged behind its Northern

SEE IMPRINTS, PAGE 5

QUERY GUIDE- LINES

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.
5. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Don't expect a miracle!!

Tar River Connections Genealogical Society

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Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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e-mail: Turn1104@aol.com

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Two Ancestral Tales

By GEORGE HAWKINS

Dr. George Hawkins, of Nashville, NC spoke to TRC at its January, 1999 meeting. He told several fascinating stories about his ancestors including the two which follow.

Samuel Benton

Samuel Benton had two large plantations, **Benton** in **Johnston Co.** and **Oxford** in **Granville Co.** In 1764, Samuel was a member of the **NC General Assembly** and he sponsored a bill making Oxford the county seat of Granville. He then gave an acre of land to build the first courthouse. The community was first known as **Harrisburg**, but was incorporated as the Town of Oxford in 1816.

The Messenger

There was a joke about an ancestor, who served in the Civil War, being a coward, or even a traitor. He was often seen by his comrades running away from the battle. An investigation showed that he was actually the company messenger. At the beginning of each charge, it was his responsibility to run back to headquarters to report to the officers on how the battle was progressing. Enemy sharpshooters were anxious to do away with the messenger and his first steps always drew heavy fire. His burst of speed in trying to avoid the bullets earned him his unsavory reputation.

Pitt County

1. Was formed 1760 from **Beaufort County**.
2. Is bounded by **Beaufort, Craven, Lenoir, Greene, Wilson, Edgecombe, and Martin Counties**.
3. Was named for **William Pitt, Earl of Chatham**.
4. Chose **Martinsborough** as the name of the county seat (after the last NC royal governor, **Josiah Martin**), but later (1786) changed its name to **Greensville** (now **Greenville**) to honor **General Nathaniel Greene**, the Revolutionary War hero.



William Pitt, Earl of Chatham.

NOTICES

AMIS: M. In **Northampton County**, on the 3d inst., Mr. **John D. Amis** to Miss **Eliz. Bynum**. *Raleigh Register*, Thur 10 Dec 1807.

AMIS: D. at **Mofield, Northampton County**, on the 29th Sept., Mrs. **Susannah Amis** in the 66th year of her age. *Raleigh Minerva*, Fri 13 Nov 1818.



ORAL
HISTORY
PROJECT

Nash County Arts Council

Working in Radio

By J. T. (TOMMY) SNOWDEN, JR.

I first came to Nash Co. and Rocky Mount in 1938 to accept a position on the announcing and copy-writing staff of radio station WEED-AM. My salary was \$22.50 per week.

WEED was the only radio station east of Raleigh in 1938. Avera Wynne was the owner and manager. On the staff when I arrived were: announcers Wally Williams, Carl McKinney, and Bernard Proctor. Ike Murphrey, a Rocky Mount native, and Roy Bechtol, from PA, were our engineers. Our sales manager was B.W. Frank. Later, Ray Bandy and Jack Cummings worked in sales, as did I.

I spent my first week in Rocky Mount at the Cambridge Hotel on Main Street. My room was on the second floor front and the trains going by the front door of the hotel made sleeping difficult for the first two or three nights. I ate my meals at the Palace Restaurant, the New York Cafe, and the Royal Palm Restaurant.

After a week at the Cambridge Hotel, I secured a nice room with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Frank Avent on Forrest Hill Drive in Englewood, just two blocks from the studios of WEED. The room, including laundry, was \$3 per week. I soon discovered Mrs. Sally Edwards' boarding house on

SEE RADIO, PAGE 15

P. T. Barnum—Prince of Humbug—In Rocky Mount

It was in Rocky Mount, NC that the legendary showman, Phineas Taylor Barnum, is said to have given the first performance of his traveling show, Barnum's Grand Scientific and Musical Theatre. One of his many autobiographies, *Life of P. T. Barnum*, describes his visit this way:

"On Saturday, November 12, 1836, we halted at Rocky Mount Falls, NC, and on my way to the Baptist Church [Falls of the Tar], Sunday morning, I noticed a stand and benches in a grove near by, and decided to speak to the people if I was permitted. The landlord who was with me said that the congregation, coming from a distance to attend a single service, would be very glad to hear a stranger, and I accordingly asked the venerable clergyman to announce that after service I would speak for half an hour in the grove. Learning that I was not a clergyman, he declined to give the notice, but said that he had no objection to my making the announcement, which I did, and the congregation, numbering about three hundred, promptly came to hear me.



"The titles of 'humbug,' and the 'prince of humbugs,' were first applied to me by myself."

I told them I was not a preacher, and had very little experience in public speaking; but ... would attempt, in a plain way, to set before them the duties and privileges of man. ... We must look to realities and not to appearances. Diamonds may glitter on a viscious breast, but the soul's calm sunshine and the heart-felt joy is virtue's prize. The rogue, the passionate man, the drunkard, are not to be envied even at the best, and a conscience hardened by sin is the most sorrowful possession we can think of. I went on in this way for three-quarters of an hour. At the close of my address several persons took me by the hand, expressing themselves as greatly pleased and desiring to know my name; I went away with the feeling that I might have done some good in the beautiful grove on that charming Sunday morning."

Who might have heard Barnum's up-lifting words that fine October day? The Falls of the Tar Primitive Baptist Church membership list given on page 6 provides clues to that question.

What brought Barnum to NC?

What led to Barnum's visit to Rocky Mount? P. T. Barnum discovered his true niche in life in the summer of 1835 when, at the age of 25, he purchased a contract entitling him to exhibit Joice Heth, who had, supposedly, reached the astonishing age of 161 and who claimed to have been the nurse of George Washington! Barnum says in his autobiography, "She looked as if she might have been far older than her age as advertised. She was unable to change her position; her lower limbs could not be straightened; the fingers of her left hand were drawn down so as nearly to close it and the nails on that hand were almost 4 inches long; she was

SEE BARNUM, PAGE 20

THE GREATEST
Natural & National
CURIOSITY
IN THE WORLD.



Barnum's Hotel, Bridgeport.

The Yeargins—Spring Hope Entrepreneurs

BY ROY WILDER

"This is a complicated affair," Tom Yeargin used to say. Tom was a machinist, a gunsmith, a metal worker, an innovator. He lived in Spring Hope, NC from 1886 to 1932. The story of Tom Yeargin is indeed a "complicated affair"—a story of a black family with considerable impact in Spring Hope, Raleigh, NC, New York City.

The story began in 1886 when James Madison Yeargin, recently a slave, moved his family from Louisburg to Spring Hope Depot, bringing his wife, Caroline Baker Yeargin, and their sons, Thomas Howard (b. 1877, d. 1962), James William (b. 1881, d. aft. 1981), and Rodger Prior (b. 1886, d. 1902).

Where they lived, no one knows, but they were buried—all but James William—in the Yeargin plot in Meeks Cemetery. There are markers for all but Tom. For him, there is a sunken grave.

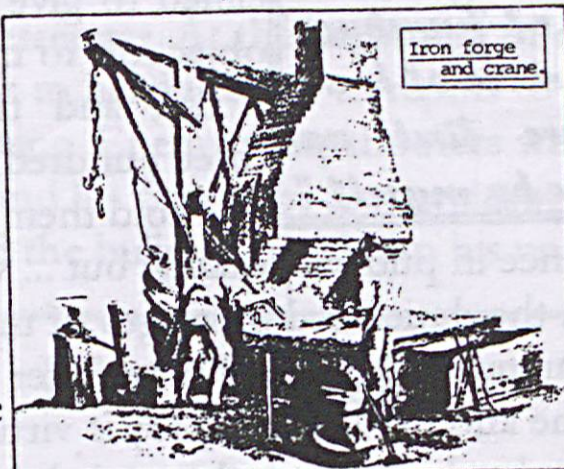
The Yeargins came to Spring Hope to operate a foundry. The father had

learned the metal working trade as a slave, probably in Franklin Co. Nobody knows why they came to Spring Hope. Maybe Louisburg, already an old town, was too crowded, while Spring Hope Depot was on the grow, what with half a hundred people, a railroad terminus, a depot, and hopes that the train line would be extended all the way to Raleigh. Here, too, was the Branch-Cone mercantile operation—dry goods, heavy and fancy groceries, hardware, farm supplies, credit. Whatever—James Madison Yeargin had been around. He had joined up with Sherman's troops when they took Raleigh, had followed them northward, had worked in Washington and Baltimore. Now he returned to NC and put his roots down in Spring Hope.

The 1900 census lists Yeargin & Son, Iron Foundry, as the nation's only black-operated foundry. A letterhead of the period identifies the firm as manufacturer of plow castings, sash weights, sill courses, boiler grates.

Somewhere along here, probably prior to 1900, Tom Yeargin went into business for himself. His one-story shop was a place of wonders—lathes, anvils, red coals and low fires, pistols for repair, aluminum shotgun stocks in molds of river dirt, a strange automobile in a corner, hand-made tools that Tom made for particular jobs of

SEE YEARGIN, PAGE 8



Granville County Taxpayers 1788

Tar River District

Jacob Slaughter, Sen.
Jacob Slaughter, Taylor
Geo. Dunkin
James Roberts
John Wood
Solomon Williams
Dennis Obryan
Wm. Badget
John Hill
Danl. Gooch
James Forsythe
Rich Bass
Harrison Dunkin
Peter Brinkley
Michael Meadows
Richard Briggs
Hezekiah Hopgood
Jesse Gunter

Wm. Hester
George Pettyford
Ephraim Frazer
John Badget, Exr. for Keder Parker
as do for Jonath. Parker
Anthony Lumpkin
Anthony Harris, son of Rich
John Thomason
John Mathews
Shearmon Goss
James Brinkley, Sr.
Charles Long
Isham Johnson
Nathan'l Clark
Wm. Cock
James Meadows
Daniel Meadows
John Washington, Esq
Miles Wells
Robert Adcock
James Brinkley, Jun.
Peter Badget
Wm. Philpot
Thos. Oakley

John Thorp, Sen
James Terry
John Thorp, Jun
William Oakley
Jacob Slaughter, Jr.
John Cragg, Jun
James Millener
Amos Gooch
Michael Shearman
Richard Fowler
John Cragg, Senr
John Russel
Graves Howard
Benj. Bass, Jun.
Benj. Bass, Sen.
Benja. Putman
William Gill, esq.
do in Green or Davidson Co
Amery Bruer
John Williams, Capt.
Richard Brinkley
John Jones
Barnett Pulliam

Col and State Records, Vol XXVI, p. 1268-69

Petition of John Evans

To the Honourable the General Assembly for the State of **North Carolina**, Now assembled at **Wake Courthouse**.

The petition of **John Evans**, of **Nash County**,

HUMBLY SHEWETH, That on a certain day a party of the **Nash Light Horse** came to his house, & took your petitioner into custody, & carried him to **Nash Courthouse**, there was put under guard by the

Orders of **Maj. Wood**, the Comd't, & threatened your petitioner with hanging, A Gallows being erected on the spot, which Terrified your Petitioner to such a Degree that he consented to Enlist for Eighteen months. Your Petitioner inquired of the officers what his crime was. They answered that he wanted to take up arms & join the insurgents in **Edgecombe**, & went the length of **Duncan Lamon's** to take his advice what to do in Regard to taking up arms or not, which charge is

quite false, as **Col. Hunter** and **Clinch** is since convinced of. Your Petitioner humbly prays that your Honours, in your great wisdom, will Take your Petitioner's Case under your serious Consideration, and Order your Petitioner to be Discharged from the duty of Eighteen Months, & your Petitioner, as in duty Bound, will ever Pray.

JOHN EVANS.

(Taken from *Colonial and State Records, Vol. XV* (1780), p. 236)

Imprints, From P. 1

neighbors. *Debow's Review* sharply criticized northern literature, "...its effects upon the Southern mind have been pernicious in the extreme" and "...how are we to relieve ourselves from our degrading dependence upon our enemies for one of our chief sources of information and pleasure?" And going even further, "The old taunt 'Who reads an American book?' may be revived, with the change, 'Who reads a Southern book?' But if so, Southerners will have only themselves to blame."

As the Southern states pulled out of the Union, the need for publishers and printing presses became critical. The major printing resources in the early days consisted of 4 major publishers, several smaller job printers, and a number of small local newspaper offices, many of which fell by the wayside as the war progressed. The shortage of materials made printing in the Confederacy an exercise in invention. A "q", seldom used, by inversion, became a makeshift substitute for a much worn and irreplaceable "b".

Paper remained a rare commodity throughout the war. The 15 paper mills produced about 75,000 lbs/day, enough to meet about half the need. The battle for survival was not one of words and subscribers, but

one of paper. On 15 Jan 1862, the *Atlanta Southern Confederacy* noted, "The mill which makes our paper is unable, on account of recent damage to the machinery, which cannot be repaired or replaced until the blockade is ended, to make any more paper of our weekly size." Paper mills advertised desperately for rags and scrap paper such as old ledgers, journals, etc. And paper was not the only scarcity; ink was also almost nonexistent. Some suggested substitutes were juices of figs, poison oak and poke weed.

The first effort to preserve the publications of the Confederate

States of America originated at the **Boston Athenaeum**. **Francis Parkman**, a member of the Athenaeum's Library Committee, journeyed to Richmond, VA in 1865 and began acquiring items printed in the South during the war years, including newspapers, all kinds of books, maps, music and miscellaneous items which might otherwise have been lost. Other institutions, including the Museum of the Confederacy at Richmond; universities such as Emory, Duke, UNC, and UVA; the Library of Congress; and forward looking individual collectors also assembled holdings of Confederate items.

In beginning a collection of Confederate Imprints, it is important to note that some areas, such as New Orleans, changed sides at various times during the war. Items printed by the Northern side, or during the time when an area was held by Northern troops, do not qualify as Confederate Imprints. Many Confederate Imprints are easily recognizable by the poor quality of the paper, ink and printing. Because of the shortage of manpower, as well as materials, most items were poorly edited and contained numerous typesetting errors. Good Hunting!

[John Bass of Spring Hope, NC gave a program on *Confederate Imprints* at the Jan., 1999 meeting of TRC.]

BENJAMIN F. EVANS HARTY COOPER

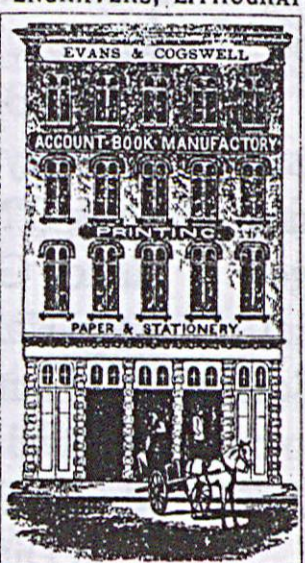
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Cotton Market

Memories of a Boy's Adventure

Zion's Landmark, June 1, 1916

By P. D. GOLD

About October or November my father and my two uncles would take two four horse teams with about 8 bales of cotton in each wagon with provisions enough for us and the teams, and bedding and start to **Columbia, SC** to the cotton market—about 110 miles. It required ten days of hard travel to make the trip with the return. We

would drive until dark, and be ready to move again at daylight, and travel the same way on Sunday.

It was a joyous trip to me when I was about 15 years of age [about 1848]. I never saw a railroad or train until I was grown. There was much prosperity in SC. We passed by the **King's Mountain** battle ground at **Hambright's Gap**, by **Yorkville, Chester** and **Winboro**. There were many fine country residences. The favorite color of paint was white with green window blinds. The ladies had much taste displayed in ornamental yards with great varieties of flowers. Fine carriages and splen-

did teams of horses were the style. Dueling was a favorite way of wiping out supposed insult. The people of SC were quick to resent an insult, but true to their notions of points of honor, and devoted to their friends. Honor was strictly maintained, and a man's word was his bond. There was more appreciation of true character then than now. Money would not condone for crime then as it does now.

Farming was conducted on the plan of the farm yielding bread-stuffs. The farmer raised his corn,

SEE COTTON, PAGE 12

Falls of the Tar Primitive Baptist Church

1806-1836 — Years of Growth — (4th Article in a Series)

Pheby Proctor	Abner Read	Sherrod Brake	William A. Fort	Susannah Fort	Tempy Terrell
Edy Strickland	Priscilla Hare	Elizabeth Battle	John Gilbert	Elizabeth George	Rebecca Harrel
Henry Whitehead	Mary Vick	Etheldred Gray	Edwin Sumner	Ann Lancaster	Polly Taylor
Elizabeth Fort	Tempy Drake	Keziah Brake	Polly Horn	Mrs. James Lancaster	Mary Barnes
Mary Battle	Willie Causey	Tempy Vick	Rebecca Gray	Humphrey Revel	Exum Manning
Mary Pope	Thomas Valentine	Sally Pope	Captain Wilson	Abigail Pond	Bateman Taylor
Joel Battle	Josiah Crudup	Olive Horn	Charlotte Ricks	Doris Brake	Moses Joyner
Elisha Battle Jr	Chasey Carrel	Dempsey Pope	Peggy Brake	Deliah Revel	Nancy Weaver
Jesse Andrews	Bennett Barnes	Robert Soary	Phebe Looper	Matthew Revel	Edy Fletcher
Tempy Fort	William Hilliard	Gray Armstrong	Mary Braswell	Tempie Porter	Olive Joyner
Josiah Horn	Lurainy Hill	Milly Price	Jane Phillips	William Dorch	Ann Wiggons
Henry Ricks	Josiah Worrell	Tamer Jackson	Elizabeth Langley	Daniel Brake	Richard Rose
Taylor Thorn	Andrew Battle	Sarah Spicer	Hattie Ballard	Priscilla Thomas	Violet Jones
Joseph S. Battle	William Ball	William Pope	Sally Jackson	Wilson Thomas	Cullen Melton
Mary Gay	James S. Battle	Eaton Gay	Nancy Battle	Lamon Lane	Nathan Manning
Hattie Ballard	Willie Ricks	Patsey Armstrong	Polly Hyatt	Nancy Lane	Allen Taylor
Thomas Manning	Susanna Lee	Mary Manning	Polly O'Neal	Allen Manning	Willie Whitley
Exum Fletcher	Mourning Horn	Nancy Bagget	Nancy Gray	William Dickinson	Nancy Curl
Edwin Barnes	Cobb	Rhoda Daniel	Sally Hart		
Dempsey Jenkins	Amelia Battle	Nancy W. Scarborough	Capt James Gray		
Elizabeth Jenkins	Nancy Causey	Betsey Watkins	James Barnes, Jr		
Jethro Battle	Salley Battle	Sally Ricks	Mary Dillard		
Ely Ricks	Mourning Manning	Elizabeth Nolly	John Dillard		
Jesse Battle	John Gay	Olive Battle	Mary Horn		
John Andrews	Mary McDade	Judey Brake	Eliza Langley		
Mildred Lamon	Fanny Horn	Patience Stallings	Trecy Barnes		
Lewis Fort	Charity Gilbert	Betty Revel	Mourning Drake		
Alfred L. Battle			Elizabeth Dance		

Corrections

2nd List - Fall 1998

Mary Henry Horn
Patience Henry Horn
3rd List - Winter 1999

Ruth Henry Horn

1780 Colonial Letters

In a July 26, 1780 letter from Col. **Benj. Seawell** to Gov. **Abner Nash**, we read: "Your favour by **Mr. Jones** came to hand accompan'd with fifty Thousand Dollars. You mentioned that you had already furnished **Gen. Eaton** with 40,000 Pounds, **Colo. Hart of Edgecomb** £10,000; that sum, added to the twenty thousand furnished me, amounting in the whole to £70,000, you supposed must be a sum sufficient for **Halifax District** but, Sir, I am convinced you never made a calculation of the matter; as, for Instance, seven hundred Troops is rais'd in Halifax District, 400 of which is drafts. Their bounty, at 150 dollars each, is 60,000 dollars, 300

Volunteers at 300 Do. is 90,000 Dollars amounting in the whole to 60,000 Pounds, which is within ten thousand pounds of the Sum already advanced. I am made acquainted with the appropriation of the money **Gen. Eaton** Rec'd., & can inform you he has applied the whole to the public use; & yet the **Warren, No. Hampton & Nash** men have not rec'd a shilling Bounty;..."

In 1780, **Rev. Mr. Purcell**, in a letter to Gov. Nash, complained that the value of "State money" in **Beaufort**. "There were a delicious variety of Fish & some chicken & Turtle brought to Town. A servant was dispatched to buy some, but the Fellow, brought up with Insolence amidst his scaly Tribe, refused to de-

CONNECTOR

liver any without hard Money, and audaciously superadded, 'Not a d—m'd Son of a B—ch in the Town shall have any with out it.'"

Brig. Genl. John Simpson to Gov. **Abner Nash**: "The Pitt Volunteers, under the Command of **Col. John Salter & Major James Gorham**, ...will want guns and potts.

...I expect the Companies will Consist of one hundred horse & foot. I have sent inclosed my Bond for £1,000 for paying bounty to such as may want, forage for the horses, provisions, &c."

Colo. P. Mallett to Gov. **Abner Nash**, 26 Aug 1780: "**Mr. Henderson** of **Granville**, offers 50 Cattle for money; they can be here in 4 or 5 days."

An Early Interstate?

The Great Trading Path

The **Great Trading Path**, an ancient Indian route, entered NC in **Warren Co.** as it moved southwesterly from **Petersburg, VA**. It continued on this course through **Vance** and **Granville** counties, through the center of the state as it is today, and on to the mountains near **Charlotte, NC**. It was the gateway to the west that many of our ancestors followed on their way to **Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia**, and other unexplored lands. It was this route, also, that was taken by the **Mormans** on their way from the coast to **Wachovia (Winston Salem, NC)** in 1753.

The **Edward Moseley Map** of NC, done in 1733 and located at ECU, shows the "Indian Trading Road from the Cataubos and Charokee Indians to Virginia." It is the only road show in the west. The **Mitchell Map** of 1755 shows only two roads in the

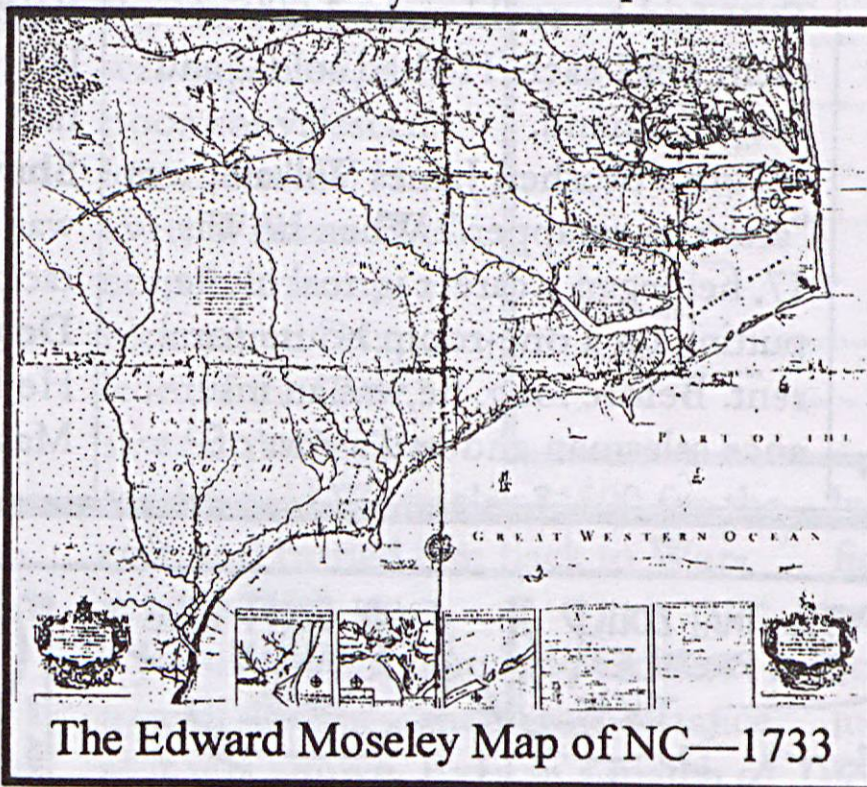
piedmont area. Though not named, the Trading Path is outlined from VA to GA and is intersected within the limits of NC by a single road, the **Cape Fear Road** which extended north through the Wachovia settlement.

The **Collet Map**, prepared largely from information gathered by **William Churton**, **Lord Granville's** surveyor and issued in 1770, shows the Trading Path. The **Mouzon Map**, dated 1775, also marks the Trading Path.

Col. Wm. Byrd, who surveyed the VA-NC line, described the path in detail in 1728: "About three miles from our Camp, we passed **GREAT CREEK**, and then, after traversing very barren grounds for 5 miles together, we crost the Tradeing Path, and soon after had the pleasure of reaching the uppermost Inhabitant..."

The Tradeing-Path above mention'd received its Name from being the Route the Traders take with their Caravans, when they go to traffick with the **Catawbas** and other Southern Indians. ... The Goods for the Indian Trade consist chiefly in Guns, Powder, Shot, Hatchets, (which the Indians call **Toma-hawks**.) Kettles, red & blue Planes, Duffields, Stroudwater blankets, and some Cutlary Wares, Brass Rings and other Trinkets.

The Course .. lies thro' a fine Country, that is Water'd by Several beautiful Rivers. ... **Tar River**, which is the upper part of **Pamtico, Flat River, Little River**



SEE TRADING PATH, PAGE 10

Acquisitions— Braswell Memorial Library

1. *Granville County, NC Deeds 1763-1766*, abstracted by Timothy W. Rackley. All deeds contain boundary descriptions.
2. Series of *NC Genealogical Society Journals* beginning with 1983. Gift from TRC Member Roy Edwards.
3. *Isle of Wight County, VA Deeds 1736-1741* by T L C Genealogy. Gift from TRC Member Helen Sharpe.
4. *Nash County, NC Microfilm: General Index to Deeds* (12 Reels); *Land Entries* (1 Reel); *County Court Minutes* (8 Reels); *Wills* (6 Reels); plus others...

YEARGIN, FROM PAGE 4

work. And of odors—oil spilled on the dirt floor, smoldering heaps of coke, leather. Tom's shop opened almost to the sky. There was a roof, and a front door locked at night, but so many boards were off the structure, nobody would be repulsed. The only dry and secure place was his office.

Tom was a large man, tall, with broad shoulders, sort of mahogany in color. He was friendly, but not particularly outgoing. He read a lot. He had compassion, as **G.W. Bunn, Jr.** can testify.

G.W.'s bicycle was in Tom's shop for repair and G.W. was to ride it in a parade that afternoon. Repair of the bike was what Tom called "a complicated affair,"

and the prospect for G.W. was bleak. He tuned up and cried, and Tom got the bike in shape for G.W. to parade as scheduled.

One of Tom's staple products was an aluminum stock for shotguns. Some had hunting knives concealed in them; some had a compartment for stowing hot coals to keep the hunter warm.

And his automobile...it was a **Reo**, a 7-passenger touring car. Tom's innovations included an ice box, a stove, and a basin with running water—all in the roomy back compartment. G.W. Bunn, Jr. remembers standing on the running board when the car was in motion and Tom cut loose with its horn, or whistle. It was sort of like the **Montgomery Lumber Company** fire whistle—a shriek and a wail. G.W. jumped.

Later, when Tom moved from Spring Hope to Louisburg, he wrote his brother of getting \$10 for a sidewalk display sign of metal—a come-on made for a vendor of hotdogs. It featured a 4-foot long fork, painted silver-like, on which a 2-foot long hot dog, painted red, was impaled. Tom said he could make 1,000 of them at \$5 each. He had sold 2 and had 4 on hand.

Tom's brother, James William, was "always a scrapper." When he was 17, he began a career in real estate, putting up a one-room house for rent. Before long, he was an insurance salesman and had a sort of

burial-on-a-budget business. He was also a teacher, a newspaper correspondent, and a deacon in **New Hope Baptist Church**. From 1904 until 1910, he ran the Yeargin Foundry.

On the day he was to go to Rocky Mount to marry **Leah Lindsey Thorpe**, he closed the deal for a 5-room house. The train waited while buyer and seller negotiated.

Tom Yeargin returned to Spring Hope in 1962 for the burial of an old friend, **Jack Toney**. **J.W. Wiggins**, who, as a lad, had been paid \$3 a week to crank the blower in Tom's coke furnace, run errands and ride his bicycle as far as **Stanhope** to collect bills, asked him, "Ain't you got some new teeth?"

Tom said he did have new teeth. Made them himself. Of aluminum.

Tom Yeargin went from Louisburg to **Long Island, NY** where he ran a repair shop, and eventually back to Raleigh. James W. Yeargin moved his foundry from Spring Hope to **Durham** in 1910 because he wanted his children to have a better education. By 1914, he was in Raleigh where he had a foundry and later dealt in insurance and real estate. James' only son, a graduate of **Shaw and St. John's Universities**, was an assistant district attorney—a racket buster—under **Thomas E. Dewey** and later a judge in NY. He had 6 daughters, 3 of whom had Masters Degrees.

THE GRIZZWELLS



DOWN, DOWN FROM P. 1 Pillsbury's on the east side of **Falkland** (once called **Bensboro**); **Center Bluff**; **Reeves**; **Blue Banks**; **Red Banks**; and **John Simpson's**.

During the Revolution, there were about 5000 people in Pitt Co., and most lived along the Tar. Few of them had been born in the county, although there were land grants to a number of the earlier settlers up and

down the river. A land grant such as this reveals much interesting data about the grantee and where he lived: Patent Book 4 page 93: 7 Jan 1763 **Lord Granville** to **Simon Taylor**. 216 acres in Pitt County on the south side of Tarr River, on the south side of **Chicod Creek**, joining sd TAYLOR, the side of a cart road, **Isaac Buck** and the south side of the creek. |s| Simon Taylor wits:

Alex Stewart, (X) Joshua Stafford, examined by **Tho. Blount** and **W. Churton**, Surveyed 5 May 1762. Sec **John Dixon, Wm. Taylor, John Spier, Jr.**, Survr.

Railroads and the super highways have eliminated the need for the river as a trade artery, but for pleasure, power, beauty and thirst, the river, our Tar, remains Pitt County's greatest treasure.

SIR ARCHIE, FROM P. 1

head to head, the thunder of their hoofs audible even against the roar of the crowd. "For the first two miles they raced thus evenly with Sir Archie a few feet in the lead. Then Blank exerted himself, seeking to draw ahead. Sir Archie's pace quickened on the instant. He kept in front, not widening the gap, but running faster and yet faster as Blank attempted a spurt. Indeed, it seemed that Sir Archie had tremendous reserves of strength and speed on which he drew only a little at a time to stay that short distance ahead." Sir Archie won by a little more than a length, and as the judges compared their watches, a time of 7 minutes and 52 seconds was marked—the fastest 4 miles ever run south of the **James River**."

Cheers and great applause. The next half hour saw bets paid, new bets offered and taken as the two horses were cooled down and readied for the next round. Then the second heat was called. "Again a start almost together, again Sir Archie forging ever so slightly to the front, again Blank doing his best to overtake Sir Archie, and again Blank failing utterly to do so. Sir Archie won the second heat in the same manner he had won the first, not a great distance ahead and quite clearly not extended to anything like his utmost."

It began in 1804 when **Castianira**, a failure at racing and blind, was bred

with **Diomed**, a renowned Virginia stud. Born in the spring of 1805, the colt, Sir Archie, was owned by **Col. John Tayloe III** and **Capt. Archie Randolph** of VA. In 1807, he was sold to **Ralph Wormeley IV**.

Wormeley attempted to sell Sir Archie in 1808 prior to his first races scheduled for the fall in the **Washington Sweepstakes** and at **Fairfield Course** on the edge of **Richmond, VA**. However, Sir Archie contracted distemper, a common ailment among young horses of the day. Left weak and out of shape,

he was still required to run at Washington and Fairfield in order for Wormeley to avoid forfeiting the entry fees. As was expected, the poor convalescent lost the races. However, **William Ransom Johnson**, nicknamed "Napoleon of the Turf," saw Sir Archie's potential, paid Wormeley \$1500 for the colt, and carried him back to **Warrenton, NC**.

Johnson considered Sir Archie a natural 4-miler—the heroic distance, as it was known. Even in a match of 2 horses, the best 2 out of 3 heats required the horses to run as much as 12 miles. With a field of several entries, as many as 5 heats might be run before the victor was named

—20 miles at a killing pace with only 30-minute rest periods between heats.

In the spring of 1809, Sir Archie was taken to Richmond to run again on the Fairfield track where he had been humiliated the year before. He won splendidly against **Wrangler**, also out of Diomed and the horse who had beaten him on the same track the year before. **Col. Miles Selden**, his owner, blamed the loss on Wrangler's having raced the day before.

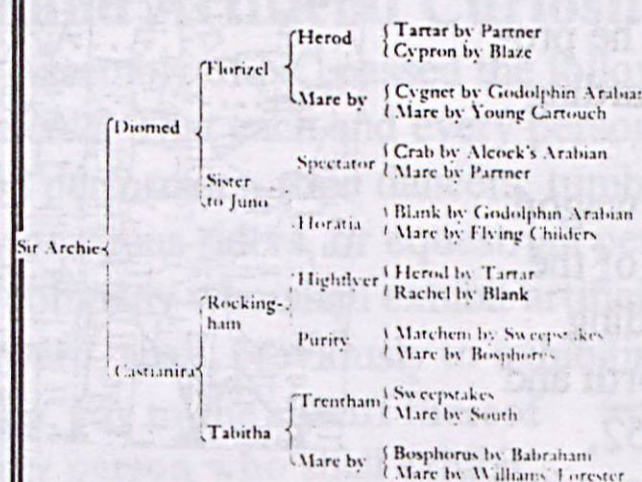
A week later, the two Diomed

were matched at **Newmarket Course, near Petersburg, VA**.

When the horses came to the post, the stand was crowded with spectators "who loved good food, good drink, and good racing." Wrangler won the first heat decisively.

"The second heat saw Sir Archie fighting Wrangler every step of the way and coming up along the home stretch to what looked like a tie. The judges pondered and argued long before they awarded that second heat, and the race, to Wrangler." Even Selden was surprised when his horse was declared the winner.

The Ancestry of Sir Archie



CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Practical 1885 Housewifery

From a reliable & complete
manual of housekeeping

(From the Perkins Family Library)

Food For The Sick

Beef-Tea, Good for inflammatory disease.

Buttermilk, when fresh, is useful in fevers, bilious diseases and dyspepsia.

Cream is better than milk. It is less likely to turn acid in the stomach.

Roasted Potatoes, very nearly, are preferred to other vegetables.

Indian-Meal is good for patients who are suffering from the loss of natural warmth.

Celery is good in some diseases of the kidneys and in nervousness and rheumatism.

Fresh, crisp raw cabbage, sliced fine and eaten with good vinegar, is easily digested, and often highly rel-

ished by those suffering from a "weak stomach".

New Cider is excellent for nervous dyspepsia.

Grape seeds are excellent for costiveness. The pulp is very nutritious and soothing to irritated bowels, while the skins, if chewed, act as an astringent.

Raw Beef is excellent in dysentery; should be minced very fine, and given in doses of a spoonful at a time every four hours, the patient in the

SEE PRACTICAL, PAGE 12

TRADING PATH, FROM P. 7 and **Eno River**, all three Branches of the **Neuse**." Byrd continues to describe the path as it proceeds southwest.

Though Byrd never traveled the path himself, he had access to written records of journeys through the territory, and traders along the path were still living. In addition, **Bearskin**, the young Indian hunter who was with Byrd's surveying party, was a **Saponi** whose ancestors once lived at **Trading Ford** on the **Yadkin River**. It is likely that he provided information regarding the Trading Path.

Though not even a wagon road at the beginning of the 18th century, the Trading Path was the great north and south highway. In 1752, **Bishop Spangenberg**, with **William Churton**, the surveyor of the colony, and several other companions, started at **Edenton**, journeyed west to the **Blue Ridge**, crossed the mountains and returned. His journey west followed the Trading Path from near **Warrenton** to **Trading Ford** on the **Yadkin**. He furnished a schedule for most of the way with mileage that is helpful in tracing locations:

Edcock to Patrick Bogin's	15 mi
Bogin's to Sennett	8 mi
Sennett to Maprin	18 mi
Maprin to Haw River	8 mi

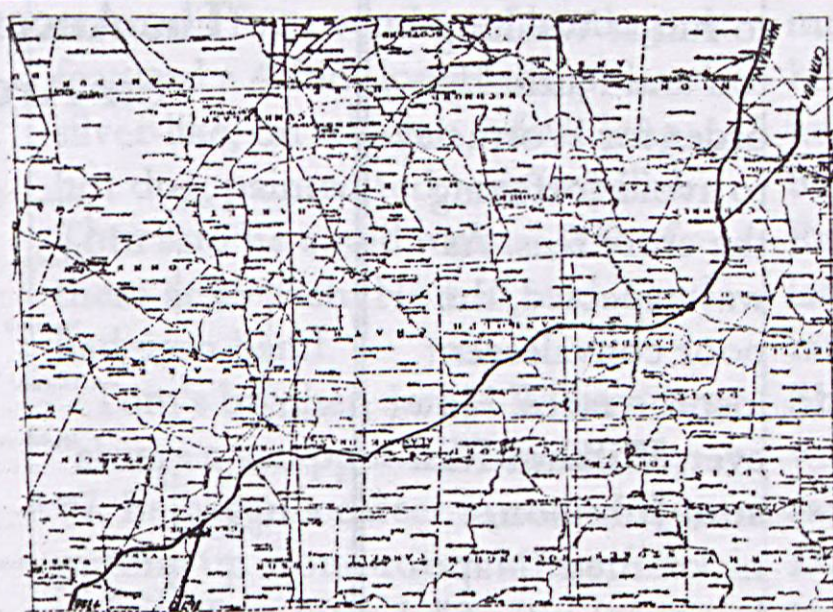
...

On reaching the **Catawba River** west of **Salisbury, NC**, **Spangenberg** wrote in his notes: "Hitherto we have been on the Trading Path where we could find at least one house a day where food could be

mer Indian trails, and it is not a wild guess that the trading posts were established at or near Indian towns."

Mr. Hicks replied, describing the path from west to east in **Granville**: "This old Trading Path or Indian Trail came into **Granville Co.** near **Knap-of-Reeds**, particularly described in the journeys of the **Moravians** as they went from the sea to

select the **Salem** community as their future home about 1750. It ran then from **Knap-of-Reeds** to the **Providence** crossing of **Tar River**, referred to in a deed from the **Earl of Granville** to **Samuel Benton**. It ran from there near the present crossing of the road at **Hatches' Run** thence through the **William Tuyl-er** place, and property now owned by the **Colored Orphan Asylum**, to **Harris-**



1930's Road Map Showing Path along Highways

bought; but from here we were to turn into the pathless forest."

A 1928 **Granville Co.** letter from **W.J. Webb** to **A.A. Hicks**, then president of the **Granville Co. Historical Assn.** says: "**Harrisburg** [now **Oxford**] was the first trading post in this section. It was located on the trading path of the early traders with the Indians. These traders no doubt followed the for-

burg, and from there crossing **Fishing Creek** to **Cheatham's Mill**, now **Cozart's Mill**. This trading path proceeded in a northeasterly direction along what was known as the old **Glebe Spring**, to the corner of **George Harris**, **William Hicks** and **Barnett Tatom** tracts, and thence on toward **Taylor's Ferry** on the **Roanoke River**.

Geo. Washington's Southern Tour

President George Washington had long desired to make a tour of the south and he left **Mt. Vernon** with his retinue in the spring of 1791 on an itinerary that carried him through eastern **NC** to **Halifax**, **Tarboro**, and **Greenville**. He kept a diary during most of his tour and entries from it are included below.

HALIFAX

In Halifax, Washington was greeted by **Col. John Baptista Ashe**—Revolutionary War veteran,

member of the Continental Congress of 1787, and representative in the Federal Congress—and other gentlemen of the county.

1791. Saturday, April 16th.

At this place (i.e. *Halifax*) I arrived about six o'clock, after crossing the *Roanoke*; on the South bank of which it stands.



This river is crossed in flat Boats which take in a Carriage & four horses at once.—At this

time, being low, the water was not rapid but at times it must be much so, as it frequently overflows its banks which appear to be at least 25 ft. perpendicular height.

The lands upon the River appear rich, & the low grounds of considerable width—but those which lay between the different Rivers—namely *Appamattox*, *Nottaway*, *Meherrin* and *Roanoke* are all alike flat, poor & covered principally with pine timber.

It has already been observed that before the Rain fell, I was travelling in a continued cloud of dust—but after it had rained some time, the Scene was reversed, and my passage was through water; so level are the Roads.

SEE WASHINGTON, PAGE 13

Search and Research

Taxes in Colonial NC

By WILLIAM D. BENNETT, R.G.

Tax records, with lists of names, places and property, provide priceless data for the genealogical researcher. Each year, tax lists were taken in the districts of the various counties, and it is on these lists that we might expect to see mention of ancestors who might otherwise be lost to us. The earliest **NC** taxes were the *quit rents* imposed on **NC** settlers by the Lords Proprietors, the Crown and **Earl Granville**. However, this article will focus on taxes imposed by the General Assembly. These were primarily taxes on individuals, such as the *poll* or *head tax*, often called *taxables*, and taxes on land, referred to as *levies*.

Poll or head taxes were being imposed on colonists during the 17th century. A few lists survived and are housed at the **NC State Archives** filed under **Colonial Court Records**. In 1669, an act was passed charging tithables 15 shillings and land owners 2 shillings 6 pence per hundred acres. However, newcomers were relieved from paying any tax for the first year.

In the Laws of 1715, all males who were not slaves were declared "Tyth-

able at the Age of Sixteen Years And All Slaves Male or Female...Tythable at the Age of Twelve Years. "This may have been a change as earlier documents imply that the minimum taxable age was 18. (It may also be that 18 year olds could enter into contracts, such as selling land.)

The next few years saw numerous changes to the tax laws. The land tax was eliminated and the poll tax was

gradually reduced to 3 shillings by 1729. Local vestries were able to levy taxes, and the General Assembly, by 1722, had begun allowing individual precincts to collect taxes to cover local expenses, such as construction of courthouses.

In 1729, the General Assembly passed "An Act For the making and Emitting the Sum of Forty Thou-

SEE TAXES, PAGE 17

Natural and Artificial Curiosity Tax?

The 1822 General Assembly of **NC** passed the following tax law "VI. *Be it further enacted*, That each and every person, or company of players, slight of hand performers, rope dancers, tumblers and wire dancers, or company of circus riders, or equestrian performers, and each and every person or company who shall exhibit artificial curiosities of any kind of sort, for a reward, shall, previously to exhibiting or performing in any county in this state, pay to the sheriff thereof thirty dollars; and every person who shall exhibit natural curiosities of any kind or sort, the sum of fifteen dollars... "

The record shows that sheriffs of Tar River Connections counties remitted "Artificial Curiosity" taxes in 1847: **Person**, 28.20, Sher. **John W. Winston**; **Granville**, 28.20, Sher. **Joseph H. Gooch**; **Franklin**, 56.40, **Washington Harris**; **Nash**, Sher. **Neverson Cooper**; **Edgecombe**, Sher. **William D. Petway**; **Pitt**, Sher. **Benjamin M. Selby**; and **Beaufort**, Sher. **Henry A. Ellison** reported no "Curiosity" taxes.

Did P.T. Barnum pay when he came to Nash?



Fejee Mermaid
P. T. Barnum Exhibit

PRACTICAL, FROM P. 10

meantime eating nothing else.

Raw Beef Tea is good after severe cases of typhoid fever. Cut up lean, fresh meat. Soak eight or ten hours in a small quantity of cold water.

Careful Administration

It is of the utmost importance that the food be delicately and carefully administered, and this should never be left to servants. It should be made as attractive as possible, served in the choicest ware, with the cleanest of napkins, and brightest of silver.

If tea is served, it should be freshly drawn, in a dainty cup, with a block of white sugar, and a few drops of sweet cream. Toast should be thin,

symmetrical, well yellowed, free from crust, and just from the fire.

Crust-coffee is very nourishing. Toast bread very brown, pour on boiling water, strain and add cream and sugar and nutmet. The attention given to these simple matters is, in many cases, worth more than the physician's prescriptions.

Kitchen Luxuries

TEA OR COFFEE STRAINER— This is applied or detached in a moment, being held in place by a spring, as



shown in cut, inserted in the spout. The strainer separates the dreges from the tea or coffee as it is poured. They are made to fit any coffee or tea-pot. The solid rim is of pure britannia, and is easily kept clean and bright.

DISH COVERS.—The best way to keep flies at bay is to screen all the windows of the house, and never relax vigilance in fighting them while the sultry weather lasts; but to those who can not do this, wire dish covers are a precious boon. They are made of several sizes, adapted to the varying sizes of dishes, and are not costly, and with care will last a long time.

COTTON, FROM PAGE 6

wheat, oats, pork, horses, and cattle at home and put the balance of his labor in cotton. It was seldom that farmers went in bankruptcy or were sold out for debt; yet the farmer knew that if he did not pay he would be sold out under the hammer. Men were more afraid of debt then than they are now.

Why did we go so far to market? Because there was no cotton market nearer home. Cotton buyers kept groceries such as sugar, coffee, salt, pepper, spice molasses &c. When we sold our cotton we would "lay in" a supply to last for a year. At Columbia once a year I was allowed to eat as much brown sugar as I wished to eat. The merchant would uncover a barrel of sugar and tell me to help myself. At first nothing was better. In a little while it would taste like there might be sand in it.

Elder Pleasant D. Gold

One of the greatest country preachers ever to emerge from NC, **Elder Pleasant D. Gold** began his service at the **Falls of Tar Primitive Baptist Church in Rocky Mount**. According to the minutes of the church, he was elected pastor

8 Nov 1873.

Born in **Rutherford Co, NC** in



1833, P. D. Gold studied law at **Furman University**, but abandoned that profession to become a

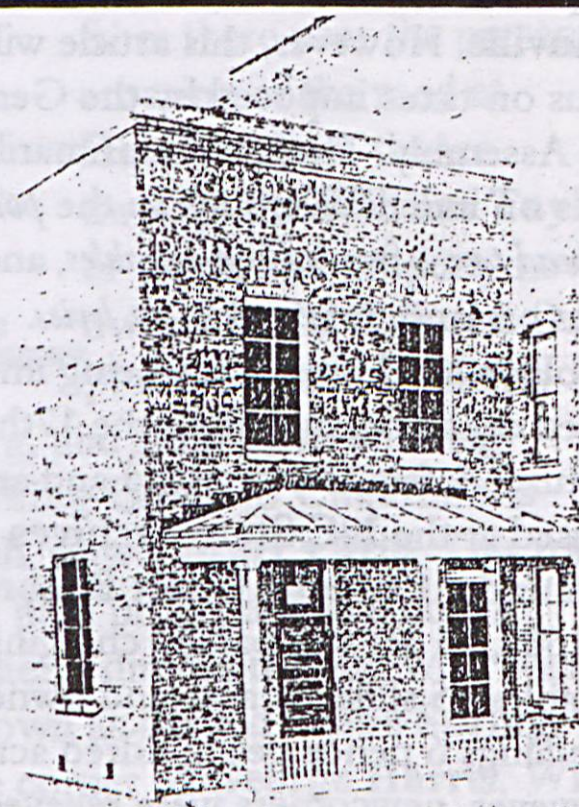
minister. He was a Confederate Chaplain, and, in 1867, founded *Zion's Landmark*, which he published for 50 years, while serving as pastor of the local Primitive Baptist Church in **Wilson, NC**. He also served churches in **Tarboro** and **Durham**.

Zion's Landmark was published by the **P.D. Gold Press** in Wilson. The company was active through the 1920's. Over the years, Elder Gold, while continuing to preach to 3 congregations, published, in addition to the *Landmark*, a number of religious books, a periodical called *The Casket*, sermons, editorials, and pamphlets. He wrote "A Treatise on the Book of Joshua," which he published in 1889 and "What We Believe and Why," a booklet discussing Primitive Baptist doctrine.

Other books published by P. D. Gold Press include *A Few Thoughts on Revelation*, by **Miss L.E. McKay**, *Humble Hours of Solitude*, a collection of poems by **John Julius Thorne** of **Elm City, NC**, *The Footsteps of the Flock*, by Thomas J. Bazemore of Jones Co., GA, and *The Broken Sword, or A Pictorial Page in Reconstruction*, by Denis Worthington.

Elder Gold had 7 children: **John D., Mary Gold Winstead, Joe M., Charles W., Pleasant D., Mrs. William Spicer, and Mrs. Bessie Clark.**

(Submitted by **Roy Edwards**, TRC Member)



P. D. Gold Publishing Co.

WASHINGTON, FROM P. 11

From Petersburg to Halifax (in sight of the Road) are but few good Houses, with small appearance of wealth.—The lands are cultivated in Tobacco—Corn,—Wheat & Oats, but Tobacco and the raising of Porke for market, seems to be the principal dependence of the Inhabitants; especially towards the Roanoke,—Cotton & Flax are also raised but not extensively.

Halifax is the first town I came to after passing the line between the two States, and is about 20 miles from it.—To this place vessels by the aid of Oars and Setting poles are brought for the produce which comes to this place, and others along the River; and may be carried 8 or 10 miles higher to the falls which are neither great nor of much extent;—above these (which are called the great falls) there are others; but none but what may with a little improvement be passed. This town stands upon high ground; and it is the reason given for not placing it at the head of the navigation there being none but low ground between it and the falls—It seems to be in a decline & does not it is said contain a thousand Souls.



While in Halifax, Washington would have seen the **Royal White Hart Masonic Lodge**, pictured above. The grave of **Joseph Montfort**, master of the lodge, who was appointed Grand Master for all America by the **Duke of Beaufort** in 1770 is also here.

Washington was royally banqueted at the **Eagle Hotel**; however, **Samuel Johnston** wrote from **Hayes** that "the reception of the

President at Halifax was not such as we could wish."

Sunday, 17th.

Col. Ashe the Representative of the district in which this town stands, and several other Gentlemen called upon, and invited me to partake of a dinner which the Inhabitants were desirous of seeing me at & excepting it dined with them

accordingly.

TARBORO

The afternoon of the 17th, the party reached Tarborough where they were handsomely entertained by **Maj. Reading Blount**. As he left the town, Washington was accompanied by local dignitaries.

WASHINGTON, CONT. PAGE 14

Muckle John



Was got by old Harrod, he by old Sir Archie. ... It is

unnecessary to trace him further, as the above is sufficient to give him a pedigree not surpassed by any horse in the country. His pedigree has heretofore been incorrectly though inadvertently represented in his former advertisements.

WILL STAND this spring and season at **Wm. G. Bullock's**—at **Col. David Daniel's, Nashville, Nash Co.** He will stand at the following very low prices, to wit: **SIX Dollars** the single leap, **TWELVE Dollars** the season, and **TWENTY Dollars** to insure a mare to be in foal—with 25 cents to the Groom in every instance.

From the anxiety we have to see the people of this country improve their stock of horses, we are induced to stand **MUCKLE JOHN** as heretofore done, at the above named extremely low prices. From the circumstance of his standing so low, the poor man will have the opportunity of raising blooded stock, as well as the man of capital; whereas if he stood as high as many others, (by no means his superior in point of pedigree,) this fair opportunity could not be afforded. Almost every individual who has a stud horse is very anxious to give him if possible a reputable character, and is extremely apt to give him a character which he does

not really merit. But candor and justice demand that such has never been the case with this thorough bred horse. For it is certainly a fact, which cannot in truth meet with contradiction that he has heretofore labored under all the disadvantages which could possible befall a horse of his kind. In the first instance he was raised as a mere calf, without scarcely receiving any attention, which was probably the cause of his not being any larger. But after a time the consideration, (and a just and correct one too), having been taken, that he was a colt of most excellent pedigree, he commenced improving and has risen to his present most romantic and grand appearance. ...

He was while in training outrageously obstinate and consequently knowing such to be the fact, he was rightly considered to be an unsafe horse to risk money upon, and consequence of this certainly unfortunate quality in him, he was taken off the track at a very early age. ...

MUCKLE JOHN has never had but two colts to yet go on the Turf, and both have been successful. *Slasey* has run a great many successful races; but it is true she has beaten also. ...

We therefore think that if the people wish to improve their stock of horses, that they cannot do it at a more correct and propitious time, than by accepting of the present favorable opportunity of introducing their mares to **Muckle John**.

(Tarboro Press, 9 Apr 1836)

More On The Arrington Family

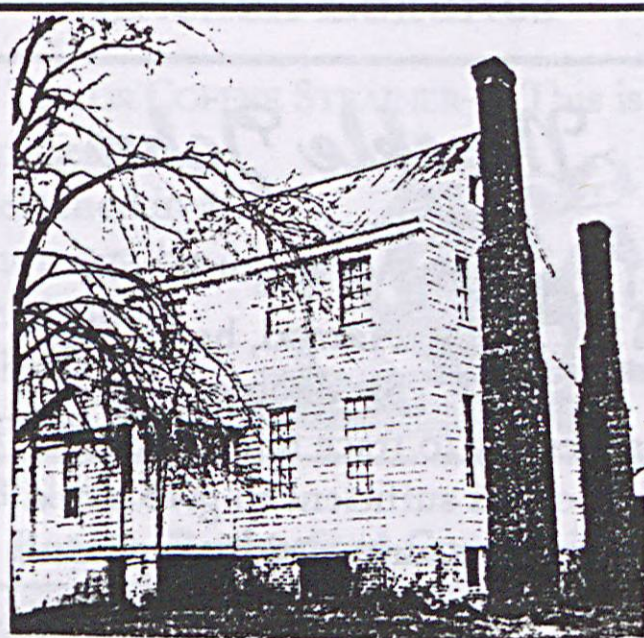
Nick not only success story

In 1747, before Nash Co. was formed from Edgecombe, **Arthur Arrington** built a fine white mansion on a knoll near **Hilliardston**. It was named "The Cedars" in honor of the tall, stately trees that lined the avenue leading to the house. **Nick Arrington**, the cockfighter featured in the Winter issue of *The Connector* and Arthur's grandson, eventually inherited the property from his father, **William Arrington**.

The house had front and side porches with balcony porches over them, supported by large fluted columns. The balcony porches were accessible from the spacious

bedrooms on the second floor. The windows, and there were many, were framed by green shutters. Inside, there were winding staircases at the front and back. Each room had a fireplace with a beautiful mantel of imported polished marble.

The plantation was a huge cotton and tobacco producer. The grounds



Joseph Arrington House

CONNECTOR

included large barns, horse stables, a still house, a carriage house, a spring house, and a smoke house and tall cedars grew everywhere.

The Arrington family was well-known in Nash Co. from its earliest days. Three Arringtons—**Arthur, James and Joseph**—signed the original petition for the division of Edgecombe into 2 counties on 17 Nov 1777. Soon after the new county was formed, **Arthur Arrington**, who became the first sheriff of Nash, **Duncan Lamon, Nathan Boddie, Matthew Drake, and Edward Clinch** were directed to contract with workmen to build a courthouse, prison and stocks. The site selected for the county seat was the home of **Micajah Thomas** (now the town of **Nashville**).

SEE ARRINGTON, PAGE 19

WASHINGTON, FROM PAGE 13

Monday, 18th.

Set out by six o'clock—dined at a small house kept by one Slaughter, 22 miles from Halifax and lodged at Tarborough 14 miles further. This place is less than Halifax, but more lively and thriving;—it is situated on Tar River which goes into Pamlico Sound and is crossed at the Town by means of a bridge a great height from the water, and notwithstanding the freshes rise sometimes nearly to the arch.—Corn, Pork, and some Tar are the exports from it.—We were recd. at this place by as good a salute as could be given by one piece of artillery.

GREENVILLE

Washington dined at Greenville. While in Pitt Co., he observed local ingenuity in inserting axles through barrels of tar and transporting them by having horses pull several barrels at a time.

Tuesday, 19th.

At 6 O'clock I left Tarborough accompanied by some of the most respectable people of the place for a few miles—dined at a trifling place called Greenville 25 miles distant—and lodged at one Allan's 14 miles further a very indifferent house

without stabling which for the first time since I commenced my Journey were obliged to stand without a cover.

Greenville is on Tar River and the exports the same as from Tarborough with a greater proportion of Tar—for the lower down the greater number of Tar makers are there—This article is contrary to all ideas one would entertain on the subject, rolled as Tobacco by an axis which goes through both heads—one horse draws two barrels in this manner.

ON TO NEW BERN

The Pitt Co. light horse under the command of **Capt. Samuel Simpson**, escorted Washington to his next stop in **New Bern**.

Wednesday, 20th.

Left Allan's before breakfast, & under a misapprehension went to a Col. Allan's, supposing it to be public house; where we were very kindly & well entertained without knowing it was at his expence, until it was too late to rectify the mistake.—After breakfasting, & feeding our horses here, we proceeded on & crossing the RiverNuse 11 miles further, arrived in Newbern to dinner.

At this ferru which is 10 miles from New

bern, we were met by a small party of Horse; the district Judge (Mr. [John] Sitgreave) and many of the principal Inhabitants of Newbern, who conducted us into town to exceeding good lodgings—It ought to have been mentioned that another small party of horse under one Simpson met us at Greenville, and in spite of every endeavor which coule comport with decent civility, to excuse myself from it, they would attend me to Newbern.—Col. Allen did the same.

BACK TO MT. VERNON

Washington continued from New Bern to Camden, SC. From there, he turned west to Charlotte, NC, "a trifling place" according to his diary. Continuing north, he visited Salisbury, [Winston] Salem, and so on back to Mount Vernon on June 12th. He had traveled 1700 miles in 66 days with the same team of horses. He wrote **Alexander Hamilton**, "My return to this place is sooner than I expected, owing to the uninterruptedness of my journey by sickness, from bad weather, or accidents of any kind whatsoever," for which he had made an allowance of eight days.

Former Residents Sell Land In Nash

Nash Co		Where They Went		
Bk Page	Former Resident	Date	County	ST.
1-316	Thomas Atkinson	1783	Wilkes	GA
4-278	William Whitehead	1793	Washington	GA
4-247	Marmaduke Kent	1794	Burke	GA
4-244	John Kent	1794	Burke	GA
5-22	Zackariah Tucker	1806	Washington	GA
5-251	Samuel Bryant	1810	Jackson	GA
6-132	Reuben Williams	1795	Washington	GA
6-211	William Pase (Pace)	1795		GA
6-371-4	John, Shadrack F. Ellen			
	wife Betsy	1798	Warren	GA
6-416	Ambrose Edmondson	1799		GA
6-482	Levi Kent	1800	Washington	GA
3-403	Wright Nicholson	1783	Bartley	SC
5-173	Josiah Nicholson	1808	Edgefield	SC
5-395	Talton Lee	1812	Pennetta	SC
6-42	John Wells	1794	Chesterfield	SC
6-298	Joseph Brown	1795		SC
6-454	William Passmore	1795	Chesterfield	SC
6-468	Drewry Boykin	1798	Salem	SC
6-483	Charlotte Harrison	1797	Chesterfield	SC
5-26	Jonathan Ricks	1808	Christian Farmer	KY
5-238	Jacob Johnson	1811	Mecklenburgh	KY
5-180	Humphrey & Sarah Nelson	1810	Davidson	TN
5-255	Duke W. Sumner	1811	Davidson	TN
5-254	Temperance Drake	1811	Davidson	TN
5-247	Daniel Warren	1806	Sumner	TN
5-285	Bennett Lane	1805	Jackson	TN
5-296	Kinchen Bass	1812	Williamson	TN
5-320	Mills Gay	1810	Wilson	TN
5-319	Hardy & Nancy Hunt	1810	Lincoln	TN
5-319	Jordan & Bethany Bass	1810	Wilson	TN
5-383	John Bridgers	1811	Sumner	TN
5-394	William Richardson	1812	Lincoln	TN
5-361-2	David & Mary Taylor, et al	1810	Robertson	TN

Coley Town, Nash Co.

Guilford E. Coley b. 27 Feb 1807 and

Mary Turner b. 11 Jul 1819 married and raised 11 children, which led to the founding of **Coley Town**. Guilford was a large land owner and at his death bequeathed a sizeable farm to each of his children. The children were: **Jim-mie, Mary, Joe, Sam, George, William, Tom, Thaddeus, Alex, Ellen, and Offie**.

Most of them remained in the area. However, in the next generation, most children were girls and many of the boys moved away. Now the name "Coley Town" is rarely if ever used; instead, since the opening of the consolidated **Northern Nash High School** in 1966, the community has also been known as Northern Nash. Other old names found in the area were **Johnston, Tharrington, Whitfield, and Cop-pedge**.

The community is unique in that it never boasted a store or a church. The only industry on record is a sawmill operated by **Tom Taylor** on a branch of **Stony Creek**. Many Indian artifacts have been found near **Turkey Foot Path**, including tomahawks and arrowheads. The path got its name from the fact that various paths intersected in a pattern that resembled a turkey foot.



Died in Person Co., George W. Duncan. In a state of extreme intoxication he set out for home from the court house in the evening, and the next morning was found on the side of the road frozen to death. *Raleigh Star* 15 Feb 1810

RADIO, CONT. FROM P. 3

Church Street, just across from the **Masonic Temple**. I took my meals with Mrs. Edwards. For \$7 per week, I had lunch and dinner, seven days a week.

Radio WEED featured a lot of local, live talent on the air. Perhaps the best known at that time were **Talmadge Pollard** and **Paul Byrd**, "The Johnson County Ramblers," sponsored by Planters Cotton Oil and Fertilizer Co. The emcee for the show was "**Uncle**" **Eddie Burwell**. Other artists who performed during the early years were: **Curley Red** and his Melody Boys, **Everette** and **Pearlie Ashey**, The Ashley Brothers," and **Atwood Gur-**

ganus

with brothers **Julius** and **Irvin**. **Inez Cobb** was one of our better singers and was featured on many programs. **Lucille Arnold** of **Red Oak** was our staff pianist and played for Inez and a number of other local entertainers that appeared at the station.

One of the most professional groups to appear on WEED was **Tex Dean** and the Carefree Cowboys, sponsored by Priddy Fertilizer. I wrote the commercials and announced the show for several years.

I met and married **Martha High** of **Red Oak** in 1941. We live in **Greenville, NC**.

Reader's Choice

Local Color



Old Carolina Tobacco Country Cook Book, by Arlene Crisp Aaseby: Much, much more than a cook book...tobacco farm families influenced by their English heritage faced the great depression head on. The tobacco farmer "knowing he could not afford to marry a lazy wife" chose his mate to work by his side. Children found fun in feeding the chickens bits of biscuits through the cracks in the floor. From eating "cush" on Sunday night to those special occasions when the "molasses hole in a biscuit" was the desert of the day, no one considered himself poor. It was "just the way things were".

Freckles and Red Hair by William Carl Collins: Carl Collins leaves this book as a legacy to the present and future generations of his family. From the beginning when his Mama told him that his freckles were "angel dust", he captures your attention and your heart in his "story telling" of growing up in Franklin Co., NC. Carl writes with a warm, down-to-earth style, and makes you want to pause, reflect, and pick up a pen and begin to write your own story.

PAINTING!

I am prepared to do all kind of HOUSE, SIGN and FRESCO PAINTING, also

LETTERING

of every variety in the very best style with neatness and dispatch. Send in your orders.

WILLIAM A. BASSETT,

Je 16-29-12

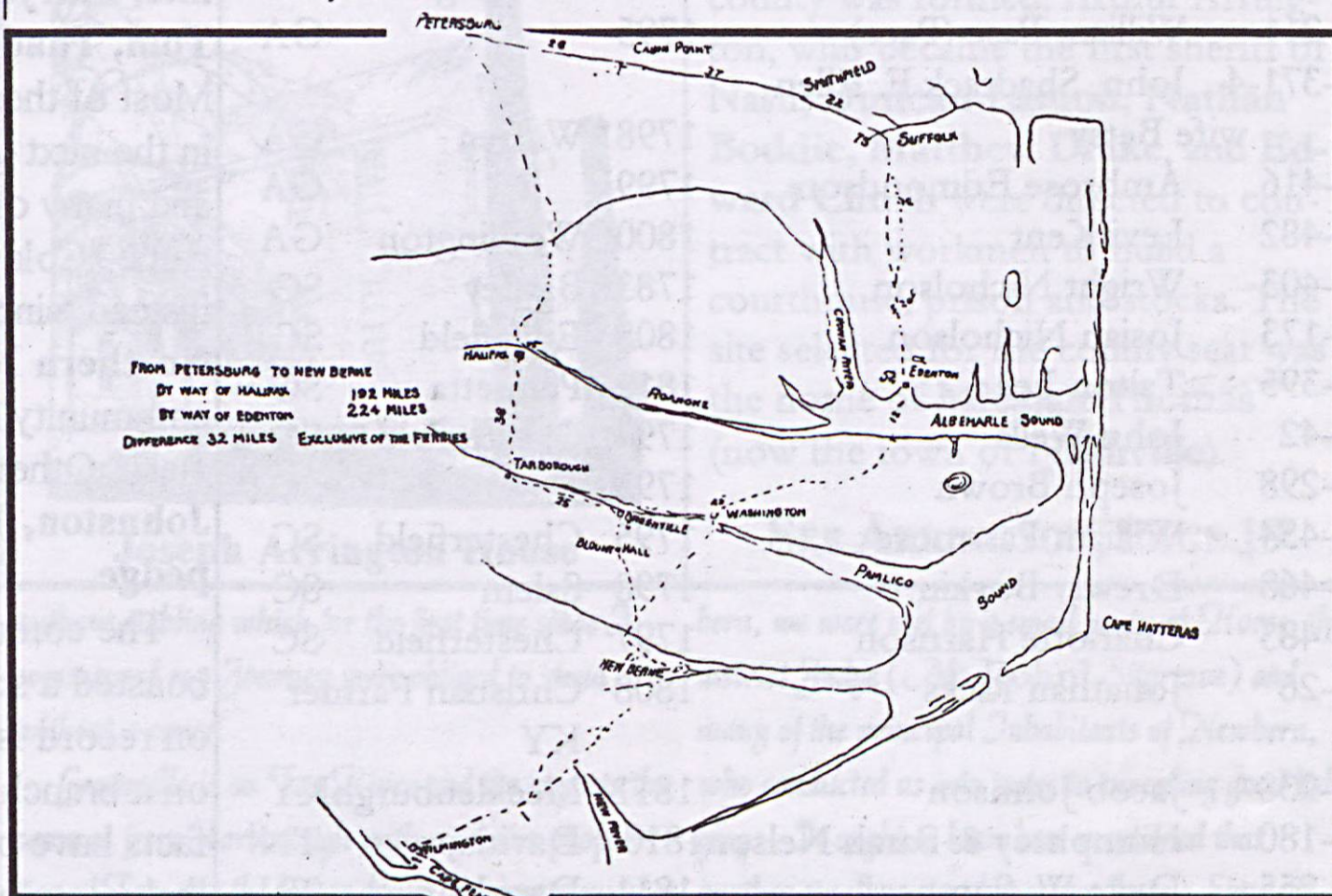
Tarboro', N. C.

CONNECTOR

MEMORANDUM OF DISTANCES

[This memorandum was furnished for Washington's tour in 1791, but the data applies to the Revolutionary period.]

Distance	Miles
From Petersburg to Oliver's	28
From Oliver's to Hick's Ford	19
From Hick's Ford to Halifax	28
From Halifax to Tarborough	36
From Tarborough to Greenville	25
From Greenville to Blount Hall	16
From Blount Hall to Curtis's Ferry	30
From Curtis' Ferry to New Bern	10 192



Memorandum Concerning the Road Through North and South Carolina

"I am not acquainted with the road from Petersburg to Halifax, nor with that from Halifax, by way of Tarborough, to Newburn. But at Petersburg the best information can be obtained of the former and at Halifax of the latter."

The memorandum continues to describe the route south of New Bern: "Within about three miles of Trenton lives one Clifton, who has a very small indifferent house, but usually keeps good provender for horses." Shines, beyond Trenton is "one of the best" while Mrs. Williams' and the Chapel are "indifferent." On to Foy's, "but tolerable;" Sage's, "a good stage;" Jennett's, "indifferent;" and then to Wilmington.

The accomodations from Wilmington to "the Boundary" are all "very indifferent." A note.—A Mr. Dupree lives near this, a very obliging hospitable man, but who lived in a very small house when I was last there. He did live at the Boundary House, which is a pretty good one, and I think he intended to go thee gain, but am not certain. It would be very desirable to rest some where about this place, on account of the distance necessary to go upon the next Satage, & the uncertainty as to the proper time of crossing the Long Bay.

(Taken from *Colonial and State Records*, Vol. XV, p. 379-384. The memorandum suggest 2 alternative routes through eastern NC. The one above is the one actually taken.

The other is shown on the map.)

Taxes, From P. 11

and pounds Public Bills of Credit of North Carolina." In 1734, there was another issue of bills of credit and taxes imposed to redeem these bills. The tax laws were frequently fine-tuned and numerous tax references can be found in the records.

The tax rates continued to fluctuate from year to year with special taxes levied to finance various projects. In 1754 a tax of 4 pence per gallon on wine, rum and other distilled liquors imported into the colony was imposed. In 1755, a tax was added to finance the French and Indian War. In 1757, a tax was levied on all court suits. Over the years, many taxes were passed to build local courthouses, jails and stocks; to pay the expenses of the vestry, including the purchase of land and construction of buildings; to redeem bills of credit; to pay salaries of various officials; to pay the costs of courts; and to raise a militia.

The beginning of the colony's real conflicts over taxes began in 1766 when poll taxes were enacted to buy land and build a home in New Bern for the Governor. Taxes were also levied to pay the expenses incurred due to the Regulator movement. Numerous other taxes were enacted in various counties to pay for vast numbers of improvements. By 1769, discontent was rife throughout the province. **Governor Tryon** declared that the sheriffs were delinquent in their accounts. It was also believed that taxes enacted to redeem paper money had fulfilled their purpose and should no longer be collected. Though only a brief outline is contained here, it is no surprise the citizens rose in arms when England tried to impose additional taxes involving their day to day operations

Listing Taxes

A 1720 law specified the method of listing taxes: each constable

should go to "ye Dwelling house of each housekeeper in his District on or before 11 December & Demand of such housekeeper a true List of Tythables which List every housekeeper is required to give in writeing ye Number Name & Condition of every Tythable person he or they ought to pay Tax for, & in ye said List shall mention whether the same Tythable of Tythables be free, Servt., or Slave Negro Indian or Mulato, Men or Women." The clerk prepared an alphabetical list and a copy was filed with the colony records. Several of these lists survive.

The manner of listing taxes changed in 1743. The constable was "to go from House to House, in his District, and summon the Master or Mistress of every Family, or the Overseer of every Plantation, of which there is no master or Mistriss to appear before the next Court or before some Justice and there to give in a Listing Writing, of all the Taxables in his or her Family." By 1749, those with no residence were required to get some householder to list them. In 1760, newcomers arriving before May 1 were required to list taxables. Idle persons, having no home, who failed to pay taxes, were subject to imprisonment for one month. At the end of that time, they could be sold for their taxes and prison fees to the person who would pay these fees for the prisoner's shortest term of service.

As good as money

Because there was little or no currency during this period, the General Assembly assigned values to various commodities which were acceptable as payment for taxes. To pay for the **Tuscarora Indian War**, the General Assembly levied a tax to be paid in corn since currency was not available. The Feb. 1711/12 minutes read: "Ordered that five hundred bushels of corn be immedi-

ately raised and sent round to Bath County for the use and subsistence of the forces now come from SC." Corn is also mentioned as a medium of payment in other references.

In 1715, taxes could be paid with tobacco, Indian corn, wheat, tallow, leather tanned & uncurried, wild cat skins, beaver & other skins, butter, cheese, "Raw Buck & Doe Skins", feathers, pitch, whale oil, pork, and beef. In 1723, additional items were rated: hemp, rice, and turpentine. And in 1729: silver, gold and "hydes". In 1771, "The better to enable the Industrious Poor of this Province to discharge their annual Taxes", various commodities were rated, including: indigo, bees wax, myrtle wax, and "Indian dressed deer skins".

Useful Books

Clarence E. Ratcliff has published 2 books that should be useful to the genealogist. The 2 books together list NC tax lists prior to the first federal census of 1790. The taxpayers names are listed in alphabetical order with county and date. *TAXPAYERS. North Carolina, 1701-1786*, which includes 28,000 names, lists the taxpayers in many NC counties formed before 1786, including: **Beaufort, Bute, Edgecombe, Franklin-Warren-Vance, Granville, and Pitt counties.** *TAXPAYERS, North Carolina, 1679-1790* continues the work of the book listed above with 29,000 names and includes, among others: **Beaufort, Bute, Granville, Halifax, Nash, Pitt, and Warren counties.** Available from : Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21202-3897. Phone: (410)837-8271.

Newsletter

The Franklin Rifles, edited by **Billy Nelson**, TRC member. Contact him for further information.

SIR ARCHIE, FROM P. 9

Johnson challenged Selden to a re-match, a single 4-mile heat for a substantial side bet. Selden, fearing Sir Archie's superiority, declined.

Back in Warren Co., Sir Archie continued to improve, and he was entered in another race at Fairfield in the fall. Again, Wrangler would be one of his opponents. Five horses met at the starting post, and the signal was given. Wrangler jumped into the lead with Sir Archie close behind him. The others fell back, leaving Wrangler and Sir Archie to battle it out. Wrangler ran the best race of his career for the first 2 miles, but Sir Archie slid past him. He drew away rapidly, and at the end of 2½ miles, Wrangler gave up and Sir Archie walked home a winner.

Col. Johnson took Sir Archie south to Newmarket where he had won in the spring. In the race for the Jockey Club Purse, he quickly ran away from his competition and again won in a single heat.

And then, that final race at Scotland Neck—the climax of a swift, brave horse's short racing career. Sir Archie had driven his best opponents from the turf. There would be no further challenge. **South Carolina** passed a law forbidding the unbeatable Sir Archie to run in that state. A \$10,000 side bet his owner, William Johnson, had offered to post went uncovered. Sir Archie had finished with racing.

When no competition could be found for the fabulous stallion, Johnson sold him for \$5,000 to **Gen. William R. Davie of Halifax, NC.** and he began his second career as a sire of great race horses.

Beginning in Feb. 1810, Gen. Davie offered Sir Archie's services as a stud for \$40, a high fee for an unproved sire. His new life was a horse's dream: no training, a comfortable stall, plenty of food, and

course, day after day spent with the most fashionable mares.

William Amis of Mowfield in Northampton Co, NC became Sir Archie's owner in 1816 as payment of a debt. He continued as a stallion until 1831.



MOWFIELD PLANTATION

John Amis, son of William, estimated Sir Archie's stud fees were over \$80,000. He is known to have produced 366 colts, but having been matched with about 80 mares each season, it is certain that the real number was much greater.

Some prominent breeders who brought their mares to Sir Archie were: **Wm. Edward Broadnax**, Brunswick Co., VA; **Col. James Moore**, Orange Co., NC; **Harold Jones**, Halifax Co, NC; **Thomas Friend Wilson**; **Marmaduke Johnson**, Warren Co., NC; **Nathan Harrison**; **James J. Harrison**; **Jonathan Forrest**; **Thomas Norfleet**; **Col. Mark Alexander**; **Dr. Cutler**; **Henry Macklin**; **Gen. Wm. Wynn**, known as "Racing Billy"; **Maj. John R. Eaton** and **P. Hawkins** of Northampton Co, NC; **Col. Wm. Alston**, SC; **John Randolph**, Roanoke, VA; **Maj. Phil Claibourne**, Brunswick Co, VA; **Richard Crump**, **Col. Howell Peebles**, **Capt. James Exum**, and **Andrew R. Govan** of Northampton Co., NC; **Capt. William Moody**; and **Peyton Maughn**, Halifax Co, NC.

On the record, Sir Archie had lost three races and won four. This didn't begin to tell the true story. He was so much better than anything else on four legs that the competition was no competition at all. He had set a 4-mile record that was not to be beaten in all the horsey South.

CONNECTOR

According to tradition, Sir Archie died at Mowfield on 7 Jun 1833.

John Stuart Skinner, editor of the *American Farmer*, editorialized on Sir Archie. John Amis sent one of his hoofs to Skinner for display. The champion was buried near the house and race track.

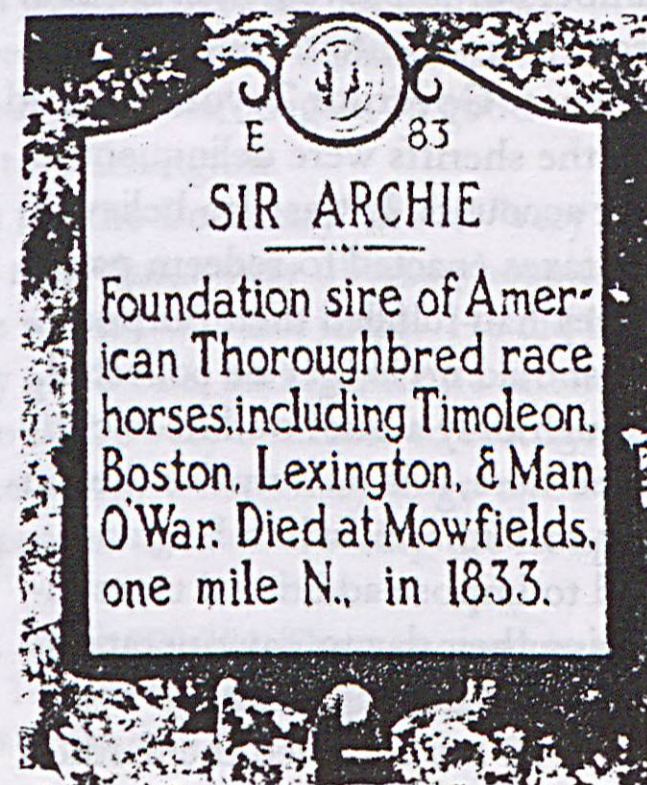
In the Autumn 1998 *Colonial Williamsburg*, **Kathleen Cabel**, curator of research for the **Goochland, VA** Historical Society reports a conflicting end to the story. She says Sir Archie was purchased by John Tayloe III who sent him back to **Ben Lomond, Goochland Co, VA**, his birthplace, in his 28th year, where he soon died. He was buried there under James River boulders with his groom and the groom's dog.

And never today a champion
That on the turf wins fame,
But back in his breeding somewhere
You'll find Sir Archie's name.

The Ballad of Sir Archie

NEW FLASH!!!

Sir Archie was the progenitor of many famous race horses including **Man o'War**. A 23 Feb 1999 article in the **Raleigh, NC News & Observer** notes that "Man o'War, winner of 20 of his 21 career starts in 1919 and 1920, is the choice as Racehorse of the Century in a vote released Monday by the thoroughbred magazine, *The Blood-Horse*."



Mailbag: Trevathan House

My father was born there [Trevathan House, Rocky Mount, NC] and Grandfather W.C. Trevathan died there. Earl Street was mentioned and my father said that he helped the surveyor of the property to lay out the streets when he was a young lad and two streets in the area, Earl and Trevathan were named after him.

Earl Trevathan, Jr.,
TRC Member



Ordinary Rates—1782

Good Brandy, gill—8 pence
Good West Indian Rum—10 pence
Cider, quart—8 pence
Taffy, gill—4 pence
Indian corn and oats, 1 gal—1 shilling, 4 pence
Fodder and pasturage or stable, 1 night—1 shilling
Breakfast—1 shilling, 4 pence
Dinner—2 shillings 8 pence
Lodging for night—8 pence



ARRINGTON, FROM PAGE 14

At the February 1788 court session, the commissioners, who had contracted with **Julian King** to build the courthouse, viewed the results and agreed with his £500 charge, providing he "tar the House, finish the plastering, make two hatches to the Bar and steps to the back door." Arthur Arrington was one of the signers of this document. Because of delays in building the stocks and jail, Sheriff Arrington's house was used as the gaol until one was built.

In the early days, a stage coach route came from **Halifax** to **Hilliardston**, **Castalia** and on to **Lewisburg** [Louisburg]. Arthur

Arrington had an inn on this road, and was licensed to run an ordinary or tavern and "keep entertainment at his house," for several years from 1779-1793. After his death, his wife, who died in 1805, continued to operate the establishment and the **Price Strother Map** of 1808 shows the **Arrington Inn**.

The Arrington family entertained many guests at The Cedars, including **Lord Fairfax** from VA, **Thomas Jefferson**, **Lafayette** and **George Washington**. President **Andrew Jackson** is said to have been a personal friend of Nick Arrington's and visited several times.

The **Joseph Arrington House**, one of many owned by the Arrington family around Hilliardston, was a combination of an early small house and a larger, more elaborate addition. The earlier one-story house was probably built by **Gen. Wm. Arrington**, while the later addition was built by **Gen. Joseph Arrington, Jr.**, a grandson of Arthur, who married William's daughter, **Mary Jackson Arrington**, sister of Nick Arrington.

In the 1830's, preparing to move to **Alabama**, Joseph described his property in the *Tarborough Free Press* as: "lying on the north side of **Swift Creek**, and within one and a half miles of Hilliardston, immediately on the road from **Mearn's** meeting house to **Warrenton**. The Tract contains 900 or 1,000 ACRES and ...a very commodious DWELLING HOUSE, 62 feet long, 32 feet wide, with 5 rooms below and a passage running across the house 10 feet wide, and two pair of stairs—the inside work of a part of the house is inferior to none in this section—four chimnies, with an excellent cellar, 32 by 18, the balance of the house closely bricked beneath, with all other necessary out houses, amongst which is an excellent

CONNECTOR

KITCHEN, 28 by 18, built of brick with two chimneys. There is attached to this building an excellent well of pure water within 20 steps of the door, and a never failing spring within 150 yards of the house. As to health, I believe this is one of the most healthy settlements in this county."



Tragedy Averted

Now, dear *Enquirer-Southern*, for the real news! We have had a circus!—the first one here in the memory of man. "Coming events cast their shadows before." We have 'talked railroad' until we have fooled one circus into coming, the great **Southern Moral Exhibition, &c., &c.** 100 horses announced in show bills, 25 came, the most of them too poor to cast any shadows before or behind, just ready to vanish after the 75 others. Besides these there were—descending in the scale, 1 woman, 15 men, 2 monkeys, and a snake. The woman walked a rope extending from the ground to the top of the "mamouth Pavillion." When she got high enough for the wind to strike her, she fell off, making a hole in the canvas with her head; but her legs spraddled and she was saved.

Truly yours, WILL ALIBI
(*Enquirer Southerner*, 27 Nov 1874)



First Settlers on the Tar River

James Thigpen	Thomas Elliot
Paul Palmer	Joseph Anderson
Francis Branch	Samuel Spruill
James Long	Thomas Hawkins
William Burgis	William Arrington

[Taken from Turner and Bridger's *History of Edgecombe Count* Furnished by Louise Fuller, TRC Member]

BARNUM, FROM PAGE 3

toothless and totally blind, and her eyes had sunk so deeply as to have disappeared altogether."

Barnum arranged for Heth to be exhibited, and ordered numerous "posters, transparencies, advertisements, newspaper paragraphs—all calculated to extort attention—regardless of expense." Of his venture he says, "My exhibition rooms were continually thronged and much money was made." Joice Heth died a few months later and was buried in **Bethel, CN**, Barnum's hometown.

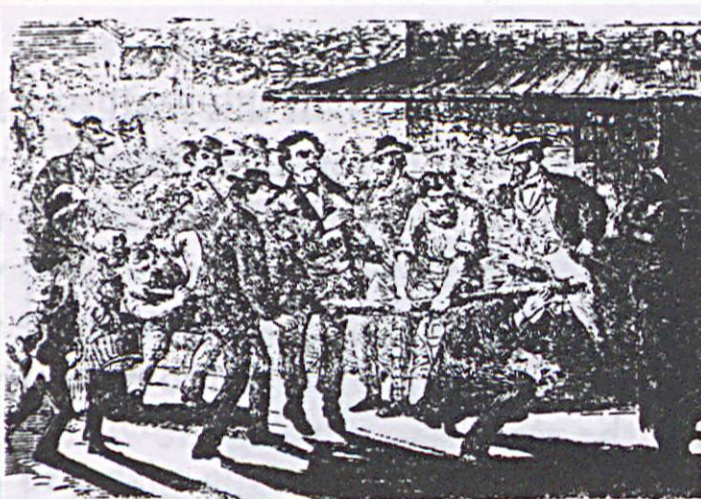
Barnum's next enterprise was to engage **Signor Vival-la**, an **Italian juggler** who was able to



"make dinner plates, washbowls, and other species of crockery jump, fly, and dance quadrilles, minuets, waltzes, and contradances in time to music, on the ends of sticks and swords, which he held in his hands or balanced on his nose and chin." After several months of successful exhibitions of Vivalla, Barnum, with Vivalla still in tow, joined forces with **Aaron Turner** and his **Old Columbian Circus** for a 6 month tour which began 26 Apr 1836.

Barnum travels with Turner

Aaron Turner, was something of a practical joker, and when the troop arrived in **Annapolis, MD**, he played a joke on Barnum which nearly backfired. As Barnum, dressed in a new black suit, entered a bar-room, Turner called attention to the young man, saying: "I think it



BARNUM ON A RAIL

very singular you permit that rascal to march your street in open day."

"Why, who is he?"

"Don't you know? That is the **Rev. E.D. Avery**, the murderer of **Miss Cornell**!" It was only recently that Rev. Avery had been tried and acquitted for the murder of Miss Cornell.

Barnum describes the scene: "I had not walked far in my fine clothes, before I was overtaken by a mob who called me 'lecherous old hypocrite,' 'black-coated villain,' and made loud remarks such as 'lynch the scoundrel,' and 'let's tar and feather him.'"

A man collared Barnum, saying, "You can't walk any further, we know you, and as we always make gentlemen ride in these parts, you may just prepare to straddle that rail!"

As Barnum continues, "The rail was brought and I was about to be placed on it, when the truth flashed upon me. 'Gentlemen, I am not Avery; my name is Barnum; I belong to the circus which arrived here last night, and I am sure Old Turner, my partner, has hoaxed you with this ridiculous story.'"

When the crowd returned to the hotel, Turner was on the piazza, exploding with laughter. He finally told the crowd he believed there was a mistake. "The fact is, my friend Barnum has a new suit of clothes on and he looks so much like a priest that I thought he must be Avery."

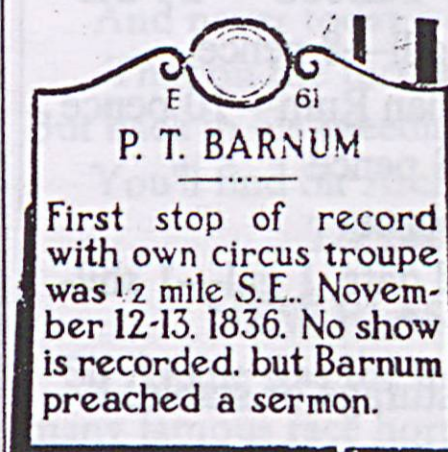
The crowd was satisfied, though

CONNECTOR

Barnum's coat was torn in the fray. As Turner predicted, the notoriety was good for business and the troop played to huge crowds in Annapolis.

On 30 Oct 1836, while Turner and Barnum were in **Warrenton, Warren Co., NC**, the partnership expired, with Barnum clearing a profit of \$1200. Barnum's autobiography tells us, "I now separated from the circus company, taking **Vivalla, James Sandford**, a singer and dancer, several musicians, horses, wagons, and a small canvas tent with which I intended to begin a traveling exhibition of my own. My company started and Turner took me on the way in his own carriage some twenty miles. We parted reluctantly, and my friend wished me every success in

my new venture." Tradition has it that the first performance of the new enterprise was in Rocky



First stop of record with own circus troupe was 1/2 mile S.E. November 12-13, 1836. No show is recorded, but Barnum preached a sermon.

Mount.

Great showman

Phineas Taylor Barnum was destined to become America's leading showman. He introduced America to such marvels as **Charlie Sherwood Stratton**, "General Tom Thumb," who joined Barnum's show at the age of 4; **Jenny Lind**, the "Swedish Nightingale"; **Jumbo**, the elephant; and the "Fejee Mermaid," an ugly, dried-up, specimen fabricated from a fish and the upper part of a monkey. His first [of many] autobiography, published in 1855, pictures him as he is perhaps best remembered today, as **The Prince of Humbug**.

