

# The Connector

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

Fall, 2000

Peggy Strickland & Billie Jo Matthews, Co-Editors

Volume 4 Issue 4

## The Comforts of Travel: Dirt, Grit and Grime

**F**anny Kemble, a famous British actress, was an early traveler on the **Wilmington & Raleigh Railroad**. Accompanied by her husband, a maid, and 2 small children, she made the trip from **Weldon to Wilmington, NC** in 1838, before the line was completed. At that time, passengers rode the rails, where they were completed. They were then carried by



stage to the next stretch of rail. Ms. Kemble describes the experience in some detail.

Weldon was described as "pretending to be a place," but "was rather the place where a place was intended to be." She described their meal there: "The poultry ... were so tough that I should think they must have been alive when we came into the house, and certainly died very hard. They

were swimming in black grease, and stuffed with some black ingredient that was doubt and dismay to us uninitiated; but, however, knowledge would probably have been more terrible in this case than ignorance. We had no bread but lumps of hot dough, ..."

From Weldon, the trip continued until "between twelve and one o'clock the engine stopped, and it was announced to us that we had traveled as far upon the railroad as it was yet completed, and that we must transfer ourselves to stage-coaches; so in the dead middle of the night we crept out of the train, and taking our

**SEE KEMBLE, PAGE 16**

## Tar River Rambler

BY LOUISE FULLER

### Big and Little Peachtree

(Peach Tree) Creeks rise in eastern **Franklin County** and flow into **Nash County** where they join to form **Stoney (Stony) Creek**. The origin of the name is obscure; however, one old-timer stated that it originated when a peach tree fell across the larger creek and made it possible to cross to the other side. His account is as plausible as the story that a basket of pigs fell into a nearby creek and that creek became **Pig Basket Creek**.

Nash County was formed in 1777 from **Edgecombe**, which had been a part of **Bertie** until 1741; **Franklin** came into existence on Jan 29, 1779. It was taken from the lower part of the defunct **Bute County**, which had

been the eastern part of **Granville County**. Deeds from so many counties and variations in the spelling of the area's surnames cause some confusion. Another problem arose in 1821 when the **Nash County** line was eased a little to make the county lines straight. [See "Give Me Franklin, or I'll Give You Death", *The Connector*, Fall, 1997]. Of course,  
**SEE RAMBLER, PAGE 17**

## Weather Alert

*Pitt County, NC, 31 August, 1886:*  
**Earthquake.**—The first shock of an earthquake was felt about nine o'clock last night, followed by two other shocks. No damage was done, but it frightened a great many people. For some time afterwards shocks were felt. **Charleston, SC** was the center of the disturbance and much damage was done there.

## The Day Is Done

**W**e have all heard the haunting song, "Taps". It gives us a lump in our throats and brings tears to our eyes. But do you know the story behind the song?

It all began in 1862 during the **Civil War**, when **Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe** was with his men near **Harrison's Landing** in **Virginia**. The **Confederate Army** was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, **Captain Ellicombe** heard the moans of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a **Union** or **Confederate** soldier, the **Captain** decided to bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

**SEE TAPS, PAGE 19**

## QUERY GUIDELINES

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

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

### Tar River Connections Genealogical Society

PO Box 8764

Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Internet

[www.braswelllib.org/trc/trc.htm](http://www.braswelllib.org/trc/trc.htm)

e-mail: [Turn1104@aol.com](mailto:Turn1104@aol.com)

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## HIS MASTER'S BODY

**THE SCENE:** A quaint North Carolina courtroom, many years ago.  
**THE JUDGE:** Charles M. Cooke, of Franklin Co, NC, ex-Captain of Confederate Infantry; former Congressman and Secretary of State of NC.  
**THE CASE:** An aged negro on trial in a criminal case.

The trial droned on, the solicitor cross-examining the defendant; his honor sitting with closed eyes, apparently asleep. But when the solicitor's examination was ended, his honor came to life and proceeded himself to examine the defendant:

Q. You were a slave?

A. Yessir, Marse Jedge.

Q. Who was your old master?

A. **Robert Timberlake.**

Q. Where's your young master now?

A. He's daid; kilt in de war.

Q. Where?

A. At de place dey call Spotsylvaney in Virginney.

Q. Where's he buried?

A. At de ole home place.

Q. How'd his body get there from Virginia?

A. I fotch it home tied on de back of er hoss. Ole mistis she tole me to bring young marster home if anything happen to him. So when he wuz kilt, I tied his body on de hoss and I lead de hoss and we struck out for home. We traveled night and day and we got mighty tired and hongry too, me and de hoss. But we fotch him home.

Q. What did old marster say when you got home?

A. Dey seed us a comin' and met me in de yard. Old mistis she cry and cry. But old marster he say nothin'. He jes straighten hissself up and raise his hand to his head, like de officer do in de army.

His honor gazed through the open windows at the distant hills. Memories crowded in upon him. He was no longer Charles M. Cooke, Judge, but Charles M. Cooke, Captain in the Confederate Infantry, going out to battle in behalf of a friend. His Honor cleared his throat and charged the jury:

"This court was at the battle of **Spottsylvania Courthouse** in Virginia. In my regiment there was a young **Lieutenant, William Timberlake**, and no braver man ever lived. During the heavy fighting there, our thin lines were charged by the enemy in overwhelming force, and many of our men, including Lieutenant Timberlake, were killed. We were compelled to retreat, but the next day there was a truce for burying the dead, and I sought to find the body of Lieutenant Timberlake to give it burial. When I reached the spot where he was killed, a young negro man, his body servant, was in the act of tying the body of the Lieutenant on the back of a horse. He told me that his old mistress had instructed him to bring the Lieutenant home if anything should happen to him. I know that he left, leading the horse with his young master's body tied to it, going in the direction of North Carolina.



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## The Birth of a Church

During the *War Between the States*, **Thomas H. Matthews** survived confinement at **Elmira, NY** to return to his **Nash County** home, and realized a dream of establishing a church at age 67. He had previously pastored **White Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church** in **Bailey, NC**.

**Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church** was organized on Aug. 26, 1899 at a Conference held at **Free Union Church**. The group first met at the **T.H. Matthews School House**. It elected **W.J. Batchelor**, Deacon; **G.A. Batchelor**, Clerk; **E.T. Matthews**, Treasurer; and **J. W. Valentine** and **T.H. Matthews**, moderators and organizing councils. The body named **W.J. Batchelor**, **J.E.T. Matthews** and **H.H. Matthews** to a building committee.

**T.H. Matthews** gave the fledgling group an acre of land as a site for the new church. The membership constructed the first church, erecting a simple, wooden frame building. The church joined the District Union and sent 15¢ as its first contribution.

The original organizers of **Mt. Zion** were: **T.H. Matthews**, **W.J. Batchelor**, **J.E.T. Matthews**, **Isley Batchelor**, **Sallie Matthews (Bass)**, **G.A. Batchelor**, **W.T. Batchelor**, **Effie Batchelor (Morgan)**, **Louisa Boon**, **Tincy Boon**, **Ella Manning**, **Zula Matthews (Valentine)**, **Anna F. Batchelor**, **Cora L. Matthews**, and **Martha A. Matthews**. By 1901. The membership included: **H.H. Matthews**, **Susie E.**

SEE **MT. ZION**, P. 5

## JESSE JAMES IN VANCE CO?

Local rumor has it that **Jesse James** once had a hide-out in **Vance County, NC** in a house on the road that leads from **Gillburg** to **Bearpond**. He is said to have become infatuated with a woman who bore him a child. He would come riding in occasionally on his horse named "**Siroco**," a fast black horse stolen from a race track.

Once he came bringing to the house of his lady love stolen dresses and other doo-dads. The deputy sheriff, **W.A. Phelps**, not knowing who he was, went out to arrest him for theft. Mr. Phelps deputized **William Henry Harris** to help him make the arrest. Mr. Phelps' only weapon was a small stick carried in his hands.

**Jesse James** who was sitting at a little window in the attic of the woman's house, opened fire soon as **Phelps** got in shooting distance, seriously wounding him. **Harris**, badly frightened by the sudden turn of affairs, crawled under the house where he got wedged so tight a part of a wall had to be taken down in order to get him out. He was so badly bruised that he died in a few days.

We know these events took place, but was the outlaw really **Jesse James**? We may never know for sure. Some people believe that the alleged desperado's real name was unknown, that he did not want his real name to be known, and that when the child was born he instructed the doctor to record its father's name as **Jesse James**.

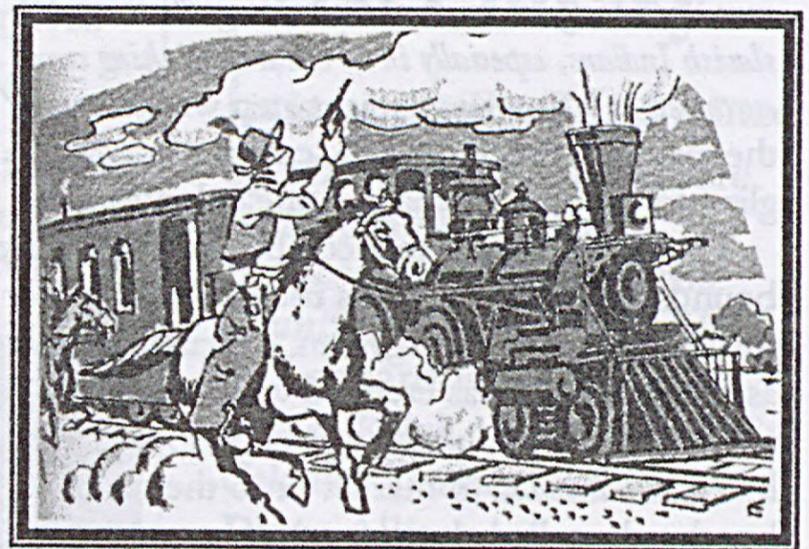
### Who was Jesse James?

**Jesse W. James**, born in **Kentucky** (or some say **Missouri**) in 1847, was the son of **Rev. Robert James**, a **Baptist** minister. **Jesse**, along with his brother **Frank**, rode with the feared **Quantrill's Raiders** during the **Civil War**. It may have been the cruel treatment of **Union** soldiers that turned **Frank** and **Jesse** to a life of crime. Certainly during the war years they learned to kill. **Jesse** is known to have been a spy for the rebel army. Near the end of the war, he took a bullet through one of his lungs.

After the war, **Frank** and **Jesse** turned to a life of crime, making off with \$60,000 from the **Liberty, Mo.** bank. For the next 15 years, the **James boys** roamed throughout the U.S. robbing trains and banks of their gold and building a legend that was to live more than a century after **Jesse's** death.

The **Pinkerton Detective Agency** was called in to help catch the famous desperadoes. Once during a nighttime raid on the family home outside **Kearney, MO**, a firebomb was tossed into the log cabin. When it exploded, it tore off the hand of **Jesse's** mother, and led to the death of his half-brother **Archie**.

**Jesse** married **Zerelda Mimms**, his first cousin, after a nine-year courtship, and they had two children. With a \$10,000 reward on his head, **Jesse** moved to **St. Joseph, MO** with his family in the fall of 1881 to hide out. Living under the assumed name of **Tom Howard**, **Jesse** rented a house from a city council



SEE **JAMES**, PAGE 15



## Uppowoc The Golden Weed

The Spaniards came looking for gold that November day in 1492 when they arrived in the **New World**, but they found what was to become the golden leaf instead. **Columbus'** journal told of "the natives wrapping the tobacco in a certain leaf, in the manner of a musket formed of paper...and having lighted one end of it, by the other they suck, absorb or receive that smoke inside their breath".

Some 90 years later, **Sir Walter Raleigh**, commissioned **Thomas Hariot** to spend one year in the New World, and to act as historian and surveyor. Thomas returned to **England** with *A briefe and true report of the new found lands of Virginia. ....*The report talked about an herb known as *Uppowoc*. "While we were there we used to suck in the smoke as they did, and now that we are back in England we still do. We have found many rare and wonderful proofs of the uppowoc's virtues... There is sufficient evidence in the fact that it is used by so many men and women of great calling, as well as by some learned physicians." Druggists in **France** began selling the leaf as medicine.

**James I**, King of England, with his intense dislike of his countryman, Sir Walter Raleigh, and all Spaniards dealing in tobacco wrote his *Counterplaste to Tobacco*. He blamed smoking for virtually all sicknesses. "And now good countrey men let us (I Pray you) consider, what honour or policie can move us to imitate the barbarous and beastly manners of the wilde, godlesse, and slavish Indians, especially in so vile and stinking a custome? ..." The King's next step was to raise the tax on tobacco 4,000%, causing smuggling to become rampant in the colonies.

The cultivation of tobacco began to grow by leaps and bounds in **Virginia**. It was used as legal tender for payment of wages for clergymen, officials, educators, as well as soldiers, and was credited with being the "makings of a nation". Its popularity was paramount even though it had to be *trundled* to market or to the nearest wharf in hogsheads rolled along rough tobacco roads. **Charles Kingley**, a novelist, wrote that tobacco was "a lone man's companion, a bachelor's friend, a hungry man's food, a sad man's cordial, a wakeful man's sleep, and a chilly man's fire."

**North Carolina** passed an inspection law in 1754 declaring that all tobacco to be exported had to be brought to public warehouses to be inspected for "merchantable quality." All imperfect tobacco was burned. The **Tar River** began to play a part in this and one such inspec-

tion warehouse was built on **Howell's** land near **Tarboro**, in **Edgecombe County** and another in **Tarboro** itself. Farmers brought their tobacco to the warehouse to be inspected and received tickets to be used for actual specie. In 1787 tobacco was being sent down the river in flat boats and put on ships. **J. Haywood** held a sale in **Edgecombe County** for this purpose.

**Granville County, NC** grew tobacco as early as 1751 for domestic purposes. In 1763 **John Person** was awarded a sum of money and 145 pounds of tobacco valued at 22 pounds, 15 shillings and 4 pence for an unpaid debt in a **Granville Court** action (*Ct Rec 1754-1770, p81*). Some years later **B. W. Hicks** of **Granville County** sold his tobacco in **Petersburg, Va.** for thirty cents per pound (*NC Whig, 24 May 1859*).

Tobacco was a long-drawn out crop requiring constant attention. Markets were few and far away. It was the practice to clear virgin land of trees and plant tobacco for 3 years, then plant a crop of corn. This exhausted the soil. **Granville, Person, and Warren** counties were the major early growers in our area of the **Tar River Basin**.

**Nicholas Massenburg** raised the first marketable crop of tobacco in **Franklin Co.** He planted 30,000 hills of tobacco, and sold his harvest in **Richmond, VA** for approximately seven cents a pound. Just before the **Civil War** **Franklin Co.** had increased its number of growers, in 1860, to the following: **Thomas N. Alston, Joseph T. Allen, Alfred Alston, John W. Bathrop, Mrs John D. Hawkins, Elizabeth Johnson, Wood T. Johnson, Edward Lawrence, James B. Mann, N. B. Massenberg, Joshua Perry, Thomas A. Person, Arch Taylor, Tolaver Terrell, and David Thomas.**



Lack of space for crop rotation, the absence of guano (fertilizer), the devastation of property during the **Civil War**, the distances to market, the lack of labor to tend crops, all had its affect on farmers in most of the counties in the **Tar River Basin**. **Nash County** did not rally from these problems until a quarter of a century later. The first commercially grown crop was raised near the old **York Place** near **Hilliardston, Nash County, NC**. **T. F. York** is said to have raised 3 acres in 1884 (*Ry Mt Tel 6 July 1976*), and on the 31 Oct 1884, **R. P. Fox**, a neighbor of the **Yorks**, sold his tobacco at **Cooper's Warehouse** in **Henderson, NC** (*By Faith and Heritage Are We Joined* edited by T. E. Ricks). Tobacco was on its way to becoming the number one money crop along the **Tar**.

*Uppowoc* was well established.

Hilliardston Decr 5th 1844 - 15 minutes past 9

Dear Buc I am fresh from the store—fresher from the sideboard & freshest from a plate of nice barbecued birds—that I kiled this morning—On my return home yesterday found our black family sick[.] Numbers with headache sore throat & breast—Solomon among the number & down I went to Jamess to dinner today—all well there—James rode with me to my plantation—(some thing uncommon) Sam is more than extra—a great bird man &c &c—Ma was cheerfull & talkative—pleased that her son in law J.B. Jr? should have thought of her in her distresse, and bought a pair of Carriage horses for her—says she will take them and you must send them down—say when it is most convenient for you to do so—Baldy is to manage them—I am going to learn Grange how to drive—the Ma has proffered to loan Baldy when Rebecca wants him[.] Isaac has lost another negro—a child supposed to be smothered[.] When I arrived yesterday Rebecca was at Baldy Arringtons & was surprised to learn his wife was expected to die—they thought she was dieing on Tuesday night—she was better yesterday evening—but worse this morning & evening—all hope for her seems to be lost—Drake thought on Monday night she was evidently better—Rawls says no letters or papers passes in the mail now—a perfect block to all—only 3 letters & no papers in the mail today for Hilliardston or any other office—Nothing from the sale at Carrs—We hope Lumpy has recovered & is well—Ma says Lump wont do—is not careful enough[.] I did not stop at Arch Alstons yesterday Yours truly E.B. Hilliard

This letter was addressed to: John B. Williams, Esqr., Warrenton, N Carolina  
[Submitted by Hiram and Pete Perkinson]

**MT. ZION, CONT. FROM P. 3**  
Matthews, J.J.R. Manning, Nannie Manning, B.T. Collins, Oliver Stallin(g)s, B.N. Hawkins, S. M. Boon(e), Luannie Matthews, D.L. Boone, R.T. Matthews, Anna Manning (Lamb), Maggie Manning (Green), Nettie Matthews (Parker), John O. Batchelor, Bunian Morgan, W.J. Matthews, Donnie Matthews, and J.R. Stal-

lings.

Reverend Tom Matthews was affectionally known as "Pap". He served Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church as pastor for approximately 11 years. The church has survived 100+ years in the Momeyer, NC community.

[Information submitted by Barbara Matthews Ferrell and Joyce Todd Arnold, TRC members.]



## Acquisitions— Braswell Memorial Library

- *Gleanings* compiled & edited by Marion Woodard Moore. Gift from M.W. Moore.
- *Hobgood Family of Granville County, NC Before 1850, Vol I*, by Leonard F. Dean.
- *Barnes-Ralph : Seasons Gone By, Colonial America to 2000*, by Diana Allison.
- *Bright Leaf Tobacco, Roll Along Tobacco Wagon to the Rocky Mount Tobacco Market (1940-50's)*, compiled & edited by Billie Jo Works Matthews.
- *Nash County Board of Education Minutes, 1896-1956*, 1 reel.

## Search and Research

### Naturalization Records

Before 1709, for non-British subjects, naturalization was required, and each colony could determine the length of residency as well as other requirements. Since a non-citizen could not buy, own, or convey land, it was important for him to become naturalized.

From 1709 to 1740 requirements were to include an oath of allegiance and the partaking of the sacrament of communion in the **Church of England** in the presence of witnesses. An Act of Parliament in 1740 stated that an alien should reside in a particular colony at least 7 years before appearing before a magistrate to take his oath of loyalty to the Crown and colony and become a citizen.

On 26 March 1790, the first **Congress** under the Constitution, in its second session, took action and passed an act (1 Stat. 103) stating that any free white adult alien, male or female, who had resided within the limits and jurisdiction of the US for a period of 2 years was eligible for citizenship. An individual who desired to become a citizen under this act was to apply to "any common law court of record, in any one of the states wherein he shall have resided for the term of one year at least." The first federal activity in an area previously under the control of the individual states, this act established a uniform rule for naturalization by setting the residence requirement at 2 years.

Congress repealed the 1790 Act and passed a new one (1 Stat. 414) on 29 January 1795. This increased the residency requirements from 2 to 5 years. Applicants were also required to publicly declare their intention to become citizens of the US and to

**SEE NATURALIZATION, PAGE 8**



## Doughboys

Who were *Doughboys*? For Americans, *Doughboys* were the young men who went to France in the **Great War, WWI**—the brave soldiers who fought to make the world safe for Democracy. However, that was not the first use of the term.

The word *doughboy*, as used by the **British**, referred to a fried flour dumpling, forerunner of the modern doughnut; it was widely used more than 100 years before World War I. In this country, the term applied to bakers' apprentices. As applied to **US Army Infantry**, the term *Doughboy* is first documented in the **Mexican-American War of 1846-47**. It is later found in accounts of the **Civil War** and of campaigns on the western frontier.

For 70 years after the Mexican-American War, *doughboy* was a nickname for the American infantryman. *Doughboy Drill* meant close-order infantry drill and supplies of prophylactics for soldiers on pass were *Doughboy Kits*. Yet when America entered WWI, the usage of *doughboy* changed dramatically. Somehow, *doughboy* became the universally popular nickname of all the American troops sent to Europe. It became generalized in application, no longer limited to the infantry. All the army combat branches, even the **U.S. Marines**, were individually and collectively labeled *doughboys*.

In their letters home and in their diaries, volunteers, draftees and national guardsmen referred to themselves as *Doughboys*. Their overseas newspaper, *The Stars & Stripes*, used the term often. But oddly enough, the last American soldier who returned home from overseas in the early 1920's was the last *Doughboy*. In **World War II** the *Doughboys'* sons were Yanks or GIs.

[From an internet article by **Michael E. Hanlon** at [www.worldwar1.com](http://www.worldwar1.com)]

## ROSTER OF NASH COUNTY MEN IN THE WAR OF THE NATIONS

Nash County maintained a record of its "doughboys" from the time they entered service. The record can be found in the Office of the Register of Deeds, Nashville, Nash Co., NC. Each name is recorded on a separate page with the following information: Name, Home Address, Date of Birth, Where Born, Name and Address of Father and/or Mother (Often showed the name of some other relative), Occupation, Date Entered Service (Sometimes included unit, etc), Remarks (Usually told where stationed).

The list begins here, goes to page 7 and will continue in future issues.

### WHITE

Richard Percy Abernathy  
Henry C. Adams  
Charles B. Allen  
Reginald W. Alston  
Albert Anderson  
James W. Anderson  
James Frank Avent  
Thomas A. Avera

### BLACK

Luther Adams  
Magrene Adams  
Charley Allen  
Mark Allen  
Pet Allen  
James Mason Alston  
Joe Alston  
Junius Alston

WHITE	BLACK	WHITE	BLACK
Leslie B. Aycock	Ned Alston	Handy Girod Brantley	Will Battle
John Arthur Baines	Paul Alston	Lester Gold Brantley	Sam Batts
Charles Amber Baker	Plummer Alston	Sherwood Brantley	Gus Batts
James Clinton Baker	Wes Alston	Dave Elsworth Braswell	Cleaters Beam
Joseph Robert Baker	Will Anderson	Hubert Morton Braswell	Will Benton
Luther Baker	Jas Andrews	Jas. C. Braswell, Jr.	Adam Bethea
William Otho Baker	Joe Henry Andrews	Walter C. Brower	Ned Biggs
James Willis Barber	Arthur Mose Arrington	Abbie Brown	Weldon Birchett
Albert E. Barnes	Buck Arrington	Arthur Brown	Asbury Blackwell
Henry G. Barnes	Geo Ernest Arrington	John K. Brown	Wm Blackman
Steven Robert Barnes	Hannibal Arrington	Jefferson Bryant	James Bobbitt
Ollie Adron Bass	John Pete Arrington	Ollie Bryant	Emory Boothe
Patrick Henry Bass	Joseph Arrington	William Donie Bryant	Redmond Booth
Wm. Roy Bass	Lewis Arrington	Bennie Goram Bunn	Bunyan Boulware
G. W. Batchelor	Melvin Arrington	Charles Little Bunn	Ben Bowden
Lewis William Batchelor	James Atkinson	Covey Herman Bunn	Kenly Bowden
Luther Lane Batchelor	Sutton Auston	Peter Hines Bunn	Charles Boyd
Melvin Vance Batchelor	Henry Avent	Willie Ernest Bunn	Sylvester Boyd
Sam Jones Batchelor	Henry Avent	Willis A. Burges	Arthur Branch
William Visison Batchelor	Russell Avent	James Randolph Butler	Walter Branch
Robert M. Battle	Wm Avent	Geroe W. Cannon	Willie Bright
Jimmie McCellian Batts	Wm Avent	Norman Yates Chambliss	Ben Brooks
John Henry Batts	Harry Baker	Hugh E. Clark	Andrew Brown
John L. Bell	Herman Baker	Roland S. Clinton	Lewis Brown
W.E. Bell	Luke Baker	Dwight O. Coggen	Arthur Bryant
Alfred Leon Bergeron	Wm Baker	Henry Keeter Coggin	Austin Bryant
Hubert Bunn Bergeron	Ernest Bagley	Joe Mann Coggin	David Bryant
Lonnie Privette Bergeron	Wm Bagley	Neverson Wright Coggin	Dempsey Bryant
Wiley Bishop	Pomp Ballard	Otho Done Coggin	Dorsey Bryant
Adolphus Bissette	Josh Barnes	William Richard Coleman	Leon Bryant
Walter Bissette	Geo Baskerville	R. C. Coley	Newsome Bryant
Jack Bone	Zollie Edward Batchelor	Jackson S. Collie	Earl Bulluck
Teddy Moses Boone	John Astor Batchelor	John Lucien Collie	Garlie Bulluck
Grandy E. Booth	Alford Daniel Battle	Frank Battle Collins	L. Roy Bulluck
William Haywood Booth	Benn Battle	Jack H. Collins	Thomas Bulluck
Willard Booth	Buddy Battle	Paul Burtice Cone	Qebster Bunch
James Robert Boseman	Burt Battle	Walton James Cone	Mack Burgess
Luther Weston Boseman	Eddie Robert Battle	Julius Collins Cook	Joe Price Burt
Isaac Dickerson Boswell	Enchie Battle	Harold Dunbar Cooley	Wm Burton
John Ashley Bowden	Johnnie Battle	Hubert Gerhard Cooley	James E. Byrd
Ed Bowen	Johnnie Battle	Arthur Arrington Cooper	Larry Byrd
John Bowen	Johnnie Battle	Bud Cooper	Wm Byrd
Luther Henry Bowen	Jolly Battle	Carl Mann Cooper	Mance Carpenter
Abijah H. Boykin	Lawrence Battle	Cecil Francis Cooper	Charley Carr
Thomas Boykin	Lewis Battle	Ernest Edgar Cooper	Sol Carter
Preston H. Bradshaw	Mance Battle	George William L. Cooper	Isaac Chadbourn
Roy Clifton Bragg	Niles Battle	Lee Francis Cooper	Colonel Jackson Cheeks
Bernice M. Brantley	Preston Battle	S.A. Cooper	Arthur Clark
Coy Brantley	Sam Battle	Sam Robert Cooper	Edward Clay
Edgar Lee Brantley	Tommie Battle	William A. Cooper	Harvey Clemons
Edmond Lenwood Brantley	Turner Battle	Willis Edgar Cooper	Melton Collins



ORAL  
HISTORY  
PROJECT

Nash County Arts Council

## Pride in Tobacco

TOLD BY JAY STALLINGS OF BATTLEBORO

### My Grandfather, Almond

**Jerkins Drake**, died in 1951, when I was four years old. I remember going to the warehouse with him and sitting on a pile of tobacco. Tobacco was tied in bundles back then, and it was presented with so much pride.

My grandma, **Annie Best Drake**, graded the tobacco into seven grades, tied it into bundles, then put it on grading sticks, tobacco sticks spilt out of heart pine and sanded or whittled smooth. After the tobacco was on the grading sticks, we'd put it into a press. The

press was almost like a sandwich maker - two big hinged boards, maybe 18 or 20 inches deep and four feet long, with two handles. We'd lay the tobacco in the press, one or two sticks at a time, and press. The bundles were huge. A grading stick of tobacco probably weighed 20 pounds.

At the warehouse, one of my uncles would stand on the back of the truck and hand a stick of tobacco to a man on the floor. He would grab half the tobacco and slide it off the stick and lay it in a basket, making the prettiest pile.

When I left the farm in '65, tobacco was carefully handled, graded and tied, then presented at market with pride. I went to college and then into the **Air Force**. The crop of 1973 was the first crop after I got home. Good heavens! They were handling it with pitchforks! I couldn't believe it.

In 1980, I had my first crop of

tobacco, about 25 acres. That was a drought year, and drought tobacco doesn't cure well. My father-in-law, **Bob Reiersen**, helped me with it. We finally cured it out as best we could, and it was of mixed quality. I had some decent looking tobacco in there and some trash. So, using my experience from 15 years earlier, I got two old ladies on the farm to grade it.

My father-in-law came by, took a look, and shook his head. He said, "You're wasting your time."

He was right. When I sold it, it all brought the same price.

When I was growing up, the tobacco market always had straight rows of baskets, and the tobacco was arranged and offered with pride. Now it looks like a bomb went off in the warehouse. You can hardly tell where one pile ends and the next one starts. They must sweep the floor and divide it up with a compass.

### "DEATH TO HAWKS"

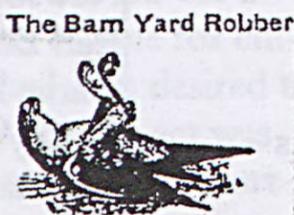
LIFE TO CHICKENS AND TURKEYS!

Cock of the Walk.

"Hawk."



I take Macnair's Chicken Powder, and feed my children on them too. Look at me and observe the hawk. Cock a doodle doo!



The Barn Yard Robber  
Died after eating a chick of that old Rooster, which had been fed on Macnair's Chicken Powder. Alas! Alas!

Macnair's Chicken Powder Kills Hawks, Crows and Owls, cures Cholera, Gaps, Indigestion, Leg Weakness, Ruoup and keeps them free from Vermin, thereby causing them to produce abundance of eggs.

If your dealer cannot supply you send name with 25c. and I will send you sample package prepaid.

W. H. MACNAIR,  
Tarboro, N. C.

...  
Zion's Landmark, August 15, 1909

**NATURALIZATION, CONT. FROM P. 6** renounce any foreign allegiance for 3 years before becoming citizens. Any immigrants who had "borne any hereditary title or been of the order of nobility" had to renounce that status.

The residency requirement for naturalization is of importance for genealogists for it helps to pinpoint a date of immigration for the ancestor. If you can locate the date of the naturalization for the ancestor, knowing the residency requirement of the time period, you can go back that number of years to arrive at the latest possible date of immigration.

With the passage of the **Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798**, the filing of a declaration of intention at least 5 years before admission to citizenship and residence of 14 years in the US and 5 years in a state was required

by one of these laws (1 Stat. 566). Clerks of court had to furnish information about each record of naturalization to the **Secretary of State**.

The 1798 Act was repealed on 14 April 1802 and replaced by a new law (2 Stat. 153) which represented a return to the requirements of the 1795 law and formed the basis for all later naturalization legislation. The 1802 law stated that any free, white alien might be admitted to citizenship provided the alien: 1) completed a declaration of intention to become a citizen before a court at least 2 years before admission to citizenship; 2) took an oath of allegiance to the US; 3) resided in the US at least 5 years and in the state for 1 year; and 4) had established good moral character and an attachment to the US government.

## Postal Operations in Vance County

FROM AN ARTICLE BY PHIL PERKINSON

The post office, often located in a home, tavern, courthouse or place of business, was where people gathered on "mail day" to collect their letter, books, newspapers and to learn what was going on in the community.

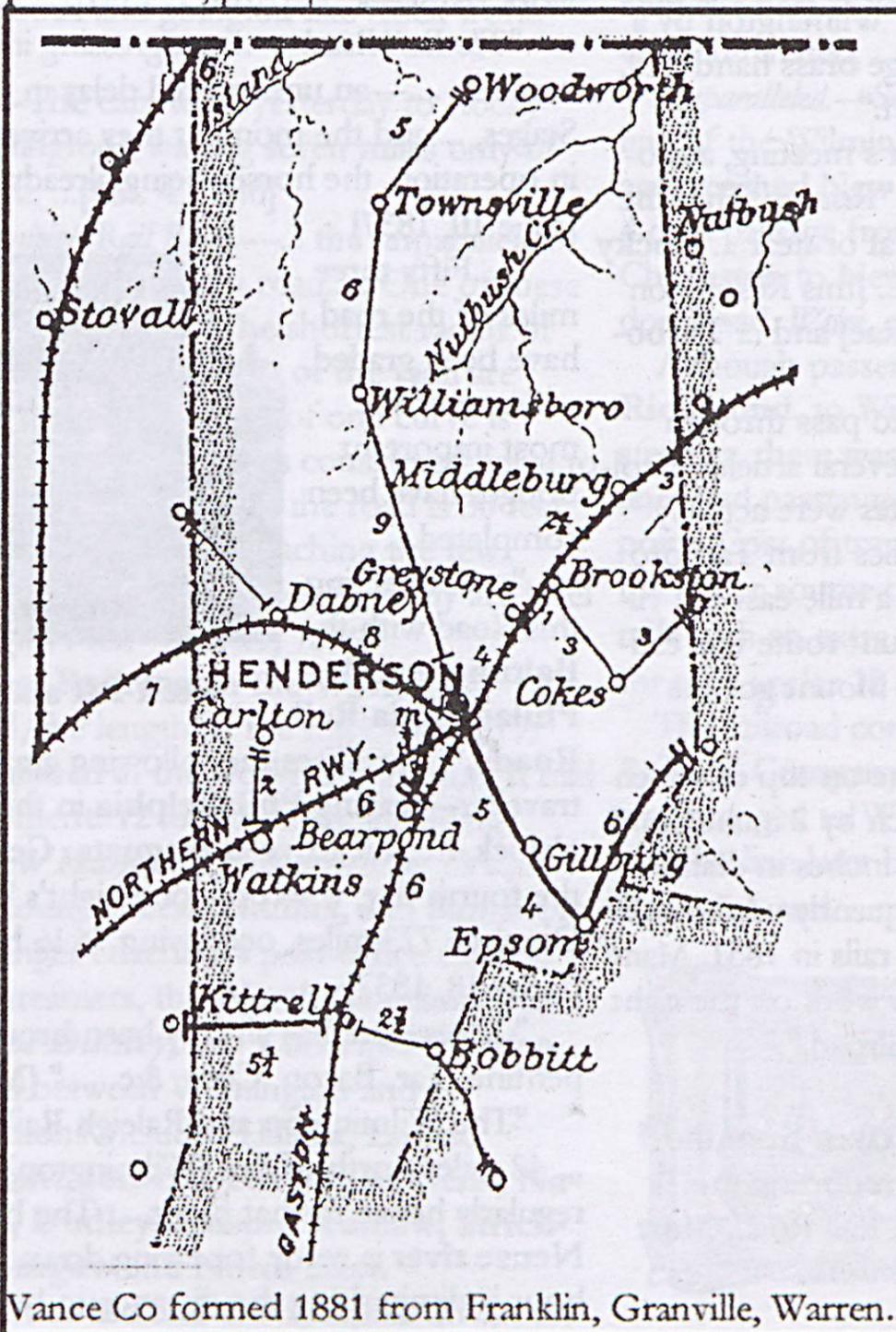
The earliest letters were carried "by favor of" someone in passing. Before the Revolution, there were post offices at Bath, New Bern, Edenton and Wilmington to handle ship mail to Europe and larger American ports. By 1794, NC had 47 post offices. It was then that the Williamsboro Post Office was established. Receipts from 1792 through 1793 were only \$35. Stephen Sneed, postmaster at Williamsboro, was awarded the contract to carry mail over a 211 mile route in 1794.

Early post offices were simply furnished with a wooden desk or chest with a strong lock and key, pen, ink, and space "sufficient to transact business." On hand were various forms, a table of US Post Offices, a copy of postal regulations, a US map, saddle bag or oilskin folio with lock and key, ledgers and a table of postage rates.

A charge was made for each

sheet of paper. It was sent folded with the address on the outside of the letter itself. Rates for a single sheet going not over 30 miles was 6¢, 30-80 miles was 10¢, on up to 25¢ for more than 400 miles. In 1845, the rate was reduced to 5¢ for up to 300, and in 1851 to 3¢ for up to 3000 miles. It was not until 1855 that prepayment was required. This was not well received as it seemed to indicate that the receiver was unable to pay for his letters.

In September 1838, the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad reached Henderson and Lewis Reavis, the first postmaster, donated land for the combination railroad station/post office. By the outbreak of the Civil War, the 6 principal towns of what later became Vance Co. enjoyed daily mail service thanks to the railroads.



## THE SAMUEL and SARAH HESTER HUNT FAMILY

BY TIMOTHY W. RACKLEY

This Samuel Hunt was the son of Michael Hunt and Frankey Hunt (both can be traced back to John Hunt and wife Mourning) of the Providence area in Granville Co, NC. Information reportedly copied from the Samuel Hunt Family Bible is as follows:

### BIRTHS

Samuel Hunt b. April 28, 1813  
Sarah Hester b. March 17, 1817  
Elizabeth P. Poole b. Feb. 15, 1824

### CHILDREN OF SAMUEL HUNT and SARAH HESTER

Michael W. Hunt, b. Jan 16, 1835  
Mary Frances Hunt b. Nov 21, 1837  
Mary A. Hunt b. Mar 28, 1840  
Alfred H. Hunt b. Jul 22, 1842  
David Y. Hunt b. May 7, 1844  
Sophia J. Hunt b. Aug 3, 1848  
Virginia C. Hunt b. Jun 23, 1850  
Hiram G. Hunt b. Jun 16, 1853  
Charlie Hunt b. Mar 22, 1854  
Samuel T. Hunt b. Mar 16, 1857  
Richard P. Hunt b. Sep. 17, 1861  
Sallie H. Hunt b. Jun 24, 1866

### MARRIAGES

Samuel Hunt & Sarah Hester, Jan 18, 1834  
Samuel Hunt & Elizabeth P. Poole, Jul 3, 1867

### DEATHS

Michael W. Hunt d. Sep 9, 1855  
Mary Frances Hunt d. Feb 4, 1839  
Alfred H. Hunt d. Jul 13, 1862  
Sarah Hunt d. Jul 6, 1866  
Elizabeth Hunt d. Nov 30, 1890  
Samuel Hunt d. Apr 21, 1884

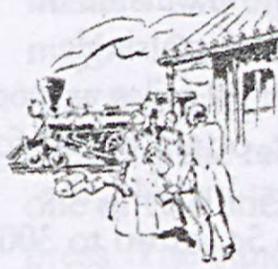
According to Fred Hunt of Raleigh, NC family tradition is that Richard P. Hunt at the age of seven and "some of the others" went to Kentucky, where they stayed for 7 years before returning to NC. Charlie Hunt remained in Kentucky.

See Hunt, Page 13

## Wilmington & Raleigh Rail Road

### The Wilmington & Raleigh

Railroad was chartered in 1834 to connect **Wilmington, North Carolina's** principal seaport, and the seat of government at **Raleigh**. However, failing to attract Raleigh investors, the line was routed north to **Weldon**, across the **Roanoke River** from the **Petersburg, VA** railroad. **Walter Gwyn** was chief engineer; **Alexander MacRae**, superintendent; **Matthew T. Goldsborough** and **Francis N. Barbarin**, assistant engineers.



Construction began in both **Halifax** and **Wilmington** in 1836. The project so overtaxed the means of its promoters that an order for 100 dozen shovels was rejected. This led to a hardware department, comprising tools and implements needed for railroad work, to be added to the dry-goods store of **John Dawson** in **Wilmington**.

**Robert B. Wood**, one of the railroad contractors, advertised stockholder meetings by hanging a placard on either side of his docile gray mare. The horse was paraded through the principal streets of **Wilmington** by a negro slave who constantly rang a large brass hand-bell, proclaiming "Railroad meeting tonight."

At the March 15, 1835 Stockholder's meeting, a motion by **Gen. Blount** [of **Nashville**], "Resolved, That the Engineer ...examine a route touching at or near ... **Rocky Mount** the great **Falls of Tar River**,... [this Resolution amended on motion of **Gen. A. MacRae**] and ... **Tarborough**, ... ."

**Tarboro** lobbied hard for the line to pass through that town. The *Tarboro Press* printed several articles extolling the virtues of the town. Two routes were actually surveyed, one crossing the **Tar** 1½ miles from **Tarboro** and the other crossing the **Tar River** a mile east the village of **Rocky Mount**. The **Rocky Mount** route was estimated to cost \$13,000 less and **Rocky Mount** got the railroad.

The first tracks were "of yellow pine on top of which were attached iron straps, one-half inch by 2 inches, and secured by cross-ties of white oak, 12 inches in diameter." The trains jumped the tracks frequently until these tracks were replaced with the first "I" rails in 1851. Many farmers furnished "timber or teams to work on the right of way in exchange for stock in the railroad."

### Press Releases

The following is a series of articles taken from the *Tarboro' Press* between 1836 and 1840, reporting the progress of the **Wilmington & Raleigh Rail Road**. Most were reprinted from the *Wilmington Chronicle*.

"...**Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road Company** ...to run from **Wilmington** to **Weldon**, ... through a level and well-timbered region, to meet the **Petersburg and Portsmouth Roads**. ... A line of steamboats from **Wilmington** to **Charleston [SC]** will complete the route,... . The completion of the project will enable the traveler from **Petersburg, Portsmouth** or **Norfolk** to be landed at **Charleston** within 48 hours from the commencement of his journey. ... " [Jan. 30, 1836]

"*Halifax and Weldon Rail Road*.—We learn that all the contracts for this Road were let out on Saturday last, ... and that the different contractors intend commencing operations forthwith. ... " [Feb. 20, 1836]

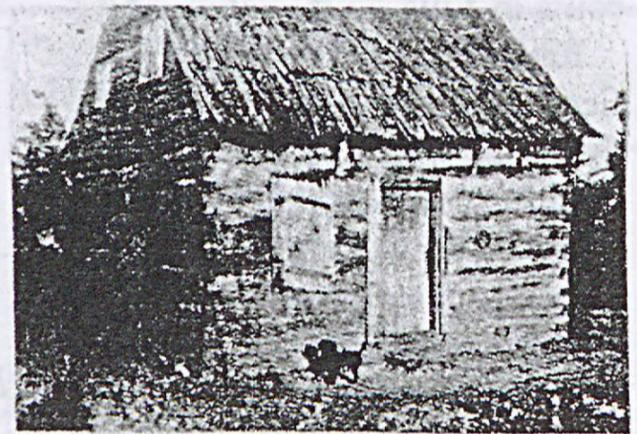
"*The Rail Road*.—We learn that in this county, there were subscribed to the **Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road**, at **Tarborough**, \$14,100—at **Pitt's X Roads**, \$10,100—at **Dempsey Bryan's**, \$9,500 — (**Stantonsburg** not heard from)—making \$33,700, or 337 shares. ...a considerable number of the shares subscribed for in **Nash**, .... [Feb 27, 1836]

"...**Mr. Hale**, contractor for the first 12 miles of the **Wilmington and Halifax Rail Road**, commenced work last week. ..."[April 1, 1837]

"*The Rail Road*.— ... progressing in a very satisfactory manner, ...—an unexpected delay in the arrival of the Stages, ... and the moment they arrive the line will be put in operation, the horses being already on the road." [June 10, 1837]

"...Fifty three miles of the road have been graded, ... Some of the most important bridges have been completed. ...

"... connecting this Road with the **Baltimore and Philadelphia Rail**



W&R RR station at Halifax

**Roads**, ...promises the following gratifying results to the traveller—leaving **Philadelphia** in the morning at 6 ½ o'clock, he will arrive at **Augusta, Georgia**, at 6 P.M. of the fourth day, with only one night's loss of sleep, ..." Distance 773 miles, occupying 76 ½ hours —fare \$45. [Nov. 18, 1837]

"... produce has already been brought... such as Turpentine, Tar, Bacon, Corn, &c. ..." [May 12, 1838]

"The **Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road** is now open ... 42 miles north of this [**Wilmington**], and the cars run regularly hence to that point. ... The bridge across the **Neuse river** is ready for laying down the iron, and every hour is diminishing the distance to be travelled over in

Stages. The whole road from this to Tar River, ... has been placed under contract; and some time in August passengers will be carried from **Enfield** to Halifax in Cars. ..." [July 1838]

"**Quankey Bridge**.—This Bridge will be completed in a few days, when, we are told, that the Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road Company intend putting on an Engine and Cars, to run between Weldon and Enfield, a distance of about 18 miles." [Sept. 22, 1838]

"*Sixty Miles of staging saved—Another section opened upon this end of the Wilmington and Raleigh Rail Road—*...in October, a daily line will be run from Wilmington to Halifax and the steamboats between this and Charleston, four times per week." [Sept. 22, 1838]

"The ship **Oberlin** has arrived in **New York**, ...with five hundred and seventy-five tons of Iron for the Wilmington & Raleigh R. Road Co....

"The fine dry weather of the last two months, will leave to the contractors no hole to creep out at, ...

"The heavy gales of wind which commenced on Saturday afternoon last, and continued till Monday morning, created a temporary suspension of the mail carriage, but now all is again smooth and going on like clock work." ...[Oct. 26, 1839]

"*Our Rail Road*.—The cars went yesterday to Rocky Mount [from Wilmington], leaving seven miles only of the Road unfinished. ...[Jan. 4, 1840]

"*Wilmington & Raleigh Rail Road*.—... the unparalleled amount of 139 ½ miles of straight road... One of these straight lines is 47 miles long; ... The shortest radius of curvature used is 5730 feet and most of the radii are 12—20 and 30,000 feet,—the radius of one curve is 68,240 feet in length—which curve is considered equal to a straightline—the steepest grade on the road is 30 feet per mile—these occur only in approaching the few streams that cross the line—the grades generally are level grades. ...—*Wilmington Adv.*" [Jan. 25, 1840]

### Longest Railroad in the World

When completed, the length of the track was 161½ miles the longest railroad in the world at that time. It had the following equipment: 12 locomotives, including **Nash, Wayne, New Hanover, Edgcombe, Brunswick, Duplin, Bladen, Green, Halifax, and Sampson**; eight 8-wheel passenger coaches; 4 post-office cars; 50 freight cars; and 4 steamers, the **North Carolina, Wilmington, Governor Dudley, and Cornelius Vanderbilt** which operated between Wilmington and Charleston, SC. Stations included Halifax, Enfield, Battles, Rocky Mount, Joiners, Tosnot, Bardens, Nahunta, Goldsboro, Dudley, Faison, Warsaw, Strickland, Teachey's, Burgaw and North East.

The last cross-tie was laid and the last spike driven on

March 7, 1840 a little north of the bridge over Tar River near Rocky Mount. A waiting train of cars proceeded northward to Weldon, arriving about 9:00 p.m.

The return trip to Wilmington was on Monday, March 9, 1840. The first "train of cars passed through Rocky Mount about dawn, pausing to take on local dignitaries bound for the opening ceremonies in Wilmington and a cargo of one of the historic products of Nash County's apple industry, brandy, also destined for the festivities. It was truly a momentous date, for never before in the history of the world had a train of cars been drawn over one hundred and sixty miles of continuous track! All of the people who lived within convenient distance turned out to see this wonderful sight.

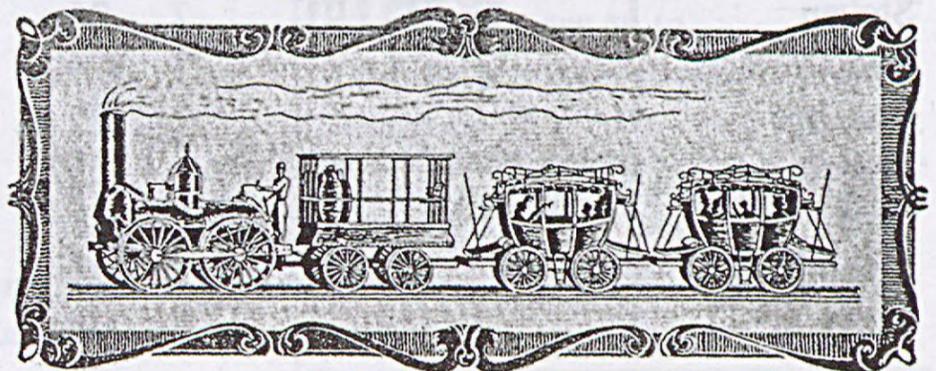
### Grand Finale

When the train arrived in Wilmington, "... One hundred and sixty one guns were fired—being one for every mile of road completed. ... In the afternoon, a general invitation was given to go up to the depot and witness a mixing of the waters of the Roanoke, Tar, and Neuse, which had been brought down for the purpose, with those of the **Cape Fear**. The union was cemented with the best "Old Nash" [brandy]—... At night the town was illuminated, .... *Wilmington Advertiser*. [March 21, 1840]

*Unparalleled*.—Several travellers who passed over the line of the Wilmington and Weldon Rail Road a few days ago, reached New York in 7 days from **Cuba**. They had 4 days passage from **Havana** to Charleston, and 3 from Charleston to New York, on the Wilmington and Weldon Road. *Wilm. Advertiser*. [April 4, 1840]

Although passengers could now travel from north of **Richmond**, to Wilmington and on to Charleston, SC by steamer, there was no physical connection between the lines and passengers had to change trains each terminal point. Cost of travel was high and passenger traffic was the major source of revenue. Rates ranged from 5-8¢ a mile with an extra 50¢ for "stopping and starting" added for trips under 10 miles.

The railroad continued as the Wilmington & Raleigh Railroad Company until Feb. 14, 1855, when the name was changed to Wilmington & Weldon Railroad Company. The line later became part of the **Atlantic Coastline Railroad**, and is now **CSX**.



# The Day the Train Came

BY LOUISE FULLER

The year was 1840. The railroad from **Wilmington** to **Halifax** was complete and people of Rocky Mount, Nash and Edgecombe Co. had come to see the first train roll down the tracks. They came in wagons or on horses and lined up on both sides of the tracks. Few of them had ever seen a train. There were no stores in which to wait. The only house in the vicinity was the **Gay House**. A well and a turpentine distillery were said to have been on the east side of the tracks.

Among those who had come to witness the event was **John E. Lindsay, Colonel** in the **Nash County** militia. He was dressed in his best clothes and riding his favorite

horse. On his head he wore his finest hat. It was black and shiny, just like his well-groomed black mare. He loved horses and hats. He was not yet married and was quite aware of the many eyes glancing in his direction.

John Lindsay forgot that his horse had never seen or heard a train. She was frightened out of her wits! He tried to restrain her, to no avail. She reared up. The Colonel went one way, the hat another. It rolled beneath the approaching train. The shiny black hat was gone forever. The mare found her way home. The not so dapper Colonel hitched a ride home in a neighbor's wagon.

Years later, when the Colonel had a store on the east side of the tracks and one on the west side, people would ask, "Were you here the day the first train came?" The Colonel would just nod.

(The Colonel was my great grandfather.)

*Wilmington R&R Road System Sept 15th 1853*

Dear Wife

*I take the oppitunity of writing you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope this may find you and family the Same[.] I have nothing Particular to write[.] I can't say at this time when I shall be at home but I will come as soon as I can spare the time[.] I expect you are out of Bacon before this. I should of sent you some money before this but I have not been to get any[.] our Engineer has been sick so I could not get any[.] you must try and make out untill I sent you some money or Bacon. I want you to send word to Darden Bryant that I want him to send their hands that he was talking to me about[.] I want you to write I have wrote you a letter before this and have not rec? an answer[.] Paper must be scarce, tell Col. Mahone that I should like very much for him to send Jim back for we are scarce of hands[.] Lewis will be there in a week or so and I will send you some money[.] give my Respects to the Folks*

*Mrs Harriet Bishop*

*Stith H Bishop*

Mr. Stith wrote this letter from Rocky Mount, NC to his wife, Harriett Bishop, at Newsomes Depot in Hampton County, Virginia.

## Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad, 1841 Payroll

The amount payde to hands on the 13 divisions for driving spikes on Sunday May 1st 1841. [It appears that the workers were paid, on May 1st for Jan, Feb and Mar.]

	Jan	Feb	Mar		
Steven	1		1	2	25
Isaac Sumner	1	1	1	3	37½
Preston	1	1		2	25
French	1			1	12½
Britt	1		1	2	25
Isaac Cooper	1	1		2	25
Sack	1	1	1	3	37½

Amos	1	1	1	3	37½
Kitchen	1	1	1	3	37½
Demce		1	1	2	25
Hardy	1	1	1	3	37½
				26	

On the back of the payroll sheet is the following:

Spade	4	Shovels	12
Axes	7		
Augers	9		
Cole picks	1		

**HUNT, CONT. FROM P. 9**  
**SAMUEL HUNT and**  
**DESCENDANTS**

SAMUEL HUNT b. 28 Apr 1813  
 Granville Co, NC; d. 21 Apr 1884  
 Granville Co, NC

1m. SARAH HESTER b. 17 Mar  
 1817 Granville Co, NC; d. 6 July  
 1866 Granville Co, NC; marriage  
 bond dated 18 Jan 1834, Stephen  
 Currin, bondsman.

2m. Elizabeth P. Poole b. 15 Feb  
 1824; d. 30 Nov 1890; m. 3 Jul 1867  
 Granville Co, NC; d/o John E. Poole  
 & Frances B.

1. Michael W. Hunt b. 16 Jan 1835, d.  
 9 Sept 1855; apparently unmarried.

2. Mary Frances Hunt b. 21 Nov  
 1837, d. 4 Feb 1839

3. Mary A[nn] Hunt b. 28 Mar 1840;  
 d. after Jun 1900

m. Dr. Robert W. Hogbood 6 Nov  
 1856 Granville Co; s/o Joseph Den-  
 nis Hobgood & Nancy Blalock

1. Leonard Hobgood

2. Herbert Hobgood

4. Alfred H. Hunt b. 22 Jul 1842, d.  
 on or about 13 Jul 1862 near Rich-  
 mond, VA of fever; apparently never  
 married.

5. David Young Hunt b. 7 May 1844,  
 d. 23 Apr 1920 in Vance Co

m. Caroline V. Hobgood, 24 Aug  
 1844, d. 11 Apr 1906 Granville; d/o  
 Henry Hobgood & Mildred Hayes;  
 m. 22 Nov 1866 Granville Co

1. Katherine "Kate" Carlye Hunt m.  
 Charles Chavis Cheatham 30 Jan.  
 1889

2. Emogene "Emmy" Elizabeth Hunt  
 b. 1869 in KY; m. Clarence H. Par-  
 ham

3. Willie H. Hunt m. Cora Bobbitt

4. Sarah Jeanette "Nettie" Hunt m.  
 James Harrison Cheatham 28 Feb  
 1897 Granville Co

5. Mary Daisy Hunt m. George Er-  
 nest Cheatham 17 Dec 1896 Gran-  
 ville Co

6. Hollie Hunt m. Luher Wellons  
 Franklin, Danville, VA

7. Benjamin Young Hunt m. Carrie  
 Wrenn

8. James Thomas "Tommy" Hunt m.  
 Pearl Matthews

6. Sophia J[ane] Hunt b. 3 Aug 1848,  
 d. 6 May 1903; buried Elmwood Cem  
 m. Alfred H. Hobgood b. 15 Apr  
 1842, d. 12 Jun 1902; m. 7 Feb 1867  
 Granville Co; s/o Henry Hobgood &  
 Mildred Hayes

1. Sam Hobgood

2. Gus Hobgood

3. Bixley Hobgood

4. Alfred Hobgood

5. Otis Hobgood

6. Baldy Hobgood

7. Hettie Hobgood

8. Scotia Hobgood

7. Virginia C. Hunt b. 23 Jun 1850  
 m. James Clark

[No children, but there were step-  
 children]

8. Hiram G. Hunt b. 16 Jun 1853

9. Charlie A. Hunt b. 22 Mar 1854 re-  
 portedly moved to and remained in  
 Morganton, Kentucky

1m. Antha E. Berry d. 9 Jul 1881; m.  
 13 Sept 1874

2m. Mary M. Steuett d. 9 Jun 1886;  
 m. 15 Nov 1883

3m. Mary E. Bellamy, m. 12 Sept  
 1888

[Children of Charlie A. Hunt report-  
 edly were Allie F. Hunt, Antha E.  
 Hunt, William S. Hunt

10. Samuel T[homas] Hunt b. 16 Mar  
 1857, d. 26 May 1932

m. Indiana Hobgood b. 14 May 1860,  
 d. 13 Jan 1915; d/o Samuel Crawford  
 Hobgood & Rebecca Blalock

1. Julie Hunt

2. Annie Belle Hunt

3. Joe Hunt

4. Hettie Hunt

5. Lizzie Hunt

6. Kathleen Hunt

7. Sam Hunt

8. Bryant Hunt

9. Walter Hunt

10. Richard P[arthenia] Hunt b. 17  
 Sept 1861; died 28 Jun 1943; moved  
 to Wake County about 1895

m. Nonie Eva Allen b. 12 December  
 1872, d. 11 April 1940; married 5  
 June 1895 Granville Co; d/o Ethan  
 Cameron Allen and Mary Susan  
 Mayes

1. Daughter b&d 15 March 1896

2. Agnes Virginia Hunt b. 10 April  
 1897, d. 24 March 1991

3. Edwin Chambers Hunt b. 8 May  
 1899, d. 31 December 1979

4. Sallie Sue Hunt b. 13 April 1901, d.  
 19 July 1985

5. Fred Lee Hunt b. 16 Dec 1902, d.  
 1 May 1987

6. Mabel Spencer Hunt b. 22 Sep  
 1904

7. Mary Grace Hunt b. 9 Dec 1906,  
 d. 22 Oct 1967

8. Annie Laurie Hunt b. 6 Feb 1909

9. Florence Isabel Hunt b. 26 Mar  
 1911

10. Ethel Hunt b. May 1913, d. Jun  
 1913

11. Richard Parthenia Hunt Jr b. 7  
 Mar 1915, d. 17 Jul 1974

11. Sallie H. Hunt b. 24 Jun 1866, d. 7  
 Apr 1942; m. John Satterwhite, Apr  
 1895

1. Bettie Satterwhite

2. Fred Satterwhite

3. Willie Satterwhite

This article was written in collabo-  
 ration with Mr. Fred Hunt and **Mr.**  
**Leonard Dean** who are both resi-  
 dents of **Raleigh, North Carolina.**  
 My sincere thanks to both for their  
 contributions and clarifications of the  
 above information.

### Horses for Sale.



THE Wilmington & Ra-  
 leigh Rail Road Company,  
 have 50 to

**100 Superior Horses for sale.**

Apply to the Subscriber, or to Mr.  
 Duncan Ferguson, agent on the Wilming-  
 ton and Raleigh Rail Road Company  
 Sage line.

ALEXANDER MACRAE,  
 General Agent W. & R. R. R.  
 Wilmington, Dec 14, 1839. 4

## Shocco Hills

BY MARY SPEED JONES MERCER

10/18/1862—11/3/1937

**Shocco Hills** was built on an eminence overlooking **Shocco Creek** [in southwestern **Warren Co, NC**] about the time of the **Revolution**. It was adorned with beautiful carved wainscoting, doorways, windows and mantels, for at that early day, Shocco Hills was a pretentious home. There is yet, in a side room, a triple window above which is carved an eagle with outspread wings and on either side of the window the frames are carved with stars and stripes, stressing the idea of Liberty which, at that period, was uppermost in every heart.

My father, who later came into possession of Shocco Hills, decided to remodel the old mansion; so in 1860, this work was done from timber grown on the estate. Following the fashions of the period, the handsome old carved mantels were replaced by modern ones, but the old ones were placed in homes of the servants. The shape of the house was changed but the spacious sitting room, the side room, quaint back stairway, hall and rooms in the second and third stories, as well as some basement rooms, remain [this was written before 1937] as they were in revolutionary days.

The more modern residence contained more than twenty great rooms and 17 fireplaces. The basement had a dining room, and a commodious weaving room with looms, spinning wheels, etc. There was a large room known as the cookery room where long shelves were filled with household ware and china. The lights here were always dim, and I thought of it as **Blue Beards** Headquarters, where his multitude of wives hung by their hair! An absurd childish fancy, but I was always scared of the old cookery room.

Another large basement room was used in after

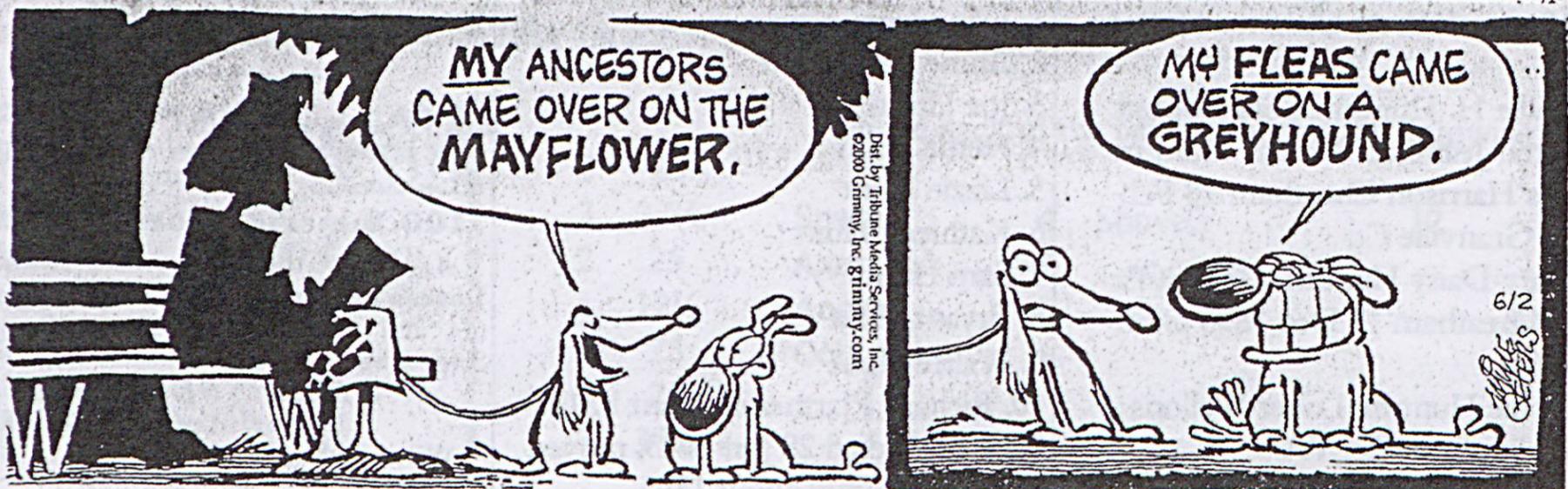
years for cooking. Adjoining this was a room called the Bath Room, and connected with this was a closet which held a huge wooden tank to which was attached a charcoal furnace. This was the primitive but effective source that supplied hot and cold water for the bathroom and the lower floors. In the old kitchen, a two-story building that stood in the yard, a great old green painted bathtub stood for years. My sister, **Mrs. Charles Alston Cook**, told me that my mother had all the lead pipes taken up and bullets molded for the soldiers [during the **Civil War**]. **Uncle Abram Speed** was the old bullet molder. He also lived in a corner of the yard.

The old kitchen had a great open fireplace with cranes for swinging pots and kettles. Built into the great chimney was a brick oven filled with roasting racks. It had heavy iron doors and was used for roasting young pigs, baking turkeys, and quarters of lamb, and for cooking delicious long rolls and crusts. There was no fire in the brick oven because it was heated by coals from the fireplace.

**Aunt Harriet** and **Aunt Clenny** reigned supreme in the kitchen and children were not welcome. **Uncle Henry Estes**, with his son **Henry** and daughter **Henriette**, served meals. They carried the covered dishes from the kitchen to the dinner table on enormous trays. Uncle Henry anticipated our every wish at the table. We were never allowed to ask for food. Our plates were watched and replenished when needed. We [children] sometimes collected lightning bugs, slipped into the dining room, and put our bugs up and down the table under the crystal goblets. Then, such a race around the house—Uncle Henry with a dish towel and ten or twelve boys and girls flying from his wrath.

[**Mary Speed Jones Mercer**, daughter of **Joseph Speed Jones** and **Mary Ann Fort** of **Warren Co, NC**, was the grandmother of **Dr. Lewis Thorp**, TRC member who submitted this article.]

## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIM



## DR. LAWRENCE'S

Highly Concentrated Compound Fluid Extract of

# KOSKOO!

THE GREAT HEALTH RESTORER!

Not a Secret Quack Medicine—Formula Around the Bottle

PREPARED SOLELY BY

**DR. J.J. LAWRENCE,**  
ORGANIC CHEMIST,  
NORFOLK, VA.

Beware of Counterfeits. See that Dr. J.J. Lawrence, Chemist, Norfolk, Va., and the word Koskoo, is *blown on the glass* of each bottle

KOSKOO is endorsed by the best physicians everywhere. Read the following from **Dr. Tillery**, a successful practitioner of many years standing in the Old North State:

ROCKY MOUNT, EDGECOMBE COUNTY,  
September 10, 1869

Dr. J.J. Lawrence—Dear Sir, I have used your Concentrated Fluid Extract of Koskoo in my practice with the happiest results. I find it to be a powerful Liver Invigorator, Blood Purifier and Nervous Tonic. In all diseases of the Liver, Scrofulous, Syphilitic and Nervous Affections, it is a remedy of immense value; in fact, in almost every variety of Chronic Disease its use is indicated. Hoping you may meet with the success which you deserve as a manufacturer of reliable medicines,

I am, sir, with much respect,

Your obedient servant,

**R.C. TILLERY, M.D.**

[Taken from *N.C. Presbyterian*,  
Dec. 22, 1869]

## JAMES, CONT. FROM P. 3

man for \$14 a month. He attended church, but did not work for a living.

The \$10,000 reward on Jesse proved too appealing. While Jesse stood on a chair in the family home at 1318 Lafayette Street in St. Joseph to dust and straighten a picture, **Bob** and **Charlie Ford** drew their guns. Bob Ford put an end to the James Legend with a single bullet to the back of the head on April 3, 1882. Or did he?

### Jesse: Robin Hood or Devil?

Jesse James was a moral paradox. He was a good father and family man, and was religious in his own way. Although Jesse was known as a murderer and a no-good thief, he was also known as a "Robin Hood of the West" for his habit of "taking from the rich and giving to the poor." In a WPA interview, **L.A. Sherman**, who met Jesse James, said, "They all had big guns. They wouldn't hurt anybody. They'd ask, 'How is it.' And if you tell them you had tough sailing, they would reach in their pockets and give \$40 or \$50. ... However, the James boys were liked by the poor and God knows there was plenty of us and the law made no serious effort to get them." Whether James stole from the rich and gave to the poor, or just kept it all, is still unknown.

### What happened to Jesse

There were rumors that Ford didn't kill Jesse; that it was someone else. The real recipient of Ford's bullet, claim some stories, was a crook named **Bigelow**. People in **Granbury, TX** claim that James survived and assumed the name of **J. Frank Dalton** who eventually moved here. He was buried, in 1951, under a gravestone that reads "Jesse Woodson James." On May 30, 2000, cemetery workers in Granbury dug up the remains buried there for DNA testing—still incomplete.

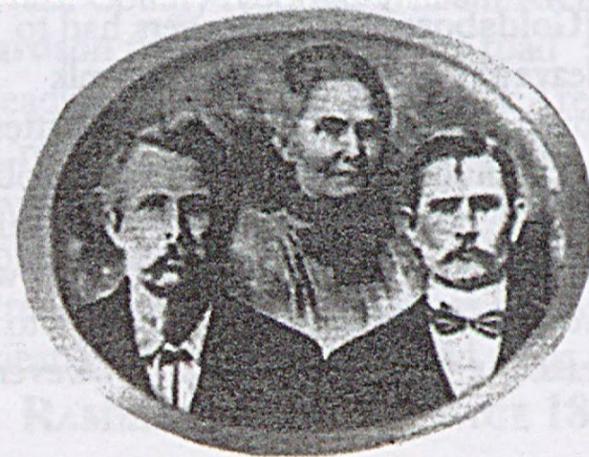
In 1995, testing was done on the

remains buried in 1882. Scientists said the body was most likely that of James. However, **Bud Hardcastle**, an **Oklahoma** amateur historian, is convinced the test in Missouri was false. He said the tooth used to prove Jesse James was in the grave, was not actually from the grave at all. "We have found out now that the tooth didn't even come from the grave," he said. "That tooth could have come from his father, mother, sister or any family member. I do know that they sent to the museum to get the tooth. They petitioned the **James Farm Museum** to get the tooth."

If the man buried in Granbury is the real Jesse James—which other James experts doubt—it would mean he managed to fake his death and live to the age of 104. The most compelling evidence for this theory came from a visual autopsy of the Dalton body by a **Hood County** sheriff, **Oran C. Baker**. He said he "counted 32 bullet holes from his forehead to his knees." Other evidence was a mutilated left index finger, burn scars on the bottom of the feet that are characteristic of torture, and rope burns around the neck.

"The burns on the feet was reported to be the results of torture when he was captured by the Union Army while he served with **Quantrill's Raiders**," Hardcastle said. "The rope burn came before the Civil War. He was working in a field on his farm when a group of **Red Legs** hung him. After they left, his mother cut him down before he died."

Did James fake his death? Stay tuned for the DNA results.



**KEMBLE, FROM P. 1**

children in our arms, walked a few yards into an open space in the woods, where three four-horse coaches stood waiting to receive us.

"... The horrors of that night's journey I shall not easily forget. The road lay almost the whole way through swamps, and was frequently itself under water. It was made of logs of wood [a corduroy road], and so dreadfully rough and unequal, that the drawing a coach over it at all seemed perfectly miraculous. I expected every moment that we must be overturned into the marsh, through which we splashed with hardly any intermission, the whole night long."

The next morning at **Stantonsburg** in **Edgecombe County**, the Kemble party was given the opportunity to wash up—"We (the women) were all shown into one small room, the whole furniture of which consisted of a chair and wooden bench: upon the latter stood one basin, one ewer, and a relic of soap, apparently of great antiquity. ..." —and have breakfast. "There were some eggs, all begrimed with smoke, and powdered with cinders; some unbaked dough, cut into little lumps, by way of bread; and a white, hard substance, calling itself butter, which had an infinitely nearer resemblance to tallow. ... and when I begged for a glass of milk, they brought a tumbler covered with dust and dirt, full of such sour stuff that I was obliged to put it aside, after endeavoring to taste it."

**Crossing the bridge**

Just below **Waynesborough** [**Goldsboro**] the passengers had to leave the coach "in order to walk over a bridge, which was in so rotten a condition as to render it very probable that it would give way under our weight. ... It was near sunset when we reached the place where we were to take the railroad. The train, however,

had not arrived, and we sat still in the coaches, there being neither town, village, nor even a road-side inn at hand, where we might take shelter from the bitter blast ... so we waited patiently, the day gradually drooping, the evening air becoming colder, and the howling wilderness around us more dismal every moment."

While waiting for the Wilmington train, which did not arrive until about 8 pm, Miss Kemble and her traveling companions were surrounded by "a troop of grazing boors, who had come from far and near to see the hot-water carriages come up for only the third time into the midst of their savage solitude. A more forlorn, fierce, poor, and wild-looking set of people, short of absolute savages, I never saw. They wandered round and round us, with a stupid kind of dismayed wonder. The men clothed in the coarsest manner, and the women also, of whom there were not a few, with the grotesque addition of pink and blue silk bonnets, with artificial flowers, and imitation-blond veils."

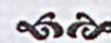
**Disgusting way to chew**

"Here the gentlemen of our party informed us that they observed, for the first time, a custom prevalent in North Carolina, of which I had myself frequently heard before—the women chewing tobacco, and that, too, in a most disgusting and disagreeable way, if one way can be more disgusting than another. They carry habitually a small stick, like the implement for cleaning the teeth, usually known in England by the name of a root,—this they thrust away in their glove, or their garter-string, and, whenever the occasion offers, plunge it into a snuffbox, and begin chewing it. The practice is so common that the proffer of the snuff-box, and its passing from hand to hand, is the usual civility of a morning visit among the country-people..."

On reaching Wilmington at five o'clock in the morning, "while it was yet quite dark, and bitterly cold," the party trudged to the only inn where they could secure accommodations. When asked to be shown to their rooms, their host informed them that he assumed that Miss Kemble and the two children would sleep together and that the nurse and a third woman who had arrived at the same time would occupy another bed in the same room.

"This unheard-of proposition, and the man's cool impudence in making it, so astonished me that I could hardly speak. At last, however, I found words to inform him that none of our party were in the habit of sleeping with each other, and that arrangement was such as we were not at all inclined to submit to. The gentleman, apparently very much surprised at our singular habits, said 'Oh! he didn't know that the ladies were not acquainted' (as if, forsooth, one went to bed with all one's acquaintance) 'but that he had but one room in the ladies' part of the house.'

"To our common dormitory we therefore repaired, as it was impossible that we could any of us go any longer without rest. I established Margery and the two babies in the largest bed; poor Miss \_\_\_\_\_ betook herself to a sort of curtainless cot that stood in one corner; and I laid myself down on a mattress on the floor; and we soon all forgot the conveniences of a Wilmington hotel in the supreme convenience of sleep"

**Cotton Yarn.**

THE subscriber has just received a quantity of Cotton Yarn, different numbers, which he will sell on reasonable and accommodating terms.

**GEO. HOWARD**

Tarboro', Jan. 1840

# Reader's Choice

## Local Color



*The Captain's Bride, A Tale of the War & The Deserter's Daughter*, by William D. Herrington-Edited by W. Keats Sparrow, 1990.

Don't let this publication slip your notice. It 'packs a wallop' by having so many interesting facets.

The book contains two novelettes written by a young **Confederate Soldier** depicting the war in **Eastern North Carolina**. Although the tales are written in what some might consider an amateurish style, they are a portal for viewing the past. **Pvt. William D. Herrington** from **Pitt County**, went off to war at the age of 21. He spent his spare time in camp writing about his experiences "during and between military actions" giving fictionalized accounts. In the days when books were extremely scarce in the **South**, he was able to capture the essence of the times in his tales, and they became quite popular for a time.

**READER, CONT. ON PAGE 20**

**RAMBLER, CONT. FROM P.1**  
Big and Little Peachtree were on that line.

Some early deeds mentioning Peachtree include:

Crown Pat. Bk 8-85 Thomas Kearney 6 May 1742 300 acres in Edgecombe on both sides of **Peach Tree Swamp** joining the north side of the swamp and both sides of the creek. (19 May 1742 Kearney sold 200 acres of the patent to **William Bennett**,

**William Boddie** and **Phillip Marsh** are witnesses.)

Granville Pat. Bk 11-296 Samuel Williams 25 Mar 1749 in Edgecombe on both sides of Peach Tree Creek, joining **Richard Holland**. (From 1744 to 1763 all land patents in the area were granted through Lord Granville's office.)

Granville Pat Bk 11-283 Joseph Thomas 25 Mar 1749 151A in Edgecombe on both sides of the creek.

Granville Pat Bk: 11-347 Michael Dormond 14 May 1755 252A in Granville County in the **Parish of St. John**, joining **Cedar Prong, Great Peach Tree Swamp**, the head of a branch of Peach Tree and an impassable swamp.

Granville Pat Bk. 11-378 Drury Harrington 2 May 1752 200A in Granville on both sides of Peach Tree.

Misc. Land Office Papers John Scarbrough 2 Dec 1760 640A(?) in Granville Co. between **Daniel Butts** and **Charles Arington** on the head of Peach Tree Creek.

Misc. Land Office Papers Joshua Womble 3 Nov 1761 700A in Edgecombe on the s[outh]s[ide] of **Swift Creek** on the n[orth] s[ide] of Peach Tree adjoining **Edward Parish**.

Misc. Land Office Papers Micajah Thomas 1 June 1763 570 A in Edgecombe between **Abraham Bass**, **Peter Hedgepeth**, **David**

**Chapman**, **Willobe Tucker**, **John Odom** and **Thomas Mann**.

Pat. Bk 11-144 William Bennett of **Northampton Co** 1 Nov 1753 181 Acres in Edgecombe County in the fork of Peach Tree and **Back Swamp**

Pat. Bk 11-310 Charles Arenton 26 February 1760 315 A in Granville Co in the Parish of St. John on both sides of Peach Tree Creek adj **Michael Dorman**.

Pat. Bk. 11-332 Thomas Cook 2 December ? 640 A in Granville on the south side of the creek, adjoining the creek

Pat Bk 11-311 Drury Arington 27 July 1761 700 acres in Granville

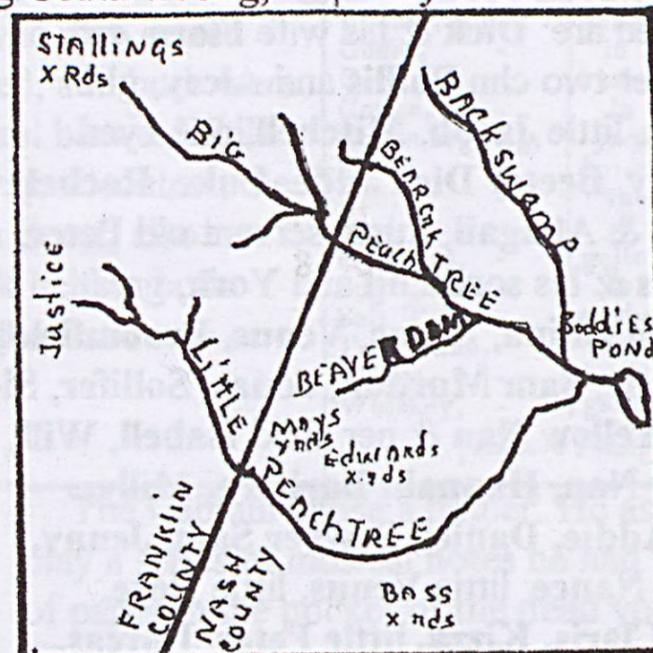
County on both sides of Peach Tree Creek adj **Magehees line**, **Mushaws line**, the cavity of a rock, **Bowins line** and **Arington's line**.

Pat. Bk 11-235 William McGee 30 December 1760 377A in Edgecombe, the **Parish of St. Mary** adj **Abner Hill**.

These grants and those which follow the same pattern: if issued in Edgecombe, the land lies in Nash today; if issued in Granville, then it lies in Franklin County today.

The rock in Peach Tree Creek is mentioned a number of times in Nash County records: **William Richardson** was overseer for the road leading from the rock on Peach Tree Creek north to **Samuel Bridgers** while **Richard Deane** was overseer of the road from the rock on Peachtree Creek south to the cross roads near **William Andrews**. Old maps

**RAMBLER, CONT. ON PAGE 18**



## Petitions To The General Assembly of Tennessee

1807 Will of Micajah Thomas of Nash County, NC who requested burial in his own burying ground, between the graves of his wife and sisters and leaves bequests to half-brother Josiah Crudup; niece Mourning Arrington; niece Rhoda Ricks; nieces Temperance & Mary Perry; father-in-law Phillemon Hawkins; natural dau Mary Crawford, child of late Elizabeth Crawford of Surry Co., VA; twin daus Margaret Thomas Jackson & Mourning Thomas Jackson and dau Temperance Thomas Jackson, all chn of Ann Jackson; nephew Bennett Boddie; Geo Boddie; Solomon Cotton; Geo Crudup; Jacob Butts; daus of Nathan Boddie, Elizabeth Boddie & Mourning Boddie, and Julian King.

Negroes listed are: Dick & his wife Flora, girl Violet, Bett & her two chn Phillis and Alcey, girl Kitty, Cull, Fan, little Jacob, Mitchell, one-eyed Dick, Cate, Lucy, Beeter Dick Jude, Luke, Rachel, Ferraby, Penny & Abigail, trusty servant old Peter, blacksmith Lewis & his sons Phil and York, great Abraham, Dinah China, Issaac, Venus, Broomfield, Jim, Sylvia, Davie, Sam Murdon, Jonas, Sollifer, Simon, Fortune, Yellow Nan & her child Isabell, Will, Jesse, Joe, Amy Nan, Hannah, Barbara, Milly, Phebe, Jacob, Addie, Daniel, Sawyer Sam, Jenny, Charles, Ellick, Nance, little Venus, little Rose, Jinny, Winny, Claris, Kizzy, little Peter, Dorcas, Landon, Doll, Camden, Beck, Cesar, Diley, Kitty, Moses, Pelnser, Grace, Ben, Phil, York, Ishmael, little Moll, Tony, Rose, little Abram, Sawyer Jacob, Jupiter, and Cambridge.

Land owners named are: Capt. Saml Bryant, Samuel Cotton, estate of Federick Ruffin, William Boddie, James Woodard, Richard Hollan, David Evans, Geo Wimberley, Julian King, Jesse Thomas, Whiddon, Reubin Whitfield, Barrentine, Maulpass, David Owens, Reubin Williams, Wm Braswell, Joshua Stephens, Edward Purcel, John Warren, Henry Taylor, Robert Rorgers, Drury Alford, Jesse Bass, Matthew Drake, Wm Lindsey, John Jones, Thomas Hill (Franklin Co), John Webb, Josiah Johnson, Massengal, Robert Braswell, and Wm McDonald.

Places named are: my plantation on Tar River; land on the north side of Roanoke River in Northhampton Co; plantation on north side of Peachtree Creek; Pig Basket Creek and the Cross Roads; 420 A tract known as the Kersey place; 640 A on western waters of NC, a soldier's warrant; Sappony Swamp, the courthouse; the Harris place; 5000 A on the waters of the Tennessee.

Executors: Nathan Boddie, William Boddie, Benjamin Hawkins, Shadrack Rutland, dated 19 May 1788. Witnesses: Wilson Vick, Saml Westray, Thaddeus Barnes, Hardy Brewer. A true copy taken from the original by William Hall, Clerk of Nash County, NC 2 Mar 1807.

(For a more complete abstract of this will see Dr. Stephen E. Bradley's *The Wills of Nash County*, pp80-81, which he abstracted from the microfilm copy of the retired Will Books which are housed in the NC Archives in Raleigh. One obvious difference is that Margaret Thomas Jackson and Mourning Thomas Jackson are called twins in the Tennessee version. Also, note the Peachtree names.)

[Submitted by Louise Fuller]

### RAMBLER, CONT. FROM P. 17

call the area Peach Tree Grove and Peach Tree Green; newer maps refer to Peach Tree Hills.

Nathan Boddie, father of Nash County, [See "Nathan & The Boddies of Nash County, NC", *The Connector*, Fall 1997] lived at "Rose Hill" on Peachtree Creek; his son George Boddie built his home on the same property. Nash County's first courthouse was built on Micajah Thomas' land at Peachtree.

### Body, Cont. from P. 2

"That young negro, gentlemen of the jury, was the defendant now on trial by you. He has grown old now; and so has the Court. It is for you to say whether or not he is guilty. Retire to your room and make up your verdict."

But the jury did not retire. Handkerchiefs came out, eyes were wiped. The jury whispered together and its foreman rose. The clerk took the verdict:

NOT GUILTY, said the foreman.

Charles M. Cooke, Captain of Confederate Infantry, had won another Confederate victory.

[Taken from *Here in Carolina*, by Robert C. Lawrence, 1939]



### MARRIED

In Franklin county, Mr. Richard Russell, of Warren county, to Mrs. Ann Hawkins, widow of the late Gov. Hawkins.

[Taken from *Halifax Free Press*, April 30, 1824]

## Dastardly Deed

*Superior Court Wake County.* — **Lemuel Lewis**, who had, on the Wednesday preceeding, been convicted as an accomplice in the murder of **Hinton Pugh**, was sentenced to be hanged on Friday, the 7th day of next month.

The evidence in the case, as briefly as it can be related, is this: Several persons, among whom were the prisoner at the bar and his brother **Oliver Lewis**, meeting accidentally in the road, one of the parties had a jug of liquor, which, as might be expected under such circumstances, was freely circulated. While the company were thus employed, **Hinton Pugh**, the deceased, came up, returning from his school to his house, which was not more than sixty yards distant from the place where the party had met.

Immediately on his joining them, an invitation was given by some one of the company, to partake of their spirits. Pugh at first declined, but being pressed, took a drink. In a few minutes after this, Oliver Lewis challenged the deceased for a wrestle, which he did not accept, alleging as a reason, that as he grew older, he had lost the relish for amusements of this kind. Oliver still insisted upon a fall, and was encouraged by Lemuel, who said, "try him, Oliver, and if you cannot throw him down, I can, and whip him too."

Having made this remark, he threw off his hat, rushed on Pugh and collared him; he was followed by Oliver Lewis, who also seized hold of the deceased, and both were seen to inflict several blows. While engaged in this unequal contest, the woman, **Elizabeth Scott**, also ran up, and with a stick held in both hands, struck the deceased two or three times.

Oliver Lewis and Elizabeth Scott were to be tried in **Franklin County**.

*Superior Court, Franklin county.* — Elizabeth Scott, who, together with Oliver Lewis and Lemuel Lewis, was indicted for the murder of Hinton Pugh was found guilty of manslaughter and branded.

The case of Oliver Lewis was continued to the next term of the court.

[Taken from Halifax Free Press, April 16 and 23, 1824.]

### Prices Current, At Tarboro and New York.

JAN. 21.	per	Tarboro'.	New York.
Bacon, -	lb	11 12½	10 11
Brandy, apple,	gallon	75 100	40 50
Coffee, -	lb	13 16	9 13
Corn, -	bushel	55 60	57 62
Cotton, -	lb	9 10	9 11
Cotton bagging,	yard	20 25	15 21
Flour, -	barrel	\$6 6½	\$5½ 6½
Iron, -	lb	5½ 6	3 4
Lard, -	lb	8 10	7 10
Molasses, -	gallon	50 60	22 30
Sugar, brown,	lb	10 12½	6 9
Salt, T. I. -	bushel	70 75	32 33
Turpentine,	barrel	170 175	225 238
Wheat, -	bushel	65 75	120 130
Whiskey, -	gallon	50 60	42 41

[Tarboro Press, Jan. 25, 1840]

### TAPS, CONT. FROM P. 1

Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, he enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate; but, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. The wish was granted. The haunting melody we now know as "Taps" was born.

Day is done, gone the sun,  
from the lakes, from the hills,  
from the sky, all is well,  
safely rest, God is nigh.

Fading light, dims the sight,  
and a star, gems the sky,  
gleaming bright, from afar,  
drawing nigh, falls the night.

Thanks and praise, for our days,  
neath the sun, neath the star,  
neath the sky, as we go,  
this we know, God is nigh.



[Contributed by Roy Edwards, TRC member]

## The Bear and the Evil Genius

AS TOLD BY HARRY THOMPSON

"Many years ago, I was asked to do research for Capt. F. Allen Johnson, of Dime Box, TX, Rocking K. Ranch, on his ancestors in Bertie Co., NC—John Campbell of Coleraine. Camp-



bell brought seine fishing to America and established Coleraine, NC after Coleraine, Ireland, his home." What I found was a wonderful story:

John Campbell, as above, was a prominent man in the area in the 1730's. In the story, he was known as "The Bear." Dr. Lennox was a physician in Windsor, NC. He is known as "*The Evil Genius*."

John Campbell came home one day. He searched the house over, and could not find his wife. When he asked the servants, they said they had not seen her. Suddenly, it came to John Campbell to go to the wharf, and there he found his wife, with Dr. Lennox, on a ship ready to embark for Bermuda. The ship was loaded with trunks of silver, money, and other valuables taken from the Campbell home.

John Campbell, furious at the situation, had his wife returned to his house. He sent servants to rescue his possessions from the ship. Dr. Lennox also remained in the area.

John Campbell brought suit against Dr. Lennox for alienation of affections. Dr. Lennox counter-sued claiming defamation of character.

The members of the jury, local people with a lot to lose, were afraid of retaliation from both men. So—they decided both men were guilty. However, in deciding on the punishment, they fined Dr. Lennox twice as much as John Campbell. After all, Campbell's wife was on the ship with all his possessions!

It just goes to show "people were human back then just as they are now."

## John Paul WHO?

### Origin of the name John Paul "Jones"

"What is your name?"

"I have none."

"Where is your home?"

"I have none."

Tradition holds that this conversation took place in 1773 or early 1774 in Halifax, NC. The questioner was Willie Jones of Halifax; the young man to whom the questions were directed was John Paul, sea captain.

Willie Jones was a planter, often befriending those in need. John Paul was a sea captain, formerly of the *Betsy*, who was traveling incognito as a consequence of having killed a mutinous sailor in Tobago.

Something about the stranded sea captain prompted Willie Jones to take him home to "The Groves." There John Paul remained as a guest for a year or longer, until he went to Philadelphia in 1775 to seek the commission in the new American Navy that was to carry him to fame

as the fledgling nation's greatest naval hero.

Willie Jones was an eligible bachelor living in ease and elegance before the Revolution. His doors were always open, and John Paul, the Scotch sailor, was charmed with the life on the Roanoke. Miss Mary Montfort, later to be Mrs. Willie Jones, and Mrs. Allen Jones were kind to the lonely young man. John Paul was stricken with typhoid fever during his stay and was cared for by the Jones ladies during this illness.

Later, when he had recovered, Willie Jones recommended him to Congress through Joseph Hewes, and thus was instrumental in securing for him an appointment in the US Navy.

Legend has it that kindness of the Jones brothers struck a spark with John Paul who had been, before this, a rough and reckless mariner with a wild and untamed nature. When he prepared to leave "The Groves" after his long stay, he thanked Willie Jones for his courtesy. Willie Jones shook his hand and offered his future services if they should be needed, along

with a sum of money. John Paul is said to have refused the money and to have told Willie Jones that he wished only one favor, and that was to add "Jones" to his name. He promised to wear the name with honor and dignity. Willie Jones replied that he would be honored, and presented John Paul with his sword.

The rest of the story is history!

[From *The John Paul Jones-Willie Jones Tradition*, by Elizabeth H. Cotton]

### READER, CONT. FROM P. 17

We know so little about Pvt. Herrington. He was the ward of Churchill Perkins of Pactolus, Pitt County, NC. Who were his parents? Was he related to the Perkins? To top off this mystery, the young soldier disappeared in 1865. Dr. W. Keats Sparrow, East Carolina University, has brought to light some interesting facts about William D. Herrington as well as giving us the opportunity of sharing in these rare confederate imprints.