

GRANVILLE CONNECTIONS



Journal of the Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746

Volume 1, Number 4

Fall 1995

Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746

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Granville Connections, the journal of the Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746, places its emphasis on material concerning persons or activities in that area known as Granville County. It includes those areas of present day Vance, Warren and Franklin Counties before they became independent counties. Members are encouraged to submit material for consideration for publication. The editorial staff will judge the material on relevance to area, interest, usefulness and informative content. Submissions *must* be fully documented, citing sources, or they will not be printed. Submissions will not be returned, but will be placed in the North Carolina Room at the Richard H. Thornton library, the repository for the Society. The Society, its publication committee or the Editor can not assume responsibility for errors in submissions for publication. Every effort will be made to minimize these types of errors as well as typographical errors made by the staff. Corrections will be noted in subsequent issues.

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Please notify the Society of a change of address as soon as possible. Returned copies of publications will require an additional charge to be re-mailed.

Address mail concerning *Granville Connections* Attn: Editor. Correspondence concerning membership, change of address, subscriptions, etc. should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary. All mail is received at P. O. Box 1746, Oxford, NC 27565.

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Editor: Leslie McCrary

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Memorial

Arial Stephens

The Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746 regrets to inform its membership of the loss of Mr. Arial Stephens who died at his home October 2, 1995.

Mr. Stephens, who was one of the forces behind the formation of the Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746, had been director of the Granville County Library System since 1983 and took great pride in the genealogical and historical material in North Carolina Room at the Richard H. Thornton Library in Oxford. In December of 1994, Mr. Stephens received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the North Carolina Public Library Director's Association in appreciation of his long career with the state library system.

The Society extends deepest sympathies to Mr. Stephens' family. His knowledge, expertise and cheerful presence will be greatly missed by all.

From the Editor...

This has been an interesting year as Publications Editor for the **Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746**. As a member of the Executive Board, I have been fortunate to be able to participate in the internal workings of a fledgling organization and have found it to be an eye-opening as well as an educational experience.

I have met many wonderful people through the organization by way of correspondence as well as at our monthly meetings. I found most people I dealt with to be supportive and positive in their demeanor and attitude as we worked to get the Society on its feet. I have met many who will be friends for a lifetime and have lost one that will be sorely missed. All will be unforgettable to me in one way or another.

As Editor of *Granville Connections*, I have enjoyed the challenge of presenting a publication of interest to our members. In the beginning, I learned to use the resources available for North Carolina research to have material to print. Later in the year, as more members began to submit their research to the Society, I was thrilled with the magnitude and scope of the submissions which allowed me to bring quality research material to our members through publication in the journal. Our organization is made up of many wonderful researchers who are not only knowledgeable in their work, but are generous in sharing it with others.

As I said in the first editorial address in that first issue so long ago, this is a time consuming and demanding job, but it has been made much easier through the help and encouragement of many to whom I owe a mountain of thanks. I hope that in some way I have helped some of you discover your *Granville Connections*. Now it is time for me to concentrate on finding mine. I feel very fortunate in having been allowed to work with all of you this past year and wish you success in your genealogical endeavors as you continue to search for your *Granville Connections* that lead you on the path toward home.

Leslie McCrary - Editor 1995

ROAD RECORDS, GRANVILLE COUNTY, NC

(Continued from Volume I, No. 3, p. 40)

by Jo Anna B. McDaniel, CGRS¹

1. - Feby. Court 1764: "Ordered that the following persons lay off a Rod pursuant to a former Order the best & most convenient way from Tar River bridge to that Road at or near Bells Store, viz. James REEVES; Thos. WEST; Charles IVY; Geo. BROGDEN; Chas. KIMBALL; William WILKINSON; Thos. SHERRARD; John BRANT?; Jos. BRADLY; Wm. RUSSELL; John CURTIS; Thos. SMITH; Giles BOWERS; Wm. RICHARDS; George RICHARDS; Jos. WILLIAMS; Wm. MASSEY; John MASSEY; Jno. CLARK; Pete MILNER; Jas PIERCE; John RUSSEL; & Sheph. ROGERS. Teste. Danl. WELDON CC.

[reverse] John CLARK; John CURTICE; George BROGDEN; William RUSSEL; Thomas SHERRARD; Palawell? MILNER; Joseph WILLIAMS; James ROSS; Jos. BRANTLEY; Wm. RICHARDS; Jos. RUSSELL; Wm. MASSEY

The above persons Quallified in order to perform the within Order the above Menched Jury is all agreed For Thos. WEST"

2. - Granville County May the fifth 1764: "To the Worshipfull Court of Granville County Whereas there has Been an order for a Road to be Laid out from the road that Leads from BRADFORD to the County Line Which Will be very bad to Clear and about sixteen miles and also No persons to be spared from other Roads To maintain the Same and allso of No benefit When done unless for a private person or so we pray that Worships Would take it in Consideration ... to dissonul the same no Road Where as we are ever Bound to Pray

[petitioners:] Ephraim HAMPTON; Wm. FITCH, his mark "X"; James mACCARTY, his mark "X"; Sherwood HARRIS; Isaah PHIPPS, his mark "X"; Wm. OGILVIE; Wm. JONES, his mark "X"; Hall HUDSON; Charles PARTEE; James COZART; Joseph KING; Ezekiel HAMPTON; John ADCOCK, Jr, his mark "X"; Robert HARRIS jr; John HATON; Willim. CREGG; John COZART; Ephr. mACLEMORE, his mark "X"; John CARLEL, his mark "X"; lenard ADCOCK, his mark "X"; Boulen ADCOCK, his mark "X"; apsolum BAKER, his mark "X"; George THOMPSON Pet. for revok ord. p Road Granted"

3. - Granville County May Court 1764: "Ordered that the following Jury to wit Joseph PEACE; Isham PARHAM; John SMITH; Ebenezer WILSON; John DICKERSON; John HURNDEN; James SANLAND; Benj. McGEEHIE; Corns. COOPER; John McKISSOCK; Nathan McGEHEE; John WHITE; Isaac ARNOLD; William JORDAN; John NEVIL; John PARHAM; Samuel BENTON; & Thos. PERSON, lay off a Road from out of the new Road at Bradfords Road crossing Tar River near George PRIDDY'S directing its course to Oxford & make Report thereof to the next Court. John DICKERSON was appointed overseer of the said Road and all the hands between Fishing Creek & Tabbs Creek the old Trading Road from the present Court house to Harrisburg from thence to the mouth of Fishing Creek & from thence to the mouth of Tabbs Creek were ordered to open & maintain the same to Tar River. Teste Danl. WELDON, CC.

[reverse] Order for Road Jno DICKERSON Oversr. In Obedience to the within order have summoned the within named Jos. PEACE; John HERNDON; John SMITH; Eber. WILSON; Nathan McGEHE; Cornelious COOPER; John DICKERSON; Isham PARHAM; John PARHAM To meet at Harrisburgh monday the 2 day July next

Summons all the Jury this side Tarriver & Nathen McGEHEE which Will be Enough to do the Road - Desire the Jury to meet by an Hour by Sun in the morning that we may finish in one day or otherwise we shall Hinder more then a day -J.P."

4. - Granville County May Court 1764: "To the Worshipful Court of Granville County The Petition of the Subscribers (inhabitants of the County aforesaid [sic]) Humbly Sheweth That a road from out of the Hico Road near David

¹ Mrs. McDaniel retains the copyright on her transcription of the Granville County Road Records, all rights reserved, that appeared in Vol. I, No.'s 2, 3 and 4, as well as her article "Formation and Settlement of Granville County, North Carolina - The Short Story" which appeared in Vol. 1, No. 1, of the Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746's journal, *Granville Connections*, to whom she granted one time printing rights.

MITCHELLS Crossing Nutbush near the mouth of Flat Creek and from thence the best and most Convenientest way into the road trading to Halifax near Capt. Philimon HAWKINS'S would be of great Benefit [tom] the inhabitants of that part of the County. Therefore your petitioners Most Humbly pray That your Worships would appoint the Jury hereunto annex'd to Lay off a Road according to the prayer of your petitioners ... [signatures of all] John ROBERSON Jur.; Nat PEEBLES; Drury KIMBALL; Joseph DAVENPORT; William GLOVER; Reuben SEARCY; Saml. HENDERSON; Chas. WILLIAMS; Vincent BODINE; Samuel MORSE; David MITCHEL; Nathaniel BULLOCK; Len Henley BULLOCK; Robert SMITH; David CLANTON; Richard CLANTON; John MAGREGER; fedrick GLOVER; John GLOVER; Jacob BULLOCK; William HOBBS; John WILLIAMS Jur.; Richard HENDERSON

[reverse:] Granted at May Court 1764 Road by David MITCHELLS [appointed were:] David MITCHEL; Phil. HAWKINS Esqr.; Richd. HENDERSON, Esqr.; John WILLIAMS Jur.; Len. H. BULLOCK; Wm. BULLOCK; Wm. SMITH; Saml. HENDERSON; Zac. BULLOCK; Ruben SEARSY; Arthur JORDAN; John WALKER; Ben. KIMBAL; Harris GUILLAM; Thos. GOODWIN; Young McLEMORE; Thos. CRITCHER; Jos. KIMBALL; John FLEMING; Nath. PEOPLES or any 12 of them Jurors"

5. - May Court 1764: "To The Worshipfull Court of Granville County The petition of we the subscribers Inhabitants of the said County Humbly Prayeth That your Worships will order a Jury To View & Mark Out a road the Best & Most Conveinat way [tom] Country Line at or Near DAVIS'S Quarter on Bever Pond Creek Beginning at the road on the North side of Grassey Creek, Which Crosses the sd. Creek Buck Ford & in Duty Bound will Ever Pray Vz

[petitioners] Saml. WILSON; Jno CAMP; Henry FEEGINS; owin FRANKLIN; Jno. MORGIN; James SMITH; [tom]; George NEWTON; Geo. NEWTON Jr.; Jos. CHANDLER; John JONES; Wm. YANCEY; John WADE; John STOVALL; Wm. COLEMAN, his mark "W"; Drury ALLIN; Robert HARRIS; Joell CHANDLER; Will: GOWIN; Joseph GOWIN; Hon. Philip HART; Joseph HARRISON; Larkn: JOHNSTON; Josiah FARMER; John CLARK; James YANCEY; Saml. WHITEHEAD; John BAYNES; John RAYMOND; Benjn. WHITEHEAD; David SHOCKLEY; Thos. SATTERWHITE; Charles YANCEY; Charles HARRIS; Jno. FARRILL; Wm. OWIN; Thos. OWEN; Robert MALONE; Edmund BEARDEN; David ALLIN

[reverse] For the Jury William ALLIN (Senier); James YANCEY Esqr.; Larkin JOHNSTON; Drury ALLIN; Jno. WADE; Memucan HUNT; Jno. STOVALL; James SMITH; Jno. RAYMUND; Chas. HARRIS; Saml. WHITEHEAD; Joell CHANDLER; William GOWIN; Jno. BAYNS; & Jno. CLARK or any 12 of them - & that the hands undr. Henry GRAVES, Drury ALLIN, & Jno STOVALL do assist in opening the sd. Rode William ALLIN Sr. apointed overseer that he with his Hands, & the hands of Drury ALLIN which on the South side the sd. Creek Jno. MORGIN; James SMITH his hands; Jno BEARDEN & Ed[torn]d BEARDEN; Benjamin [tom]NDRICK & his hands; Lovet GATES; Richd. DESHASER; & the Hands of Baxter dAVIS, do Keep the same in Lawfull Repair & that they be Cleard from working on any other Rode Petition of Grassey Creek Inhabitants Read & Refer'd"

6. - Granville Co. May Court 1764: "Phile. BRADFORD was appointed overseer of the Road in the place of Peter VINCENT. that he turn the Road on the ridge between Low Ground Creek & Beaver pond & so to Continue on Near the Meadows. Test. Dan. WELDON C.C.

[reverse] P. BRADFORD is Constable Let Tho. BANKS be apptd. in his Room"

7. - Granville, 4 June 1764: "Robert PRYOR Produced the Scalp of one Wild Cat before me and mad Oath he Kill'd the same in the County afsd. Certified the 4 Day of June 1764. Phil. PRYOR"

8. - 2 July 1764: "Pursuat to the anex'd Order to us Directed We the Subscribers have layd of the Road with liberty to the oversear on the North Side of Tarriver to Straitten the Road on that Side as We this day Agreed the Same Shou'd be done & We also libertise the Oversear on the South Side of the sd. River to Straitten the Bents of the Ridge path & to fall into Bradfords Road at or Near a flat Rock on the Roads abt. half a mile above the County line 2 July 1764

[signed] Samuel BENTON; Jas. PEACE; Isham PARHAM; Jno. HERNDON; Isaac ARNOLD; John PARHAM; John SMITH; Thomas PERSON; Corneluos COOPER, his mark "C"; Ebenezer WILSON, his mark "X"; Nathan MEGCHEE, his mark "N"; John DICKESSEN Jun. [nothing on reverse]

9. - Granville County August Court 1764: To the Worshipful [torn] in Court Setting - The Petition of the Inhabitants [torn] at River Hico and others of Orange County Humbly Sheweth, that Y^r Petitioners having Laboured under great Difficulty and hardships for [torn] any years for want of a road between Tar River and Neuse River [torn] leading Down the Country towards Tarborough and that last winter an order of this Court was obtained for [torn] jing off & opening a Road from County line near Naper Reed at the End of Orange Road to Bradford Road Near the meadows and was laid off accordingly and partly [torn] en'd in the sd. County of Granville, but by means of Two Jurymen for that purpose not being freeholders part of the hands Refused working To wit it was not finished, and Since Some ungenerous and unnatural Persons without fellow feeling having put in a petition in this Court at the last of it to Reverse the former order and Obtained the Same Notwithstanding the Vast Inhabitants above and below Barred thereby from all Communication and Traffick with Each other, and that the upper inhabitants have opened a Road from the mountains to the Said County [torn] sd Naper Reed [torn] not above Six or Seven miles to open in Granville County to give a Passage to the Seas, Your Petitioners therefore Humbly prays an order of this Court to Establish the former order and to appoint a New Jury agreeable to Law, to Lay off the Said road again and to Establish the Same - and your Petitioners Shall Ever pray etc.

[petitioners:] John McGEE; William LEA; John PAINE; James SUTTERFIELD; William JAY; John ARNOLD; John SATTERFIELD, his mark "J"; John BENNITT; John CROW; Lawce. THOMPSON; Geor. GENING; Geord. RUNNELS; Hosea TAPLEY, Sr.; Joseph KING; Saml. V-HOOK; John CATE; Thos. CAMP; James JAY; Stephen AUSTIN" [nothing on reverse]

10. - 16 Novr. 1764: "To the Worshipful Court of Granville County The Petition of Samuel SNEAD Humbly Sheweth that the Hico Road Runs through you Petitioners best Land and very much incommodes your Pet [marked out] his Plantation and that it might be turn'd another way without any prejudice or Damage to any person, and that as near a way as it now is Carried. Therefore your Petitioner Humbly Prays that your Worships would grant an Order that it may be Turn'd in the following manner, to wit beginning at West HARRIS'S Lane from thence On the South side of your petitioners Plantation and into the former Road at the most Convenientest place below his said Plantation, and your Petitioner is in Duty bound. Shall Ever Pray Saml. SNEAD 16th Novr. 1764"

[reverse:] James CURRAY; Thomas WICKER; David WICKER; Henrey MELTON; Jeams HESTER; John GRAVES; Macagar BOOLLOCK; Jeams REEVES; Cristepher HUNT; John VARNAR; Benjamin COOCK; Jeams CASH [names seem to be written by same hand]- Samuel SNEEDS Petto. to turn The Road"

11. - [date torn, ca 1767, ie: first year of the reign of King George III was 1760; therefore the "Eighth" year of his reign was 1767] "At an Inferior Court of Pleas & [torn] held for the County of Granville at the [torn] in Oxford on Tuesday the Second day in the Eighth year of the Reign of our Lord George the third King of great Brita[torn] present his Majesty's Justices of the peace for the said County. The Jurors for our Lord the King present that the Rode leading from Harisburg to Granville old Court house in the sd. County of Granvill in the parish of Granville is a publick highway and has been for the span of seven years last past & still is such for all his Majesty's Leige people to pass & Repass with their horses Carts Waggons & other Carraiges and ought not to be stoped by any of his Majesty's Subjects or [torn] person whatever without a permission from the [torn] the sd. County of Granville and the Jurors aforesaid [torn] their oath aforesaid present that Robert HIGHTOWER of the parish aforesaid & County aforesaid well knowing the Same to be a high way as afs. Did on the tenth day of May in the Eighth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third king of great Britain etc. fill & stop the said Highway so that his Majesty's Leige Subjects Could not pass & Repass with their horses Carts waggons and other Carraiges to the great Damage of all his Majesty's Liege Subjects ... John WILLIAMS Jur. D. atto.

[reverse] Dom Rex vx Robt. HIGHTOWR} Indt.; prosecutor Henery FULLER; Witness Ben. FULLER; Jos. JOHNSTON; Sworn & sent Saml. BENTON CC. - Not a true Bill, Samuel SMITH."

12. - November 1767: "Granville County November infeirior Court to the wor[torn]full Court now seting the Humb[torn] petition of Richard FOWLER [torn] of Persons Road from the Hico road at sd [torn] to the County Line prayeth that he said [torn] be discontinued for it is all together use[torn] and your Humbel petitioner is in duty bou[torn] ever shall pray Richard FOWLER November 1767 [reverse] Richd. FOWLER'S Pet. to be Exempt etc."

13. -27 April 1768: "Whereas wee your Petisioners of ye Upper part of Granville County have for many years laboured under great inconveniency & Hardship for want of a Nessesary & convenient Road Leeding from the Fork of Hyco Road below Mrs. PRYORS the nearest way to the end of Bumpasses Road, which will be very convenient for all the Upper inhabitants of Granville to travill to Hillsbrough & also for the upper Inhabitants of Orange County to travill to Petersburg, Halifax etc. Wee therefore pray an order may pass appointing a Jury to Lay of the said Road & We farther pray that a Petision presented to the Last Court for a Road out of Hyco Road on the West side Dickins's Store to Bumpasses may be Dropt. as wee find this other Road will be the most convenient nearest & Best Road and Wee your Petisioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray April 27th 1768 To The Worshipfull Court of Granville County}

Robert DICKINS; James BRIDGES; Tabold COCKLEREECE, his mark "X"; John cRAGG; William FOWLER; Frances DEAVENPORT; Richard FOWLER Senr.; Richd. FOWLER Junr.; Thos. OWEN; Francis HOWARD; John WILKERSON; David WILKERSON; William WHARTON; Joseph ROBERTS; Isham MALONE; Robert MALONE; Nathaniel MALONE; Daniel fRAZER; Nimrod ELLESS; Daniel MALONE; James WALKER; Richd. ROBERTS; Chisley DANIEL; Jeremiah LEWIS, his mark, "J"; Phillip LEWIS; Jonathen PARKER; Samuel WHIT[torn]; Samuel DEAR, his mark "S"; Thomas RIDLEY/RING?; Jacob SCHLOTTERER [sic]; John KNOTT; Jorden? Creeece; Christian PEELOR, his mark "X"; James LANGSTON; Joseph LANGSTON; John GUNTER; Solomon LANGSTON; John WILLIAMS; John GALEMORE, his mark "J"; John COOK, his mark X; Thos. OAKLEY; Waller OAKLEY, his mark W; Willm. OAKLEY; Mathias MIRES, his mark M; Thomas OAKLEY, his mark [sideways] "Th"; James ALLEN

[reverse] Jury: Jeremiah LEWIS, Anthony PEELER, Mieh. PEELER [marked out]; Christe[torn] PEELER; Richard FOWLER Snr.; Francis DEVENPORT; Chesley DANIEL; John KNOTT; John WILKINSON; David WILKINSON; Jacob SLATTERER [sic]; John WILLIAMS; Thomas RINY? Pet. for a Road from Mrs. PRYIRS to BUMPUSSES"

14. - Granville Co. July Term 1769: "We the Juriors for the King do Present of our own Knoledge the Overseer of the Road Leading from Oxford to Hicks's Quarter [signed] Joseph WILLIAMS for[torn]

Also the Overseer of the Road Leading from Whites Race Ground to Raglands Path Towards Bute Court House [signed] Joseph WILLIAMS For.n

Also the Oveseer of the Road Leading from John BLALOCKS to Wm. BELLS [signed] Joseph WILLIAMS

Isham PARHAM - Also the the Overseer of the Road Called Dickersons Rod from Oxford to fishing Creek [signed] Joseph WILLIAMS

[reverse:] Also Cutbird HUDSON for swearing two Oaths to witt by God by God [signed] Joseph WILLIAMS

Also Mathia MIARS for being Drunk at Oxford on the 19th day of July 1769 [signed] Joseph WILLIAMS F.

The King vs Sundry Overseers of Roads & M. MYAR; Presentm."

15. - [not dated; notation on back, "Wm. BRYANT died 1769-70"] "To the Worshipful Court of Granville The Pettition of the Subscribers Humbly sheweth, That your petitioners labour under great inconveniencies for want of a public Road to convey the produce of their Land and Labour to Market. We are likewise obliged to maintain a Road that is of no manner of use to us and of very little benefit to the public; besides it requires but little Labour so that Four or Five hands can keep it in good repair, Your petitioners therefore pray you to order a Road to be laid off leading from Capt. John DICKENSON'S the most convenient way into CALLIERS Road and your Petitioners in duty bound shall ever pray etc.

[signed} Joseph McDANIEL; Henry FULLER; Henery FULLER [sic]; John DICKERSON; William SPEARS Senr. Samuel FULLER; Samuel KITTRELL; Pomfritt HERNDON; Charles MOORE; Josep ROGERS; John EARL; Valentine WHITE; Joseph JOHNSON; Joseph WALDROP; Samuel WALKER; William BRYANT; William SPEARS, Jun.; John HOPKINS; John EDWARDS; William HORNSBY; John ELLIASS; Thomas EARP; Joseph PARK; John FINCH; Robert MOORE Pet. read."

This completes the folder labeled 1760-1769 (broken series). The next folder is labeled 1771-1779 (broken series).

John McKissack of North Carolina

by David McKissack
3768 McCoy Road
Blacksburg, VA 24060

The earliest record of John McKissack in North Carolina is when he purchased 300 acres in Edgecombe County in 1744.¹ It is not clear, however, how John arrived in colonial North Carolina. The act of sale for the land in Edgecombe County states that John purchased the land for "12 pounds 10 shillings current money of Virginia." The history books say that coin money was scarce in the Carolina backcountry, so it is possible that John was merely using Virginia money, as others did, because it was all that was available. Then again, it might be that he moved south from Virginia to North Carolina.

Indeed, some of the families with whom the McKissacks later did business and intermarried (Allens, Palmers, Farrars, Hudsons, Goins, Simmons) came from Virginia. Unfortunately, even though land records indicate that some of these families owned land in Virginia before coming to North Carolina, no records examined so far show a McKissack in Virginia in the early 1700's. There is a passage in "History of Pittsylvania County [Virginia]," Clement, 1981, however, that states, "It was probably owing to this exodus [from Virginia in 1756] that we find many of the Scotch names listed in the tithables of western Lunenburg missing from the records a few years later, such as McDead, McCusick, McCanes, and McDavid and so on."

While John of Edgecombe County appears to have moved to North Carolina without family, there were other McKissacks in the state to whom he may one day be tied. The nearest family of McKissacks were settled in the southeastern part of the state in Cumberland County. Another family of McKissacks settled in western North Carolina at the same time. John has not yet been tied to either group.

Land records show that from 1744 to 1760 John McKissack bought and helped survey numerous tracts in what was then Edgecombe and Granville counties². His purchases and grants totaled several thousand acres. The bulk of his purchases were on Billy's and Taylor's Creeks in what is now Franklin County, near Louisburg. Documents place him in this area for the next 20 to 30 years. A 1750 list of taxables for the area indicates that he and a Michael Goin were living together at that time.³ Another tax list for 1762 shows John McKissack and Michael Goin still living in the Billy's and Taylor's Creeks area, but in separate households.⁴ A Thomas Goin is also listed, as are families whose origins were in Virginia, such as the Hudsons and Allens, who became in-laws to the McKissacks. (John's son Thomas married Lucy Hudson, daughter of William Hudson and granddaughter of Robert Allen. John's granddaughter Nancy married Clement Allen, son of Drury Allen.⁵)

Though there are no records of the marriage of John McKissack and his wife Rebecca, the facts indicate they married sometime in the early 1740's. John would have had to be at least eighteen when he bought his first land in 1744. Its doubtful he was much older than this in 1744 since his last will and testament was written in 1799 and it appears he died in 1800.⁶ In addition, census records and last will and testaments indicate that John and Rebecca's oldest son, John, Jr., was born in the 1740's. Furthermore, their son Thomas' tombstone (in Mount Meriah Cemetery, Pulaski, Giles County, Tennessee) states that he was born in 1755. Unfortunately, almost no information on Rebecca has yet to be found, only the mention of her in John's will in 1799. A Rebecca Simmons witnessed the will but there is no indication this is John's wife. Perhaps she was an Allen or Hudson, or even a Goin.

For John and Rebecca, the 1750's and 1760's were probably a time of building a life for themselves. Given the scanty records, it's difficult to know what the social position of John and Rebecca was in their community. We can make some guesses based on what we do know, however. As mentioned, John had acquired a fair amount of land in unsettled territory from 1744 to 1752. Production from this land, along with the sale of some acreage to newcomers, could have provided money for at least a middle-class lifestyle.

Evidence that John and Rebecca were doing well economically also lies in the fact that John's last will and testament shows he owned seven slaves at his death. Slaves represented a significant investment of capital. In fact, the ownership of slaves in large numbers distinguished the "planter" class in North Carolina from the ordinary farmer. John and Rebecca were somewhere in between the two classes, living neither the genteel and cultivated life of the upper class, nor the meaner, subsistence existence of the average backwoodsman.⁷

Given that slaves were used primarily for clearing and cultivating land, and that tobacco was the main crop grown in this area at this time, it is likely that John and Rebecca operated a tobacco farm. No records indicate how successful they may have been at this. John must have earned the respect of his neighbors, however, because the State Records of North Carolina show him serving as ensign of a company of state militia in 1754.⁸ The ensign was an officer ranking below lieutenant and above sergeant. In the militia it was an elected office.

The McKissacks probably had a well-established tobacco farm when the American Revolution broke out in 1775. It appears they had been living on their property on Billy's and Taylor's Creeks for about 20 years at that time, so they would have had ample time to fully develop the land. If they were growing tobacco, they were probably busy people. From 1753 to 1772 tobacco exports from North Carolina (not including what was shipped across the Virginia border) climbed from 100,000 to over 1,500,000 pounds.

When the American Revolution came in 1775, Thomas McKissack was the only one of the family that we know of who fought. Census records and last wills and testament indicate that John, Jr., the eldest son, had five or six children by this time. Son William was probably only about 10 years old. Thomas was 20 years old and had only that year married Lucy Hudson Edwards, who was seven years his senior and whose first husband had died in 1771. Nevertheless, Thomas joined the troops that headed north to fight with George Washington's army, serving as a private in Patton's North Carolina Regiment.⁹ One has to wonder how his wife Lucy felt about this. She had already lost one husband, and being seven years older than Thomas she was probably wiser in many ways. It must have been a sad day when she watched him walk away from the farm to join the fight against the British.

The next time Lucy and the family saw Thomas was probably when he walked up to the farm looking a lot worse for wear than when he left as a healthy young twenty-year old. The federal government records that are available show that Thomas was wounded during the war and received a pension; most of his file was destroyed when the British burned Washington in the War of 1812. Applications on file with the DAR, as well as letters in his pension file, however, state that he was wounded late in the summer of 1777, at the battle of Brandywine, Pennsylvania. Family legend, recounted in the DAR applications, holds that he was shot "through the body."¹⁰ If that's true, it's doubtful he was able to make the journey back home to North Carolina that fall. It seems likely that Thomas recovered from his wound during the winter of 1777-78, huddling at Valley Forge with the other Americans who persevered through that winter when the Revolution's fortunes were at low ebb.

Though the Revolution lasted seven long years, ending in 1783, we know that Thomas was home by 1781 and in relatively good health, since he and Lucy's first son, William, was born November 14, 1781.¹¹ A roster of North Carolina Soldiers in the American Revolution shows him as serving 84 months -- seven years -- even though he received a disability pension after the war.¹²

Documents show that after the war John McKissack, Sr. received payment for goods he had provided the Americans.¹³ For his service Thomas received 640 acres of land. This grant may have been located in Tennessee, where he moved in the 1800's.

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Documents show that after the war John McKissack, Sr. received payment for goods he had provided the Americans.¹³ For his service Thomas received 640 acres of land. This grant may have been located in Tennessee, where he moved in the 1800's.

John McKissack Sr. died in 1800 in Person County, NC. It is not certain when he moved there from Franklin County. A John McKissack bought 332 acres on Double Creek of Hico Creek in Person County in 1782.¹⁴ In 1784 he was granted 308 acres along the same creeks (other records show this same grant as occurring in 1778). In 1782 John Sr. sold land in Granville County along Taylor's Creek.¹⁵ In 1789 John, then living in Caswell County, sold land in Granville County to John Simmons. The act of sale said John McKissack had purchased the land in 1752.¹⁶ The first national census of 1790 lists both William and Thomas, but no John, in Person County.

John Sr's passing marked a new phase in the history of the McKissack family. The families of brothers Thomas, John and William saw their and their destinies down different roads. Thomas moved to Tennessee sometime in the early 1800's, perhaps to land he was granted for his war service. He and his wife Lucy died there, in Pulaski, Giles County, their tombstones in Mount Meriah Cemetery indicating he died in 1826, she in 1825. It appears that William and his family stayed in Person County. A William McKissack appears as sheriff in 1810. Another William McKissack is mentioned as a prominent merchant in Person County in the 1830's.¹⁷

John, Jr., who is my line, and his family spent some time in Tennessee, also. His daughter Nancy was born there, and some of his other children married and stayed there. Most of John Jr's family, however, chose to move to the developing state of Georgia. Most of his seven sons had probably moved to Georgia by the early 1790's. One of his sons, Jonathon, returned to Person County and died there. John Jr. died in Putnam County, Georgia in 1815.

Sources:

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4. List of Taxables, 1762 in Granville, County, NC. The North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal. Volume 13. No. 1. February 1987.
5. Allens of the Southern States. Miller. 1989.
6. Last Will and Testament dated February 28, 1799. Person County, North Carolina Record Books, Book 2, page 281.
7. North Carolina, The History of a Southern State. Lefler and Newsome. 1973.
8. The State Records of North Carolina. Vol. 22. p. 371. Clark.
9. Pension Records. National Archives. Washington, DC.
10. Applications on File. DAR National Headquarters. Washington, DC.
11. Tombstone inscription. Spring Hill, Tennessee.
12. Roster of Soldiers From North Carolina in the American Revolution. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. Baltimore, 1984. (Originally published by the DAR, Durham, NC. 1932.)
13. DAR Patriot Index (1982 Supplement). National Society of the DAR. Washington, DC. 1982.
14. Caswell County Deed Book B:133.
15. Abstracts of the Early Deeds of Franklin County, NC 1779-1797. Watson. 1984.
16. Kinfolks of Granville County, North Carolina 1765-1826. Gwynn. 1974.
17. Person County, North Carolina Compilations. Kendall. 1978.

AN 1866 LETTER FROM ARKANSAS

Mrs. John B. Ponder, Jr.
2605 Cherokee Rd.
Birmingham, AL 35216

Mrs. Ponder reports that W. R. Harris was a physician. She does not know why he was in Arkansas in 1866. Spelling and punctuation is as it appears in the letter.

*Pine Bluff Ark
Nov 9th 1866*

*Mr. Billie Harris
Oxford NC*

Dear Son

*Yours of The
18th alt duly received and contents
noted. You were getting timbers
ready for the cotton press
you wrote as if you would have
them ready in a few day
I must be makeing a large
crop of cotton from the
way you write can not pick
it out before next spring
Start pick hard and late
pull the cotton rite out of the
boles on the stalk pick with
both hands dont pull a bole
off]] to pick it out You ought
to see the people picking out here*

*They pull the cotton out of two
boles at a time one with wach
hand The people dont know
how to work in old Granville
Tell your Cousin John to write
me how everything is getting
on and you must help him
all you can with your affairs
Charlie must help him
Too write soon be a good boy
and kind to your Ma
do what she tells you Your Pappa*

W R Harris

NC CONFEDERATE BURIALS IN OAKWOOD CEMETERY, RALEIGH, NC

MEN FROM GRANVILLE, FRANKLIN, VANCE AND WARREN COUNTIES

Charles Purser
2612 Buffaloe Rd.
Garner, NC 27529

The following information was supplied by Mr. Charles Purser, Sons of Confederate Veterans and contributed for publication with his permission by Society member Kitty Humphries.

RANK	NAME	CO./REG. OTHER	BIRTH	DEATH
<i>Granville County</i>				
Pvt	Beal, Josiah William	I 23 NC	Nov 1827	3 Oct 1911
Sgt	Bennett, Joseph E.	B 12 NC	1843	1 Sep 1894
Pvt	Blackley, William J.	C 61 NC	1840	10 Jan 1863
Capt	Brame, Tignal H.	54 NC	28 Apr 1831	24 Jul 1920
Pvt	Burrows, John A.	G 23 NC	1833	1 Feb 1908
3rd Lt	Champion, Charles William	G 23 NC	1837	1 Jul 1863 (Gettysburg)
Pvt	Clopton, Thomas H.	A 44 NC	21 Mar 1830	19 Apr 1923
Pvt	Davis, Solomon J.	E 9 NC (1 Cav)	20 Mar 1830	8 Apr 1915
Pvt	Dement, Alfonso J.	B 41 NC (3 Cav)	7 Aug 1842	25 Jan 1910
Pvt	Duke, Noah H.	E 46 NC	25 May 1834	28 Nov 1911
Pvt	Emory, Ephraim	A 44 NC	May 1834	16 Mar 1912
Pvt	Evans, Samuel S.	E 23 NC	1832	1 Jul 1906
Pvt	Finch, William S.	G 23 NC	1 Jun 1834	20 Sep 1922
Pvt	Greenway, Samuel	G 30 NC	1822	31 Dec 1863
Music	Hampton, Wiley P.	46 NC Regt Band	1830	19 Sep 1905
Pvt	Heavlin, Robert A.	E 9 NC (1 Cav)	Jan 1836	31 May 1916
Pvt	Lyman, William	D 30 NC	1815	15 Jul 1893
Pvt	Mangum, John S.	A 44 NC	1833	2 Jul 1909
Pvt	Mangum, Peter J.	A 44 NC	7 Feb 1834	4 Mar 1921
Pvt	Nevills, John F.	A 44 NC	7 Jan 1844	5 Jan 1919
Pvt	Orrell, Joseph N.	G 23 NC	Mar 1841	29 Mar 1903
Pvt	Overby, Robert H.	G 10 NC (1Arty)	1828	4 Mar 1864
Pvt	Overton, Gerge Campton	G 47 NC	1844	12 Jan 1905
Pvt	Puryear, John R.	I 23 NC	Feb 1831	4 Apr 1907
Pvt	Smith, Balthrop	D 12 NC (2nd Co)	1840	6 Feb 1913
Seaman	Smith, John E.Navy North Carolina	1845	11 Jan 1914
Capt	Spencer, Alexander Farrar	D 12 NC (2nd Co)	1828	18 Mar 1905
Pvt	Walker, Carey Williams	K 55 NC	1842	11 May 1911
Pvt	Woodliff, Thomas D.	E 15 NC	1824	30 Dec 1895
Pvt	Yancey, Simon Peter	D 12 NC	1835	26 Jul 1863 (Gettysburg)

RANK	NAME	CO./REG. OTHER	BIRTH	DEATH
<i>Franklin County</i>				
Pvt.	Alley, Isaiah D.	F 47 NC	1841	14 Aug 1863 (Gettysburg)
Pvt	Beddingfield, John P.	F 47 NC	1830	14 Jun 1913
Pvt	Bunn, George W.	B 47 NC	Aug 1820	7 Nov 1906
Corp	Catlett, Augustus A.	F 47 NC	Aug 1847	2 Apr 1918
Pvt	Collins, Sumner	E 1 AL Cav	1828	21 Jun 1908
Pvt	Davis, Archibald J.	K 32 NC	1839	3 Jul 1863 (Gettysburg)
Lands	Gill, Ezra Thomas	...Navy YADKIN	Aug 1841	22 Jun 1914
Pvt	Hall, Harrison	E 53 NC	1842	27 Jul 1864
Pvt	Jean, Nathaniel	B 47 NC	1827	3 Apr 1862
Pvt	Leavister, Lorenzo Davis	F 47 NC	Sep 1845	14 Dec 1932
Pvt	Lloyd, Joseph	B 47 NC	1824	21 Nov 1864
Pvt	May, Thomas M.	E 9 NC (1 Cav)	31 Aug 1831	6 Nov 1911
Pvt	Marritt, George H.	K 44 NC	Jan 1842	21 Apr 1915
Corp	Newby, William H.	K 32 NC	1840	29 Mar 1883
Pvt	Pittman, James A.	F 47 NC	1833	18 Sep 1907
Music	Ransdell, George W.	K 32 NC	1835	2 Nov 1907
Pvt	Roe, Winfield S.	K 71 NC (2 Jr Res)	1847	24 Jun 1915
Pvt	Walker, David	C 3 Batt Sen Res	Oct 1815	19 Mar 1865

Vance County

Pvt	Green, William R.	I 55 NC	1846	9 Aug 1924
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Warren County

Pvt	Adcock, Elvis G.	C 12 NC (2nd Co)	1843	30 May 1864
Pvt	Armstrong, Thomas	C 12 NC (2nd Co)	1844	20 May 1864
Pvt	Breedlove, Nathan Harvey	G 43 NC	20 Nov 1828	9 Nov 1911
Pvt	Carroll, Thomas S.	G 47 NC	Jun 1836	23 Feb 1916
Pvt	Carter, James W.	K 12 NC	1841	26 Feb 1911
Pvt	Duncan, Gordon Cawthorn	C 12 NC (2nd Co)	Oct 1833	7 Mar 1903
Pvt	Edwards, W. H.	K 71 NC (2 Jr Res)	7 May 1846	22 Jul 1926
Capt	Goodloe, Lewis D.	I 35 NC	1839	8 Sep 1883
Pvt	Hardy, Francis M.	B 30 NC	1842	17 Aug 1864
	Harris, Ridley L.	B 13 NC Battery	Jan 1848	6 Mar 1915
Pvt	Hundley, John A.	F 12 NC	Jun 1834	11 Sep 1908
Pvt	Paschall, Richard B.	G 43 NC	1842	9 Jan 1917
Pvt	Pendergrast, Robert W.	G 43 NC	1832	28 Mar 1865
Pvt	Plummer, Alfred A.	F 12 NC	1838	25 Mar 1913
Pvt	Rowland, Thoephilus T.	G 43 NC	Jun 1841	7 Sep 1912
Pvt	Thompson, Falcon	A 70 NC (1 Jr Res)	3 Jan 1847	20 Nov 1864
Pvt	Topps, Richard S.	D 8 NC	1827	8 May 1896

The following is a list of Confederates from Granville, Franklin and Warren Counties who died in Wake County, but their burial place is unknown. If you have information on the final resting place of any of the following men, please contact Mr. Purser at the address listed at the beginning of this article.

RANK	NAME	CO./REG. OTHER	BIRTH	DEATH
<i>Granville County</i>				
Pvt	Bradford, William H.	G 30 NC	1830	18 Oct 1861
Pvt	Cook, Hinton Cash	A 44 NC		2 Sep 1862 (at Camp Mangum)
Pvt	Brame, Monroe T.	K 54 NC		13 Jun 1862
<i>Franklin County</i>				
Pvt	Privitt, Albert C.	K 24 NC	1840	21 Jun 1862 (in hospital)
Pvt	Penn, Edward	K 44 NC		2 May 1862 (at Camp Mangum)
Pvt	Spain, Washington Hawkins	G 47 NC		7 May 1862 (at Camp Mangum)
1st Lt	Salmons, Elbert B.	I 55 NC		15 Jun 1862
<i>Warren County</i>				
Pvt	Myrick, John H.	C 46 NC	1827	14 May 1865 (hosp. in Raleigh)

Granville County Apprentice Bonds

(Final in series - continued from Volume I, No. 3, p. 52)

by Leslie McCrary
P. O. Box 8
Oxford, NC 27565

The following was transcribed from a microfilm copy (C.044-10001) *Granville County Apprentice Bonds, 1802 - 1867*, housed at the Richard H. Thornton Library, Oxford, NC.

The collection of loose apprentice bonds at the North Carolina Archives is extensive and is contained in two fibredex boxes. The *Granville County Apprentice Docket* is a book in which the schedule of those cases that actually went to court for disposition is listed. The only Apprentice Docket extant begins in 1802, though the files of loose Apprentice Bonds begins in 1749. Actual page breaks are denoted by center bars. Ditto marks were used extensively, but do not appear to imply that the information was the same as the above, but rather placed in the space to show that the correct information was not known and that the space was not inadvertently left blank. In some cases, the age of the child appears to be the age on that particular court day; others seem to be a date of birth.

This book contains a list of the children bound out by the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Granville County commencing February Term 1802

TERM	NAMES OF MASTERS	NAMES OF APPRENTICES	OCCUPATION	AGES OF APPRENTICES
Aug				
1815	John Glasgow	Henry Harris	Planter	aged 14 years 6th May 1826
	Apprentice suspended			
1826	Thomas L. King	Wm Brinkly	"	aged 14 years 5th January 1826
Aug error	Archer Cawthorn	Wm Brinkly	"	aged 14 years 5th January 1826
	Ahab Overby	Henderson Wingfield	blacksmith	aged 16 years 7th August 1826
Nov	David <u>Dawson</u>	Geo Wash Brummit	shoe & bootmkr	aged aged 7 years 30th July 1826
Finch decd	apprentice rebound			
May 1828	Edward P. Finch	James Harrison Brummit	saddler	aged 8 years 28th April 1826
	Thomas <u>Dement</u>	Lucy <u>Richerson</u>	spinstress	aged 13 years 6th Nov 1826
	Archer Cawthorn	Wm Brinkly	Planter	aged 14 years 11th Aug 1826

1827 Feb	Mildred Puryear Thomas Wilson	Samuel Chavis <u>Missiniah Parrish</u>	Planter Spinstress	aged 10 years 26th Nov 1826 aged 13 years 9th day of February 1827
May 1827	John Nance Senn	Mary Corn	Spinstress	aged 9 years the 11th May 1827
Aug	Presley Rowland William Y Bailey	Winney Hicks Matilda Paschall	Spinstress Spinstress	aged 5 years the 1st March 1828 aged 3 years the 1st Oct 1826
Nov 1828	John W Smith	William H. Smith	house carpenter	aged 14 years the 15th Sept 1827
May	Abner Jones Charles Blackley Caleb Vinott	Marsha Ann Oakley James <u>Brummond</u> Willis Huddleston	Spinstress Planter Planter	aged 10 years the 13th of Feby 1828 aged 10 years the 28th April 1828 aged 14 years 1st April 1828
Aug	John Tippet Thomas Roberts	William Brinkly Howard Chavis	Planter Farmer	aged 15 years 1st January 1829 aged 7 years 4th August 1828
	Mark Roberts	Mark Chavis	Farmer	aged 10 years 13th November next
apprentice removed Aug Court				
1831	Sarah Bonner	Moses W. Turner	Planter	aged 12 years 1st January 1829
Nov 1829	Jeremiah Estes	Williford Allen	Farmer	aged 17 the 3rd Feby 1828
May	John P. Laurence John Landis Shim Cook Jun.	Hillman V. Oakley Geroge Inscore Nancy Brummitt	Planter Planter Spinstress	aged 9 years 10th Feby 1829 aged 8 years 4th January 1829 aged 8 years 25th Dec 1828
J. Hutcherson is decd rebound Aug				
1832	Joshua Hutcherson Samuel Forsythe Henry Tilly Frederick Beck	Washington Brummitt Thomas <u>Taboism</u> alias Day Nice Day Warren Arnold	Planter Planter Spinstress Planter	aged 10 years 30th July 1829 aged 14 years 4th May 1829 aged 18 years 14 May 1829 aged 4 years 1st Nov 1828
1829	William Gordon	Liza Pettiford	Spinstress	aged 12 years 1st May 1829
Aug	Samuel Craft	Eliza Harris	Spinstress	aged 13 years 1st May 1829
Indenture cancelled Nov				
1829	Walter Jenkins John Mallory Thompson J. Hicks	Thomas Moses Wheeler George Turner Hawley Samuel Hawley	Farmer Planter Planter	aged 8 years 8 may 1829 aged 9 years 3rd January 1829 aged 13 years 12th April 1829
Nov cancelled Aug				
1830	John W. Smith	Olway Carey	carpenter	aged 11 years 7th Nov 1829
cancelled May court				
1836	Thomas Parham (Short) Same Samuel Lemay	<u>Harrill Duke</u> John Duke Thomas Moses Wheeler	Farmer Farmer wheel wright	aged 8 years 1st September 1829 aged 6 years 1st Oct 1829 aged 8 years 8th May 1829

(This finishes the court minute docket through 1829)¹

¹ Mrs. McCrary retains the copyright on her transcription of the *Granville County Apprentice Bonds Docket 1802 - 1867*, all rights reserved, that have appeared in Volume I, Issues 2, 3, and 4 of the Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746's journal, *Granville Connections*, to whom she granted one time printing rights.

Gregory Family Cemetery

by Pat Graham
P. O. Box 70
Stovall, NC 27582

Located 100 ft SW of US Highway 15, about 1/10th of a mile south of the intersection of US 15 and Cedar Lane (also called Little Mountain Road, Rockwell Road). Across the street from the Stovall United Methodist Church at US 15 and Gillis Street on the SE. This cemetery is set 30 ft SW of an old frame church belonging to the Gregory family. It is near the John Penn historical marker and easily seen from US 15. Stovall is 10 miles north of Oxford, NC, on US Highway 15. Recorded by Pat Graham 1 May 1995.

Mary E. Mallory; b. 1830; d. 1902

"Jenkins" inscribed on reverse side of stone. "Wife of Wm. Kemp Jenkins" inscribed on front
This grave is located outside of the fenced plot, at the back, next to a tree stump. She was supposedly a household slave for the Gregory family. Slave data from Joanne Wrenn who lived next door (on south side) of graveyard when recorded.

Mary Ann Gregory; b. 30 Sep 1840; d. 16 Nov 1926

Headstone: "Nannie" inscribed above name. Footstone: "MAG"

M. A. Gregory; b. 13 Dec 1835; d. 11 Jul 1902

Footstone: "MAG"

Richard Thorpe Gregory; b. 7 Sep 1872; d. 6 Mar 1947

Footstone: "RTG, Father in Thy gracious keeping leave we now Thy servant sleeping"
Under the dates on the headstone: "Rev. 14-13"

Francis Roger Gregory, MD; b. 20 Jan 1838; d. 23 Mar 1899

Julia B. Thorpe; b. 18 Jul 1838; d. 6 Jun 1899

Double stone: "Gregory" "Married 20 Feb 1871"

Nannie Alexander Gregory; b. 20 Jun 1877; d. 10 Nov 1963

Headstone: "Wife of Franklin Hester Gregory". Footstone: "NAG,
Remember Thy servant, O Lord. Work in her this good purpose of
Thy perfect will"

Franklin Hester Gregory

Headstone: "Son of Nannie Alexander and Franklin Hester Gregory"
No birth or death dates recorded on stone.

Francis Richard Gregory; b. 1 Aug 1924; d. 10 Jul 1925

Headstone: "Son of Nannie Alexander and Franklin Hester Gregory"



HERBERT BASCOM SMITH OF LOUISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA

Ronald A. Audet
171 Merrimac Trail
Apartment 5
Williamsburg, VA 23185

Herbert Bascom Smith was born in Louisburg, North Carolina, April 4, 1850, the oldest child and only son of Patrick Henry Smith and Martha Ann Compton Smith, and the grandson of John Smith and Mary Towers Mesco Smith. He was married January 16, 1878, to Ida Willis Burton, daughter of Thomas Jefferson Burton and Mary Louise Godsey Burton of Chesterfield County, Virginia.

Bascom Smith, as he was known, appears to have been a remarkably intelligent man. His wife's Life Book, a kind of informal autobiography, is the source of much information about him and his family. It tells the story of his once-promising future, which is retold here in her own words.

"Mr. Smith became acquainted with a prominent doctor [in Vicksburg, Mississippi], Dr. Hunt, and told him he was ambitious to become a doctor himself. Dr. Hunt, seeing he was a bright, refined nice young man, promised to help him all he could.

"In those days, instead of going to college to prepare oneself to go to medical college, you had to study medicine under some prominent doctor for four years before entering medical college. So Dr. Hunt told Mr. Smith he could take this four-year course under him, and Mr. Smith could be a help to him in many and various ways. So Mr. Smith thought this would be a fine opportunity for him.

"Dr. Hunt told him at the end of the four years he would help send him to Louisville Medical College. So he took Mr. Smith into his house as one of his family, and Mr. Smith served him faithfully in any capacity he wished him to do for four long years, and he was studying all along. Toward the end of his course, Dr. Hunt would take him with him to see many of his patients, and he helped him to perform operations. [Dr. Hunt] was a surgeon as well as a practicing physician. . . .

"At the end of the four-year course, Mr. Smith went to see Dr. Hunt and told him he had studied and served him for four years and now he was ready, he wanted him to be as good as his promise and send him to medical college. He told Mr. Smith if he would stay with him one or two years longer . . . he would send him. Mr. Smith positively refused to do this and told Dr. Hunt what he thought of his breaking his promise to him.

"Mr. Smith said he was crushed until he could hardly bear it, said he went up to the barn loft and fell face downward on the hay and wept out loud the bitterest, most disappointed tears he ever shed. He said he came down and told Dr. Hunt he was going to leave him, and he thought it was his duty to do something for him. So [Dr. Hunt] got him a good position in a wholesale house as a clerk, and got him a nice boarding house, so he took up his new quarters and said he was nicely situated and received good pay.

"After being there a while, one night after supper he strolled into one of the big drug stores where the prominent doctors often assembled. . . . He told them he had studied medicine under Dr. Hunt for four years, and how he had served him under the promise of sending him to college and had at last refused to do so.

"The doctors became interested in him right away and said they were going to help him, as a young man who was that ambitious deserved help. So they went right ahead and helped him get into medical college at Louisville, Kentucky, and got him a position in the college as bookkeeper to help

pay his way, and he was getting on fine until he was taken with a severe inflammation in his right eye and almost suffered death with it. He could not study or do anything. He had a return of this trouble in his eye once in a while as long as he lived. The doctors did everything that could possibly be done for him, but he got no better, so they advised him to go home, stay awhile, and rest up from everything, and his same place would be open and ready for him when he came back.

"So he went home to Louisburg, North Carolina, to his parents, believing then that he would go back. He suffered so and went through so much trying to get well, when the time came for him to return to college so far away, he in no way felt able to do so, but for a long time he was hoping he could. He was in correspondence with the faculty of the college for a long time, thinking he would return.

"But times were hard and money scarce in those days, and his father had three daughters younger than he to take care of and educate, so he could not ask him to help him. So he gradually drifted out of it.

"While lingering around home, he began to help his father and [his partner Worth] Beecham to do little things in their [carpentry] shop. . . . Father made and furnished coffins, and nice ones too, and did many other things. Of course, he could and did give Mr. Smith work, but his father told him the last visit he ever paid us that he was very much disappointed in him, that he had never expected to see him a working man. Mr. Smith told him circumstances had altered his plans and somehow he could not overcome them.

"Mr. Smith did teach school [in Louisburg] several sessions after this, but during vacation would drift right back with his father and Beecham until he became one with them. He was teaching school when I met him [in 1877]."

Clearly Bascom Smith was a man of abilities and promise, his potential crushed only by conditions he could neither foresee nor control. A further light is shed on this unusual man by the numerous letters he wrote to Ida Burton before their marriage, many of which are now in the possession of the author of this article. A portion of one such letter will suffice to indicate the nature of the entire series:

Louisburg, N. C.
December 30th, 1877

Dearest Ida,

This is the last letter of the old year, and now, as this truth forces itself upon me, a multitude of events flash fresh and bright through my memory. I take them one by one and place them far back in the storehouse of my mind, there to glitter like gems, irradiating the future--aye, and also the present.

I do not break the links that have so long connected me with the old year without regret. It is like severing the associations of some near and dear friend. But as I would love and respect the memory of a dear friend, so would I regard the memory of the year now so soon to be numbered with the things of the past. Therefore, if you please, accompany me in your imagination to the freshly dug grave of the old year. Let us together take flowers and garlands and strew them profusely over the mound of the grass, and let us together bedew the green sod with our tears.

Last year the same hopes, the same desires, the same aspirations activated us as now. We hardly dared to face the prospective. We faced it boldly, however, and came out victorious. Today we have the same prospective in view; only the hopes that animated our bosoms in 1876 are nearer consummation by one year. 'Tis thus the links in the chain that binds us to life are gradually separating. We are being borne along upon the rapid wings of time.

Seven months ago we were as happy in each other's association as lovers could be. We sat beneath the refreshing shade of the old cherry tree and conversed upon the subject of our plans for the future. Soon, many miles of separation loomed up between us. Week by week we found consolation and happiness in sympathetic and affectionate correspondence. We still enjoy the same sweet privilege, for which we are indebted to our King and Maker.

I said somewhere else in this letter that we had a prospective in view. it behooves us to face it bravely. Will it tend to our earthly and everlasting happiness? God grant it may. Will it add to our usefulness? I hope so. Will it make us wiser and brighter ornaments of society? Will it make us humbler, more charitably disposed and more devoted to the greatest interests of life? Will it make us kind and gentle, genial and amiable? All of which is my sincere desire.

You see, then, that although we may bury with regret the old year which has been a friend to us, we may raise up in the new year a still greater friend. Let us, then, court the friendship of the new year in order that to us it may redound to our greatest happiness. . . .

I hope I am not utterly devoid of the finer sensibilities and chivalric refinements due a gentleman. Thus, you see that in all kindness and love, and with the best intentions, I consider it my duty beyond everything else to subject my own will to yours in the minor as well as the greater details and arrangements of our marriage. Therefore, you see I am willing to subsume my own wishes to your own in every respect in as far as I can. Furthermore, I am not a slave to *customs* or *fashion*. Nor do I consult either, unless it suits my convenience or happiness. I wish you to understand that it is your happiness above my happiness, above custom, and above fashion, that I consult in the matter, and in all matters. I am not totally ignorant of the demands of fashion or custom.

Dearest Ida, I shall strive with all my might to dress with credit and honor to the fair darling I am so soon to call my cherished wife. Could I do otherwise and be a *man*? To be ever fastidious is far from my nature, but to dress with care and propriety has ever been the rule of my life. . . .

Good-bye, my precious loved one! Give my love to all.

Yours lovingly and fondly,
H. Bascom Smith

Surely this letter, with its mixture of hope and dismay, high sentiment and practical concern, is a remarkable one to pass between a couple preparing for marriage. Its combination of formality and passionate expression is, however foreign it may seem to today's readers, nevertheless typical of its era.

After their marriage Ida and Bascom Smith lived for a time in Louisburg, Franklinton, and Oxford, North Carolina, before moving to Virginia, where they lived for the remainder of their lives, residing variously in Chesterfield County, Richmond City, and finally Henrico County. Ida Smith, in her Life Book, records that shortly after the marriage she and her husband lived in Louisburg in the old Smith home with her husband's parents. Of her mother-in-law, Martha Ann Compton Smith, she has this to say:

I had many callers, and they were refined, smart, intelligent people. Mr. Smith's mother did not associate with any other kind.

She was very proud and high-minded, if she was poor. She came from one of the best families; so did her husband. She said one day in the presence of us all that none of her children had married to suit her. I did not blame her or any mother to be ambitious for her children.

Both Bascom and Ida Smith were especially fond of Louisburg, where they lived immediately after their marriage. Her Life Book describes their arrival there after their wedding in January, 1878:

The train then did not go all the way to Louisburg, our home, but we had to leave the train at Franklinton and take a carriage for the rest of the way. It was a nice two-horse carriage.

When we reached Louisburg, there had been heavy rains and a freshet in the Tar River, and it had washed the main bridge across the river away, so we had to cross the river on a flatboat--drove the carriage and the horses onto the boat. We seemed to glide on across. It was then dark, and the lights on the river looked so pretty. It was a new experience for me, but I liked the novelty of it.

Of Louisburg itself, Ida Smith says, "It was a beautiful little town, with the loveliest homes and the nicest people I ever met." She records that her husband especially loved the Tar River, which runs through Louisburg:

One great attraction for Mr. Smith in this town was the beautiful old Tar River. It had the most beautiful scenery on its banks I ever saw. It had perfectly lovely jessamines growing wild. You could smell it all up and down the river.

Mr. Smith had a rowboat, and we had lovely trips in it. We would sometimes carry our lunch and have a regular little picnic all to ourselves, and sometimes we would get up a party and have more than one boat. . . .

Mr. Smith would tell me how when a boy he used to fish in the old Tar River and catch the loveliest trout you ever saw, and how he, his father, mother, and sisters loved them. He was crazy over the water. He could swim like a duck. He had come near being drowned in this old river once or twice, but that did not discourage him.

Ida Smith's Life Book also indicates that Bascom Smith and his partner Worth Beecham were instrumental in constructing the then-new Louisburg Baptist Church, which still stands there, not far from the Methodist Church, which the Smith family attended.

In a letter to his future wife, dated from Louisburg July 21, 1877, Bascom Smith describes his family's old home in Louisburg and the arrangements he has made for his new wife to live there:

We live in a large and commodious two-story white house. I have two large and nice rooms upstairs here for our use, and I intend to have them well appointed and furnished by the time we are married . . . From my window I have a lovely prospect. We live right on the hill, and have a view of the old Tar River, the mill dam, mill and cotton gin, all situated on the Tar. I love to hear the unceasing roar of the waterfall. It soothes me to slumber every night, and pleasant dreams of her I love so far away. We also have a view of the Bridge which you must cross ere you arrive at your *distant home*. There is likewise a pretty view of the Court house and most of the business houses. Louisburg is not to be snubbed at by no means. It is quite a pretty and romantic looking little place.

Ida Smith's Life Book further describes the Smith home as "a beautiful place, a large white house with green blinds and trimmings." Attempts by Ronald Audet to discover this old house in May of 1995 were unsuccessful. There are one or two surviving homes which appear to meet the description at least in part, but no evidence could be located to positively identify the Smith residence.

Ida Burton and Bascom Smith had two children. The first, Etoile Louise (Toy) Smith Martin, affectionately known both within and without the family as "Cousin Toy," was born May 2, 1880, and died December 12, 1977, at the age of ninety-seven. Joyce Patrick (Joy) Smith was born January 17, 1884. He was severely mentally retarded, possible as a result of a fall on the stairs of their Highland Springs, Virginia, home, and never learned to speak clearly, to feed or clothe himself, or to function as an adult. Doris Beadles Audet, mother of the author of this article, recalls that Joy, even as a grown man, would play in the yard of his home and if asked questions by passing strangers, would respond, "Joy don't know. Joy crazy." He died unmarried on January 20, 1934.

Herbert Bascom Smith died December 12, 1915. His wife Ida survived him by more than thirty-three years, dying January 29, 1949, at the age of ninety-one. They are buried, together with their two children, in Highland Springs Cemetery, Highland Springs, Virginia.

Sources:

1. Elmwood Cemetery, Oxford, North Carolina. Various tombstone inscriptions
2. Hays Collection, Richard H. Thornton Library, Oxford, North Carolina
3. Smith, Ida Willis Burton. Life Book. In possession of Miss Gladys Martin, Richmond, Virginia.
Partial copy in possession of Ronald A. Audet, Williamsburg, Virginia
4. Smith Family Letters. Various letters from Alma Zeta Smith, Herbert Bascom Smith, Ida Willis Burton Smith, and others from 1877. In possession of Mrs. Zeta Lee Overby Redmond McKinney, Chesapeake, Virginia, and Mrs. Doris Beadles Audet, Williamsburg, Virginia.

1890 Advertisement

contributed by Mary McGhee, Oxford, NC; source: *The Public Ledger*, Sept 1916, published in Oxford, NC

Geo. E. Nissen Wagon Given Away

The factory making the old reliable Geo. E. Nissen wagon in appreciation of the big trade it has in Granville County authorize us to give away one of its new two-horse wagons to some Granville farmer. The wagon to be given to the farmer of Granville County who hauls in a Geo. E. Nissen Wagon

AT ONE LOAD

the largest number of persons (children under twelve not counted) from front of Horner Bros. Co.'s store to the Fair Ground gate on Oct. 25, 1916 from ten to one o'clock. You must use a Geo. E. Nissen wagon; you can hitch as many horses or mules as you want. It costs nothing to enter the contest; you do not have to go in the Fair grounds.

Some Farmer or County School or Church Will Win Wagon

Prize is worth winning Don't hold back Try for it Equal chance to all If you want to know more about it see us

HORNER BROS. CO.

Oxford, N.C.

Book Reviews

The Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746 would be happy to review books, manuscripts or other publications for sale or donated to the Society by our readers. Subject matter should be of historical or genealogical nature pertaining to the Granville County area, abstracts or transcripts of material concerning the area, family histories, or instructional material beneficial to researchers. Submitted material, if for sale, should include pricing and mailing information. Books for sale, as well as donated books, will become the property of the Granville County Genealogical Society, 1746 and will be placed in the North Carolina Room of the Richard H. Thornton Library in Oxford, Granville Co., NC for use by patrons. Final decision for material reviewed in this space will be made by the Editor.

The Wheelers of Granville County, North Carolina, Their Ancestors and Descendants, by Frances Scoggins Wheeler (Okeechobee, FL: Francis Scoggins Wheeler, 1995). Soft cover, , 353pp., photographs, appendix, full name index, 8 1/2" x 11", \$30.00 (add \$3.50 postage and handling). Order from: Frances Scoggins Wheeler, 9920 NE 120th St., Okeechobee, FL 34972-7453

This is an extensive look at the Wheeler family of America through the descendants of Henry Wheeler of England and Virginia. The book follows the line through Bertie Co., NC, Chowan Precinct, NC, Granville Co., NC and into TN. Mrs. Wheeler's narrative portions of the work add texture to the family lineage, making the account of the family more than lists of names. The material is well documented with footnotes throughout the book.

Queries

Individual members and each member of a family membership may submit one query per calendar membership year. Queries should be typed or legibly printed and should not exceed more than 70 words, not including the submitter's name and address. Surnames should be capitalized and dates written as day-month-year. Please do not use abbreviations as the staff will make necessary abbreviations when needed. Deadline for submissions are as follows: Dec 15 for Feb issue, Mar 15 for May issue, Jun 15 for Aug issue and Sep 15 for Nov issue. Queries will be printed as space allows and may be edited to conform to requirements and space allowances.

16-95 Seeking information on the parents and siblings of Joseph FLETCHER b. (?) Granville Co. 1780-1800. Joseph married Mary "Polly" SEARCY, Granville Co., 25 Jul 1816. Also need information on first marriage of William Hargrove SEARCY and on the Durcas DAVIS family.
Rita J. FLETCHER, 160 Co. Rd. 221, Fayette, MO 65248

17-95 Seeking information on Nathaniel HARRISON of Orange Co., died about 1827, and on Nathaniel HARRISON of Nash Co., died about 1866.
Walter Brodie BURWELL, M.D., 716 South Garnett St., Henderson, NC 27536-4511

18-95 James Sampson HARP, b. about 1758, d. 1828 in Overton Co., TN, m. 19 Oct 1778 in Granville Co. to Sarah TUDOR, b. about 1753, d. Aug 1849 in Overton Co. They were my 4th great-grandparents. Who was the father of James? Was it the Thomas HARP who was in early Granville Co. records? Who was the father of Sarah? Will share information on these families with interested persons. Will gladly accept collect phone calls pertaining to these persons. Home phone (770) 975-8941; Office phone (404) 351-5512.
Ron HOLLEY, 965 Huff Rd. NW, Atlanta, GA 30318-4348

19-95 Searching for parents of Charles HARRIS, b. ca. 1800, m. 15 Oct 1825 Sally ROLFE, d. 1829. Grandfather also probably Charles HARRIS, b. 1739, m. in 1760 to Sarah ALLEN, d. 1811. Both families lived Tar River Dist., Granville Co. Will of older Charles lists Benjamin, David, William, Allen, Drury, Sarah, Martha, Elizabeth. Which one of these sons was the father of the younger Charles?
Mary Harris PONDER, 2605 Cherokee Rd., Birmingham, AL 35216

Granville Connections Index - Volume I

The following index is a condensed version of an original created by Mr. Leonard Dean. Because of space restrictions, this index lists only subject topics and proper names deemed most important to researchers that could be printed in the limited space available. Mr. Dean's entire index is available in the library copy housed at the Richard H. Thomson Library in Oxford, NC. The page numbers, which ran consecutively through Volume I, are as follows: Issue No. 1 - pgs 1-17; Issue No. 2 - pgs 18-36; Issue No. 3 pgs 37-53; Issue no. 4 - pgs 54-73.

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