

# ARMS MANUFACTORY IN GREENVILLE<sup>1</sup> COUNTY

H. L. SUTHERLAND

I. ADAM CARRUTH

Perhaps the most auspicious enterprise to augment the prosperity of the back country village of Greenville was that of Adam Carruth's armory in 1816. The first reference we have to Carruth is in 1801 when he and Lemuel J. Alston purchased 213 acres of land around Laughrities Shoals on Reedy River about eight miles below Greenville Court House. Here at the junction of Laurel Creek they established an iron works. In 1812 Carruth obtained a loan of \$10,000 from the state legislature and with several other local citizens attempted to set up a cotton mill. Evidently this venture did not meet with success as he soon turned to the manufacture of arms.

In 1814 Carruth negotiated with the state of Georgia regarding a contract for his arms. A letter from Peter Early of the Governor's office indicated an interest in the purchase of 500 rifles as described and agreed to pay "The price received from the Governor of South Carolina, to wit, twenty two dollars." Nothing further is known of the earlier contract with South Carolina or the proposed one with Georgia. Later on January 15, 1815, Carruth contracted with Gov. David R. Williams of South Carolina to deliver 500 rifles to the state by November 7, at \$20 each with \$2,500 being paid in advance. Carruth later became dissatisfied with the price and petitioned the legislature for relief, claiming he lost money on the deal and that he had been under the impression the legislature appropriated \$13,000 for 600 rifles at \$22 each, an additional \$2 on each gun. However, the Senate Finance Committee refused to be moved by his pleading and submitted an unfavorable report, and the legislature dismissed the petition. Carruth next

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<sup>1</sup>Editor's note: Dr. Sutherland's paper consists of four independent parts, each dealing with a single gun-manufacturing effort. In his presentation before the Society, Dr. Southerland made informal comments to explain this structure. The editor would not presume to attempt to reconstruct his remarks and the four parts stand eloquently on their own merits.

sought a contract with the War Department in Washington and with the aid of Elias Earle eventually succeeded.

Col. Elias Earle, a son of Samuel and Anna Sorrel Earle, was born in Virginia but emigrated at an early age to South Carolina. In 1782 he married Miss Frances Whitten Robinson and for a time lived at Three Forks of the Saluda River in Greenville County. Later he settled in the Pendleton District where he bought several thousand acres of land between Three-and-Twenty and Six-and-Twenty Creeks, which he named Centerville. Col. Earle served his District for five terms in the United States Congress between 1805 and 1821.

With the coming of the War of 1812, the government found that the two national armories at Harper's Ferry, Virginia, and Springfield, Massachusetts, could not supply arms in the quantities needed. Consequently, the United States contracted with numerous private gun-makers to supplement the productions of the national armories. Earle approached the Ordinance Department for one of these supplemental contracts, submitting samples of guns made at his ironworks from iron on his own land.<sup>2</sup> Earle was successful in his efforts and on February 16, 1815 (at about the same time Carruth contracted to sell arms to the state of South Carolina) he signed a contract with the United States to furnish the Ordinance Department 10,000 muskets at \$15 each. The arms, complete with bayonets, were to conform in all respects to patterns to be furnished Earle and to be delivered at the town of Centerville. He was to deliver in one year not more than two thousand nor less than one thousand stands of arms, with the entire contract to be delivered in five years. Inasmuch that the contract specified that no member of Congress could participate in any manner, Earle did not offer for election or serve in the Congress while involved with the arms contracts.

Unfortunately, Elias Earle never started production. Strange as it may seem, the pattern model by which the contract stated

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<sup>2</sup>John Drayton, *Drayton's View of South Carolina* (Charleston, 1802), lists three ironworks in Greenville District: one on the Enoree, twelve miles from Greenville Court House owned by Henry and Joshua Benson; another on Reedy River, about eight miles below the courthouse, owned by Alston and Carruth; and a third one on the north fork of Saluda River, about twelve miles from the courthouse toward the mountains owned by Elias Earle.

he must conform was not furnished, and by June, 1816, more than a year later, Earle was ready to give up the contract. It can be assumed the other private contractors received pattern muskets as records reveal they delivered part if not all of their contract.<sup>3</sup> The first muskets produced at the National Armories, established in 1794, used the French 1763 model musket as a pattern with only minor changes prior to 1816. It is evident that considerable confusion existed at the time as to just what the standard was and this could, in part, account for Earle's failure to obtain a pattern as well as some of the problems later encountered by Carruth.

Learning that Earle was ready to give up the arms contract, Carruth persuaded Earle to try to have the contract transferred to him by the Secretary of War. The request was turned down, and Earle was instructed by the Ordnance Department to return the contract.

Instead of surrendering the contract, Carruth and Earle went to Washington, and eventually they were successful in having the contract transferred to Carruth. The terms of the contract, dated November 14, 1816, were similar to those of Earle's but with the added stipulation that Carruth also assume the debt of \$12,128.45 that Elias Earle owed the government. It is assumed that this debt resulted from money advanced to Earle when he first signed his contract. Carruth was to deliver to the South Carolina Armory in Greenville two thousand stands of arms, complete with bayonets and ramrods, on or before January 1, 1818. By each January 1, succeeding, he was to furnish two thousand stands until the entire ten thousand had been delivered. The Ordnance Department was to send him a pattern musket to which to conform with "as much uniformity" as guns manufactured in the Armories of the United States. At any time that Carruth had as many as two hundred fifty weapons ready, he could notify the Ordnance Department, who would send an inspector to check his guns. Within ten days after the inspection the government would pay the manufacturer \$15.00 for each satisfactory musket.

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<sup>3</sup> All the contractors except Earle were located in the industrial New England States and many continued to manufacture arms for the government by renewing contracts until 1840.

Handicapped with a debt of over \$12,000 imposed upon him as a part of the contract, Carruth was soon in serious financial difficulty when the government delayed sending an inspector to his factory. Claiming that he had \$20,000 worth of arms ready to be delivered he appealed to the South Carolina General Assembly for a loan of \$10,000 for four years to enable him to complete the contract. The legislature authorized the loan provided that Carruth give security as approved by the Attorney General. To meet the condition the gun maker persuaded William Young, John Charles, Barksdale Garrison, and Robert Anderson to endorse his bond.

In addition to his financial difficulties, Carruth continued to have trouble with the Ordnance Department regarding the inspection of his guns. John Norton of the Ordnance Department wrote him that his former reports had been too indefinite respecting his progress to warrant the expense of sending an inspector such a distance. Carruth complained directly to the Secretary of War of a lack of an inspector for his arms and of the difficulty under which he labored because none had been assigned his armory. Col. Decius Wadsworth, an Ordnance Officer, maintained one Hoffman was in Greenville with nothing to do but inspect the guns.

Although Wadsworth sent another inspector, he proved to be no more satisfactory than Hoffman to Carruth, whose \$10,000 note with the State was due in March, 1820. He appealed for and the legislature granted an extension of his note for one year. In his appeal Carruth severely criticized the Federal Officials. He maintained the government had sent down a new inspector from the Ordnance Department "with instructions so precise and entirely different from the instructions given former inspectors that it was impossible to pass his guns." He blamed the turn of affairs on "selfish views" and "narrow minded policies of Federal Agents."

In addition, he was plagued by a rise in wages and a scarcity of provisions. Carruth delivered a total of only 2,250 muskets at a value of \$33,750 to the Ordnance Department. This was not enough to solve his financial difficulties and, despite a second and a third extension of his note by the State, and his bondsmen and the State took legal action in 1822. Before the end of the year the Sheriff of Greenville County sold Carruth's

property under the hammer. So ended an enterprise that had begun under the hammer. So ended an enterprise that had begun under such ambitious circumstances.

Although plagued with financial difficulties, Carruth assembled an impressive number of workmen and much equipment in his factory. He procured many of his supplies and skilled labor from business connections in the North. By 1820 Carruth was employing sixty men and ten boys and girls in his factory, whose capital value was reported to be \$60,000. His workers annual wages totaled \$16,000. The Armory's productive capacity was \$30,000 worth of guns per year, or the value of 2000 muskets according to the Ordnance contract. Yet he delivered only 2,250 muskets to the War Department and his creditors sold the State 781 muskets for which they were credited \$11,715. Seemingly, he produced 3,031 salable muskets in the five years he had contracted to produce 10,000.

Carruth's failure might be attributed to several factors. Rather than a cash advance with the contract he assumed a debt of \$12,128.45. There was no local source of necessary supplies and skilled labor. Inflation following the War of 1812 added to his financial difficulties. With the location of his armory so remote from the center of the arms industry of the North, it is conceivable that he may have been justified to some extent in the charges against the Federal Agents.

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## II. THE STATE MILITARY WORKS GREENVILLE, S. C.

South Carolina seceded from the Union on December 20, 1860. On January 9, 1860. On January 9, 1861, *The Star of The West* was fired upon in Charleston Harbor. So came the great war, the greatest fratricidal war in the annals of mankind. "We can lick'em with cornstalks" was the proud boast of a Southern fire-eater in 1861, but early in the conflict the Confederate States found it imperative to manufacture more valid instruments of war. South Carolina sought to meet its needs by the establishment of The State Military Works in Greenville. Produced here was the breech-loading carbine designed by George W. Morse, but it came too late in the war to influence the outcome and too early in history to be appreciated.

Governor Francis Pickens of South Carolina in his message to the legislature in November, 1861, recommended that steps be taken to develop facilities for the manufacture of war material. The legislature authorized the governor to proceed at once. However, the Secession Convention, exercising its claim to total sovereignty, had created an Executive Council to aid Governor Pickens in mobilizing South Carolina for war. In March, 1862, this Council made Ex-Governor William H. Gist of Union Chief of the Department of Manufacturing and Construction, charged with developing and operating foundries, workshops, and all places for the manufacturing of arms and munitions of war.

Gist went work immediately to survey the resources of the state and particularly to decide upon a location at which to build workshops for the manufacture of war materials. David Lopez was to superintend this work. He set up temporary workshops on the State House grounds in Columbia pending the decision. In the end, Greenville was chosen as the place to locate the plant partially because it was an inland town, but principally because Vardry McBee gave the state twenty acres of suitable land located near the Greenville and Columbia Railroad.

Superintendent Lopez began construction of the Greenville plant during the spring of 1862 and, despite a shortage of labor, The State Military Works were well established by fall. Machinery

and skilled workmen were brought from the Armory at Nashville, Tennessee, since that city had been evacuated by the Confederates. For the remainder of the war, practically every type of war instrument was repaired at The State Works, and a wide variety of ordnance material was manufactured, including shot and shells, gun carriages, caissons, ammunition chests, pikes, rammers, guns, rail-road spikes and rails. The late Charles A. David said that after the guns were built or repaired they were taken down to an old cellar, at the site where Grant's Department Store (North-west corner of Main and West Coffee streets) was later located, to be tested.

The state expended over one-half million dollars on the Works and in the latter part of 1863 the value of the plant was set at \$283,000. In spite of its good work, it was expensive to operate since it had to use steam power and the coal and iron must be transported long distances. This weakness is made clear in the report Captain W. S. Downer, Superintendent of the Confederate States Armory, Richmond, Virginia, in charge of the carbine factory there to Brigadier General Gorgas, Chief Confederate Ordnance, on October 5, 1863:

During my absence I visited the States Works of South Carolina at Greenville and find that in my opinion they are totally unpracticable for our purpose. My reasons for this opinion are as follows:

First, the buildings are erected in an unsubstantial manner and are so constructed as to require different motive power for each shop thereby entailing great waste of fuel, wear and tear of machinery, etc.

Second, the State has given Mr. G. W. Morse an order for the construction of one thousand of his breech loading carbines which they are desirous of having finished and which I would judge by present appearances will require six months to complete occupying all the power of the finishing shops.

Third, the distance from sources of supply of coal and iron. These have to be transported to Columbia and thence over the Greenville Road, one hundred forty six miles.

Fourth, the great waste of power incident to the place. They have now four or five steam engines erected, of an aggregate power more than double what is required to run the machinery in operation. Yet Mr. Morse informs me that he will require another forty horsepower engine to run his grindstones

and polishing wheels. My opinion founded on the practical experience I have had is that these works carried on as they are now would prove ruinous to any private individual without unlimited capital in less than six months; carried on by the State, they will add unnecessarily to the burden of the war without producing any adequate results and as I said would be entirely unpracticable for our purposes having an eye to economy and efficiency. I take this opportunity of saying, though, I experienced every courtesy and assistance at the hands of Governor Bonham of South Carolina.

From the foregoing letter it can be assumed the Confederate government was probably interested in purchasing the State Works and sent Captain Downer to inspect the plant and facilities. No doubt their interest ended with the unfavorable report rendered.<sup>4</sup>

The Legislature apparently agreed with the Confederate authorities for in December, 1863, it passed a resolution authorizing the Governor to dispose of the State Works if he could do so to advantage. No buyer was found for on November 2, 1864, *The Daily South Carolinian* announced the State Works would be sold at public auction on November 15. When the auction brought no buyers, Governor Milledge Luke Bonham recommended moving the State Works to Columbia to use the canal water power. This was not done and Governor Andrew Gordon Magrath placed J. M. Eason in complete charge of the State Works at Greenville in 1865 with the warning: "hitherto they have not been productive; now they must be so." In 1866 the legislature again attempted to sell the establishment.

Today nothing remains of the State Military Works except a large granite stone which, according to the inscription "is a part of The Original Foundation of the Confederate Armory."

Public records have been destroyed and we cannot estimate the total output of military supplies and services by the Works nor its contribution to the defense of the state. However, the Works attained lasting renown for the carbines manufactured there. Designed by George W. Morse who was among the American inventive geniuses of that time, these arms are prized collectors' items today.

<sup>4</sup> Another letter Capt. Downes to Gen. Gorgas, February, 1863, evaluating the Morse Carbine, renders a favorable report on the gun, but is critical of a weakness in the cartridge.



Morse was born in Haverhill, N. H., in 1812 but moved to Louisiana at an early age. He accumulated considerable property in Natchitoches Parish and served as State Engineer and Commissioner of Swamp Lands for Louisiana. By mid-century he was working on his breech-loading firearm. In the Army Appropriations Act for 1854-1855 \$90,000 was appropriated for the purchase of breech-loading rifles for the United States Army. Almost immediately a large number of patent papers for breech-loading firearms were filed with the Patent Office. These patents evidently produced no satisfactory weapon for of the \$90,000 appropriated, a balance of \$82,143.50 remained at the end of Jefferson Davis' administration of the War Office March 4, 1857. Among the many patents granted, Morse secured five covering his breech-loading firearm with a centerfire cartridge.

Morse's advanced designs created attention and immediately after assuming the duties as Secretary of War on March 4, 1857, John B. Floyd directed the Ordnance officers to test the arms of Morse. Very favorable reports resulted on March 6, and March 17, 1857. Still another report was made by the Navy Department. These reports strongly impressed the Secretary of War in favor of the Morse inventions, but a board of officers at the trial on August 17, 1857, chose the competing Burnside weapon as the best for military service with this qualifying statement:

In submitting this opinion the board feels it their duty to state that they have seen nothing in these trials to lead them to think that a breech-loading arm has yet been invented which is suitable to replace the muzzle-loading gun for foot troops. On the contrary, they have seen much to impress them with an opinion unfavorable to the use of a breech-loading arm for general military purposes.

Opposition to change was not limited to some military officers. A proposal to alter obsolete muzzle-loaders to the breech-loading system brought sharp criticisms in the press. In reply Morse wrote a letter appearing in the *Washington Union* on June 8, 1858, prophetically: "If this measure should be carried, it will save the government millions of dollars. The opposition to breech-loading is short lived. The day is near at hand when ramrods will be as obsolete as matchlocks."

In the end an appropriation of \$25,000 was made for the purpose of selecting a system for the alteration of old arms so as to make them breech-loading arms. A board convened in July, 1859, at West Point, and from six plans submitted, they selected Morse's system. Morse was paid a royalty of \$5 per gun for his patent privileges to alter two thousand arms. Alteration of the two thousand arms was started immediately at Springfield Armory, but by November 12, 1859, the funds appropriated were exhausted and with only sixty arms completed the work ceased.<sup>5</sup> On July 5, 1860, the War Department proposed to alter rifles also at Harper's Ferry Armory and the following order was given to the Colonel of Ordinance:

With a view of altering rifles to Morse's plan at Harper's Ferry Armory, you are requested to have sent to that Armory from Springfield one of the last models of altered rifles, with its appendages, together with all the tools which have been made at Springfield, for the purpose of making such alterations; and also the drawings, or copies of them, by which the work has been done, as well as copies of the drawings of the new carbines, now in the course of manufacture at Springfield Armory.

The model, tool gauges, and mills suited to the Morse alteration were duly received at Harper's Ferry Armory on July 19, 1860. Six months later an order issued by the Secretary of War Floyd, December 27, 1860, "that the alteration of the rifles at Harper's Ferry Armory to Morse's plan, ordered last July, be carried on with all possible dispatch" would indicate little or perhaps no work on the alteration had been carried out.

In April, 1861, Harper's Ferry Armory was captured by the Confederates and the machinery removed by them. Morse, who had been at Harper's Ferry to supervise the work on his arms, cast his lot with the South. Evidently the machinery went first to Richmond, then to Nashville for Morse served as superintendent of the Tennessee Armory at Nashville until its fall in February, 1862.<sup>6</sup> From Nashville the machinery that was saved was moved to Atlanta.

<sup>5</sup>In addition to the alteration of old weapons according to Morse's system, the War Department paid Morse \$3,000 royalty for the right to manufacture 1000 breech-loading carbines in a contract dated February 9, 1860.

<sup>6</sup>There is no evidence to indicate that any Morse arms were manufactured at Nashville.

On December 13, 1862, the following news item appeared in the *Atlanta Intelligencer*:

**MORSE'S PATENT IMPROVED BREECH-LOADING CARBINE**

One of these fine carbines, made in this city at the manufactory for arms of H. Marshall & Co., was exhibited to us a day or two ago by Mr. Marshall, the head of that enterprising firm. We were struck with the simplicity of its construction, and its power of execution. The Government, we learn, is already impressed with its value, and in all probability we shall soon see manufactured here a large quantity of this valuable arm for the defense of our homes and firesides, and with which to drive the enemy from Southern soil. These arms, we are advised, can be made here with comparative rapidity. If so, we see no good reason why the large workshop of the enterprising firm referred to above should not be engaged by the Government to turn them out by the thousands.

The article continues to describe in detail the arm and the cartridge. No evidence exists, however, to indicate that any Morse arms were manufactured in Atlanta. It is believed that the machinery captured at Harper's Ferry included that for the Morse alteration and this was finally moved from Atlanta to The State Military Works in Greenville where it was used for the fabrication of the Morse guns.

In addition to the one thousand carbines produced at the State Works, there exists a few percussion muskets considered even rarer than the carbine. These muskets are marked "Morse's Lock-State Works-Greenville, S. C." They also bear a serial number and the date "1863." This arm is distinguished by its unusual and simple lock mechanism which is recessed into the stock under the trigger guard. A lock frame made of one piece of metal holds the main and trigger springs, while a square lateral shaft carries the hammer. Besides its simplicity, this lock made a far stronger stock possible, as a minimum of wood was cut away. The highest recorded serial number is 163.

Following the war, Morse brought suit against the United States government and Winchester Arms Company for infringement of his patents. In 1875, the suit was finally decided in his favor and a settlement was made with his widow after his death in 1888. It was unfortunate that circumstances caused the loss of his talent in further firearms development, and relegated

him to a place in firearms history disproportionate to his really substantial contributions.

A small number of breech-loading sporting arms were manufactured for Morse by Muzzy & Co., of Worcester, Mass., in 1858. These were cased with three interchangeable barrels. It is believed that other than these sporting arms and possibly production and trial models, all existing Morse arms were manufactured at the State Works in Greenville.

All Morse arms are considered rare but by far the rarest, a special-made, one-of-a-kind, lay forgotten in a Greenville attic from 1884 to 1929. The story is best told by the following letters:

Friday, Sept. 6-29

E. M. Blythe

P. A. Bonham

Mr. Dear Father,

Today a young fellow came by my office and said that his uncle and aunt, Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Mackey, had found in an old attic, an old rifle which obviously belonged to Grandpa, as appears by the enclosed two letters. They felt that the gun ought to go back to the family and were kind enough to turn it over to me. It is an interesting weapon and I shall keep it for you, until the next time you are here.

The old lady to whom I talked was very nice about it and wouldn't consider a suggestion of remuneration. I think though that they would appreciate a letter from you. I would suggest that you address the letter to Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Mackey, Sr., Piedmont, S. C., R. F. D. #6. There is another Mackey on the route, so don't leave off the Sr.

Mr. J. J. Mackey to whom grandfather's letter is addressed, was a gunsmith, and had his shop where these people now live. He was a brother to the old fellow who established the Mackey undertaking place here. Mrs. W. E. Mackey is a sister of old G. Kemper Willis, a great big old fellow, whom you may remember, who died several years ago. Come over the first chance you have.

Signed,

Aff.,  
Proctor

"Grandpa" referred to in this letter is Ex-Governor M. L. Bonham.

It is known that J. J. Mackey worked at the State Works as a foreman. One rifle evidently made by Mackey, marked "J. J. Mackey, Columbia, S. C." is owned by the author.

The two letters referred to above follows:

Abbeville (Hodges)  
Jany 3/84

Mr. John C. Smith:

Dear Sir:

I send the Morse Rifle which Cappy Mackey said he would put in order, to you. Please have it left with Capt. M's son in Greenville. This at Captain's suggestion.

[Rest of the letter personal; with no reference to gun]

(Signed)

Very Truly yours,  
M. L. Bonham

Columbia, Jany 14/84

Capt. J. J. Mackey

Dear Sir:

I started on the 1st Jany inst to pay Greenville a visit on my way to Saluda, in Polk County (A&S. R.R.) N. C., and to carry the beautiful Morse Rifle you made for me when I was Governor in 1864 and Col. Morse wished to present me and which I declined to receive in this way. But I said I would take at cost which I remember was about \$410 (some cents perhaps) about '84 it was estimated in gold. I spent one day in Asheville with my son who lives there and returned to Columbia, feeling no desire to see the snow capped mountains in such a spell of weather. I therefore sent the gun by Express to Capt. J. C. Smith with the request that he leave at your son's for you. I prized it very highly but do not know if it can now be utilized. But be pleased to put in complete repair for me, and let me know when finished, with the bill.

Signed

Yours truly,  
M. L. Bonham

Another reference to this gun is contained in a letter from Morse:

No. 1905 F. Street  
Washington, D. C.  
August 26, 1885

My Old Friend

Hon. M. L. Bonham

I am still alive and fighting for the establishment of my rights to the paternity of the modern breech-loading system of firearms. I have a case in the U. S. Court of claims, in which I wish to prove that the State of S. C. paid me \$5 royalty for the right to manufacture carbines under my patents. Lopez is dead, but he paid me the sum stated with your sanction as Governor, and also paid me for superintending the work. Can you give me an affidavit touching these facts? Please tell me what has become of the gun made for you at the State Works. Please be careful to address me at my address, No. 1905 F. St., Wash-D. C., and if you come here, for the Lord sake come and see me.

Signed

Geo W. Morse

This fine weapon, with a brass frame similar to the Morse carbine, is fitted in a special case with three interchangeable barrels - carbine, rifle, and shotgun. Its stock is of selected walnut and the case contains all components needed for reloading the cartridges. It is deposited at the South Carolinana Library in Columbia.

I wish to point out several factors which are contrary to what has often appeared in print regarding The State Works. The official name of the Greenville plant was The State Military Works. It was constructed, owned, and operated by the State of South Carolina. There is no evidence of any connection with the Confederate Government or that private citizens owned any stock in it. Although one carbine is known with a serial number of 1032, the contract was for 1000, and, as George Morse later testified were "for State use to keep the peace." Morse supervised the manufacture of his arms but was at no time superintendent of the Works. The carbines manufactured at the Works were of .50 caliber. George Morse may have been very distantly related to Samuel F. B. Morse, but was not his nephew.

## SOURCES

## A. Primary

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### III. THOMAS PEDEN

Thomas Peden was born at Fairview, Feb. 11, 1799. His father, David Peden, was born in Ireland in 1760 and came to America with his parents when he was ten years old. Thomas Peden was a gun and locksmith by trade. He married Nancy Hanna, daughter of one of the heroes of The Battle of Cowpens. His shop was located on the Reedy River in the Fairview section. Their only child, a son, David Thomas Peden, born in 1840 was also a gunsmith. During the Civil War David Thomas enlisted as a member of Company E. Hampton Legion, but was sent home in 1863 to engage in the manufacture of ammunition in Greenville. Peden's Kentucky-type rifles are plain but substantially made and of good workmanship. They are identified by his name "T. Peden" on the barrel.

### IV. DAVID BOYD

David Boyd also lived around the Fairview section for many years. He was an iron worker who made and designed many ornamental iron fences and other iron wares. Associated with him in the iron foundry was his brother James Foster Boyd.

It has been said that David Boyd at one time worked in the shop of Thomas Peden and this might be explained in part by the fact that David Boyd's first wife was Mary McDill Peden although any relation to Thomas Peden is unknown. Several Kentucky-type rifles bearing Boyd's name are known to exist. One is marked "D. Boyd" on the barrel and "J. F. Boyd" on the lockplate.

### SOURCE

Mehringer, Corrine Putnam. *Descendants of William Boyd of Laurens County, S. C.*, Privately Published, 1954.