Desk Copy

The Proceedings and Papers

of the

GREENVILLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1994-1998

VOLUME XI

The Greenville County Historical Society
Greenville, South Carolina
1998

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Jeffrey R. Willis
Editor

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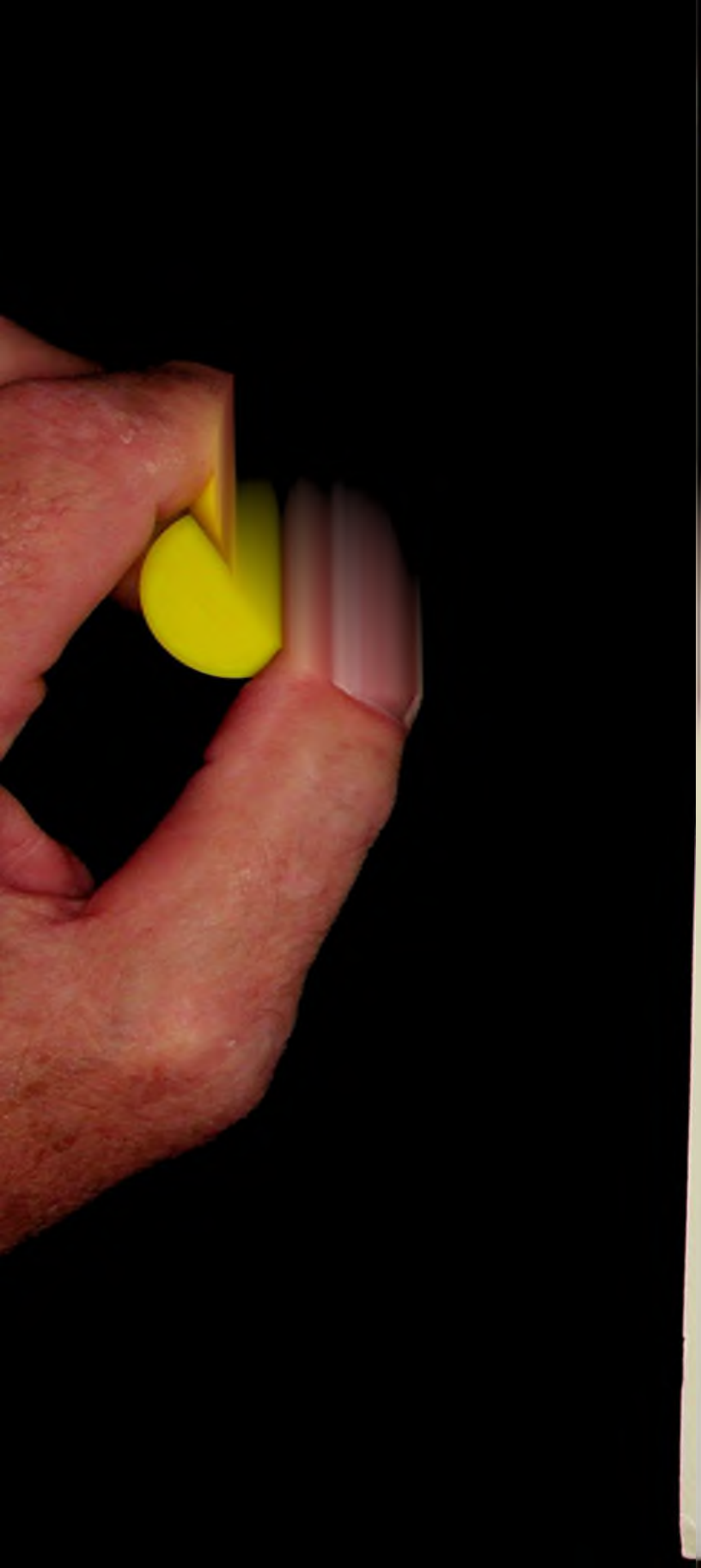

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More information about the Greenville County Historical Society and the Coxe Collection of Early Greenville Photographs is available on the Society's web page, which can be reached at: **www.greenvillehistory.org/**

Each member of the Society receives a copy of ***The Proceedings and Papers*** Additional copies of this volume are available to members and non-members at $10.00 a copy. See page 140 for other publications available through the Society. All orders should be sent to the address above.

This volume is dedicated to the memory of
Albert Neely Sanders
who served as editor from
1962 to 1983

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CONTENTS

FORWARD

The Greenville County Historical Society provides a unique service by the publication of the papers presented at its meetings. The publication of these papers constitutes a valuable compilation of historical research on Greenville County by many different individuals. The papers are on a wide variety of topics covering the current and past history of the county. *The Proceedings and Papers of the Greenville County Historical Society* is published at three-year intervals.

Not all of the presentations at the Society's meetings have involved traditional research papers. These presentations, nonetheless, contain valuable information about Greenville's past. They are printed in this volume in the form that seems most suitable for their preservation and distribution.

To the extent that has been possible, a uniform style has been adopted for the documentation appearing at the end of each paper. Because ten authors are represented, this has not always been possible.

The editor is indebted to the Historical Society's administrative director, Brenda H. Hays, in preparing this volume.

JRW

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

1994-1995

President ..... James D. Casteel
1st Vice President -Membership ..... Wilbur Y. Bridgers
2nd Vice President - Programs ..... Annabel C. Moses
Secretary ..... Anne King McCuen
Treasurer ..... Stephen D. Mitchell

1995-1996

President ..... James D. Casteel
1st Vice President -Membership ..... Wilbur Y. Bridgers
2nd Vice President - Programs ..... Annabel C. Moses
Secretary ..... Anne King McCuen
Treasurer ..... Stephen D. Mitchell

1996-1997

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2nd Vice President - Programs ..... Annabel C. Moses
Secretary ..... Anne King McCuen
Treasurer ..... Stephen D. Mitchell

1997-1998

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1st Vice President -Membership ..... Jon Ward
2nd Vice President - Programs ..... Anne King McCuen
Secretary ..... Lewis Walker
Treasurer ..... Stephen D. Mitchell

1998-1999

President ..... Wilbur Y. Bridgers
1st Vice President -Membership ..... Jon Ward
2nd Vice President - Programs ..... William Gilfillin
Secretary ..... Brenda H. Hays
Treasurer ..... Stephen D. Mitchell

BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

1994 Term	1995 Term	1996 Term
Peggy Coker	Allen J. Graham	John B. McLeod
Mary Louise Taylor	Leonard M. Todd	James F. Richardson

1997 Term	1998 Term
Allen J. Graham	Peggy Coker
Leonard M. Todd	Mary Drawdy

PAST PRESIDENTS

1962 -1964 . . . . . Marion M. Hewell
1964 -1966 . . . . . Romayne A. Barnes
1966 -1968 . . . . . Albert N. Sanders
1968 -1970 . . . . . Brown Mahon
1970 -1972 . . . . . Joseph H. Earle, Jr.
1972 -1974 . . . . . Andrew B. Marion
1974 -1976 . . . . . Robert R. Adams
1976 -1978 . . . . . A. V. Huff, Jr.
1978 -1980 . . . . . J. Glenwood Clayton
1980 -1982 . . . . . Sam R. Zimmerman, Jr.
1982 -1984 . . . . . William N. Cruikshank
1984 -1986 . . . . . Vance Drawdy
1986 -1988 . . . . . Lauriston Blythe
1988 -1990 . . . . . Choice McCoin
1990 -1992 . . . . . Choice McCoin
1992 -1994 . . . . . Edward D. Sloan, Jr.
1994 -1996 . . . . . James D. Casteel
1996 -1998 . . . . . Wilbur Y. Bridgers

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Collections Committee . . . . . Richard Sawyer
Hospitality Committee . Hamlin McBee Withington
Publications Committee . . . . . Jeffrey R. Willis

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY
October 1994 - April 1998

Fall Meeting, October 16, 1994
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

Mr. James Casteel, president, reported that the Greenville County Planning Department is preparing a long-range plan for the preservation of the county's cultural resources. The Caine Company will reprint about 3000 copies of *Bridging The Gap*. Mr. Lauriston Blythe reported that the edited copy of *Greenville: The History of the City and County in the South Carolina Piedmont* has been returned to the University of South Carolina Press for publication. Mrs. Annabel Moses, program chair, introduced Mr. Norvin C. Duncan, Jr., who presented a paper entitled: "Broadcasting in Greenville: An Historical Perspective."

Winter Meeting, January 15, 1995
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

A proposed amendment to the By-Laws of the Society was announced by President James Casteel. The amendment increases membership dues. Mrs. Moses introduced Miss Choice McCoin who read a paper entitled "Henry Pinckney Hammett." The well-researched paper emphasized Hammett's role as a pioneer in textile manufacturing in Greenville County. Following the presentation, Mr. Richard Sawyer displayed a Clovis spear point, the oldest man-made item yet found in Greenville County

Spring Meeting, April 30, 1995
Tullyton Plantation, Fountain Inn, S.C.

The members of the Historical Society were guests of Dr. and Mrs. James F. Richardson. After a tour of the house, President James Casteel called to order a meeting of the Society on the lawn of the plantation. The following were elected to new terms as officers: Annabel C. Moses as 2nd vice president, Anne K. McCuen as secretary, Stephen Mitchell as treasurer. Elected as Board members-at-large were Allen J. Graham and Leonard Todd. Dr. James F. Richardson presented a paper on the ancestors of Tully C. Bolling, the first owner of Tullyton.

Fall Meeting, October 8, 1995
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

Program Chair, Annabel Moses, introduced John B. McLeod who presented a paper on "Greenville During the War Between the States and Reconstruction." The paper gave an interesting and entertaining insight into everyday life in Greenville during those troubled times. James Casteel, president, announced that the first copies of Dr. A.V. Huff's book, *Greenville, The History of the City and County in the South Carolina Piedmont*, had been received from the publisher. Following the meeting there was a book-signing by Dr. Huff.

Winter Meeting, January 14, 1996
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

Program chair, Annabel Moses, introduced the speaker, Dr. George Mackey Grimball who gave an informative talk on "The History of Medicine in Greenville County."

Spring Meeting, April 21, 1996
George Salmon House, Greenville County

President James Casteel expressed the appreciation of the Society to Mr. and Mrs. John Walker for their hospitality in hosting the meeting at their home. A large blue and white tent provided shelter and added a note of festivity to the occasion. Jeff Willis, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following nominations: for president, Wilbur Bridgers; for first vice president, Jon Ward; for three-year terms as Board members-at-large, John McLeod and James F. Richardson. The nominations were approved unanimously. A research paper entitled "George Salmon: Surveyor and Citizen" was presented by Anne McCuen. The paper primarily emphasized Salmon's work as a leading surveyor of Greenville County's "virgin" lands and his various involvements as a militiaman and legislator.

Fall Meeting, October 13, 1996
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

President Wilbur Bridgers announced that the Coxe Collection of photographs was being transferred back to the Society by the Roper Mountain Science Center and that a committee had been appointed

to determine its relocation. The members unanimously approved the following resolution to be sent to *The Greenville News*:

> Whereas the City of Greenville has a very poor record of saving its historic buildings, it would behoove all concerned citizens to make a concentrated effort to retain any remaining buildings of historic value. It has come to our attention that the Old County Jail is now in danger from the wrecking ball.
>
> We recommend that its owners, *The Greenville News*, make every effort in their expansion and renovation plans to save and incorporate the original Old Jail Building into their new facilities. If it is not possible to use it in their new facility, then the original building should still be saved and be made available for use by some organization. Everything else failing, consideration should be given to moving the original jail building.

Miss Choice McCoin introduced the speaker, Mrs. Anne Hendricks, who delivered a well-researched paper on "The Dark Corner of Greenville County."

Winter Meeting, January 18, 1997
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

President Wilbur Bridgers commented that the resolution regarding the Old County Jail sent by the Society to the owners of *The Greenville News* was unheeded and that the jail had been demolished and removed. Mr. Lauriston Blythe introduced the speaker, Dr. A. V. Huff, Jr. who presented a paper entitled "Dr. William J. McGlothlin: Progressive Churchman and Educational Statesman." Dr. Huff asserted that McGlothin's moderate views on theology and social thought helped shape both higher education and religious life in the South.

Spring Meeting, April 20, 1997
Earle Street Baptist Church, Greenville, S. C.

Wilbur Bridgers, president, expressed appreciation to Earle Street

Baptist Church for making its sanctuary available for the Society's meeting. Two resolutions regarding two recently deceased past presidents of the Society were read:

Vance Brabham Drawdy, Esquire
1928-1997

Whereas: The late Vance Brabham Drawdy, Esquire, faithfully server his community, state and nation as:

- Attorney for such public agencies as the School District of Greenville County and the Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Greenville, among many others,
- A preserver of the history and memorabilia of the Confederate States of America and founder of the Confederate States Museum of Greenville, and as a leader of the Sons of Confederate Veterans as principal officer of the 16th Regiment South Carolina Confederate Veterans Unit and Commander-in-Chief, Army of Northern Virginia, Confederate Veterans,
- As a member and officer of the Greenville County Historic Preservation Commission and Trustee of the Greenville County Historic Preservation Foundation,
- As a past-president of the Greenville County Historical Society, whose interest never flagged and who rendered invaluable legal services to the Society, and
- As he was a person of considerable charm and magnetism, a happy and pleasant personality and willingly helpful to others interested in genealogy, law and government,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Greenville County Historical Society in annual meeting assembled on this 20th day of April in the 1997th year of our Lord and of the 221st year of the Independence of the Republic, that

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Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Greenville County Historical Society in annual meeting assembled on this 20th day of April in the 1997th year of our Lord and of the 221st year of the Independence of the Republic, that

this Society acknowledge with admiration and gratitude the life and work of Vance Brabham Drawdy and that a copy of this Resolution be entered into the minutes of this meeting and a copy be conveyed to his family and to the South Carolina Historical Society and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History

Albert Neely Sanders, Ph.D
1913-1997
Citizen, Soldier, Teacher, Historian

Whereas, He was a charter member and director of the Greenville County Historical Society in 1962; and

Whereas, He served as president from 1966 through 1968 and afterward continued dedicated effort as president, director, and publications chairman, editor of the Society*'s Proceedings* from 1962 to 1983 when his health failed: and

Whereas, He was the genesis of the Greenville County History Project in 1983 until this arduous burden was passed to his friend and colleague, Dr. Huff, in 1987; and

Whereas, As a faculty officer, professor and teacher at Furman University from 1951 until retirement, he was instrumental in the expansion and dissemination of local education and history in particular, enjoying the respect of all within his sphere; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved at the annual meeting, April 20, 1997: that the Greenville County Historical Society extends sympathy to his family and dedicates this resolution to his memory sending copies also to sister historical organizations: The South Carolina Historical Society, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, and the Caroliniana Library of the University of South Carolina.

Mr. William Cruikshank made a report on behalf of the Nominating Committee: for 2nd vice president, Anne K. McCuen; for treasurer, Stephen D. Mitchell; for members-at-large of the Board, Allen J. Graham and Leonard M. Todd. The nominations were unanimously approved. Anne McCuen introduced Mr. Charles B. Stone, who reviewed all of the previous occupants of Whitehall - the City of Greenville's oldest extant dwelling. Following the meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Stone, the current owners of Whitehall, opened their home to the members of the Society who enjoyed a tour and refreshments.

Fall Meeting, October 19, 1997
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

The meeting was called to order by Wilbur Bridgers, president. Stephen D. Mitchell presented the treasurer's report. As of September 30, 1997, the Society held assets of $48,000. President Bridgers announced that the Society's office has a new computer and is now on-line. The Coxe Collection is now in place and available at Bob Jones University. An ovation was given to Annabel C. Moses for the excellent programs she arranged during her tenure as program chair. The current program chair, Anne K. McCuen, introduced Wesley Breedlove, a noted local archaeologist. His program, "Ancient Whisperings: Early Indian Life in Greenville County," consisted of an informative slide presentation and a display of Indian artifacts.

Winter Meeting, January 18, 1998
Parker Auditorium, Greenville County Library

President Wilbur Bridgers called the meeting to order. Anne K. McCuen introduced the guest speaker, James J. Baldwin III. Mr. Baldwin discussed his biography of Brigadier General Micah Jenkins, *The Struck Eagle*. The talk was well received by a sizable audience. Following the meeting refreshments were served.

Spring Meeting, April 26, 1998
Brushy Creek Farm, Greenville County

The spring meeting was held at the home of Judy Iselin Cromwell, formerly the Alexander McBee country home known as Brushy Creek. The meeting was called to order by Wilbur Bridgers, who presented the Nominating Committee report: for president, Wilbur Bridgers; for 1st vice president, Jon Ward; for members-at-large of the Board, Peggy Coker and Mary Drawdy. Mr. Bridgers announced that William Gilfillin had been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Anne McCuen for 2nd vice president and program chair. Mrs. McCuen was thanked for a year of excellent programs. Roy McBee Smith presented a paper on "Brushy Creek: the Country Home of Alexander McBee."

BROADCASTING IN GREENVILLE
AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Norvin C. Duncan Jr.*

It is good to be with you and to be dealing with a subject that has been my vocation and avocation for most of my life. As a teenager I became fascinated with a crystal set radio and, with the help of a friend and one of my brothers, I began putting tubes and condensers and power supplies together and producing home-made radios - not only receivers but transmitters. As a so-called radio ham and amateur radio operator, I learned the Morse Code when I was in high school and operated my own short-wave station that brought me in contact with just about every country in the world. Now this continued into my college days but after a while I became more interested in the wider aspects of broadcasting, and when a job opened up at the only radio station in western North Carolina, I jumped at the chance and took off on a career that is still active to some extent.

The box and the recorded excerpts that I have brought along with me today from early days will deal primarily with radio, for I think that television and its history and its place in our lives today are so well known that our time will be better spent in just looking way, way back.

Broadcasting, over-the-air-waves broadcasting, came to Greenville and vicinity in May of 1933 when WFBC Radio came on the air. It was a low-power station - 100 watts for the first year or two. It could be heard over a radius of twenty or thirty miles. The Upstate was already being served by WSPA of Spartanburg and WBT of Charlotte. By 1933 only these three stations could be counted on for dependable radio service, at least in the daytime. At night, of

* Norvin C. Duncan, Jr. joined the WFBC Radio staff in Greenville in 1939. For many years he was program manager, news anchor and editorial spokesman for WFBC-TV. During his address to the Historical Society on October 16, 1994, he played tapes of radio interviews, "on the scene" broadcasts of historic events, and music of the 1940's. Printed here is a transcription of a tape of Mr. Duncan's address and of his tapes. Some editing has been done to fit the printed format.

course, it was another matter. Radio fans could pick up the powerful stations of big cities all across the country. But on the local scene WFBC was the only station until 1940, when WMRC went on the air. Some of you may recall what the call letters "WFBC" meant at the outset, not really "Watch Furman Beat Clemson." Actually the station first belonged to the First Baptist Church of Knoxville, Tennessee. But the church gave up the license and the Greenville *News-Piedmont* Company took over and brought the station here.

The station was housed at first in a small home on East Faris Road, then moved to the Hotel Imperial (later known as the Hotel Greenville), then to the Poinsett Hotel in 1941. I joined the staff in 1939 shortly after an announcer named Frank Blair left the station to take a job in Washington. Previously, Roger Peace, publisher of the newspapers, appointed his younger brother, B. H. Peace, Jr., as manager and hired a young fellow named Charles Crutchfield to help put the station on the air. Crutchfield was there for only a short time before going to Charlotte. Then Mr. Peace picked another man to be manager, this time a young fellow from the staff of his newspaper by the name of Bevo Whitmire. At the newspaper Bevo was the staff photographer and a reporter, and there I understand is where he met his dear wife, Mildred.

Those early days at the station featured programming that was entirely live except for phonograph records, and very few records were played the first few years. The station was a wonderful opportunity for local talent: singers, speakers, comedians. Well remembered by some of us old-timers are names such as Eleanor Barton, known as a singer on radio and as a writer in the newspaper under the name "Polly Piedmont;" Allen L. Weems, musician; Eber Lineberger, pianist and an announcer with the nickname "The Freshman;" Dupre Rhame, baritone soloist; Thomas Brockman, pianist; Mrs. Frances Withington, contralto; Mrs. G. A. McMahon, Jr., contralto; Mrs. Paul Cass, soprano; The Mackey Boys Choir, and I could go on and on. These performers and many more supplied much of the programming of those great years of radio - and all live. There was no tape recorder then. Only in the late 30's and early 40's was local recording made possible through the development of electrical transcriptions. I brought one along to show you after a

while.

After about three years of entirely local programming, WFBC took steps to provide wider coverage and expanded service. The nation was still in the throes of The Depression in 1935, but the Piedmont area was growing and the station met the challenge with an increase in power to 5,000 watts. This made it possible to serve areas that previously did not receive a good strong signal in this part of the state. Then in 1936, the station joined the NBC radio network. In those days it had two divisions, the blue and the red. A new era began, the period which is fondly looked back on as "The Golden Age of Radio."

As mentioned earlier, a second station came on the air in Greenville in 1940, WMRC. Mr. R. A. Jolley and his staff became very formidable competitors to WFBC. The second station brought some worth-while additional local programming along with network service from the regional broadcasting system, and then they picked up the blue network of NBC, and WFBC stayed on the red network. It was not until a year or two after World War II that a third station came into being, WESC. As the years passed other stations were established. FM came on the scene and today it seems that we are indeed surfeited with more radio stations than we can count.

We are here today to look back. To do that and bring you some of the flavor of the Golden Era I have dug into the archives and come up with some excerpts that were included on a fiftieth anniversary special broadcast on WFBC in 1983. It was a four-hour broadcast. Some of you I hope heard it or at least some of it. It was presided over by announcer Russ Cassell with the help of yours truly. We are going to listen to a number of voices from the past and hear about some of the memorable events of those years, and then I will be back with a few more remarks.

Cassell: *Now Norvin we have talked about all the great names. This man's name seems to come up more than any other. I keep hearing Bevo, Bevo, and I understand you reported to Bevo Whitmire.*
Duncan: *I surely did, and he was one of a kind, Russ. Bevo was known as a showman, a journalist, a devotee of the arts, and a man who had the proverbial heart of gold. Bevo became known*

throughout the country from the 30's to the mid-50's, and I'm glad to say his voice is still preserved on a number of recordings that have been retained in our files of those years.

Bevo Whitmire: *Thank you very much "Dunc" and thank all you good people for being down here with us today and thank you so much for your patronage for 20 years. Twenty years is a long time in anybody's language and you being with us consistently day in and day out, week in and week out, we want you to know that we just love you all above and beyond everything else.*

Duncan: *On that particular occasion, Russ, Bevo Whitmire was awarding special twentieth anniversary plaques to the original advertisers on WFBC.*

Cassell: *That's something. You know I understand too, Norvin, Bevo had a special knack for hiring the best of talent: singers, announcers, technicians, whatever was needed to operate WFBC, that kind of set it apart as a distinctive station known not just locally for its quality and performance but throughout the South, and indeed in many parts of the country. The NBC radio network called on WFBC frequently to originate programs for the area especially when nationally known persons were making news in the South.*

Voice: *I remember so well how much pride all of the announcers of WFBC took in introducing Mrs. Banning on the NBC network nation wide.*

Duncan: *Yes, that's Charles Batson, WFBC program director and announcer in the 30's and 40's. Charlie, you were referring of course to that famous writer Margaret Culkin Banning.*

Batson: *That's correct, Dunc, she was in residence for a period of time up in Tryon, and WFBC was the closest NBC affiliate to her home there, so once a week she would commute down to Greenville and do her quarter-hour afternoon NBC show.*

Duncan: *You recall, I'm sure, some of the outstanding local news events of those days. Which one in particular maybe are you thinking of from those days in the 30's?*

Batson: *Well, I recall one in particular that was an exciting event for us. President Roosevelt made a stop in Greenville. He stopped down at the old Southern Depot on West Washington Street in Greenville. It was his only stop in the state, and we fed it out to a regional*

network. I had the happy duty of being the reporter on the scene and recall very vividly the huge crowd that came out to see this very popular president.

Duncan: *Thank you Charles Batson for being with us on our 50th anniversary program. Charlie, someone that you and I both will never forget is the beautiful young lady who served as receptionist and secretary at the Hotel Imperial, Hotel Greenville, and also the Poinsett: Miss Christine Bramlett, now Mrs Jack Dibble, who we located in High Point, North Carolina.*

Mrs. Dibble: *The twenty-two years I worked at WFBC were very happy years because of the wonderful people who owned the station and the most understanding and thoughtful boss, Bevo Whitmire. I appreciate your asking me to be a part of this 50th anniversary celebration and wish for WFBC continued success that it has enjoyed over these many years. Thank you so much, Norvin, and its been a pleasure talking to you.*

Cassell: *It always just intrigues me how many people have worked here and then gone on to bigger and better things,. And this next fellow really did achieve quite a bit of notoriety.*

Duncan: *This was in the engineering department, Russ. This gentleman went on to considerable fame as an engineer and a man involved in technological things of many kinds, and I refer to none other than Bob Rigby. Bob, what do you remember of those early years?*

Rigby: *When I discovered WFBC down here at their new plant out on the Piedmont Highway, there I said: 'Nan, this is a station that's alive, they're going somewhere.'*

Duncan: *I guess Clyde Ethridge was around.*

Rigby: *Mr. Ethridge at that time was the live-in resident engineer at the station. He was classed as the chief, and there were only two of us as full-time professional engineers and WFBC was a pioneer.*

Duncan: *I know that you are so modest that you don't talk about this but I just know that you are the inventor of the microwave oven.*

Rigby: *A lot of things that I've been involved in are still in* the *equivalent of radio without broadcasting. It was high frequency technology that led to the microwave.*

Cassell: *That's really something. Now every time I use mine at home*

I'll think of Bob Rigby.

Duncan: *You know, Russ. before that Bob built the very first electrical transcription recording machine that WFBC ever had.*

Cassell: *That man must have been a genius.*

Duncan: *Indeed he was. And, Bob, if you'll forgive us we have Joel Lawhon on the line here. I know that you'll remember him from those early days. Joel what do you recall from way back then?*

Lawhon. *One of my most vivid memories of those early days was staying up all night in the spring of 1940 to broadcast the news of the German invasion of Holland and Belgium.*

Duncan: *This is the voice of Joel Lawhon, and Joel Mahon remembers many things like that, including some of the great old radio shows that we listened to from NBC in those days, right Joel?*

Lawhon: *Oh, Norm, you bet I do. Bob Hope with Jerry Colonna and his band of renown, Judy Garland, Basil Rathbone, and I admit that was my favorite network show in those days. But you know, Norvin, my first recollection of WFBC was seeing a notice on the Furman University bulletin board that WFBC was auditioning for announcers.*

Duncan: *You mean that's how you got your job?*

Lawhon: *That's how I got my job. I went to the studio and auditioned for Charlie Batson, and a couple of days later he called me up and said I was hired. I started work on May 3, 1939. I was a sophomore at Furman, and I must say that Charlie Batson taught me much about what I know about radio. And then not long after that, as you say, I met you. You arrived just a few months after I did and you're the one who taught me how to read news on the air, and I'm still doing it. The first thing I bought after I went to work was a good watch, and I still have it. It still runs. I'm wearing it right now. I took it out of the drawer this morning. I thought that it would help me remember those old days at WFBC, and it certainly has. Norvin, I just want to say in closing that the thing I remember most of all are the people. You and Charlie Batson as program directors were my first bosses. I've always appreciated all you did for me both professionally and helping me get through Furman while holding down a full-time job, and I'll remember always it was your friendship that caused me to decide to stay in this broadcasting business.*

Duncan: *Joel, thank you again, and I am going to lead in right now to something I know you will be interested in hearing. You know all station announcements were live back in those days. No canned station breaks, no pre-recorded commercials except those that came from New York on behalf of the national advertisers. Local announcers who had the night shift had the best assignments, because they could listen to all the big prime-time shows between station breaks every thirty minutes. One of the all-time favorites was the Fred Allen Show's Town Hall Tonight, with Senator Claghorn and all the rest.*

Cassell: *When we come back in just a few moments, as we continue our 50th anniversary show, we will hear from the man who is perhaps without a doubt the most famous person to ever work here at WFBC Radio.*

Voice: *Yes, I came to work at WFBC in the Greenville Hotel in 1937.*

Duncan: *That's none other than Frank Blair, the man who went on later to Washington and New York and became a fixture on the Today television show for more than twenty years. Frank, what are some of the particular reminiscences you have about the year you were at WFBC?*

Blair: *Well, the best remembrance I have of the whole thing, I think, was Bevo Whitmire. We were on the mezzanine floor of the hotel. My stay in Greenville was the most enjoyable. I enjoyed working for the Peaces, the* Greenville News, *the* Greenville Piedmont, *a close-knit operation. I think we accomplished something in electronic journalism in those days.*

Duncan: *You mentioned Bevo and, of course, everybody thought Bevo was just the greatest thing in the world*

Blair: *I went to Washington to tape an audition for a job I got there at the Mutual Network , and my shoes were pretty sloppy looking. He took off his shoes and he said, "Here wear these for good luck." They brought me good luck. He was that kind of a guy. He didn't want to see me leave and I really didn't want to leave him but opportunity was knocking and I just had to go, that was all.*

Duncan: *Frank, we appreciate your talking with us on the 50th anniversary program, and we commend you for all the fine work you did in New York and on NBC's Today. We followed you for these*

years.

Blair: *If WFBC is 50 years old, I'd have to be at least eighteen years older that. My best to WFBC owners and management to you good people who stuck by it all these years. Its sort of like an alma mater to me.*

Cassell: *Well Norvin, I guess Frank Blair was probably unquestionably the most famous person ever to work here.*

Duncan: *He certainly had the national fame. He is the one who was known really throughout the nation on radio and on television.*

Cassell: *You know, one of the most popular radio programs during the time Frank Blair was here at WFBC was the NBC show that came from Hollywood every Wednesday night. It starred a great trooper. He kept on singing right into the 1970's.* [Bing Crosby singing: "When the Blue of the Night...."] *Bing Crosby and Kraft Music Hall continued as a fixture on WFBC and NBC radio for many years.*

Duncan: *It did and, Russ, I suppose there is no other NBC program that I personally remember more vividly than that. We would gather in the studio at night, those of us who were on the night shift, and sit there and just listen all the way through.*

It has been pointed out that there were no tape recordings in the late 30's and 40's or hardly any until the late 40's. During the war we did have what was known as wire recordings. They were hard to come by. The main recording device was a rather cumbersome electrical transcription recorder device, and WFBC had its first one when engineer Bob Rigby designed it and made it himself. I have one here to show you: a 16 inch aluminum-based disk, 15 minutes on each side. This was the forerunner of the LP's that came along later and brought you a lot of music and everything else on the LP recordings. That very one came from the old WFBC engineering department. By the way Bob Rigby, whom some of you I'm sure know, has been living in Greenville for some years in retirement. His genius in electronics and the science of radio waves was so amazing the government excluded him from the military draft in World War II and sent him to New York to work with scientists on special projects relating to the propagation of radio waves. His work resulted in development of a microwave heating device that speeded up production of airplanes and incidentally gave him the privilege of

cooking hamburgers in his New York apartment in the world's first microwave oven.

Incidentally, the big agencies in New York used those electrical transcriptions for commercial announcements 33 1/3 rpm. They sent their commercials out all over the country and individual stations found the disks very handy for local recording purposes. But the networks for some years shied away from doing any of their programming by recording transcription. It was only when a spectacular event occurred in the late 30's that NBC radio broke the rule of no transcriptions and put a recording on the air. Who knows what it was?

NBC had sent an announcer and engineer to New Jersey from Chicago to record the arrival of the German airship Hindenberg and the network intended to use the recording later on its local stations in Chicago and New York. And in a few moments you will hear a portion of that very well-remembered recording.

By 1920, Russ, more and more communities with only one radio station were beginning to get competition. Greenville saw a second station come into being. Asheville had a second station, then so did Spartanburg. Smaller cities were getting their very first station. Some struggling new stations began to look for ways to obtain worthwhile programming.

Cassell: *WFBC led the way with one of the first regional networks, becoming the key station for what was known for a number of years as the Blue Ridge Network. It was a joint venture with stations in several states all affiliated with the NBC Network so that any of the smaller stations who were not commercially supported for certain NBC programs could carry WFBC's locally produced program and insert their own commercials. The Blue Ridge Network included stations in Greenwood; also in Asheville, North Carolina; Kingsport, Tennessee; and Bristol, Tennessee; and Virginia.*

Duncan: *And Russ the man who was responsible for forming that Blue ridge regional network was Mr. B. T. Whitmire, the late Mr. Bevo Whitmire. He is not with us today, he passed on in 1956, but we are glad that his wife is still in our midst. Mrs. Whitmire, you recall those days very vividly, I'm sure.*

Mrs. Whitmire: *I remember just about everything that happened*

here since I came here to college and finished in 1925 and went to work on the newspaper.

Duncan: *And isn't this how you met your husband by the way?*

Mrs. Whitmire: *Yes, he was on the paper too. At that time he was covering the legislature in Columbia, and they took me on as a substitute until he got back.*

Duncan: *It wasn't probably more than a year, was it, that they decided Bevo would do very well and transferred him from the newspaper up to run the radio station?*

Mrs. Whitmire: *Well, Bevo kept asking for it because he wanted to do it. He was very anxious to do it. Finally, Roger Peace told him just go down there and take it over. " I don't care if you make any money or not, just run it." So, he did.*

Duncan: *And he was just cut out for that kind of job. Mrs. Whitmire we are very grateful for your participation and thank you for reminiscing with us.*

Cassell: *Boy, she is still a lovely lady, isn't she. You know being a part of the* News-Piedmont *Company for many years, WFBC Radio had a natural inclination to give news a very high priority. This was the philosophy of a family run organization headed up by Roger C. Peace who was assisted by his brothers, Charlie Peace and B. H. Peace, Jr. The latter served as president of the WFBC division for many years.*

Voice: *My husband, B. H. Peace, loved his association with WFBC Radio. It was one of the first radio stations in the area. It was very exciting in a new field.*

Duncan: *This is Mrs. Dorothy Peace speaking now. The widow of B. H. Peace, Jr., and she can certainly recall many of the historic occasions of those years and many of the people who were here at WFBC. Mrs, Peace, what is one of your recollections of those times?*

Dorothy Peace: *Well, one was in 1938 when the Hindenberg exploded and NBC was right there with the cameras, and they scooped it. Of course we got it, so it was really a major scoop.*

Announcer's Voice: *It's practically standing still now. They've dropped a rope out of the nose of the ship, and it has been taken hold of on the field by a number of men. ...It burst into flames! It's terrible; oh my, get out of the way please, it's burning...bursting into*

flames and it's falling. This is terrible. It's one of the worst catastrophes in the world...four or five hundred feet in the sky. It's a terrific flame ladies and gentlemen. It's smoke and it's flames....

Peace: *All through the years it's fantastic the way WFBC has kept growing. My husband really enjoyed the years he worked with the station.*

Cassell: *Well, Norvin, that brings us to World War II, beginning in Europe in 1939. It brought continuing emphasis on news programming, special events and documentaries, and WFBC covered all of the historic broadcasts relating to those world shaking events.*

Duncan: *I'll never forget, Russ, September 1, 1939. Adolph Hitler's military forces invaded Poland. And then on September 3rd, Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain announced Britain was at war with Germany.*

Chamberlain: *I am speaking to you from No. 10 Downing Street. This morning the British ambassador in Berlin handed the German Government the final news saying that unless we heard from them by 11:00 that they were prepared at once to withdraw their troops from Poland, a state of war would be declared.*

Cassell: *For a year or more the war in Europe seemed rather far distant to most Americans, and life went on in more or less the usual way. WFBC newscasts told of the so-called Phony War in Europe when little or no action was taking place. Then came the collapse of France and the taking over of all of western Europe by the Germans.*

Duncan: *And, Russ, I remember that the American lend-lease program to Britain was increased at that time, and the nation adopted a rhythmic tune as a sort of second national anthem.*

Cassell: *Oh, yes the best remembered recording of that tune ["American Patrol"] was made by Glenn Miller who was later to serve in the United States Air Corps and lose his life after taking off in a plane from England.*

World War II was just ending as 1946 arrived. Personnel began returning to their old jobs at WFBC. They were trying to adjust again to civilian life, which wasn't exactly easy. The young men who had left as bachelors were coming back as married war veterans with families and finding no suitable homes in which to live. Even a small apartment was almost impossible to find for many

months. Families had to double up with each other and put their names on waiting lists.

Duncan: *I can attest to that. It was quite rough, Russ, in those days. But radio programming began to regain its old peace-time flavor now that personnel were more readily available, and the big entertainers could settle down to their more normal routines after traveling around the world to entertain troops.*

Cassell: *One of the most popular and commercially successful local programs on WFBC during the first several years after World War II was a late night show dreamed up by announcer Jimmy Capps. It was called Ballroom in the Sky, featuring a popular type of dreamy romantic music that appealed to high-school and college-age listeners.*

Duncan: *Jimmy Capps theme song was Artie Shaw's "Dancing in the Dark."*

Cassell: *One of the most spectacular news stories of WFBC's entire 50 years occurred in 1947. I wasn't around then, but that's when the Ideal Laundry exploded with what many people thought was the force of an atom bomb.*

Duncan: *Actually, Russ, I think it was 1946, there's been some speculation about that. I think we can say it was 1946. It is regrettable that the late Bevo Whitmire is not here today to give us his account of that event. He lived only a few blocks from the laundry, and I think he actually ran all the way from his home on Buncombe Street to the studios in the Poinsett Hotel to put the very first bulletin on the air. At any rate, Bevo did sort of re-enact that occasion several years later when the station observed its 18th birthday, and we have a recording of that.*

Voice: *That was about the most spectacular thing we ever covered wasn't it, Bevo?*

Whitmire: *Yes, Dunc, and I still marvel at the double quick time we managed to get to the laundry area on the Buncombe Road and come on the air with an eyewitness description.*

Duncan: *Well, you were almost too much of a newsman that evening, Bevo. My wife told me afterwards how she was listening at home to our description on the station and heard you say, "Dunc, the police think another tank may blow up any minute. Do you think we can get*

up a little closer?"

Duncan: *On the day of the explosion, I'll never forget, we went over to the Sheriff's Department which was next door to the Poinsett Hotel and got in the patrol car and went straight on up to the laundry. Jack Fulmer was with us and I'm sure you will never forget that will you, Jack?*

Jack Fulmer: *Definitely, yes, I never will forget that. As we walked to the Cash and Carry, which was next door, we walked in and we saw the groceries lying all over the floor. We had to wade through them to find a telephone so that we could hook up our amplifier and broadcast from the Cash and Carry Grocery Store. On thing I remember, too, across the street was a church. We took the pipe organ from that church and laid it out on the floor.*

Duncan: *I do remember many shattered homes.*

Fulmer: *Even down Main Street, there were plate glass windows broken out down the street.*

Duncan: *And so Jack Fulmer, who is now by the way chief engineer for WFBC Radio, went looking into the store, waded through a big shambles of can goods and groceries, found a telephone, hooked up the amplifier, and went on the air.*

Duncan: *We are speaking to you now from the Cash and Carry Store on Buncombe Street in Greenville just a few hundred feet from the scene of the terrific explosion that apparently demolished the Ideal Laundry and Cleaners. Now, when we arrived a few minutes ago, firemen and policemen had been on the scene just a short time and its really not possible at the moment to give you very many details of what happened. Fire Department officials have just told us that there seems to be little doubt that it was a propane gas explosion. And a number of employees were still in the building working when it happened. There are reports of several casualties. No one seems to know at the present time just how many. The force of the explosion was obviously tremendous for many houses on Buncombe Street appear to have been bashed in by a hurricane. And there are reports that the explosion was felt and heard as far away as Spartanburg. Bevo Whitmire is headed this way again, and he probably has been talking to the police chief. No, he's not ready to give us his own report yet, but I expect shortly he'll bring someone*

over to the microphone who can give us a better idea of just what's happened. Somebody's calling to me now from across the store. Apparently he's giving us some kind of warning. Another propane tank? Ladies and gentlemen, if I understand correctly what's being said across this shambles of a store, the Fire Department indicates that there may be a chance that another tank of propane gas may explode at the site of the Ideal Laundry. Of course, where we are at the moment is fairly close, but I wouldn't think another such explosion would do much more damage than has already been done right here. At any rate the walls are still standing here at the Cash and Carry. We intend to stay on the air as long as possible to keep you informed about all this.

Cassell: *Norvin, they should have given you a medal for bravery for that. That's the way it was in November 1946, when Norvin Duncan described that spectacular explosion of Greenville's Ideal Laundry. I'm sure a lot of people still remember that blast that shook the area like an earthquake killed half a dozen people who were working in the plant, destroyed houses over several blocks of Buncombe Street and even broke windows in store fronts throughout downtown Greenville.*

Duncan: *Getting back to the business of broadcasting, Russ, WFBC concentrated on local broadcasting to a larger extent during the first three or four years after World War II and even developed and produced the first local soap opera series in the South. News commentator James Dawson, a terrific writer, wrote the script for "A Story of Catherine Cole." Dawson even played varying rolls in the program as did several others of the staff. And in the late 40's Dawson left Greenville to join Charles Batson in Washington as an executive of the National Association of Broadcasters.*

Cassell: *Greenville was still in its so-called Golden Age. WFBC carried the cream of the crop from NBC - leading daytime soap operas, great comedians, and dramatic shows in prime-time, and the memorable musical features of those years. Perhaps none is better remembered than the show that brought great singers and orchestras to the American public for many years: The Voice of Firestone.*

That is another kind of program we do not hear much of these

days. Since those days we have had a vast change in music preferences, not only in music but in the way things are done on both radio and TV. The manner in which recordings are produced, the development of compact disks, digital technology and so forth. Can you realize that anyone in the Upstate can now tune his radio dial today and pick up more than 40 radio stations? The TV viewer can tune not only to half a dozen over-the-air channels but also to distant stations through cable, plus scores of cable channels. They even talk about 500 channels coming. Are we going to have a few more couch potatoes? They say that the rapidly developing super highway will bring us more mind-boggling things, far more than I even want to think about and with your permission I would like to close with just an editorial remark or two. My own concern is that our marvelous developments in technology have been so greatly misused in so many ways that our progress in other areas has not kept pace. Some 25 years ago a chairman of the FCC called television a vast wasteland. Though there is an oasis here and there today in radio and TV, I feel there is still too much of the wasteland in evidence. It is regrettable, I think, that so many people today have so little understanding of what broadcasting was like in earlier years. Looking back on the history of it, I can only say that I found it rewarding in many ways and I would not trade my memories of the good old days for any amount of today's broadcast fare, through whatever kind of technology. Those are my sentiments. As they used to say on TV: "That's my opinion, what's yours?"

HENRY PINCKNEY HAMMETT: PIONEER, REVITALIZER, TREND SETTER

Choice McCoin*

From the pages of history, certain names seem to jump out and demand that the reader enhance his knowledge of them. Such a name for me has been Henry Pinckney Hammett, textile pioneer, revitalizer and trend setter of nineteenth-century Greenville.

Several statements made me realize about a score or more years ago that Hammett had accomplished something significant for the region right here in my own county, and I wondered why we had not heard more about him.

Dr. Albert Neely Sanders wrote:

> In 1876, an important date in the local industrial revolution, Henry Pinckney Hammett opened the first cotton textile plant of the Piedmont Manufacturing Company.
>
> Hammett ... built Piedmont into one of the great cotton mills in the world. His relations with his employees were so wisely paternalistic that his villages became models for other mills and his plant became a 'nursery' for the industrial revolution in the South. By the end of the century, thirty-eight mill superintendents were 'graduates of Hammett's mill.' [1]

William Plumer Jacobs states in *The Pioneer*: The Piedmont Manufacturing Company, the first mill built by Colonel H. P. Hammett of Greenville, in 1873,[2] had a remarkable success and a great influence over the decision of Captain [Ellison] Smyth to enter the [textile] business." [3]

Thomas R. Nevin of Harvard University rated Piedmont Manufacturing Company as being to the South what Samuel Slater's factory and Francis Cabot Lowell's Boston Manufacturing Company had been to the North. [4]

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Several years ago my desire to know more about H. P. Hammett led me to his grandson, Mr. James D. Hammett, Jr., who has been immensely helpful in supplying information and in introducing me to a book entitled the *Hammett Families* by Dr. Thomas Edwards and Miss. Delphine Miller. Where there are discrepancies in dates - as the Colonel's birth date, for instance - I have elected to go with those accepted by the family. (That some sources give 1823 for his birth and others 1822, bothered me until I found out he was born during the night of December 31st.)

Many of the early and later successful textile manufacturers in this area came from the North in search of water power and cheap labor, but Henry Pinckney Hammett is one of our own. The son of Jesse and Nancy Elliott Davia Hammett, he was born twelve miles east of Greenville.

The Hammetts are of English origin and came to America before the Revolution. Soon after that war, John F. and Emena Underwood Hammett joined twelve families and moved from Culpepper, Virginia, to claim a large section of land in the current Chick Springs Township. Following family traditions John F. became a planter and proprietor. Son Jesse, H.P.'s father, became a planter and justice of the peace. (This Hammett family has always spelled their name with two "t's," but it will be found on some tombstones with one. The family attributes this to insufficient width for the long names.)

With only the education he could acquire in the country schools, Hammett began teaching at the age of eighteen. After two and a half years, he went into partnership with Nathaniel Morgan to run a country store. Obviously, this venture was successful because historians report that in 1848, he purchased considerable interest in the Batesville Cotton Factory. Thus, a career that was later to lead the South into recovery was begun. After Hammett joined the firm, it operated for 14 years as William Bates and Company under the ownership of Hammett, Bates and Thomas Cox of Greenville. Hammett served as financial and commercial agent.

The year 1848 marked another important step for Hammett as he married Deborah Jane Bates, the daughter of William Bates, on December 14th. A family that would bring leadership to the region

and to the textile industry was launched. The Hammetts had nine children, two of whom died fairly early. The others and their descendants have made and continue to make valuable contributions today.

Daughter, Mary Elliott, married John Byrd Henry and daughter, Elizabeth, married James Lawrence Orr, Jr., an attorney. Orr would succeed Hammett at Piedmont and would pursue the textile interest organizing Orr Cotton Mills in Anderson County. He preserved some of the Hammett story and I am deeply indebted to him for much of the information I have used herein.

Sons Edwin Pinckney, William Henry, James David and George Pierce followed their father into textiles for at least a while, with James David and George choosing the field for their life work. They both became associated with Orr Cotton Mills in Anderson, which James served as president and treasurer. He organized Chiquola Manufacturing Company and was president and treasurer there and of Watts Mill, of Bragon Mills and of Anderson Cotton Mills. James also chaired the American Cotton Manufacturers Association and the Cotton Manufacturers Association of South Carolina. Several of H. P. Hammett's grandsons have also contributed leadership to the textile industry.

When he entered textiles, Hammett appears to have been endowed with sound qualities and some business experience. His father-in-law and partner had textile expertise and ingenuity to share with him.

Writing for Crittenden's *Greenville Century Book* (in 1903), Orr stated that in 1819 William Bates, an orphan, had come from Pawtuckett, Rhode Island, to seek his fortune in the South. Bates had a fair knowledge of cotton textile machinery and fifty dollars. Orr continued, "He also had grit, brains and character and these were the real foundation of his success and of Piedmont [Manufacturing Company.]"[5]

After working in small textile operations in North and South Carolina, Bates settled in the area that would bear his name and started the Batesville manufacturing firm. When the local market for yarn diminished, Bates bartered bunch yarn from a schooner wagon in North Carolina and Tennessee and sold the products he received -

skins, rags, meats, etc. from his company store at Batesville.

While Hammett was associated with Bates and Company, the operation grew and finally had 3000 spindles when it was sold to Trenholm, Frasier and Company in 1862. Most sources credit Bates with advising Hammett to buy Garrison Shoals on the Saluda River with part of the money they made from the sale of the mill. Whoever had the foresight, Hammett did buy the site, but the Civil War was in progress and Hammett delayed starting the endeavor until some recovery from the war had taken place. (Bates' 1872 death prevented his seeing his dream of manufacturing on the Saluda materialize.)

Meanwhile, Hammett made other contributions. In 1863, the Hammetts moved to Greenville, first residing on Buncombe Road (now Rutherford Street) and later on Augusta Street where the YWCA stands today. The same year as their move, Hammett enlisted in the Confederate Army and became Quartermaster of the First regiment of South Carolina State Troops. He was stationed in Charleston for a time until ill health necessitated his return home. Soon thereafter, he was named war assessor for Greenville County and served the Confederacy in that capacity until the end of the War.

In Greenville, Hammett soon became involved in his church, Buncombe Street Methodist Episcopal South, and in the community where he was a leader in many worthwhile endeavors. He served one term in the State House of Representatives and one term each as alderman and mayor. He declined to seek re-election each time as he did after serving for four years as president of the Columbia and Greenville Railroad. He may well have chosen not to continue with the railroad and town responsibilities because he felt the time was nearing to start the mill at Garrison Shoals. Hammett was a deliberate man and was probably carefully seeking an auspicious time. Even so, the way was hard and was made more difficult by the Panic of 1873.

In 1903 Orr described Garrison Shoals from the impression of his first visit in 1873: "... there was a small grist mill there and a little log cabin ... in which Judge Langston, the miller lived. The dam was one log to throw the water to the Greenville side of the river. There were no other buildings on the place except an old house where the hotel now stands (1903). A more desolate and uninviting

location, I thought I had never seen." [6]

Such was the place with which Hammett had to work. He had bought out the other Batesville partners' interests and had purchased land to give the plant access to the Columbia and Greenville Railroad when he started raising capital for Piedmont Cotton Mills. On April 30, 1873, the mill was organized with $75,000 capital subscribed. Hammett was chosen president and J. Eli Gregg, J. H. Martin, W. C. Norwood, James Birnie, T. C. Gower, Alex McBee and Hamlin Beattie composed a strong board of directors.

Before the charter authorizing capital of $200,000 could be granted in February 1874, the severe panic of 1873 had struck, "crushing all hope and strangling all enterprise," according to Orr. Building ceased and machinery orders were canceled as some stockholders stopped paying their installments and others sold out at any price they could.

While Hammett waited, he ran or at least cleared the property and figured ways to get up the money. A lesser man might have given up but Colonel Hammett had perseverance, tenacity, and Bates' example for overcoming difficulties. He also had the motivation of believing that devotion to business was the best way to help the poor, displaced and fatherless after the Civil War. The textile business appeared to him the main chance to revitalize the South. [7]

By the fall of 1875, Hammett had collected enough capital to resume construction and renew the machinery order. By March of 1876, the machinery (5000 spindles and 112 looms) was running and so was one of the first scientific mills in the South. It was partially financed somewhat as businesses are today. Hammett had the foresight to get Woodward, Baldwin, and Company to be the exclusive agents for sales, except for the local ones made directly from the factory. Thus the fine but unknown Piedmont products found good acceptance in the New York and Baltimore markets. In return for the sales contract, Piedmont received an immediate advance of $5,000 to operate and the privilege of drawing up to $10,000 a year. The Baldwins not only purchased stock themselves but also sold it in eastern financial circles. [8] A happy marriage had developed.

These days we hear how it will take at least five years for a

new business to earn a dividend but Piedmont paid a seven per cent dividend the December after it opened in March. This immediate success encouraged the sale of stock, and the approval by stockholders of Hammett's plan to increase the capital stock and equip the building with a complete cloth shop of 10,600 spindles and 240 looms. In the 1880's, the continually growing Piedmont was the largest mill in the state. By 1888, it had 61,032 spindles, 1,994 looms, four plants, and capital of $800,000. However, by 1903 the size had been surpassed but not the quality of the products which were respected in the United States and in China. [9]

The immediate success of Piedmont did more than help its employees and stockholders, it inspired others to enter the field of textiles. I once heard a speaker on Greenville textile leaders say that when Hammett was praised for paying 20 per cent dividends that he said: "Oh, any well-run mill can do that..." I do remember that stockholders were always especially happy with their Piedmont dividends. Hence, the precedent of good returns that was set by the founder was continued by his successors, Orr, W. E. Beattie and S. M. Beattie until the firm was sold to J. P. Stevens and Company in 1946.

Around Piedmont was a village with good housing, schools, a library, recreational facilities, and churches. Apparently, Piedmont was a good place to work and live because it attracted and usually kept a well-respected class of workers. They reputedly liked their jobs, the community, and management.

Naturally, Hammett's expertise was sought by others who were venturing into textiles. He was among the group who purchased Camperdown Mills in 1885 and organized a new business with the name of Camperdown Cotton Mills. He served as president and treasurer of the firm until his death in 1891 at which time he was financially interested in many businesses within the state. Jacobs credits Hammett's leadership with the development of a "serviceable and progressive mill village around each enterprise in which he was interested." [10]

Henry Pinckney Hammett joined Henry Grady in the vision that industry would revitalize the South. And he did something about it. He created a mill that proved what could be done, a mill that did

so well that it inspired others to invest in textiles, that trained superintendents to manage the emerging plants and that set an example for selling products in the eastern United States and in the Orient.

The Hammett mills are silent now, but the industrialization H. P. Hammett promoted and the example he set continue and inspire.

Outstanding merits are proclaimed by a monument to Hammett erected by Piedmont Manufacturing Company in Piedmont: "Trusted by his stockholders, beloved by his employees, and respected by all who knew him."

If anything is left to be said, the Hammett family monument in Christ Churchyard speaks it well and simply, "Henry Pinckney Hammett, well done thou good and faithful servant."

Endnotes

[1] Albert N. Sanders, "Greenville and the Southern Tradition," *The Arts in Greenville, 1800-1960*, Albert S. Reid, ed. (Greenville, S.C.: Furman University, 1960), p. 139.

[2] Sanders uses the date the mill actually started operation. Jacobs dates the firm from its incorporation.

[3] William Palmer Jacobs, *The Pioneer*. (Clinton, S.C.: Jacobs and Company Press, 1935), p. 30.

[4] Marjorie W. Young, ed., *Textile Leaders of the South*. (Columbia: R. L. Bryan Company, 1963), p. 505.

[5] James L. Orr, "History of Piedmont," *The Greenville Century Book* by S. S. Crittenden, (Greenville, S.C., 1903), pp. 65-66.

[6] *Ibid.*, p. 66.

[7] J. C. Hemphill, *Men of Mark in South Carolina*. (Washington, S.C.: Men of Mark Publishing Company, 1909), Vol. II, p. 193.

[8] Young, *op. cit.*, p. 504.

[9] Orr, *op. cit.*, p. 67.

[10] Jacobs, *op. cit.*, p. 73.

THE RED BOLLINGS

James F. Richardson*

A clear April day saw the inhabitants of Jamestown attending a singular ceremony, the wedding of John Rolfe and Pocahontas. It was not the first wedding in the New World, but in 1614 a mixed marriage between an Indian princess and a well-bred Englishman created alarm and interest on both sides of the Atlantic.

Pocahontas was born in 1595 or 1596, the daughter of the mighty Powhatan, chief of forty Algonquin villages. Her farther had taken his name from the main village. John Rolfe was the son of Dorothy Mason and Eustacius Rolfe of Heacham, Norfolk, in England. The Reverend Alex Whittaker presided, and Governor Thomas Dale was a special guest.

After the death of Elizabeth I, the end of English struggles with Scotland and Spain freed English capital and manpower for exploration, trade and colonization. English incursions into North America, and those of other countries searching for a Northwest Passage to the Indies, threatened Powhatan's rule. He was unsuccessful in repulsing the 1607 settlement at Jamestown by force of arms, but would have starved the settlers out had not Captain John Smith obtained corn from more distant Indians.

John Smith was exploring and seeking trade when he was captured by one of Powhatan's chiefs, and the fabled story of his salvation by Pocahontas began. It is thought possible that the "sparing of life ritual" was orchestrated by Powhatan as a prelude to Smith being recognized as a friend. It worked on both the Indians and on Smith, who regarded Pocahontas as the savior of his life, and even on later settlers who credited her with warnings of Indian attacks. Later, John Smith was severely injured in a gunpowder explosion. It was feared he would die, but he survived.

In 1613, a newly-arrived ship captain, Samuel Argall, persuaded Pocahontas aboard his ship and carried her off to Jamestown for ransom.

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John Rolfe arrived from England in 1610. In route his ship was wrecked on Bermuda. There his child was born and shortly after died. Soon after arriving at Jamestown his wife died as well. Casting about in his loneliness, he sailed to Trinidad in 1611 and bought tobacco seed which produced a more palatable leaf than the local Virginia variety. This saved the colony financially. Fifty thousand pounds of tobacco were exported in 1618.

John Rolfe and Pocahontas met and fell in love during her forced visit to Jamestown. Governor Sir Thomas Dale, when asked permission for their marriage, agreed seeing the union as a knot to bind the peace between the Indians and the colonists. The Rolfes built a house on the James River, where John raised tobacco and Pocahontas gave birth to their son, Thomas, named after the governor.

Sir Thomas Dale arranged a trip to England with the Rolfes and a retinue of Indians. Pocahontas evidently performed will among her curious English relatives. She tried hard to assimilate the dress and manner of an English lady. Rolfe was appointed secretary and recorder of the colony, and they were soon to return to Jamestown. While waiting to board ship, Pocahontas, whose health had been failing, died. Thomas was left in England to be raised and educated by relatives. Having been baptized as a Christian at Jamestown, Pocahontas was buried at St. George's Church, Gravesend in England, March 21, 1617. Five years later John Rolfe followed his wife in death. It was said, "She died among his people: He was massacred by hers." There is evidence to support his being killed in the massacre of 1622. It seems more likely he died prior to that event of natural causes.

Thomas returned to Virginia in 1635, having been raised and educated by his uncle, Henry Rolfe. All trade and association with the Indians was temporarily prohibited. He petitioned, however, to seek his mother's people and was there well received.

Thomas took up the lands of his father and mother in Virginia and married Jane Poythress, daughter of Francis Poythress, a member of the House of Burgesses. They had one daughter, Jane Rolfe.

Jane Rolfe, granddaughter of Pocahontas, married Col. Robert Bolling in 1675. She died shortly after giving birth to her son, John

Bolling, in 1676. John Bolling is the beginning of the Bolling line, known as the "Red Bollings." After Jane Rolfe Bolling's death, Robert married Ann Stith. They had five sons and two daughters and began the line known as the "White Bollings." Robert Bolling would be the seventh great-grandfather of those in Greenville County who have linear connections.

The first recorded appearance of the name "Bolling" was in 1086. Robert's ancestry can be traced through recorded charts and deeds in Yorkshire, England, to 1165. Bolling Hall in Bradford, Yorkshire, is the ancestral seat of the Bollings. Tristram Bolling's son, Edward, by his second marriage was the descending line to Robert Bolling, who sailed to the New World to seek his fortune at the tender age of fourteen, which he did successfully. He was a highly regarded citizen, militiaman, member of the House of Burgesses, and the first of the Bolling line in this country.

Robert Bolling's plantation, called Kippax, was on the side of the James River near Petersburg. John Bolling lived at Cobbs. His plantation on the Appomattox River was also near Petersburg. William Byrd of Westover called it one the best homes in the country.

William Bolling of Bolling Hall had two deaf daughters and brought the Scottish teacher, John Brainwood, to Virginia to educate them and in time established the first school for the deaf in America at Cobbs Plantation.

Thomas Bolling's brother, the William Bolling whose line we are following, inherited Cobbs. Three of his four children and two grandchildren were deaf and mute. It will be noted that he married his first cousin, Elizabeth Gay. Prior to and after his time, unions with cousins, especially with the Randolph family, were frequently seen. Cobbs Plantation did not survive the Civil War, having been burned by the Union troops.

John Bolling, Jr., a member of the militia and the House of Burgesses, married Elizabeth Blair and contributed mightily to the Virginia population with twenty-two children, one of which was William. William was the eldest and received vast lands in present-day Henry County. He married Amelia Randolph (again a cousin) on January 1, 1755, at Curles Neck Plantation, the family home of the

Randolphs. They lived in Henry County on the land of his inheritance and a large tract from her father in the same area. This was also a time of great movement south and west, clearing land for cultivation and travel. One route used was known as "Bolling's Path." Such paths were eventually widened for horses and carts.

William Bolling joined the troopers as a sergeant and was with George Washington in the French and Indian War in 1757. Eighteen years later he took allegiance against George III and enlisted with his three sons in the Henry County militia. It is recorded that Colonel William Bolling died in service in 1776.

William's son, Samuel Bolling, had joined the Henry County militia in 1775 along with his father and two brothers, John and Archibald. Also appearing on the list were Tully Choice, Sr. and his two sons, Tully, Jr. and William Choice.

Tully Choice was soon to be Samuel Bolling's brother-in-law. At the age of nineteen, Samuel married Abigail Choice. On September 6, 1780, Samuel and Abigail sold 207 acres on Snow Creek in Henry County. They joined with other relatives and friends, Choice and Tarrant, and headed south. The upper counties of South Carolina were settled mostly by Virginians. In the years 1784-1786, Samuel took up state land grants in the Ninety-Six District (later Laurens and Greenville Counties). He had two tracts on Rabon Creek below the Indian Boundary Line, one bordering his brother-in-law, Tully Choice, Jr. He had two other tracts totaling 1,024 acres. He was said to have built the first frame house in the upper part of South Carolina. He became a prosperous farmer and had ten children, one of whom was Tully Bolling, father of Thaddeus Bolling, who built the house at Tullyton Plantation. Abigail and Samuel are buried off Marlar Road, approximately three miles south of Tullyton. The old box graves with marble tops are all that remains on the site today. His name appears on the Lebanon Church Monument of Revolutionary soldiers. Tully Choice is buried one-and-a-half miles south of Tullyton on Craigo Road. Tully Bolling married Catherine Gaines. They had one child, Thaddeus.

Catherine Gaines is said to have died at her own hand at age thirty-six without further issue. Tully Bolling then married Mary Anne Mims with multiple issue. Two daughters married men from

Florida, and Tully developed extensive pursuits there including orange groves on the site of the present Disney World complex. He acquired the land that became Tullyton Plantation in 1839 and sold it to his son Thaddeus on the same day. He was interested in education and contributed to the establishment of the Greenville Female Academy. He was involved in the social and business life of Greenville Village and was credited with the prevention of a duel during a political discussion at the Mansion house in 1831. He died in 1844 and is buried along with his first wife, Catherine, at Fork Shoals Church Cemetery.

Thaddeus Choice Bolling built the present house at Tullyton Plantation and married Louisa Ware in 1840, taking residence that year. They had four children, two sons and two daughters. It was a tragic family in that Robert Tully was drowned in the St. Johns River while helping manage the family affairs in Florida. T. C. Bolling's second son, Pendleton, left Furman without graduating to join the Confederate forces. He was killed probably in the Wilderness Campaign, but the records are unclear. One daughter died in childbirth, and it is suggested that the other may have married a physical abuser.

Thaddeus Choice Bolling, despite the tragedies of his family, continued to expand his business interests in Greenville County, in Edgefield County, and in Florida. He became postmaster of Tullyton Post Office until its transfer to Cedar Falls in 1849. Tully Sullivan had been the first postmaster in 1820. At that time the post office was probably in the smaller structure, now in ruins, behind the present house. By T. C. Bolling's time, the post office was probably in the brick room of the main house.

T. C. Bolling sold the plantation to the Rev. Charles B. Stewart in 1859 and moved to Greenville, where he died in 1866. He and his wife Louisa, who outlived him many years, are buried in Springwood Cemetery.

The Bolling name is now extinct in this area. Many of Samuel's other male children moved west with the depletion of the land in 1820-1840 by poor agricultural practices.

AN ACCOUNT OF GREENVILLE DURING THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES AND RECONSTRUCTION

John B. McLeod*

Although Greenville County contained a number of citizens opposed to secession from the United States, once war broke out, Greenville County was a staunch supporter of the Confederacy. This sentiment was best reflected by a statement from one of Greenville's leading citizens, Benjamin F. Perry, a strong Unionist, when he wrote his friend James L. Petigru: "South Carolina is going to the devil and I am going with her." As discussed in this article, Greenville provided more than its share of soldiers to the South's armies and also provided substantial logistical support for the Southern cause as well.

Fortunately for its inhabitants, Greenville did not suffer greatly from marauding Yankees (except for Stoneman's raid in May of 1865) and was thus able to enjoy a mild prosperity during the otherwise dark days of Reconstruction. Even though Greenville was occupied by Federal troops, it was spared the violence associated with the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. In fact, Greenville prospered enough that a bridge was built over the Reedy River, a bank was opened, another railroad came into town and its citizens enjoyed enough leisure time to form a literary society.

A Call to Arms

After secession, both the state and Confederate governments vigorously set about raising levies of troops. Greenville responded to the call. From the outset, Benjamin F. Perry was instrumental in raising volunteer troops for Confederate service. In May of 1861, Perry addressed several hundred men at a militia muster which resulted in the formation of two volunteer companies. Although Perry was successful in forming a volunteer company from the Pine Mountain area and a company of artillery from the upper part of Greenville District, he had no luck raising troops from the men of the Dark Corner, the firmest Union stronghold in the district.[1]

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Although Greenville at the time had a white population of approximately 14,500, it contributed over 2,000 of its men to the armies of the Confederacy. Two South Carolina regiments, the 4th South Carolina Volunteers and the 16th South Carolina Volunteers, were composed mainly of soldiers from Greenville District. In addition, Greenville furnished the "Butler Guards" (consisting of a number of leading citizens) to the 2nd South Carolina Volunteers. It is estimated that Greenville sent at least ten companies to the Confederate armies. Many of the Greenville units boasted rather colorful titles such as the "McCullough Lions," "Croft Mountain Rangers," the "Furman Guards," and the "Tyger Volunteers."

In addition to supplying soldiers for the cause, Greenville also became an important manufacturing center which produced supplies vital to the prosecution of the War. For instance, the firm of Gower, Cox & Gower furnished its entire output of wagons to the Ordnance and Quartermaster Departments of the Confederate Army.[2] Greenville was also a source of arms and munitions as a result of the construction of the State Military Works on twenty acres of land (given by Vardry McBee) near the Greenville and Columbia Railroad. The State of South Carolina spent over $500,000 on the Greenville Works and an inventory in the latter part of 1863 placed the value of the plant at $283,000. By the fall of 1862, the State Works were well established and engaged in manufacturing shot and shell, gun carriages, caissons and ammunition chest, pikes, rammers, railroad spikes, and rails as well as other equipment. Orders were given for the manufacturing of revolving cannon although it is not known if any were actually built. By April of 1863, the Morse Carbine Plant was in operation and turned out about 1,000 carbines; these weapons were unique in being breechloaders which fired a brass center-fired cartridge described by Governor Milledge Luke Bonham as "the best cavalry weapon in use."[3]

Private manufacturing concerns in Greenville also contributed to the War effort. These included the Batesville Cotton Factory and three other small textile plants located in the county which manufactured goods exclusively for the Army. The Reedy River Factory, owned by Grady Hawthorne & Perry, made cotton and woolen cloth, paper, and milled wheat. Hodges Davis & Co. made

shoes and Lester Brothers made cotton cloth on the Enoree River at Pelham. Greenville District also contained about 15 tanyards which, if sufficient leather had been available, could have produced 200 pairs of shoes a day.[4]

The ladies of the District also contributed mightily to the War effort. Soon after the fall of Fort Sumter, the Ladies Association in Aid of Confederate Volunteers was formed with gifts of money and in kind contributions from such luminaries as Vardry McBee and Dr. James Petigru Boyce among others. After only six months of operation, this organization of worthy matrons had shipped off a vast amount of supplies to various hospitals including six Bibles, nine Testaments, 25 pounds of soap and 100 bottles of wine, brandies, and cordials. The president of the Association was Mrs. Perry E. Duncan and the vice-president was Mrs. W. Pinckney McBee.[5]

According to an account written by Jane Carson Brunson in 1899, the ladies of Greenville met at McBee's Hall and in the basement of the Baptist Church to form sewing circles for the soldiers. An old English tailor, Mr. Bussy, helped the ladies make fatigue uniforms for two companies from town. Mrs. Brunson remembered that the ladies of Greenville made nice buckskin gloves and also remembered that indigo was used for dyeing wool and cotton. Wool was in ample supply because a family from Virginia had brought a flock of sheep to Greenville. Gray cloth for uniforms was made from a combination of blue wool, black wool and white wool which was corded together, spun by hand and woven on a slate-colored chain of cotton thread, "making a fine cloth for the loved ones who stood on guard through storms of sleet and snow."[6]

In addition, the Ladies' Aid Association established a hospital located in the Academy. The ladies also looked after wounded soldiers at the Confederate Hospital located in the Goodlett House at the corner of Main and Washington Streets. The story is told of one lady who was asked by a sick soldier to bring him some "tater custard"; after she got permission from the doctor, she "provided the man with the most dainty looking sweet potato custard, which he ate with great relish."[7]

LIFE ON THE HOME FRONT

Life in Greenville seemed to continue pretty much as usual during the War. Although prices for food and other commodities were very high and most of the stores were closed during the balance of the War, the people of Greenville seemed to find time for entertainment in addition to the diversion provided by the activities of the Ladies Aid Association.

As noted by Lillian Kibler in her biography of Governor Perry, life in Greenville revolved around the War. The chief interest of the people was hearing news of battles and, since there was no telegraph or daily newspaper in town, crowds gathered at the railroad station every afternoon to await the train from Columbia. Newspapers from Columbia often gave them the first information of the death or wounding of loved ones in the fighting. During the latter part of the war, Dr. E. T. Buist, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, stood on the railroad platform and read the casualty list in a loud and clear voice. On the same platform were placed the pine coffins of the Confederate dead waiting to be claimed by their relatives.[8] The railroad depot was located on the site of present-day Greenville High School.

An interesting account of everyday life in Greenville was given in a letter written by a slave named Eliza (through her friend Frank) in April of 1864. Eliza stated that "I think we both white and colored ought to pray for peace for if we don't it will bring starvation into our land. We can find nothing in our town to eat but rice. Our money won't buy one pound of sugar for $20.00." Eliza goes on to complain of foraging Confederate soldiers who had come through town and taken everything in sight. For instance, she described a group of soldiers who "not only take what they wanted to eat but they took up carpet, silver spoons and the castors off the table and if this crowd does as others did I think they will allmost [sic] strip Greenville." Eliza also mentions the passage of a large body of Confederate troops through Greenville on the preceding Sunday consisting of over 2,000 soldiers and 150 wagons as well as five large cannons.[9]

At least in the early part of the war, life was rather carefree in Greenville. The ubiquitous Mary Boykin Chesnut passed through

Greenville in the first part of August 1862 on her way to Flat Rock, North Carolina. Mrs. Chesnut wrote that she had good rooms at the hotel (probably the Mansion House) and went to dinner alone in an "immense dining room" but soon ran into many friends. She recounted an embarrassing episode in which she told a Mrs. Ives about Governor Pickens' wife complaining to President Jefferson Davis about making so many northerners into southern generals and then, to her utter dismay, realized that Mrs. Ives' husband was from New York City. Mrs. Chesnut also described the antics of Senator Thomas J. Semmes of Louisiana who entertained the dinnertime crowd by dancing a "hoedown" and a "grapevine twist." Another lady present at the table applauded the Senator and said: "The honorable Senator from Louisiana has the floor!"[10]

As a result of the siege of Charleston and occupation of the sea islands, a number of women, children and older men sought refuge in Greenville and the surrounding area. As a result, prices of everything went up. One of these refugees was Caroline Howard Gilman whose letters to her children and friends provide some insight into everyday life.[11] For instance, Mrs. Gilman wrote that the blacks in Greenville did not seem to be bothered by the War at all. She wrote: "Like other refugees, they are mending up their old clothes, but they are not yet losing fathers and brothers like the whites. The same merry laugh is heard, the same willing labor seen."[12] Writing on Christmas Day of 1864, Mrs. Gilman stated that an India rubber round comb cost $20.00, a pair of wire knitting needles cost $1.50, a pair of leather shoes for a child cost $10.00 and men's shoes ran $90.00.[13]

Mrs. Gilman gave an interesting account of a visit to General Waddy Thompson who was living on Paris Mountain. She wrote that General Thompson was a great spiritualist and that his second wife was a medium and they kept up a constant communication with his late first wife. He read two short poems purportedly from his first wife. His favorite possession was not the many mementoes from his travels, particularly as ambassador to Mexico, but was an ivory likeness of his first wife.[14]

Julie Smyth, another refugee, wrote often to her fiancee, Henry Fielden. In one letter dated October 19, 1864, Julie tells

Henry, who was then in Summerville, what Greenville life was like: "Each day is pretty much the same. We have only to beat and beat the beaten track. The little family feuds and extraordinary summons that you laugh at the only excitement that we have." In another letter, Julie told Henry that it was very solemn at home, but goes on to state that "I am going to be very dissipated this week, spent last evening out and am going tonight to Mrs. Jervey's by an especial invitation and Saturday evening somewhere else."[15]

Despite the absence of many men serving in the Army, the churches in Greenville carried on during the War. In 1864, at Christ Church, there were 59 white and 5 colored families for a total of 103 communicants. A number of refugees from the coast also participated in services.[16] The War had an adverse effect on the Methodist Church which had raised over $8,000 for the erection of a new church. As a result of the War, the congregation was required to worship in the old church building. The Reverend S. J. Hill wrote in November of 1861 that Sunday School was held at 9:00 in the morning, a service was held for the white members at 10:00, a service was held for the colored people at 3:00 and another service was held for the whites at night. As reported by the Reverend Frederick Auld in November of 1862, the night services were discontinued because of the scarcity and high price of lights.[17]

There was very little legal business that went on in Greenville during the War. Confederate court, presided over by Judge Andrew G. Magrath, was held in Greenville every February and August. In March of 1862, Benjamin Perry was appointed District Attorney and occupied his time in bringing cases under the Confiscation Act which provided for the sequestration of debts and property belonging to alien enemies, i.e., Yankees. At the first term, Perry prosecuted enough "aliens" to make a handsome sum in fees. The Executive Council of South Carolina passed a law in 1862 which prohibited liquor distillation (except in contracts with the Confederate government). During one week, Perry prosecuted some 400 or 500 offenders. In March of 1863, Perry wrote that he was making $5.00 to $10.00 a day from his law business.[18]

RUMORS OF WAR AND THE PROBLEM OF DESERTERS

Although Greenville was far inland and protected by

mountains to the north, it was not long after the opening of hostilities that there was concern about an invasion by Northern forces. In early September of 1861, it was reported "that a scheme for the invasion of North Carolina by a Lincoln force marching through East Tennessee has been detected and exposed." It was also reported that the enemy force, under Major Robert Anderson of Fort Sumter fame, "aided by deluded Kentuckians," planned to invade Asheville and then take Greenville on its way to Columbia or Atlanta. The local newspaper insisted that no more troops from this area should be sent to Virginia and "[o]ur regiments and companies organized should be kept in readiness and in such position as to be available at the right point without a moment's delay."[19] Fortunately, nothing came of this rumor and all was quiet on the military front in Greenville for some two years.

In late October of 1863, there was an engagement at Warm Springs, North Carolina, between a small force of Confederate soldiers and a force of some 500 Federals, consisting mainly of "renegade Tennesseans and North Carolinians, mixed with some Yankees." They were said to have four pieces of artillery. In a very brief skirmish, the commander of the Confederate forces was killed and a number of his men captured. This caused a great alarm among the citizens of Asheville who then wrote to some leading citizens of Greenville asking for help. This resulted in a visit by George F. Townes to Governor Bonham in Columbia on October 27 who pointed out that "the temptation to attack and destroy the various factories, iron works, and mills in the districts of Spartanburg and Greenville, as well as the State Armory at the town of Greenville, is a great one to the enemy, and they are fully apprised of the condition of our section." Colonel Townes noted "the helpless and defenseless state of our section, owing to the want of arms and any sort of organization, and the impossibility of immediate remedy" and asked for a small force to secure the mountain passes. Two days later, Waddy Thompson and John W. Grady visited Governor Bonham and pointed out the threat to the Armory as well as cotton factories in Greenville and emphasized that "the lower portion of the State must mainly depend on the upper districts for provisions..."[20]

Governor Bonham forwarded these pleas to General P.G.T.

Beauregard in Charleston requesting a regiment of cavalry and other assistance. Governor Bonham himself ordered Captain Edward M. Boykin to Greenville with his force of cavalry. General Beauregard ordered a regiment of soldiers under Colonel Williams to report to Greenville and also ordered Captain Bachman's company of light artillery to go to Greenville. Captain Boykin arrived in Greenville and expressed his opinion that there was "some exaggeration" in the reports received.[21] Apparently, the offensive Federals withdrew and Greenville was spared for the time being.

Things heated up again in early February of 1864. Major John D. Ashmore, who commanded the Post at Greenville, reported to General Beauregard that the enemy was again active in Western North Carolina. Major Ashmore went into action immediately and sent out an advance guard from Captain Boykin's troop to determine the state of affairs. There was a battle in Jackson County, North Carolina, between some 600 federal soldiers who were accompanied by artillery and a small unit of Confederate Indians commanded by Colonel Thomas which resulted in a severe defeat for the Confederates.[22]

Major Ashmore in Greenville was of the opinion that this skirmish was part of a reconnaissance to determine if it was feasible to move into South Carolina. Major Ashmore attempted to organize a company of home guards for the defense of Greenville which was supported by a proclamation from the Intendant. However, the citizens of Greenville felt that the alarm was a "humbug" and no one turned out for a muster held on Saturday, February 13. Major Ashmore wrote to General Beauregard asking for assistance and pointed out that "the large interests, both public and private, at this point, are the great attraction and more real injury could be inflicted upon the government and the people by the destruction of Greenville, its large workshops, manufacturing establishments, railroads, State Armory etc. than at any point west of Raleigh, Columbia and Augusta." Major Ashmore was apparently an aggressive sort because he requested a cavalry corps with artillery so that, not only could he repulse the enemy from Greenville, he would be "capable of whipping them soundly and bagging the whole concern ...." A week or so later, General Beauregard sent a dispatch stating that he

approved of the views expressed by Major Ashmore but was unable to send him any additional force of cavalry but could spare two companies if danger threatened.[23]

Although the dire consequences predicted by Major Ashmore did not come to pass, a greater threat to the peace arose from the activities of a number of deserters and men avoiding conscription in the remote areas of Greenville County. The ranks of these outlaws were increased by deserters from the Sixteenth Regiment when it was ordered from Charleston to Mississippi in 1863 and, by February of 1864, a number of soldiers from several other South Carolina regiments had also deserted. This situation was described as a "most lamentable and fearful condition of affairs in the mountains of Greenville, Pickens, and Spartanburg counties." Commandant C. D. Melton wrote that there were few families in this section which had "not a husband, a son, a brother, or kinsman, a deserter in the mountains" and it was no longer considered shameful to be known as a deserter.[24] In August of 1863, the intrepid Major Ashmore compiled a list of 502 deserters in the local area. Major Ashmore reported that the outlaws had erected a log stockade at Gowensville and requested a cannon to reduce this fortification.[25]

Disloyalty also increased among other citizens of Greenville County. A good example of the anti-Confederate spirit was the situation of a federal officer who was assisted in escaping from the Greenville jail by the Unionist jailer.[26] Mann Batson tells the story of another federal officer who escaped from prison camp near Columbia and made his way through upper Greenville County. This officer was put in touch with "a camp of Outliers, made up of rebel deserters, and Union men who had never been in the Confederate Army, who were living in caves in the mountains to avoid being captured and shot or taken into the army by a company of rangers in the Confederate service, employed to capture or shoot these men." A number of this group went with the Union officer through the mountains to Tennessee.[27]

"Lord Jesus the Yankees are Coming!" Stoneman's Raiders Pillage Greenville

For a brief period of time, Greenville became the seat of government for the State of South Carolina. Governor A. G.

Magrath, who barely got out of town when Columbia was invaded by General Sherman, moved his headquarters to this city. Governor Magrath summoned the Legislature to meet in Greenville on April 25 but no business was transacted due to a lack of a quorum.[28] However, The Citadel's Board of Visitors was apparently made of sterner stuff than the members of the General Assembly. On April 27, 1865, the Board of Visitors, consisting of Governor Magrath, General J. W. Harrison and Colonel A. P. Aldrich, made plans for increasing the number of Cadets at both The Citadel (which was occupied by federal troops) and the Arsenal (which had been destroyed by fire during the burning of Columbia).[29]

On May 2, 1865, several hundred federal cavalrymen from Gen. Stoneman's command, under the command of Major James Lawson, came down from Asheville to pay a visit to Greenville even though General Lee and General Johnston had surrendered weeks earlier. Caroline Gilman and her family were sitting down for dinner and looking forward to enjoying a roast pig when one of their servants called out "Lord Jesus, the Yankees are coming!" The first thing the Yankees did was shoot at a free black man and take his horse. The Gilman household was treated rather well because a Lieutenant West posted a guard which kept the raiders away. The raiders cleaned out the commissary stores, stole $35,000.00 in silver belonging to the Bank of Charleston which Hamlin Beattie had hidden in his store and took all the clothing from the Ladies Aid Association Hospital. The raiders then turned their attention to property belonging to the refugees which had been stored in empty stores on Main Street.[30]

Lieutenant West returned to the Gilman house for supper which was served by Ms. Gilman's daughter although the family did not join the officer. After finishing his meal, Lieutenant West asked the ladies: "Why are we engaged in this War?" One of the Gilman's replied, "To subjugate us and free our slaves." Lieutenant West responded by stating that "you never were more mistaken, we do not want to subjugate you, nor do we want to touch a Negro or your institution. The United States only wants her own territory and she will have it!" Lieutenant West expressed his disapproval of the behavior of General Sherman and stated that he had never harmed a

woman or child himself.[31]

Other residents of Greenville were not treated as well as Mrs. Gilman. Dr. J.P. Boyce and his house suffered a great deal because his house was plundered and his broadcloth cloak was taken from him at gunpoint by one of the raiders. This treatment of Dr. Boyce is surprising because he was described as a "Union man." A horse and carriage belonging to Mrs. Butler, the mother of General Matthew C. Butler, was taken from her and she asked Benjamin F. Perry to help her recover it. They went to see Dr. Boyce who stated that he would introduce her to the General as a sister of Commodore Perry and this would get her property back. Mrs. Butler replied: "Don't introduce me as a sister of Commodore Perry, introduce me as the mother of General Butler and six other Confederate soldiers." She got her horse and carriage back.[32]

Mrs. Butler was not the only one who sought to recover stolen property from the Federals. There is a petition in the Caroliniana Library signed by Benjamin F. Perry, Alexander McBee, James P. Boyce and a number of other notables seeking the return of their horses and slaves. Each of the gentlemen subscribed this petition and detailed their missing property.[33] There is no record of any reply to this petition.

Mrs. Gilman wrote that Frank Porcher, her son-in-law, returned to Greenville from serving in the Confederate Army and set about earning a living. He and one Mr. Stoney borrowed several hundred dollars, went to Charleston, and spent it in buying coffee, herring and dry goods. He and Willie Glover opened up a shop on Main Street which featured two dozen trimmed hats as well as food.[34] This resulted in an amusing incident in which two girls entered the store dressed in homespun with sunbonnets on. They fell in love with the straw hats trimmed with red feathers and were told by Frank that they cost $5.00 apiece (an exorbitant amount). One of the girls bent down, raised her dress, turned down her stocking and handed out the money in greenback dollars. Mrs. Gilman dryly points out that there was no federal money in circulation in Greenville since the garrison had been there only two days so the greenbacks told their own "sad story." In this regard, when the garrison arrived, there was no outburst of any sort of feeling, just curiosity on the part of the

blacks and "a grave stolidity" on the part of the whites.[35]

Life Under the Federal Occupation

As noted above, the federal troops assigned to the garrison at Greenville quickly acquainted themselves with the local residents. The garrison had an encampment near the Academy Spring at the rear of the Female College. The troops assisted the federal marshal and helped to maintain order among the newly freed blacks. In May of 1867, the garrison was transferred to Newberry.[36]

In addition to the establishment of a garrison for a short period of time, the federal government opened an office of the Freedmen's Bureau in Greenville shortly after the close of hostilities. Some of the best observations on life in Greenville in the early days of Reconstruction were given by Major John William DeForest, the Bureau officer assigned to Greenville in October of 1866. Major DeForest notes that Greenville was a very pleasant town for such an assignment:

> In population and wealth Greenville was then the third town in South Carolina, ranking next after Charleston and Columbia. It boasted an old and a new courthouse, four churches and several chapels, a university (not the largest in the world), a female college (also not unparalleled), two or three blocks of stores, one of the best country hotels then in the South, quite a number of comfortable private residences, 1500 whites and a thousand or so of other colors.[37]

Major DeForest boarded at the Mansion House which provided him with three excellent meals a day. Despite being a Yankee officer, Major DeForest was invited to join a literary club which had weekly essays and discussions and also provided the public with lectures; in addition, the club boasted a reading room and a list of some 30 American and English periodicals. This caused him to note that "Southern society has a considerable element which is bookish, if not literary."[38]

Major DeForest was also a keen observer of the local

population. He pointed out that women of "the low-down breed were seen smoking pipes and dressed in the coarsest and dirtiest of homespun clothing." On the other hand, "the young ladies of the respectable class were remarkably tall, fully and finely formed, with good complexions, and of a high average in regard to beauty. The men were of corresponding stature, but in general disproportionately slender and haggard from overuse of tobacco. At least half of the villagers and nearly all of the country people wore gray or butternut homespun; even Governor Perry, the great man of the place, had his homespun suit and occasionally attended court in it."[39]

One institution which struggled to survive after the War was the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dr. John Albert Broadus, head of the Seminary, wrote that enrollment had greatly diminished to the point where he had one student in his course on homiletics and that student was blind. An anecdote involving Dr. Broadus illustrates the fact that little had changed after the War and emancipation: "One morning a Greenville Negro met Doctor Broadus on the street and said 'Good morning, Mr. Broadus,' with a stiff air. But he soon caught himself and doffed his hat with a hearty 'Howdy, Marse Jeems' as he was wont to call Dr. Broadus."[40] Caroline Gilman wrote that her servants, some 20 in number, were respectful even after emancipation.

Life Returns to Normal

After the withdrawal of federal troops from Greenville, the economy began to recover somewhat. Perhaps the most significant change in agriculture was the transition from the growing of grain to fairly extensive cotton production; this change was probably due to the fact that the market for grain had greatly contracted and the availability of new phosphate fertilizers made it profitable to farm worn-out land. A traveler from the North, visiting Greenville in the early 1870's, noted that "[a]ll along the highways leading into Greenville cotton whitened the fields; although it was late November, there were immense fields yet to pick; and I was told that the whole crop is often not all picked before the advent of the spring months." This visitor also commented upon the first "Agricultural Fair" held in Greenville to promote farming.[41]

Another form of agricultural endeavor, moonshining,

flourished for a number of years in Greenville County, particularly in the "Dark Corner." In a speech given after the War, Benjamin F. Perry lamented the tax imposed by the federal government on distillers and pointed out to the inhabitants of the "Dark Corner" that "[i]t was almost the only means you had of converting corn into money." There are a number of accounts of raids on illegal distillers but perhaps the most vigorous enforcement of the law was carried out by a troop of United States Cavalry in 1872 which resulted in the arrest of four men and the confiscation of 500 gallons of contraband whiskey. On another occasion, a Greenville citizen had the United States Deputy Marshal arrested for assault with a deadly weapon; it appears that the Deputy Marshal invaded the house of one Mr. Bell and proceeded to pistolwhip him in the presence of his wife.[42]

During the latter part of Reconstruction, commerce in Greenville was greatly facilitated by the advent of the Air Line Railway and the opening of the National Bank by Hamlin Beattie in 1872. The West End of Greenville was opened up by the construction of a bridge over the Reedy River known as the Gower Bridge because it was constructed under the mayoral administration of Thomas C. Gower. The textile industry revived with the construction of several new mills. For instance, the Piedmont Manufacturing Company built a mill on the Saluda River and created the town of Piedmont. Two Camperdown Mills also went into operation in this time period.[43]

The culmination of the Reconstruction era occurred during the gubernatorial campaign between General Wade Hampton and carpetbag Governor Daniel H. Chamberlain. General Hampton and his entourage arrived in Greenville in early September of 1876 and a huge procession was held, consisting of a number of militia units and cavalry, to take the speakers from the Mansion House to Furman. After the speeches had been given, a torchlight procession was held through the town where "[t]he houses, stores and streets [were] lighted as with silvery splendor from top to bottom. Mounted men passing in seemingly endless succession, and as they go, a thousand shouts at one time were in the air - sky rockets bursting and the city shaken with the loud mouthed cannons! To add to these a thousand Chinese lanterns beautify every square!" [44]

Thus it was that Greenville passed from the dark days of Reconstruction into the light of the New South.

ENDNOTES

[1] Lillian A. Kibler, *Benjamin F. Perry: South Carolina Unionist* (Durham, N.C., 1946), 351-352.

[2] James M. Richardson, *History of Greenville County, South Carolina* (Atlanta, 1930), 85-86.

[3] William B. Edwards, *Civil War Guns* (Secaucus, New Jersey, 1982), 380-381.

[4] Alfred W. G. Davis, Letterbook of Post Quarter Master, Greenville, S.C., South Caroliniana Library (Paper presented to The Club of Thirty-Nine by E. D. Sloan, Jr., January 25, 1996).

[5] *Charleston Mercury*, Jan. 10, 1862.

[6] Jane Carson Brunson, "A Sketch of the Work at Greenville," in Mrs Thomas Taylor, et al., eds., *South Carolina Women in the Confederacy* (Columbia, 1903), 26-27

[7] *Ibid.*

[8] Kibler, *Perry*, 367.

[9] Anonymous letter, April 9, 1864, written from Greenville by Frank for Eliza, a slave, South Caroliniana Library. It would have been rather unusual for such a large body of troops to pass through Greenville on foot. Although the identity of the units involved is not known, it is likely that this was a portion of Longstreet's Corps on its way from fighting in East Tennessee to rejoin the Army of Northern Virginia.

[10] C. Vann Woodward, ed., *Mary Chesnut's Civil War* (New Haven and London, 1981), 422-423. Senator Semmes was in Greenville to visit his sister but the Senator spent a good deal of his time visiting with Benjamin F. Perry reading newspapers and smoking cigars.

[11] Caroline Howard Gilman, the Boston-born widow of Charleston Unitarian Minister Samuel Gilman, was a prolific writer of essays and correspondence, in particular, she was a strong defender of the institution of slavery and "remained strongly convinced that the plantation system nourished a communitarian ethic inherently more virtuous than the burgeoning individualism she identified in the North." Elizabeth Moss, *Domestic Novelists in the Old South: Defenders of Southern Culture* (Baton Rouge, 1992), 66.

[12] Gilman to children, August 21, 1863, Caroline Gilman Papers, S.C. Historical Society, Charleston, S.C.

[13] Gilman to children, December 25, 1864, S.C. Historical Society.

[14] Gilman to children, August 21, 1863, S.C. Historical Society.

[15] Julie Smyth to Henry Fielden, October 18, 1864 and October 12, 1864, Smyth-Fielden Letters, S.C. Historical Society, Charleston, S.C.

[16] A.S. Thomas, *The Episcopal Church in South Carolina* (Columbia

1957).

[17] A. M. Moseley, *The Buncombe Street Story* (Greenville, 1965), 25-26.

[18] Kibler, *Perry*, 353 and 368-369.

[19] *The Patriot and Mountaineer*, Greenville, S.C., September 5, 1861.

[20] *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (Washington, D.C., 1880-1901), Series I, 28: 445-458 (hereinafter cited as *O.R.*).

[21] *Ibid.*, 458-459.

[22] *O.R.*, Series I, 32: 749.

[23] *Ibid.*, 746-748.

[24] Albert B. Moore, *Conscription and Conflict in the Confederacy* (New York, 1924), 219-222.

[25] David Duncan Wallace, *The History of South Carolina* (New York, 1934), III, 188. There appears to be some dispute about the number of cannons requested by Major Ashmore. Mr. E.D. Sloan, Jr. asserts in his paper on the *Post Quarter Master;* op. cit., that Major Ashmore requested three cannon and had some dispute with Major Davis about obtaining them.

[26] A.V. Huff, Jr., *Greenville: The History of the City and County in the South Carolina Piedmont* (Columbia, 1995), 142.

[27] Mann Batson, *A History of the Upper Part of Greenville County, South Carolina* (Taylors, South Carolina, 1993), 434-436.

[28] Charles E. Cauthen, *South Carolina Goes to War, 1860-1865*, (Chapel Hill, 1950), 228.

[29] Oliver J. Bond, *The Story of The Citadel* (Richmond, 1936), 83-84.

[30] Caroline Gilman to Eliza, June 2 and 5, 1865, S.C. Historical Society. Apparently, there was only one casualty of the infamous raid; Joseph Choice was shot down by a group of raiders as he tried to prevent them from taking one of his horses.

[31] *Ibid.* Mrs. Gilman saw that the dinner did not go to waste. Upon returning to the house, she "saw Sophy, the cat, discussing roast pig with a great relish, and feeling faint, I followed her laudable example." Perhaps the remains of the roast pig were served to the federal lieutenant that night.

[32] Hugh C. Haynsworth, *Haynsworth - Furman and Related Families* (Columbia, 1942), 100-101. Jane Tweedy Butler was born in Rhode Island in 1799 and died in Greenville in 1875. She was the sister of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry who was the victor of the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812 and Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry who opened Japan up to foreign trade in the 1850's.

[33] Petition from B. F. Perry et al., Greenville, S.C., May 4, 1865, South Caroliniana Library Manuscript Collection.

[34] Caroline Gilman to Eliza, July 17, 1865, S.C. Historical Society.

[35] Caroline Gilman to Eliza, August 5, 1865, S.C. Historical Society.

[36] Huff, *Greenville*, 156. According to Dr. Huff, the occupation began with the arrival of federal troops on September 26, 1866. However, in her letter of August 5, 1865, Mrs. Gilman states that the garrison had arrived three weeks earlier.

and that the people of Greenville still walked on the other side of the street from the troops.

[37] John William DeForest, *A Union Officer in the Reconstruction*, ed., James H. Coushore and David M. Potter (New Haven: 1948), 1.

[38] *Ibid.*, 45, 47.

[39] *Ibid.*, 45.

[40] Archibald T. Robertson, *Life and Letters of John Albert Broadus* (Philadelphia, 1901), 214-216.

[41] Edward King, *The Great South* (New York, 1875), II, 517.

[42] Batson, *A History of the Upper Part of Greenville County, South Carolina*, 459, 492-496.

[43] Judith G. Bainbridge, *Greenville's West End* (Greenville, 1995), 9, 15.

[44] *Enterprise & Mountaineer*, September 13, 1876.

THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE IN GREENVILLE COUNTY

George M. Grimball*

I would like to talk about medicine in the earliest days of Greenville County before the Revolutionary War and up to the beginnings of organized medicine, and also about some of the attempts at forming hospitals before the Greenville General and St. Francis Hospitals came into being.

It's obvious I cannot discuss all aspects of this subject, but I would like to discuss some of the areas I know something about from hearing my father and others of his generation talk about the "good old days," and from reading such books as *A Medical History of Greenville County* by Dr. J. Decherd Guess, *The First Eighty Years of the Greenville Hospital System* by Dave Partridge, and various articles in our medical library.

Perhaps the source which has helped me the most is two articles written by Dr. J. K. Webb, a general surgeon and a member of this Society. His paper, "The History of Medicine in Our County," given here some years ago, and "The General Hospital System," written for our State medical journal, show a depth of research and a labor of love.

I enjoyed reading A. V. Huff, Jr.'s recent book, *Greenville: The History of the City and County in the South Carolina Piedmont*, and while there was not a great deal in it about medicine, it made me feel very humble to read about those early settlers who struggled through wars and depressions and epidemics and disease to lay the foundations for our affluent situation today.

Dr. Frontis Johnson, professor of history at Davidson College, used to quote to the graduating seniors a passage from Deuteronomy, which I think is appropriate here. Moses speaking to the children of Israel as they were going into the Land of Canaan, said: "You will

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occupy cities you did not build, and live in houses filled with all kinds of good things, that you did not provide ... then be careful you do not forget the Lord your God." Thank you, Dr. Huff, for reminding us of those who have gone before us. And thank you, Dr. Johnson, for reminding us of the blessings of the Almighty.

In his book, Dr. Guess stated: "The beginning of each era in Greenville's medical history was clearly delineated by an important event. The first era began just before the American Revolution and ended with the Civil War. The second era began with Reconstruction and ended with World War I. The third era followed World War I, and the fourth, or modern era, followed Word War II and goes up to the present."

We know that medicine in Greenville County lagged behind Charleston and the rest of the Lowcountry by several years. Conditions were much more primitive in the Upcountry in the days before the Revolution. Many "doctors" had little or no training; they held other jobs, and practiced medicine as a sideline. Those early doctors had little with which to cure a disease. They knew about digitalis and laudanum, the precursor of morphine, but most of the methods of treatment consisted of herbs and hot poultices, turpentine stoups to the abdomen, hot mustard foot baths, and steam kettles and hot toddies for the croup; nothing heroic, although heroic measures would come later.

In those early days, there was a great deal of the art, and very little of the science, of medicine in the treatment methods. During times of illness, the doctor did a lot of "just plain sitting" with the patient and the family, and showing more caring and concern than skill in treatment. Many patients survived, which was due less to the medicine and treatment they received than to the undeniable fact that, as Psalm 139 says, "We are fearfully and wonderfully made."

These early physicians were patriots and fought in all the wars of the time. Most were deeply religious and, as their patients got better, they possessed much of the philosophy of a French physician. They probably had never heard of, Ambrose Pare, who said, "I dressed his wounds, and God healed him."

Some of the names of doctors of the 1800's would be of interest to you: Dr. Robinson Earle, one of his descendants is Dr.

James Earle Furman, one of our most respected pediatricians; Dr. Sam Marshall who was the great-grandfather of Mrs. Betty Allison, widow of Dr. Harold Allison; Dr. G. F. Goodlett whose descendents included Dr. William Goodlett and his brother, Dr. O. M. Goodlett; and Dr. Davis Furman whose son, Dr. Tom Furman recently died. There were other outstanding doctors in the 17th and 18th centuries but little was known of their daily lives, or of their methods of treatment.

Please remember that these physicians were dealing with diseases that we know very little about now: typhoid, diphtheria, pneumonia ("the friend of the aged"), smallpox, scarlet fever, and tuberculosis, known as "the Captain of the Men of Death."

The early doctors were ignorant of the cause of diseases. A paper, written by an unknown member of the County Medical Society in the 19th century, was entitled: "Bacteria and Other Microbes - Are They a Cause or a Result of Disease?" The rather benign methods mentioned earlier, did not have much effect on some of the more serious diseases, and doctors looked for other methods of treatment.

Four methods seem to have been prevalent: 1) Bloodletting was used for all manner of illnesses, which often caused a reaction in a patient which sometimes made the doctor feel good, but not the patient. Bloodletting could cause sweating, weaknesses, lightheadedness and death. 2) Purgatives and emetics - not "the gentle, overnight action" of the ones we hear so much about on TV - but calomel (sometimes given in the springtime to "clean off one's liver," but too often given in large doses over a prolonged period of time) and tartar emetic and ipecac and croton oil (the worst of all), all of which produced rather dramatic and rapid results. Repeated enemas (high colonic irrigations sounds more therapeutic) were used. Another way of putting it is the four H's: "high, hot, heluva lot, and hold." All of these were effective in "cleansing the body of impurities," but usually left the body in a debilitated and dehydrated state. 3) Skin irritants or blistering was another form of therapy. A blister was raised on the skin with a plaster and then broken, the pus flowing from the blister was believed to be a desirable emission of harmful matter. That is one of the examples of "laudable pus" that many of you may have heard about. After having been bled, purged

from both ends and blistered, the patient was ready to be restored to health by the use of tonics.

There were many kinds of patent medicines containing many ingredients - especially arsenic, quinine and alcohol. Much quackery abounded then and still does today. There is not much Federal control over patent medicines. It took over 17 years to get Carter to take Liver out of Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Gradually, because of better education and travel, doctors with better reasoning powers, came to believe that the three approaches discussed above were indeed killing patients or leaving them damaged, and other methods of treatment were sought. That wonderful old philosophy of "*primum non nocere*" or "first of all, do no harm," became more prevalent and exists until today.

This leads us up to the Civil War, or War of Northern Aggression, as John McLeod calls it. Up til now we have been talking about individuals. There was no organized medicine: no hospitals, no groups of doctors, no specialists (might be a good thing!), no standards, no governing boards, no guidelines. The giants of medicine are disappearing today. Medicine is becoming more complicated and sophisticated, the team approach is now the usual and not the exception. There was a team of doctors at Johns Hopkins Medical School which are known until this day, not only as a team, but also as individuals: Drs. Kelly, Welch, Halstead, and of course, Dr. William Osler.

With regard to the Civil War, I was surprised to learn that there was much Union support in Greenville County up to 1860; just as there were a number of Tory sympathizers before, and even during, the American Revolution. But after Fort Sumter, many Greenville doctors and laymen volunteered to fight for the Cause. There were three surgeons and 67 assistant surgeons on the roster of the 16th South Carolina Infantry, though we do not know how well trained they were. Conditions were poor in the field and in most of the hospitals. Many a soldier died from wounds, who could have been saved, in later times. Most with trunk wounds died. Most extremity wounds became infected and developed gangrene, necessitating immediate amputation. The fastest surgeons were considered the best surgeons, since there was very little anesthesia.

These men were not butchers as many people thought. They just did the best they could with a desperate lack of supplies and instruments. After the war, like all other soldiers, they came home to rebuild their lives and their communities.

In 1862, three hundred ladies from the Academy of the Baptist Female College founded the first real hospital in Greenville County to care for Confederate veterans. It was on College Street and was called "Soldiers' Rest." This hospital did much good but was closed by Stoneman's Raiders in 1865,

Following this, there were various clinics run by doctors and by churches, and several health spas, such as that established by Dr. Chick. Greenville had developed a reputation as a place where Lowcountry folks could get away from miasmas such as malaria and yellow fever. I would like to mention Dr. Jervey's hospital across from Christ Church. As a typical pediatrician's child, with bad ears and sinuses in the pre-antibiotic era, I spent much time there. It had a wonderful smell about it, a combination of chloroform and formaldehyde and ether, plus a heavy rubber mat that ran the length of the first floor. When you opened that front door, you knew that there was some serious treatment going on! Such private hospitals filled a need. However, by 1891 it became apparent that Greenville should have a City hospital.

The city bought a building from a Dr. Corbett, and thus began the astounding growth of the Greenville Hospital System, with its several hundred beds and nine units throughout the county today. The quality of medicine improved. A Medical School was established in Charleston in 1824, a hospital library was formed for the use of the doctors, and more and more doctors were specializing. Bacteria were found to be the cause of many diseases, and soon we would have antibiotics to help treat these illnesses.

Most of us think of GHS as being over on Grove Road, with the various satellite units, but old timers remember that it all started over on Arlington Avenue with that Corbett Building, which served many purposes and was only torn down several years ago. I would like to mention the St. Francis Hospital, which has been run since 1932 by the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis. The Catholic Church bought the old Salvation Army Hospital, which had gone bankrupt

during the Depression. Dr. Charlie Wyatt, Dr. John Fewell, my father and several others volunteered to help staff it. In those days the nuns did most of the actual administration and care of the patients and they were indeed marvelous workers. There is just nothing like a good Catholic hospital. There was one problem, however, most of the nuns came from Germany and while they spoke correct English, they did not speak "Dixie." Since that time, the St. Francis has grown into a fine modern hospital on Sumner Street as well as on the Eastside.

Today, there is also the new Shriners' Hospital next to Greenville Memorial. Those fellows in those funny hats have helped many a crippled child through the years. When first opened in 1927, the Shriners' Hospital treated mostly polio and osteomyelitis, then burns, and now very complicated cases of cerebral palsy and spina bifida. The Shriners do not accept any money for patient care, and everything in thier hospitals is of the very best, including the doctors. Incidentally, Dr. Frank Stelling was the chief surgeon for the entire United States for a number of years.

The Greenville County Medical Society has been a force for good since the 1890's. It, too, has changed. At first everybody knew everybody else; there were no specialty groups; and lengthy and lively were some of the debates and discussions in the olden days. The Society does not hold the interest nowadays that it did in the past. It is just too big and doctors tend to go to their specialty meetings.

I have a special fondness for the Greenville County Medical Auxilliary. Five doctors wives founded it in 1927, with much opposition from the doctors. My mother was elected first president and was a devoted member until her death. At first they furnished blankets and bottles and helped in setting up milk kitchens for the poor. They functioned as a relief agency, since this was before the days of the United Way. The Auxilliary has grown into an organization that not only supports doctors but also furnishes many thousands of dollars through various projects to the Roper Mountain Science Center and other worthy causes.

Well, that is a quick summary of doctors and patients and hospitals. As you have heard, I am optimistic about the future.

Especially if all those graduating from medical schools are given, and follow the philosophy of, this prayer found on the wall of a children's ward in London:

From inability to let well enough alone,
From too much zeal for the new,
And from too much contempt for what is old,
From putting knowledge before wisdom,
Science before art, and cleverness before common sense,
From treating patients, as cases without names,
And making the cure of the disease, more grievous
than the endurance of the same,
Good Lord, Deliver us. Amen.

GEORGE SALMON: SURVEYOR AND CITIZEN

Anne K. McCuen*

George Salmon, a surveyor, is among those few people thus far identified who were instrumental in the development of early Greenville County. In addition to laying out - in the late 1700s and early 1800s - vast acreage for arriving settlers and probably some land speculators, he served in various public offices, helped to define the state's remaining, unsurveyed boundary with North Carolina, created the first known useful map of Greenville District, and even taught school. Although Salmon had been in the Greenville area for a short while in the early 1770s, his primary association came after early 1784, when he was selected a deputy land surveyor.

An examination of a few of Salmon's workdays is illustrative of activity taking place following the opening of the land office to survey the vacant lands within South Carolina's Ninety Six Judicial District boundary. He arose at dawn on 21 May 1784 to begin his newly appointed job and commenced work on the north side of the Saluda River. At a post oak near the Reedy River Falls he began a survey for Thomas Brandon. The 640 acre claim included Richard Pearis' improvements and lay on both sides of the Reedy River within the eventual boundary of Greenville County, South Carolina, and the site of the City of Greenville.[1] (In the early 1780s, Thomas Brandon had served in the Revolutionary War as a colonel under General Sumter; after resigning his position as colonel, he served as a company captain in several battles including the engagements at King's Mountain and the Cowpens.[2])

A few days later on 24 May 1784, Salmon recorded four tracts of land surveyed totaling 1895 acres on the Middle Saluda River, near present day River Falls. These tracts were for four Spartan Regiment Revolutionary War veterans, namely John Brandon and the three McJunkin "boys," Samuel, Daniel and Joseph. Then, on the same day, he moved to the South Tyger River (a distance of

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more than 10 miles southeast in a straight line and a position near present day Tigerville, South Carolina) and laid off 205 acres for John Collins, another Spartan Regiment veteran.[3] The day's work concluded with 2010 acres of land having been surveyed.

Yet another typical day, according to Salmon's own recordation, might have been on the 19 June 1784, a Saturday, when he surveyed 1488 acres. He laid off five tracts above and below a part of the Middle Indian path, also known as the Toogooloo path (now that part of State Highway #414 between present-day Tyger Baptist Church and the intersection of Highways #101 and #414). These surveys on tributaries of the South Tyger River - Neal's Fork, now called Noe Creek, and on Pack's Creek - had been requested by Reuben Barrett, James Neal and the three Barton fellows, David, William and Thomas. Salmon next moved to the Middle Tyger River near present-day Pleasant Hill Road to survey for John McElhanny a tract of 200 acres. McElhanny, like three of the men named above, had served in the Spartan Regiment.[4] In fact, an examination of the first people for whom Salmon surveyed land in Greenville County indicates that a large portion of the early Greenville citizens, at least those in the upper part of the county, had served in the Spartan Regiment during the Revolutionary War. The State of South Carolina was greatly indebted to its citizens who gave war service. Having no money with which to pay these patriots, the State simply issued to them Indents, or IOUs, in lieu of other compensation. On 21 March 1784, the Legislature of South Carolina ratified an act to sell the vacant lands of the State and to allow patriots to use their Indents in payment.[5]

Although a number of grants in what became Union, Laurens, Newberry, and Spartanburg counties had been issued prior to the war by the colonial government of South Carolina and North Carolina, much vacant land remained in these areas. (Spartanburg at that time included about one-third of present-day Cherokee County as did Union.) In addition, all land in what became Greenville County was classed as vacant in early 1784 because it never before had been demarcated by surveyors representing the State. The initial surveys were described as being "vacant" on all sides. In other words, no one yet had claimed the adjacent property. All of Greenville earlier was

Indian territory until the Cherokees were forced to relinquish it in 1777. Thus some of the vacant land to be surveyed after early 1784 lay on the east side of the 1766 Indian Boundary line, and all land composing early Greenville County lay west of this line. Though a wilderness, the Greenville County area perhaps provided a home for a very few squatters and a small number of Cherokee families in 1784.

On 25 March 1784, a joint session of the General Assembly appointed John Thomas as Commissioner of Locations for the North side of the Saluda River.[6] Thomas, who served as a colonel of the Spartan Regiment of Militia during the Revolutionary War, selected a group of deputies to assist him in the task of surveying vacant land. This group initially included William Benson, Robert J. Hanna, Thomas Lewis, James Seaborn, Andrew Thomson, Jonathan Downs, David Hopkins, Philemon Waters, Bernard Glenn, John Bowie, Minor Winn and George Salmon.[7] Most of these men are known to have been Revolutionary War veterans, and John Bowie, Jonathan Downs, Thomas Lewis, and Philemon Waters had surveyed in the state before the War. James Seaborn and George Salmon seem to have been new to the established surveyors' group in South Carolina.[8] In the first full year after the Commissioner of Locations offices opened to survey and sell vacant land within the Ninety Six Judicial District boundary (21 May 1784 - 20 May 1785), Salmon laid off approximately 253 tracts of land. Of these, 132 lay east of the Ancient Indian Boundary Line in present-day Spartanburg, Cherokee, and Union counties. Other tracts were to the west of the Indian line: 8 lay in a part of the later Pendleton County area that is now present-day Pickens County, and 113 were in present-day Greenville County.[9] The Greenville tracts surveyed by Salmon represent approximately 37,579 acres of land or 58.72 square miles.[10]

Salmon would have traveled by horse and forded various branches, creeks and rivers. His baggage would have included his surveying equipment that probably consisted of a Gunter's chain, a compass, a fieldbook and pencil, an outkeeper to keep track of the number of times the chain was moved, an ax and possibly a theodolite. Spending nights away from home, most often sleeping "under the stars,"[11] Salmon laid off land in Greenville County as far

north as Vaughn's Creek of the North Pacolet River (now the site of Lake Lanier) for Samuel Fowler,[12] as far south as the mouth of Mountain Creek of the Saluda River for William Neel,[13] as far west as the South Saluda River for Thomas Rowland,[14] and as far east as Peters Creek for James Wyatt.[15]

Much of Salmon's field work likely was undertaken in those months when insects and snakes were least bothersome, the weather cool, and the trees partially defoliated. His constant companions in warm weather would have been such pests as chiggers, hornets, and yellow jackets. Beaver dams created vast barriers of marshland. Rain was his perpetual adversary, and it undoubtedly caused him personal discomfort. It presented a special danger when creeks and rivers had to be forded, sometimes repeatedly if a twisting stream wound through the acreage he was measuring. Unless his notes and instruments were protected in inclement weather, they could be damaged.[16]

To establish reference points for surveying uninhabited lands, surveyors depended upon unique and permanent rocks, the various creeks or rivers and their tributaries, and trees. Plats recorded by Salmon reveal he had a broad knowledge of the species in the Carolina mountains and foothills; he cited oaks of all varieties: post oak, chestnut oak, white oak, black oak, red oak, Spanish oak, blackjack oak and water oak. Also listed on his plats are pine, locust, sweetgum, blackgum, sourwood, hickory, poplar, ash, box elder, beech, maple, dogwood, chestnut, mulberry, persimmon, black walnut, and witchwood or mountain ash used to make witch hazel. An examination of other surveyors' recorded plats, for the same locale and time period, indicate they did not differentiate so much as did Salmon between the many types of oaks nor cite as extensive a variety of trees.[17]

Salmon seemingly had a knowledge (perhaps even a prior knowledge) of locations previously used by Indians in what is today Greenville County. The day following the opening of a land office in 1784, Salmon laid off for himself 640 acres on both sides of the Checkaroa, now known as the North Saluda River. The site earlier had been the site of a campground of an Indian named Ucety or Usetie.[18] Within the first two months of surveying vacant land, he

laid off ten tracts which included, or were very near, Indian or Indian related sites.[19] This information is revealed by Salmon's plats that include references to Indian trails or paths and campgrounds. Such sites were choice locations, having been used for thousands of years by Indians preceding the Cherokee culture. They were often at or near the easiest river crossing and along paths used for travel. The topography rendered them ideal camping locations.

With his early surveying efforts within the Ninety Six Judicial District boundary and the Greenville County area now generally described, it is instructive to learn more about Salmon before he reached the Greenville area and his varied activities thereafter. He was born in 1755 in Amelia County, Virginia, the son of a William Salmon of English descent.[20] As early as December 1773, George Salmon [Sammon] was in South Carolina's Ninety Six Judicial District area. Though he probably could be counted among the company with Richard Pearis, an Indian trader, it remains unknown if Salmon migrated south alone or came as a travel companion of Pearis, who also was from Virginia. Along with John Prince, James Beal, Abraham and James Hite, and Joshua Pettit, the nineteen-year-old Salmon witnessed a deed for 150,000 acres of present-day Greenville land from the Head Men of the Cherokee Nation to the half-Cherokee son of Pearis. This deed recorded in Charleston at a later date gives a full description as to metes and bounds of the land being transferred.[21] One is tempted to wonder if Salmon actually surveyed some portion of the 150,000 acres or at least wrote the deed description using his experience as a surveyor. These possibilities are suspect because of his age. Yet it must be remembered that George Washington was only seventeen years of age in 1749 when he was licensed as a surveyor by the College of William and Mary, the licensing institution for the State of Virginia.[22]

Details of Salmon's training in the craft of surveying are undiscovered. The College of William and Mary does not list him in their archives, nor do they have any record of Salmon being licensed as a surveyor by that institution. Unfortunately, all licensing records of the College are not extant.[23] It is probable, however, that he like many surveyors in the 1700's received little if any formal training. Many such men learned the craft by working as apprentices with an

experienced surveyor. If, indeed, Salmon signed as witness to the 1773 deed of George Pearis because he had surveyed the land or written the description, then it may be assumed he received his early training in Virginia.

During that colony's early history, surveyors most often were wealthy and influential men. "Surveying, like the law, was one of the respectable ladders to the top of Virginia's eighteenth-century society."[24] But, "the duties, workload, and income of a surveyor in the long-settled eastern portions of the colony bore little resemblance to those of men on the frontier by mid-century. Instead of a group of men who could easily meet together around a large table in Jamestown or Williamsburg, the profession encompassed about eighty practitioners serving as county surveyors and their assistants by the time the American Revolution began."[25] Settlement in Virginia had expanded into and beyond the Blue Ridge area before the Revolutionary War, and over 45,000 square miles of new territory had been demarcated.[26] Salmon may have been an assistant to one of these eighty county surveyors of Virginia, and he perhaps received some training before 1773 from Thomas Mumford, the county surveyor for Salmon's home county of Amelia.[27] As did others of the profession at that time, Salmon probably owned and studied *Geodaesia*, "the first surveying book used to any extent by American surveyors."[28] If he was not already skilled in surveying mountainous territory before leaving Virginia, Salmon later gained such experience demarcating land in the mountains of South Carolina.

Whatever career Salmon may have been embarking upon within the upper Ninety Six Judicial District area was disrupted by the Revolutionary War. He participated in the war, always as a volunteer and furnished service as part of the Spartan Regiment under the command of Colonel John Thomas. At various times he was a regular soldier or acted as a commissioner to furnish provisions. He was present at the first siege of Augusta. Later, as a prisoner of the Tories, Salmon was carried to Patrick Ferguson's Camp where he was released. He subsequently carried express to General Andrew Pickens, then commander at Augusta. On reentering South Carolina, Salmon was sent by General William Henderson north over the mountains with an express to Colonel Isaac

Shelby. After his return, he served as a quartermaster for Colonel Benjamin Roebuck.[29] Within nine months following the Treaty of Paris on 3 September 1783, Salmon would begin his occupation as a deputy surveyor under John Thomas, the Commissioner of Locations for land on the north side of the Saluda River.

Salmon eventually laid off for himself several other surveys adjacent to his original claimed square mile of 640 acres that had included Ucety's camp ground. These lands were often his compensation from the State of South Carolina for surveys which individuals never paid to have recorded. He purchased other nearby tracts and on this combined acreage established his home, a log house of hewn chestnut and oak.[30] On 18 April 1785, he had laid off a 340 acre survey adjacent to one of his own tracts on the Checkaroa River for a young lady named Elizabeth Young. She was born in Frederick County, Virginia, and had moved to the Cowpens area of South Carolina before the Revolution. Salmon married Miss Young and together they were the parents of at least seven children.[31]

In addition to his job as a surveyor, Salmon was involved in many community and local government activities. In response to a communication of 12 September 1787 from General Andrew Pickens to Governor Thomas Pinckney regarding a Creek Indian attack along the Tugaloo River, the Legislature gave assent for the formation of a company of men to protect settlers. In addition, Pickens was authorized to organize the militia in that area of the upcountry beyond the old Indian boundary.[32] Greenville County was to be divided into militia company districts "...& when so done the said Districts shall proceed to adopt the Mode practised [sic] & hitherto used by other Regiments in the State in chusing [sic] their officers to command them respectively...."[33] Salmon, as a captain, was among those first company officers in the newly established militia district of Greenville.[34] He was appointed in February 1790 to serve as one of the Justices of the Peace for Greenville County.[35] During the years 1792-1794 while representing Greenville in the Ninth and Tenth General Assembly of South Carolina, Salmon voted "Ay" on at least three issues: a resolution to urge the repeal of the duty on distilled spirits imported as well as distilled spirits produced in the United States; to forbid the importation of slaves into South Carolina from

within or from outside the United States; and to provide support for illegitimate children.[36]

From about 1800 until 1823, and while continuously serving during this time as a justice of the quorum for Greenville District, Salmon also sporadically held other positions. He again represented Greenville in the Legislature from 1816-1818 by serving in the Twenty-second General Assembly.[37] In 1813, he served as Commissioner of Free Schools for the Greenville District #4 and was responsible for four teachers, four schools and ninety-six pupils.[38] And he is known to have taught school himself in several locations at various times.[39]

Salmon's reputation as a surveyor was well established by the time most of the vacant land of Greenville County and its environs had been granted. In 1815, the states of South Carolina and North Carolina determined that a line to divide the two states needed to be ascertained between the northwest corner of Spartanburg County and the state of Georgia at the Chattooga River. A Commission representing each state was appointed, with Dr. David Blyth, James Blasingame and Henry Bradford serving for South Carolina. Salmon, selected as the surveyor to represent the State,[40] spent sixty days surveying and platting this portion of the North Carolina/South Carolina state line - wilderness indeed north of the headwaters of the Checkaroa, the Middle Saluda, the South Saluda Rivers of Greenville District and the headwaters of the Pendleton District rivers. He received $240 or $4 per day for his work. As helpers, he had two chain carriers, David Reed and Thomas Turner; two axemen, John Massey (his son-in-law) and William Carr; and six pilots with knowledge of the area: Henry Bradford from the Caesar's Head locality, Stephen Morgan from the Fall Creek of the Checkaroa area, along with Curtis Caldwell, Thomas Love, Daniel Moore and Charles McKinney.

The state of South Carolina purchased three stones for Salmon to erect as line markers - one stone each from Theron Earle in the Gowansville section, Thomas Hood who lived north of the present-day North Saluda reservoir area, and Micajah Smith.[41] One stone was placed four miles and ninety poles west of the stone marking the line separating Greenville County and Spartanburg

County (this line formerly being the 1767 Indian boundary line) at its intersection with the North Carolina line. After traveling south 25 degrees west to a ridge and following it to the Continental Divide, a second stone was placed there. A third stone was set where the Continental Divide intersected the Cherokee boundary line run in 1792.[42]

Governor Andrew Pickens, Jr., recognizing Salmon's surveying abilities, selected him in 1817 to perform a survey of Greenville District according to a mandate of the State Legislature. In 1825 this district map was incorporated in the *Atlas of South Carolina* published by Robert Mills. Salmon received $800 for his work.[43] ("Mill's *Atlas* constitutes an extremely important record of early development within the state, one highly valued by historians statewide."[44])

Despite his public accomplishments, Salmon was also a man of ordinary passions. On the evening of Tuesday, 21 June 1814, "at or near day light down" at Auston Almons' house near present day Tyger Baptist Church, George Salmon stabbed both Elisha Barton and Massey Arrowsmith with a knife. Four months later (October 1814) during the very first term of Greenville County Court of General Sessions following the incident, Salmon was tried, found guilty on both counts and fined.[45]

Near the close of a long and active public life, Salmon suffered financial difficulties. On the 23 November 1836, a Writ of *Fieri Facias* was issued by the Greenville District Court of Common Pleas for the homeplace of George Salmon to be seized and sold in order to satisfy an unpaid mortgage in the amount of $5,200 plus interest to Jeremiah Cleveland. The mortgage was made only five months prior, and the collateral was the 1826 acres of land on which his home stood. At Sale Day on 10 August 1836 at Greenville County Court House, the property was sold by Sheriff James McDaniel. Fortunately, it was purchased by Salmon's youngest son Ezekiel J. Salmon, and the Salmon family continued to live in their home in upper Greenville County.[46] Almost one year later on 27 June 1837, George Salmon at age 82 was declared a lunatic,[47] and six weeks following, on 18 August 1837, he died and was buried on a hillside.[48] The gravesite overlooked his home and the property that

he had owned for over half a century.[49]

Salmon was in the field 138 days during the first year following the opening of the Commissioner of Location's office North of the Saluda River (21 May 1784 - 20 May 1785). On 56 of these days, he worked in the area that became Greenville County surveying 113 plats or 7.41% of present-day Greenville County land.[50] During forty years of surveying "virgin land" in the County, Salmon recorded approximately 259 plats representing 71,097 acres (111 square miles) or about 14% of all Greenville land. His nearest competitor and his former Revolutionary War captain, William Benson, recorded approximately 220 plats of present-day Greenville land, totaling 63,092 acres (99.5 square miles) or about 13% of the County.[51] Salmon undoubtedly acquired a vast knowledge of the varied physical aspects of the area in addition to being one of Greenville County's most notable and interesting early citizens.

ENDNOTES

Abbreviation used: SCDAH for South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, SC.

[1] South Carolina, State Plats, vol. 1, p. 26, SCDAH.

[2] For Thomas Brandon, see Bobby Gilmer Moss, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1983), p. 95.

[3] Commissioner of Locations, Ninety-Six District, North of the Saluda, Plat Book A, pp. 57, 58, 70, 71, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Greenville, S.C. For John Brandon, Samuel McJunkin, Daniel McJunkin, Joseph McJunkin, and John Collins see Bobby Gilmer Moss, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1983), pp. 95, 631, 630, 630-31, 187-88. It would appear that this was the sequence in which Salmon worked, for the day before he had surveyed tracts on the South Saluda and North Saluda Rivers and could easily have moved to the Middle Saluda River area the following day.

[4] Ibid., Plat Book A, pp. 61, 64, 69. For Reuben Barrett, James Neal, David Barton, William Barton, and Thomas Barton see Bobby Gilmer Moss, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1983), pp. 49, 718, 51.

[5] Thomas Cooper and David J. McCord, *Statutes at Large of South Carolina* (Columbia SC, 1836-1840), 4: 590-93.

[6] Ibid.

[7] Commissioner of Locations, Ninety-Six District, North Side of Saluda River, Plat Book A, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Greenville, SC.

[8] For William Benson, Robert J. Hanna, Thomas Lewis, James Seaborn, Andrew Thomson, Jonathan Downs, David Hopkins, Philemon Waters, Bernard Glenn, John Bowie, Minor Winn, and George Salmon, respectively, see Combined Index prepared by SCDAH (MF at Greenville County Library, Greenville, SC).

[9] For George Salmon see State (SC) Plats Index, prepared by SCDAH (MF at Greenville County Library, Greenville, SC). Analyses and compilations by author.

[10] For this study of "present-day" Greenville County, those surveys made by Salmon in that portion of Laurens County that was annexed to Greenville County in 1792 are included. Excluded from the study are the appropriate portions of those surveys made by Salmon that extended into what is now North Carolina (e. g., two surveys for Baylis Earle on Colt Creek of Green River in Polk County, NC).

[11] Sarah S. Hughes, *Surveyors and Statesmen; Land Measuring in Colonial Virginia* (Richmond: Virginia Association of Surveyors, Inc., 1979), pp. 106-17.

[12] Commissioner of Locations, Ninety-Six District, North of the Saluda, Plat Book A, p. 68, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Greenville, SC.

[13] Ibid., p. 56.

[14] Ibid., p. 107.

[15] Ibid., p. 119.

[16] Sarah S. Hughes, *Surveyors and Statesmen; Land Measuring in Colonial Virginia* (Richmond: Virginia Association of Surveyors, Inc., 1979), p. 114.

[17] Commissioner of Locations, Ninety-Six District, North of the Saluda. Plat Books, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Greenville, SC.

[18] Commissioner of Locations, Ninety-Six District, North of the Saluda, Plat Book A, p. 50, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Greenville, SC.

[19] Ibid., pp. 1, 34, 50, 56, 57, 62, 71, 76, 100, 107.

[20] For George Salmon see Louise N. Bailey, ed., *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives*, Vol. IV, 1791-1815 (Columbia, SC: USC Press, 1984), pp. 504-05.

[21] Charlestown District, SC, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Deed Book E-5, p. 502.

[22] J. T. Baldwin, Jr., "The History of Surveying in the United States, The College of William and Mary and Surveying in Early Virginia,"

Surveying and Mapping 17 (April-June 1958): 181.

[23] Ibid: 180; Personal communication 12 December 1995 from Sharon Garrison, Archives Assistant, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia.

[24] Sarah S. Hughes, *Surveyors and Statesmen; Land Measuring in Colonial Virginia* (Richmond: Virginia Association of Surveyors, Inc., 1979), p. 72.

[25] Ibid.

[26] Ibid., p. 73.

[27] Ibid, p. 170 (Table 4).

[28] *Geodaesia* was first published in London in 1688. "From the very beginning, the work was promoted for use by surveyors in America. Before writing this treatise, Love personally surveyed in Carolina...and found that in Carolina, that young men were often at a loss because they lacked the capability to lay out and divide lands." F. D. Bud Uzes, review of *Geodaesia* by John Love, in *P. O. B*, (December 1995/January 1996): 51.

[29] For George Salmon see Accounts Audited (File No. 6720) of Claims Growing Out of the American Revolution, SCDAH (MF at Greenville County Library, Greenville, SC).

[30] See George Salmon House nomination for U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, SCDAH.

[31] After Salmon's death, Elizabeth at age 80 migrated with her youngest son Ezekiel and his family by wagon, river boat, and other forms of transportation to Versailles, Missouri, at the foot of the Ozarks. Elizabeth Salmon died in her 90th year in Missouri. While living there she often detailed the thrilling incident of hearing the famous Battle of the Cowpens and in telling of her relatives who participated in that struggle. Obituary of Elizabeth Salmon, *Greenville (SC) Mountaineer*, 28 December 1849, reprinted from the *St. Louis Watchman*.

[32] Michael E. Stevens, "Thomas Jefferson, Indians, and Missing Privy Council Journals," *South Carolina Historical Magazine* 82 (1981): 177-80.

[33] Governor's Messages, No. 442, Journal of South Carolina Privy Council, 27 September 1787 quoted in Michael E. Stevens, "Thomas Jefferson, Indians, and Missing Privey Council Journals," *South Carolina Historical Magazine* 82 (1981): 181.

[34] Commissioner of Locations, Ninety-Six District, North Side of

Saluda River, Plat Book A, p. 334, Register of Mesne Conveyance, Greenville, SC.

[35] Michael E. Stevens, ed., *The State Records of South Carolina. Journals of the House of Representatives, 1789 - 1790* (Columbia, SC: USC Press, 1984), p. 367.

[36] Stevens, *State Records of South Carolina ..., 1791*, (Columbia, SC: USC Press, 1985), p. 462; Stevens, *State Records of South Carolina ..., 1792-1794* (Columbia, SC: USC Press, 1988), p. 588.

[37] For George Salmon see Louise N. Bailey, ed., *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina House of Representatives, Vol. IV, 1791-1815*, (Columbia, SC: USC Press, 1984) pp. 504-05.

[38] South Carolina, General Assembly, "Free School Reports 1813," #l, SCDAH, Columbia, SC.

[39] South Carolina, Secretary of State, Miscellaneous Records, 7M, p. 654, SCDAH, Columbia, SC.

[40] A. S. Salley, *The Boundary Line between North Carolina and South Carolina*, (Columbia, SC: The State Company, 1959), pp. 35-36.

[41] South Carolina, General Assembly Papers, Committee Reports 1815, #6. SCDAH, Columbia. SC.

[42] A. S. Salley, *The Boundary Line between North Carolina and South Carolina*, (Columbia. SC: The State Company, 1959), pp. 36-37.

[43] Robert Mills, *Atlas of the State of South Carolina*. new facsimile ed. (Columbia, SC, Lucy Hampton Bostic and Fant H. Thornley, 1938), p. vii.

[44] See George Salmon House nomination for U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, SCDAH, Columbia, SC.

[45] Greenville County, SC, Court of General Sessions, Clerk of Court, Case #274 , #275.

[46] Greenville County, SC, Deed Book O, Register of Mesne Conveyance, p.193.

[47] Greenville County, SC, Equity Court Record, Clerk of Court, Ex. Parte E. J. Salmon, 1836.

[48] This burial site is specifically described in a later deed issued by Salmon's son Ezekiel.

[49] The Salmon home was restored in 1984 by John N. and Patricia Carroll Walker. The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology uncovered a Conestee Indian village site nearby in one of the cultivated fields; the Institute is in the process of analyzing artifacts and other material found in exposed features.

[50] For George Salmon see State (SC) Plats Index, SCDAH. (MF at Greenville County Library, Greenville, SC). Analyses and compilations by author.

[51] For William Benson see State (SC) Plats Index, SCDAH. (MF at Greenville County Library, Greenville, SC). Analyses and compilations by the author.

THE DARK CORNER OF GREENVILLE COUNTY

Anne H. Hendricks*

The designation "Dark Corner" has for many years described a small area of northeastern Greenville County. It is that description that has connotations of mystery, danger and darkness. Who? Where? Why? When? are questions that people have asked for years, but few answers are clear and decisive. They primarily exist in the memories of early residents' descendants.

Dean Campbell, who was given the title, "The Squire of the Dark Corner," by late Greenville *News* columnist Jim McAlister, defines the perimeters of the Dark Corner. In his photographic odyssey, *Eyes to the Hills*, he states: "The Dark Corner of S.C. is located in the Glassy Mountain Township and portions of surrounding townships in the northeastern corner of Greenville County."

More specific directions place the northern boundary on the North Carolina line, with the Tryon area of North Carolina included. The Spartanburg County line forms the eastern boundary; Hwy. 414, just south of the Glassy Mountain Township line, marks the southern border and includes part of the Highland Township. This line then proceeds west, past the North Saluda Reservoir, to the North Carolina line.

Mann Batson comments in his *History of The Upper Part of Greenville County*, 1993: "Glassy Mountain Township is the geographic area in which Dark Corner is located. It is in the environs of Glassy and Hogback Mountains." For generations the exact location has been "just down the road." The story is told of two World War I army officers, unfamiliar with the area, making their way on horseback to the firing range in the mountains. Not knowing the way, when they saw a local resident they asked how far it was to "Dark Corner?" The reply, "about 5 miles," came back quickly. The officers rode what they considered five miles and seeing another citizen, raised the same question. The immediate answer was "about 5 miles." Continuing on their way, they rode what they thought to be

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5 miles, asked the same question, got the same answer, "about 5 miles." One of the officers turned to the other and said, "Thank God we are holding our own."

Nancy Vance Ashmore, in her history, *Greenville Woven From the Past*, commented on the location of the Dark Corner:

> Sheriff Gilreath may have known the boundaries of the so-called Dark Corner, but, if so, he was the only one, for it is an amorphous region somewhere in the general vicinity of Glassy Mountain Township. Outsiders can never quite locate it. Nevertheless, it does exist and inhabitants once had a rough and tumble reputation for drinking whiskey, toting guns, and fighting hard amidst their sylvan mountain setting..

Definitely in the backcountry of South Carolina and isolated for many years, the Dark Corner developed a mystique of its own.

Reese Fant wrote in the Greenville *News* in November 1994. "It is ironic that one of the most picturesque areas of South Carolina, the Appalachian hills of northeastern Greenville County, is referred to as the 'Dark Corner.' It is one of the most beautiful areas of the state."

James Alexander Howard in the book, *Dark Corner Heritage*, comments: "To those of us born and reared in this area, there is no more beautiful spot in the world. The beautiful mountains and scenery serve as a comfort and inspiration." As we look at the geographical details of the Dark Corner, we see that these assessments are correct.

Contributing to the magnificent scenery of the area are a number of major peaks and mountains. These mountains are a part of the southernmost chain of the Blue Ridge, worn down to a height of just over 3000 feet above sea level. South of this chain are a series of monadnocks. Two prominent monadnocks in the upstate are located in the Dark Corner: 1) Glassy Mountain, whose rocky slopes are wet with water which freezes in winter and "reflects the rays of the sun with a dazzling luster," and 2) Hogback Mountain which is distinctive for its fertile plateaus. Hogback from the east looks like a mama hog with her snout at the ground rooting for acorns.

Surrounding these two dominant mountains are a number of smaller ones: Squirrel Mountain, west of Gowensville, is called "Squirrel" as best as it can be determined because when it was covered with woods, it seems that a lot of squirrels were killed by hunters. Between Squirrel and the Hogback/Glassy Mountain range is a long, flat-topped ridge called Chestnut Ridge. West from Hogback is Hoghead Mountain. Further west are Big Round Rock Mountain and Little Round Rock Mountain. Going from Glassy Mountain to the other side of the range off old Hwy. 11, you pass Callahan Mountain and Old Indian Mountain.

Flowing through and from these major peaks are beautiful rivers which sparkle in the sun - which does somehow manage to shine in this area labeled "dark".

Vaughn's Creek which flows through the northeastern corner of the area is vastly important because it is the major source of water to fill Lake Lanier. Lake Lanier is the water supply for Landrum, which is in Spartanburg County. In an interesting little book, *Shadows of Hogback*, by James Walton Lawrence, which is primarily about the Landrum area, the author commented: "In later years, outsiders have tauntingly claimed Landrum was a part of the Dark Corner. Some say Landrum wants to be, but it is not."

Coming from Hogback Mountain, flowing in a southeasterly direction, is Jamison Mill Creek., The old Jamison Mill was actually just inside the Spartanburg County line. Beyond the mill, on top of the hill, is the site of old Gowen's Fort.

South of Jamison Mill Creek, also coming from Hogback, is Belue Creek. Belue Mill was located in the Glassy Mountain Township. Two major rivers on the south side of the Dark Corner are the South Pacolet and Middle Tyger Rivers. On the other side of the mountains - on the north side -is the North Saluda River, which forms the North Saluda Reservoir which supplies water for the city of Greenville.

In a conversation about the Saluda Reservoir with Arnold Emory in *Tales from the Dark Corner*, Dean Campbell comments that one of the most beautiful portions of the Dark Corner was inundated to provide the county with water. "The entire section of families that had been there for hundreds of years had to be moved

out to make that reservoir. Some of the most fertile bottom land in the Dark Corner is all under water up there." He continued, "The Saluda Reservoir hides one of the most gorgeous waterfalls in this part of the county." These falls, Big Saluda Falls, are located in the upper reaches of the lake - in a saddle between Plumley Mountain and Little Piney Mountain. The waters of the reservoir come about halfway up the falls.

Since it is not a large geographic area and since it was considered a part of the "backcountry" until more recent years, the Dark Corner does not contain any large towns. Small settlements, or communities, which primarily grew up around churches, comprise the populated areas of the Dark Corner.

Perhaps the oldest, with the first settlers, is the Oak Grove Section, in the extreme northeastern part of the Glassy Mountain Township. While Oak Grove Baptist Church is not the oldest in the Dark Corner, having been established after Gowensville Baptist, the first permanent settlers did come from the Spartanburg County area into the coves and valleys between Hogback Mountain and Chestnut Ridge.

Gowensville is the seat of government in the Glassy Mountain Township. It has the oldest church, Gowensville Baptist, which was established in 1820, although it was a mission arm of Tiger Baptist Church as early as 1809. Gowensville itself is named for old Gowen's Fort, one of twelve Indian-line forts built by the colonists in the mid-1700's. Located on Old Blackstock Road., near the conflux of the Pacolet River and Jamison Mill Creek, the fort was commanded by Major "Buck" Gowen.

A small settlement developed in what is now the Lake Lanier area of the Dark Corner, on the state line between North and South Carolina. Rock Creek Baptist Church was the center of this community.

From Gowensville, west on Hwy. 11, at the foot of Glassy Mountain, the next community is called Glassy. This settlement grew up around Glassy Mountain Baptist Church, established in 1833. Adjacent is the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church.

Actually on top of Glassy Mountain, Mountain Hill Baptist Church was the center of the Mountain Hill community. Mountain

Hill Baptist records its existence back to 1869, but it might have existed for 50 years before records were kept. At the turn of the century there were 60 or so families living on the mountain. None of these are there now.

On the southern fringes of Glassy Mountain Township is the Ebenezer-Welcome Community, near the site of Campbell's Covered Bridge. Fairly close to Campbell's Covered Bridge and to the Ebenezer-Welcome Church is the Pleasant Hill Community. Dean Campbell in defining the Dark Corner cautioned: "Those people contend they have never been in the Dark Corner and don't want to be. Pleasant Hill will not admit they are anywhere near the Dark Corner."

On the southwestern fringe of the Dark Corner is the Highland Community. Originally it was called Highland Grove, and was the site of the first post office in the area, in 1828. These communities were small, consisting only of a few scattered homes and farms - maybe a small store or a grist mill.

In addition to these small peaceful communities, there are a number of interesting and familiar landmarks in the Dark Corner. Each one tells or displays for us something of the history of the area. Visited by everyone, I am sure, is the Poinsett Bridge. Designed by Joel Poinsett, the bridge was a part of the Old Stage Road, built in 1820, which ran from Charleston to Columbia and then through the Dark Comor to Asheville. The Poinsett Bridge, over Gap Creek, is the only one remaining of three designed by Poinsett, who supervised construction until he was elected to Congress. The bridge, stretching 130 feet across the stream, contains a Gothic arch 15 feet high and 7 feet wide. Construction of the stone bridge, perfectly fitted without mortar, was completed by Abram Blanding. An engineering marvel at the time it was built, it is still a major tourist attraction.

The second major architectural landmark in the Dark Corner is Campbell's Bridge, spanning Beaver Dam Creek near Gowensville. A woodworking masterpiece, it is the last remaining covered bridge in northwestern South Carolina. In earlier days, covered bridges were common sights in upper Greenville County. Others in the neighborhood were Morrow's Covered Bridge and McClain's Covered Bridge on the Middle Tyger River and a small one near Blue Ridge

Middle School. All are gone, leaving Campbell's Bridge as a lone, silent sentinel to a vanished, but picturesque, lifestyle. Built in 1909 the 38-foot bridge was named for Alexander Lafayette Campbell, who owned a grist mill nearby. Although it has been extensively restored over the years, it is now closed to all but foot traffic and is indeed a county treasure.

Interesting sites and magnificent panoramic vistas of the natural beauty of the Dark Corner can now be accessed by a number of curved, meandering highways. It was not until more recent times, though, that highways were constructed to connect settlements. Early settlers relied primarily on Indian paths, a number of which crisscrossed the Greenville region. Indian paths were perhaps originally created by the buffalo, the elk and the deer as they traveled to springs, salt licks and fords across the rivers.

Today the Cherokee Foothills Scenic Trailway (S.C. Hwy. 11) crosses the Dark Corner at the foot of the Glassy/Hogback Mountain range. Originally this route was known as the Cherokee Indian Upper Warriors' Trail.

The upper portion of Hwy. 14 cuts through the southeastern part of the Dark Corner, passing through Gowensville on its way to the North Carolina line. Originally an old Indian road, later known as Rutherford Road, it connected Greenville to Rutherfordton, North Carolina. It was named in honor of Col. Griffith Rutherford, a renowned Indian fighter.

Portions of the Great Indian War Path remain in the Dark Corner. Known as the Old Tugaloo Road, this was the Indian path which ran from the Tugaloo River on the border of Georgia to Virginia. Early Scotch-Irish settlers who migrated from Virginia used this path.

Driving through this section of the county, enjoying the beauty of the terrain, one wonders, "Why is this area called the Dark Corner?" When? How? was this name applied to such a beautiful section of the county? There are a number of theories, but how and when the name became synonymous with the region is not precisely known.

The most colorful rendition I came across was in a fascinating book, *Tales from the Dark Corner: Documenting the Oral Tradition.*

Located in three or four libraries across the state, this volume presents research completed in the summer of 1983. Sponsored by the South Carolina Committee for the Humanities and Limestone College, under the direction of Dr. Bernard Zaidman, it consists of transcripts of interviews with 39 long-time residents of the area. The project was an effort to preserve the rich folklore of the Dark Corner.

T.B. (Buddy) Williams was interviewed in June, 1983. He commented: "This is the legend of the Dark Corner as I understand it from my grandfather and father. My grandfather was born in 1865 and he lived to be 83 years old. My father was born in 1891. He lived to be 70. I'm just 55, but I grew up with this story."

> That it apparently happened during the Civil War, maybe 1862, a politician from Charleston come up here to the mountains to solicit volunteers to fight in the Civil War. There were no slaves in this area and this politician come up here to select, to ask for volunteers. Well, they met at what we call the mustering ground .... And the politician made the speech and several of the mountaineers were present and something was said that apparently they didn't like .... So it's my understanding that they put him on his old oxcart or donkey cart and carried him around this road here to my grandfather's old mill pond and threw him in - and he made the remark then that these people up here were in the dark. When he made the report to his superiors in Charleston, they said, 'How did you do up there?' He replied, 'Well, you can forget that area because that's the dark corner of the state. That's the childhood story that I've heard and lived with all my life.

There are several variations of this tale. Some place the story of the politician, who was dumped so unceremoniously from his cart, around 1872, after the Civil War. While the Greenville District had supported Secession, and had cast its lot with the Confederacy in 1860, bitter feelings continued between two factions: Unionist stalwarts in the Glassy Mountain Township and those of Confederate leaning. Residents of the Dark Corner throughout its early history - under British rule, through both the American Revolution and the

Civil War - were strongly Loyalist and Unionist in their political philosophy.

Another theory dates the "Dark Corner" label to an earlier controversy, the nullification conflict. A disagreement over high tariffs, passed by Congress in 1824, led to protests by South Carolinians who believed that American cotton growers would suffer as a result of the higher tariffs. After several years of controversy, and violence, the state convention met in 1832 and nullified the tariff. Unionist Benjamin Perry, from the Greenville area, stated that the nullifiers had dubbed this area the "Dark Corner" when local voters gave 169 votes to American Union and only 1 vote to Nullification. It was, they said, a corner where the light of nullification could never shine. Needless to say, the Congress did not accept this action by South Carolinians. President Andrew Jackson stated that nullification was treason and that he would use the army to enforce the constitution. Crisis was averted when a compromise was worked out by John C. Calhoun and Henry Clay. In this incident, and others, residents of the Dark Corner stated their Unionist views and supported the federal government.

Anne McCuen, a Greenville historian, in pursuing some genealogical research, also documents an early date for the title "Dark Corner" from an old deed, recorded in April 1840, which described 100 acres situated in Greenville County, "in the northeastern part usually called the Dark Corner." Others theorize the region was called the Dark Corner because it was dark - dark in atmosphere, dark in deeds. There are many interpretations of the word "dark."

Writing of his upbringing in the Dark Corner, J. Dean Crain, a noted minister and educator, ruminated that the geographical area is not dark by nature, because "nowhere is the sun brighter, the hills bluer, the sky clearer, the hills more picturesque, or the creeks more sparkling." "It is Dark Corner," he said, "because of what men have done, men ruled by sin and ungovernable passions born of ignorance. Men blind to the common blessings of the beauties of life have made it the Dark Corner."

Mrs. Evelyn Gosnell, a resident of the Dark Corner, who was 83 when she was interviewed as a part of the Humanities project,

stated in answer to the question, "Why do you think people call it the Dark Corner?":

> I have no idea unless it was - oh, you could hear lots that they had been fussing and raising whiskey, I guess. I just think they thought it was the dark corner. It's a beautiful country, yes, yes, it is. Although I think, I've been up north, you know, and all around the country nearly and down South America and everything, and then I said when I come back home, 'There's no land - no where - that's prettier than ours.'- I think it's misnamed, Don't you?

Part of the "dark" mystique is based upon the early history of the county. A.V. Huff writes in his new history of Greenville County: "Greenville County came into existence by an act of the South Carolina legislature in 1786. But long before there was a Greenville County, the verdant mountains and rolling landscape had already nurtured prehistoric animals and successive groups of American Indians and shaped both the British colonial frontier culture and the society of the new American nation."

At the time the Europeans began to settle in the "New World," the land that became Greenville County was part of the domain of the Cherokee Indians, who, at an earlier time had driven out the Creeks. The Cherokees occupied an area stretching from the Seneca River in South Carolina, north into Tennessee and west into Georgia.

Lewis Jones in his description of the Cherokees commented: "They were not wild men - they practiced some degree of diversified agriculture; they built semi-permanent homes in villages; they had a reasonably definite and, in some cases, sophisticated political organization."

Approximately 64 Cherokee towns have been identified, divided into the Lower Towns of northwestern South Carolina and northeastern Georgia, the Middle Towns of western North Carolina, and the Overhill Towns of East Tennessee. Keowee Town was the capital of the Lower Towns. Located on the Keowee River in present-day Pickens County, it was flooded in 1968 for hydroelectric development and a major nuclear power facility. Smaller towns in the area included Eastatoe and Tugaloo. Northeast of these settled

areas in South Carolina lay the hunting grounds, portions of which they shared with the Catawba Indians.

The land that eventually became Greenville County was part of the Cherokee's hunting preserve. James Richardson in his history of Greenville County states: "Recorded history tells us of no one who resided in the Piedmont, even temporarily, before the establishment of the first permanent settlement in Charles Town in 1670. However, there is little doubt that it was only a few years after the settlement in Charles Town when white men began to push back from the coast into the upountry and on into the mountainous sections, where they established themselves as traders among the Cherokee Indians."

When South Carolina became a royal province after the revolution against the Lords Proprietors in 1719, the colonial government in Charleston actively cultivated the friendship of the Cherokees and established a treaty in 1730 cementing Cherokee relations and the British government. The relationship between Indians, early colonists and traders was peaceful.

Unfortunately, the peaceful relationship did not last long. In the early 1700's, the Indian trade was a very lucrative business, yielding enormous profits. But almost from the very beginning there existed great abuses in the trade, promoted by, as Richardson called them, "irresponsible men of the most despicable character." Unscrupulous traders took advantage of the Indians by exchanging liquor and meaningless trifles for valuable skins. Not operating within the law, they also cheated the Indians with false weights and measures.

By the mid-1700's the Piedmont section of South Carolina began to receive its first permanent settlers. They did not come from the coast; they came principally from Virginia and Pennsylvania, traveling down the old Indian Trail, bringing their families with them. They were of the crude pioneer type, fiercely independent, having little wealth or education, living in close touch with nature. For the most part, the first settlers who migrated to upstate South Carolina were Scotch-Irish. Described by one scholar as "emotional, courageous, aggressive, pugnacious, fiercely intolerant, and hard drinking with a tendency for indolence," they were uniquely suited for taming a new land.

Richardson observes:

> In contrast to these simple, hard-working frontiersmen were the dwellers of the low-country, who, by this time, had a well-formed social system, an established religion (Episcopal) , and a great deal of accumulated wealth, with many families of culture and refinement. And in order to understand the sectional differences which have played such a prominent part in the social, political and economic life in South Carolina, one must bear in mind the different types of people making up the citizenship of the upstate and the coastal section.

At first the Cherokees seemed willing to part with some of their land, but as settlers increasingly moved into the backcountry, the Indians began to complain that their presence in the hunting lands had forced the wildlife further back into the mountains and there were no longer enough deer to feed and clothe them. This encroachment was one of the factors leading the Cherokee War of 1760.

Early settlers, particularly those in the Dark Corner section of Greenville County, since that area was within the Cherokee Indian boundary, faced the constant threat of Indian attack.

For protection they relied on a series of forts built by the British in 1755 as a protection not only from hostile Indians but also from attacks by the French. The French and Indian War began in 1754 and did not end until 1763. In the Dark Corner, Gowen's Fort served as a fortress for early settlers. Other forts, bordering the Dark Corner, were Earle's Fort, just over the North Carolina line on the North Pacolet River, the Block House, near present-day Tryon, and Wood's Fort, sometimes called Thompson's Fort, near the site of Greer. When the alarm came, the settlers dashed to these forts - only to return home when the danger was past.

These fortifications, while offering temporary protection, failed to fully protect early settlers. A number of tragedies in and near the area later designated as the Dark Corner occurred.

In June 1776, Preston Hampton, son of Anthony Hampton who had settled his family on the South Tyger River in 1774, one

mile east of the Indian boundary, and brother to Edward and Wade Hampton, led a party of twenty-three men into Indian territory. In a subsequent fight he and four of his companions were killed. Also killed by midsummer was James Hite, son of Greenville settler Jacob Hite. He met a war party near Eastatoe that scalped and killed him.

That same summer, a party of Cherokees rode into the Hampton settlement on the edge of the Indian boundary. This war party killed Anthony and Elizabeth Hampton and the infant son of their daughter Elizabeth. A.V. Huff comments: "According to one account, the baby had been left with them while his mother went to visit a neighbor, Mrs. Sadler." Elizabeth and her friend watched from the nearby canebreak where they had hidden, and then quickly rode to Wood's Fort for help. By the time help came, the raiders had vanished, but not before they stopped at Preston Hampton's house and killed his two children. His wife was found several days later, wandering through the woods. Her mind never recovered from the event.

Jacob Hite and his family died in the raids of that same summer, 1776. Hite believed that his long-standing friendship with the Indians would save him from attack. Tradition has it that one of the daughters of Richard Pearis, who had been engaged to the recently killed James Hite, went to warn the Hite family when she heard of the impending raid. But Jacob Hite was killed, his two daughters, Susan and Eleanor, disappeared, and his wife Frances was kidnapped. Her body was later discovered by the militia in a deserted Indian town. A similar fate befell the Hannon family on the North Pacolet River just over the North Carolina line.

Terrified by these massacres, settlers in this isolated area of the state gathered in the primitive forts to make plans to resist the Indians.

At the Block House, a group of brave men gathered under the leadership of Capt. Thomas Howard one of the early pioneers of the Dark Corner. Not waiting for authority, or help, from Charleston, he and his men planned to attack the Indian war parties. Howard led the attack against the Indians under the command of Big Warrior who were in the gap of the mountains, since known as Big Warrior Gap, near Tryon.

During his march, Howard was guided by a friendly Indian, Skyuka, who led him through another gap in the mountains, since known as Howard's Gap. Howard's force surprised the Indians and won what is now known as the Battle of Round Mountain (July, 1776).

During later and more peaceful times, Howard resided in the Dark Corner, at the foot of Glassy Mountain, near the intersection of Hwy. 11 and State 101. When Hwy. 11 was rerouted, it passed over the old homesite where Howard and his wife Mary lived until his death in 1838. He is buried in the Howard family cemetery, a few yards from his home. In 1964 a marker was placed at his grave.

In 1909 a monument was placed in his memory near the site of the Battle of Round Mountain. Since it was on the right-of-way for I-26, it was moved and now stands near Howard's Gap Road on the east side of I-26 above Tryon and is visible to travelers. A stone obelisk, it is a tribute to brave men like Capt. Howard who pushed back the frontier and also to those early pioneers who lost their lives in the struggle to settle the backcountry.

By the end of that year, 1776, the Cherokees were ready to negotiate. In the treaty signed in 1777, the Cherokees deeded all lands previously reserved for them in South Carolina to the state, except for a small strip in what is now Oconee and Pickens counties. Peace, of a fashion, came to the frontier at last.

Problems, though, existed between the settlers of the Backcountry and those of the Lowcountry. It was basically a taxation without representation issue. People in the Upcountry paid taxes at the same rate as the wealthy planters along the coast, but they received no military protection against Indians or the thieves and robbers who terrorized the region. They had no representation in the Common's House in Charleston. There were no parish churches, no courts, no jails. In 1767 Backcountry settlers banded together to stop lawlessness on the frontier. They called themselves the Regulators. In time, the government in Charles Town addressed some of their concerns. The province was split into six districts, with the Greenville area being in the Ninety-Six District. Sheriffs were appointed and representation in the Common's House was granted.

Upcountry resentment at bearing the burdens of the colony

and receiving few of the rewards created difficulties when the American Revolution began in 1775. Both British Loyalists and American Patriots were well aware that they needed allies in the Backcountry - not only to support their causes - but also to help control the Cherokees, so that they would not have to fight two wars simultaneously. While no more than one-fifth of the free population of South Carolina were Loyalists during the Revolution, perhaps the greatest concentration of them lived in the Ninety-Six District, which included the Dark Corner. The Battle of the Great Canebreak in 1775, the only major battle to take place in Greenville County, was fought near present-day Simpsonville and ended in victory for the Patriots. This battle ended the Loyalist threat in the upstate, but did not change the anti-Lowcountry feeling of many upstate residents.

While no major Revolutionary War battles took place in the Greenville area, and even though the Cherokee had been defeated, residents of the Dark Corner continued to live under a reign of terror. Richardson calls these years the "Years of Banditry." In the Dark Corner: "There was no law there, but the law of might. Roving thieves and cutthroats made it their favorite haunt, from which they sallied forth at pleasure to rob and plunder." Sneak thieves and highwaymen, roving at will about the countryside, preying on honest citizens, reduced life on the frontier to continual terrorism.

Two of the most infamous local bandits terrorizing the Dark Corner shared the same epithet, "Bloody Bill." "Bloody Bill" Cunningham was at first a Patriot, then a Loyalist. He served in the Loyalist militia until the British withdrew from the Ninety-Six District in 1781. Thereafter, with a band of sixty recruits, he captured a number of frontier forts. He systematically pillaged and looted the area within the old Indian boundary.

"Bloody Bill" Bates also led a force of Loyalists and Indians. He attacked Gowen's Fort in the Dark Corner in 1781. Being poorly armed, the occupants of the fort surrendered. As they marched out, some were tortured, and the majority killed on the spot. Major "Buck" Gowen, who escaped, later gathered a force and chased Bates back into his mountain stronghold. After the war, Bates was captured for horse-stealing and brought to Greenville for trial. Hearing that he was in jail, a young man Motley, whose entire family had been

murdered by Bates, gathered some neighbors and rode into Greenville where they forced themselves into the jail, seized Bates, and promptly shot him to death. Motley was never prosecuted for the murder of "Bloody Bill" Bates.

As you can see, during the 1760's, the 1770's, and early 1780's, the relatively small number of settlers in the Backcountry were absorbed with fighting the Indians, fighting the British, and fighting the bandits. It is no wonder that violence is considered a part of the heritage of the Dark Corner.

Although the Indian hunting lands were ceded to the state in 1778, South Carolina was too busy with the war with Britain to pursue settlement of the former Indian territory. After the war ended in 1782, the state, in an effort to erase its indebtedness created by the war, decided to open a land office, offering tracts of land for sale within the former Indian boundary. Settlement of the Upcountry began in earnest.

It was during the Reconstruction Era, following the Civil War, that in 1869 Greenville County was divided into townships, sixteen of fairly equal size. In the upper part of the county, eight townships were established: Chick Springs, O'Neal, Highland, Saluda, Glassy Mountain, Cleveland, Bates and Paris Mountain.

The geography of an area and the history of an area do not tell the entire story of a specific locale, though. Remaining is the story of the people.

Early settlers were attracted to this remote, almost inaccessible, area by the rich quality of the soil along the small streams and in mountainous coves. The environment made it easy for them to grow corn and vegetables for food. There was an abundance of wildlife - deer, elk, bears, rabbits, squirrels, coons and wild turkeys. From the forest they gathered chestnuts, chinquapin nuts, muscadines, scuppernongs, huckleberries, blackberries, blueberries, and honey from the bees.

They built homes, generally of log construction, wherever water could be secured from springs. There were no supermarkets. Fields and forests provided a livelihood for the family. In small clearings, and on land which the Indians had burned over as a part of their hunting grounds, they grew a variety of crops - corn, peas,

beans, sweet potatoes, peanuts, sugarcane for sorghum molasses. A few small gardens grew onions, turnips, squash. One or two cows provided milk and butter.

Mrs. Evelyn Gosnell remembers: "Most everything - we raised ourselves. We didn't have too much either." Dean Campbell questioned, "But you were happy?" She answered, "Yes."

Corn was the major crop. At harvest time, neighbors gathered for "old-timey" corn shuckings - then stored the corn in cribs to feed the livestock - and carried the remainder to grist mills situated on local rivers and streams to grind for meal and grits. Corn supplied the family with cornbread, grits, hominy and mush - the staples of their diet.

There were those, however, who preferred turning some of the corn into "liquid corn" whiskey. For over 150 years, moonshine has been synonymous with the Dark Corner.

Bennie Lee Sinclair's roots lie in the Dark Corner. Her father's mother, Effie Barton, was born and raised there. When Bennie Lee was interviewed for the Dark Corner project, she was asked, "When someone asks you about the Dark Corner, what thoughts come to your mind?" She answered: "I think of it totally... well, first off, I love the specific area of the Dark Corner, but I think about the wildness and I think of it in relation to bootleg, because when I was little, that's what I saw of the Dark Corner. My father, Grady Sinclair, was a connoisseur of bootleg whiskey... and any time that I spent with him, we always headed for the hills - we headed back to see his friends who made bootleg. There were stills everywhere, just everywhere."

The production of moonshine, bootleg, white lightning - whatever it was called - was, and still is, illegal. It violates both state and federal laws because the producer does not pay taxes on it. There was a strong economic incentive, though, to produce whiskey. Prior to the coming of upstate textile mills, there were no industries to hire Dark Corner residents. Mrs. Alex Campbell remembered: "Back then there wasn't jobs." A farmer could sell his corn for 50 to 60 cents a bushel, but if he distilled it into moonshine, which he could sell for $1.50 a gallon, he could gross $2.50 for his bushel of corn. A man with a fifty gallon copper still could make ten or eleven

gallons of whiskey in a day, realizing a $25.00 profit.

But the production of whiskey was not a peaceful business. It led to numerous acts of violence. Alex Campbell, Dean Campbell's father, commented when he was interviewed in 1983: "'Well it was pretty rough sometimes back when I was a kid growing up. You'd hear tell of somebody getting killed once in a while over the whiskey. Most of the people I knowed of up there that got killed, they got killed over whiskey. Fighting 'cause they was pointing one another's still or something like that, you know. Didn't over women, nothing like that. Just pulled somebody's still or stole his whiskey. That, or called the law and the law got his whiskey and he says, 'I'm gonna kill you for it.' All I hear when I was a young boy growing up."

Another element of life in the Dark Corner was the family feud. Children learned a rigid code of loyalty, and the slightest insult sometimes led to violence. A.V. Huff quotes Dean Crain who remembered that: "I went with a friend one night to shoot some boys who had gotten me out one night and "run" me as far as I could see. There was scarcely a boy in the neighborhood above twelve years old who did not carry a pistol . . ." Buford Crain later said that "in my early life several people buried here in Glassy Mountain, Highland, Oak Grove, Gowensville, Ebenezer-Welcome, and Mountain Hill cemeteries died with their shoes on." When the killers were apprehended, they sometimes went free. Buford Crain commented: "Sometimes when some of the mean men in the country were killed, the people were glad, and the man who did the killing would 'come clear' on a plea of self-defense." For many years the Dark Corner was noted for illegal whiskey making, mountain feuds, numerous killings and lawless acts.

Making whiskey and fighting over it is only one theme, though, in Dark Corner folklore. Bernard Zaidman commented: "One of the common themes that seems to be running through just about all of the interviews is people here in Dark Corner have a real love for the land. It's perhaps, if not the most important thing in their lives, surely one of the most important." Albert Emory, whose great-great grandfather settled near Gowen's Gap, responded: "If you want to get somebody stirred up you just start takin' some of their land. You got problems."

When Mr. Zaidman interviewed Bennie Lee Sinclair, he said, "There seems to be in the Dark Corner this intense traditional love - first for God, then for family and then for one's land." She responded, "I would almost put land first. I have seen that God is. The family Bartons I've known have been old-style Christians. God is very important, but the theory of the land - when my great aunts took me back and showed me where they used to live - the bitterness they have for the day when that land was sold. Would you think that land came before God and family?" Dean Campbell: "Yes, I would have to agree that in many instances, I think so." Bennie Lee: "Does that shock you?" Bernard Zaidman: "I wouldn't say 'shock'. I'm beginning to get a feeling for it, the more people we talk with, people who have gone away and come back or people who have never left and never will until they are carted to their grave. That's what Lou Emma Plumley, on top of the mountain said, that she didn't intend to leave until she was taken to her grave. There is an intense love for the land."

Love for the land and love for people, whether they be family or neighbors, is intermingled. Life was difficult in this isolated and harsh area. People were dependent upon the land for sustenance and upon family and friends for survival.

Arnold Emory responded to questions about the love of land:

> I would think basically people because you know your neighbor in a country like this, where if you get into a larger town you may not know your next door neighbor. But most everyone in this area all know one another. They're accommodating, they're good people - if you need any accommodations you don't mind going to just about any of them, whether it's a close friend or not, and expect to get it. And it's a area where you expect no theft from any part of this county. We do love the land and the mountains but it's the people that we've known. It's the close knit of people we've known all our lives. We have new people that come in occasionally, but a majority of people are still people that grew up in this area and they don' t want to leave it.

Alex Campbell amplified on this theme:

> Yeah, if a neighbor got sick, if it was crop time, plowing time, you know, crop about to go up, the neighbors got up maybe when they'd go to church, somebody get up and announce, 'Brother so-and-so's sick, his crop needs plowing out, ain't been plowed in two weeks. He ain't gonna be able, he's gonna be sick, no telling how long. How many come Monday morning go along with me and help plow that man's crop out?' Well they'd be a gang of them you know. They'd plow that man's crop out. And maybe a week or two after that there'd be another man talking, 'You know, Brother so-and-so is over here sick and his cow's dry and they got so many kids over there they need some milk. Any of you fellas got an extra cow around here you'd loan this fella awhile? Yeah, Bill so-and-so over there's got one.' They'd go out and loan that man a cow.

One has only to drive through the Dark Corner to observe the importance of religion in the lives of its residents. Dean Campbell in his lovely photographic tribute to the area states: "The strong sense of personal relationship with the Creator of the Hills is evidenced by more than 20 churches in the region. Over the years the small Dark Corner has produced 30 ministers and 2 missionaries to foreign lands."

A.V. Huff describes the religious climate of the Upcountry in the early 1800's as "the second Great Awakening," a wide spread religious revival which decisively shaped the evangelical Protestantism of their region. "Southern Evangelical Protestantism emphasized personal morality more than social reform. It provided a moral discipline for the community without questioning the social system and brought to the people who lived in relative isolation in a rural society a sense of community."

The Dark Corner has a rich past. Indians, pioneers, Loyalists, Patriots, bandits - all lived and fought here - at times against a common enemy, at other times against each other. They loved the land and lived off its wealth.

Those who carved their way into this area are gone now - but as you drive through the Dark Corner you witness monuments,

landmarks, and memories of their times. The old wooden church down the road, with its pot-bellied stove and funeral-home fans, the hay wagon resting now in the shadow of a barn that is more a landmark than a workplace, the old homeplace left to the ravages of wind and weather but still bearing witness to what it was.

The centuries-old remoteness is no longer. Changing times have brought hang gliders who soar off the heights of Glassy Mountain - golf courses, the premier of which is Cliffs of Glassy, with its beautiful views of the mountains - and lovely horse farms. The rolling terrain, nurtured by early Indian hunters and later by pioneer-farmers, has become the "hunt country" of the county. Beautiful homes, stables, and pastures dot the landscape - giving evidence to a more affluent economy than the early residents ever knew.

As I drive through the Dark Corner and witness its incredible beauty, I have come to the conclusion that Mrs. Gosnell was right when she said, "There's no land - no where that's prettier than ours. I think it's misnamed, don,'t you?"

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WILLIAM J. McGLOTHLIN: PROGRESSIVE CHURCHMAN AND EDUCATIONAL STATESMAN

A. V. Huff, Jr.*

The Progressive Era is at once one of the most restless, yet fertile periods in American history. Encompassing the years from 1889, when Jane Addams opened Hull House in Chicago, to the end of World War I, Progressivism was a wide-ranging movement for reform in reaction to the rise of the Industrial Revolution and the corruption and excesses of the Gilded Age. Its leaders belonged to the post-Civil War generation; they were generally Protestant, middle class, and well-educated. They dedicated themselves with religious fervor to the revival of Protestant morality, the restoration of competition in business, and the renewal of democracy in America. Education became one of the major weapons in their arsenal of reform. In politics and religion Progressivism cut across the lines of party and denomination. Of the three Progressive presidents, for example, two were Republican – Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft – and one was Democratic – Woodrow Wilson. Progressive leaders seldom agreed with one another on any issue except the need for reform itself. Indeed, Progressivism has been sometimes described not so much as a movement but as a creative moment in American history. It provided not only immediate changes in the nation's fabric, but it also provided the vision for subsequent reform during the remainder of the twentieth century. [1]

Because Protestantism was at the heart of the reform effort, Progressive leaders within the Protestant denominations sought to address the major intellectual challenges of the day - such as Darwinian evolution and the historical-critical study of the Bible – as well as the profound changes taking place in American society. Those efforts are generally known as the development of liberal theology and the emergence of the social gospel. [2]

In the South white Protestants overwhelmingly identified with three evangelical groups – Southern Baptists, Southern Methodists,

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and Southern Presbyterians. Because of the devastation of the Civil War, the intellectual and social conservatism of the region, the continuing impact of the revivalism of the Second Great Awakening, and the smaller, educated middle class, Progressivism among white religious leaders in the South was more conservative than in the rest of the nation and more limited in scope. [3]

One of the strong Progressive voices in religion in the South was William Joseph McGlothlin, professor of church history in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (1894-1919), president of Furman University from the end of World War I to the beginning of the New Deal (1919-1933), and president of the Southern Baptist Convention (1930-1932). [4]

McGlothlin was descended from fierce Scottish Presbyterians who supported Bonnie Prince Charlie in the '45 (that is, the Rising of 1745). These members of the Clan Lachlan later fled to Ireland, where they became McLachlans. Eventually some of their descendants joined the Scots-Irish immigration to America. When Joseph McGlothlin was born on November 29, 1867, his family lived on a small tobacco farm in northern Tennessee, near Gallatin and Portland. Young Joe, as he was known, was the eldest of three children. The family was Presbyterian, and the stern theological doctrines of election and providence were staples in the McGlothlin household. The Civil War was over, and much of the South had been devastated. Tennessee had been a divided state during the war, and an East Tennessee Unionist – Andrew Johnson – was in the White House. [5]

As a boy Joe McGlothlin helped build the first schoolhouse in the community. When it was completed, he walked the three miles each way to and from school. Later he boarded ten miles from home in order to attend the nearest high school. After four and a half months he began teaching elementary school as well as attending high school. During this period he attended a protracted meeting (or revival) in the elementary school conducted by a Baptist minister. He had a deep religious experience and was converted to the Baptist way.

In 1887, at the age of nineteen, McGlothlin entered Bethel College, a Baptist institution in Russellville, Kentucky. He fired

furnaces to put himself through school, and despite his spotty preparation he graduated in two years by doubling the amount of Greek he took each year. Between his first and second years of college he strongly felt a call to the ministry. In the summer of 1888 he listened as an unschooled preacher attempted to deliver a sermon. This experience led McGlothlin to conclude: "The gospel is worthy of a better presentation." He would enter the ministry, but not without a seminary education.

After two years of teaching English and mathematics in the academy at Bardstown, Kentucky, he entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville in the fall of 1891. In many ways it was a golden era in the history of the seminary. The faculty was stellar. President John A. Broadus was an internationally known preacher and professor of homiletics, and A. T. Robertson was equally well known in New Testament studies. William H. Whitsitt, a young scholar who had studied at Berlin and Leipzig, was establishing his reputation as a church historian. McGlothlin was an outstanding student. He had no sooner received his Th.M. degree in 1894 than he was offered the position of Assistant Instructor of Old Testament. [6]

It was a heady time for Joe McGlothlin, but also a traumatic period for the young instructor and the entire seminary. When W. H. Whitsitt became president after the death of Broadus, he angered a substantial number of conservatives who were out to gain control of the Southern Baptist Convention. These adherents of the Landmark movement, as it was called, insisted that Baptists had existed in unbroken succession from the first century and had always practiced baptism by immersion. Whitsitt published the results of his research indicating that present-day Baptists had emerged from English Puritanism in the seventeenth century and had not always insisted on immersion. In the end, Whitsitt was vindicated by the seminary trustees, but he resigned to restore peace to the denomination. E. Y. Mullins became president of the seminary in 1899. As a theologian, Mullins became a major Progressive figure. He attempted to reconcile religion with Darwinian thought, to nudge Baptists further toward the doctrine of free will and away from predestination, and to combine the Baptist emphases on religious liberty and the priesthood

of the believer in what he called the doctrine of soul competency. [7]

In the wake of Whitsitt's departure, McGlothlin suddenly found himself teaching church history in place of his old professor. To prepare himself for his new task, he travelled to the University of Berlin and became a doctoral student of Adolf Harnack, a major theologian and perhaps the best known church historian of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. From Harnack, McGlothlin learned that Christian doctrine was shaped as much by social forces as by the elaboration of Greek philosophical thought. His mentor in Berlin encouraged him to search for the essentials of Christian doctrine rather than focus on the elaboration of dogma. McGlothlin's dissertation was a study of the origins of the Anabaptist movement in Bern, Switzerland, in the sixteenth century. He received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Berlin in 1902.

McGlothlin's years on the faculty in Louisville were filled with both teaching and writing. He was the author of half a dozen books, including *Baptist Confessions of Faith* and his *magnum opus*, *The Course of Christian History*, which was published by MacMillan in 1917 after it was turned down as too liberal by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

McGlothlin's theological views are outlined in an address he made to the Baptist Ministers' Conference in Louisville on December 27, 1906, entitled "What is Essential Baptist Doctrine? - An Inquiry." They form a synthesis of the thought of Harnack, his mentor at Berlin, with the warm-hearted revivalism of the Southern evangelical frontier. This synthesis marks McGlothlin, along with his faculty colleague and former roommate, William O. Carver, as the more liberal members of the seminary faculty. [8]

In his address McGlothlin indicated that no authoritative statement of Baptist doctrine could be derived from the history of Baptists because there were many diverse groups that had used the term Anabaptist or Baptist since the sixteenth century. Nor did the historic Baptist confessions agree on many doctrinal points. For example, some were Arminian (free will), some were Calvinist (predestinarian), and others took moderating positions. In the present (1906) the confusion was equally as great, because there was a wide diversity of opinion. "We have wisely left large liberty," he said, "to

individual peculiarities, provincial differences, church freedom, etc., trusting that personal religion and loyalty to the Bible would preserve a reasonable amount of harmony and fellowship." [9]

McGlothlin proposed reducing any required confession to a short statement, and he urged churches to be careful to distinguish between heresy and the struggle of every generation to restate Christian teachings in meaningful ways. His view of "essential Baptist doctrine" required of believers was simple: "I have repented of my sins and believe that God has forgiven my sins for the sake of Christ whom I am trusting for life and salvation; I desire to be baptized (immersed in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost) and promise to lead a life devoted to Christ and his cause." [10]

Such a confession, McGlothlin proposed, did not, for example, deal with the major theological debates of Christian history, such as the immanence or the transcendence of God, the doctrine of the Trinity nor the nature of Christ. It was neither Arminian nor Calvinist. Even in the ordination of ministers, he urged that "we should be slow to go very far beyond our primal creed and its implications. Unwavering fidelity in vital essentials and elsewhere liberty are the conditions of breadth, efficiency and harmony in our denomination and its work." [11]

Ironically, McGlothlin was formulating his own views at the same time that the emerging Fundamentalist movement was preparing to do battle with liberal theology, using the weapons of Biblical inerrancy and dispensationalism. [12]

Like many American churchmen of his generation, McGlothlin was caught up in the moral and religious crusade of World War I as "the war to end all wars." In fact, he was in Europe with his family on his way to Germany to do additional study in 1914 when the war erupted. They turned back in Switzerland and took the last train available to civilians from Interlachen to Paris on their way home to America. In his journal McGlothlin wrote: "Germany has simply become insufferable, and the world has risen to humble her. It will be a fearful struggle, bloody and enormously expensive."[13] When the United States entered the war in 1917, he adopted the Progressive stance of President Wilson that it was "a war to end all wars." At the time he noted: "We are now at war with the greatest

military power in the world . . . We must fight for democracy and freedom." [14]

Back in Louisville McGlothlin enlisted as a "four-minute man" to sell Liberty Bonds to support the war. When President Wilson appointed Herbert Hoover to set about the task of urging Americans to conserve food to aid those made homeless by the war in Europe, McGlothlin became the representative of the Southern Baptist Convention on the national Food Conservation Commission. To rally support among Baptists, he went on a three weeks' speaking tour across the South.

As his reputation grew, McGlothlin had a number of opportunities to leave the seminary. Several times he was contacted by the trustees of Furman University to replace President Edwin McNeill Poteat, who wished to fulfill his life-long dream of becoming a missionary to China. Finally, in 1919, McGlothlin was offered both the presidency of Furman and the position of secretary of the Education Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He decided to make the move to Greenville. [15]

According to his journal, McGlothlin had ambitions to succeed Mullins as president of the seminary. However, he encountered growing hostility from Mullins and Robertson. What he does not tell us was supplied by his closest friend on the faculty, William O. Carver. In his unpublished "Recollections," Carver wrote: "After the World War the wide recognition of McGlothlin ... gradually developed tension between him and Mullins and Robertson." When McGlothlin approached his senior colleagues about the offer at Furman, both men courteously urged him to stay but by their tone of voice indicated they would not be sorry to see him go. McGlothlin confided to his journal: "It is a relief to be away from them." [16]

At Furman, McGlothlin was determined to create a liberal arts college of the first rank. It was a difficult assignment for a small Southern school, unaccredited and poorly financed. But the successful crusade in Europe had enlivened the Progressive spirit. Shortly after McGlothlin's arrival in Greenville, he undertook an ambitious program to build five new buildings--Geer Hall, a central heating plant, a gymnasium, a refectory, and an infirmary. He began

to enlarge the faculty and sought scholars, like himself, who held the Ph.D. degree. They included Frank Pool in religion, Eugene Gardner in modern languages, Sumner Ives in biology, Alfred T. Odell in English, and Delbert H. Gilpatrick in history. In 1921 the Furman Law School held its first classes. Funds came from the state Baptist convention, the Southern Education Board, and the alumni. McGlothlin began an active campaign to seek accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, which Furman received in 1924. [17]

Perhaps the longest-lasting achievement of the McGlothlin administration was something entirely out of the president's hands. It was the decision of James Buchanan Duke in 1924 to include Furman as one of the beneficiaries of The Duke Endowment. Not only did the Duke gift make it possible for the university to survive the Great Depression, but it allowed Furman to flourish in better days. To date (1997), The Duke Endowment has provided Furman in excess of $51.4 million in gifts and grants.

As president, McGlothlin found that college students were not always amenable to his wishes. When the new refectory was completed on campus, he decreed that coats must be worn to meals. Those who appeared coatless were turned away. Finally, there was a demonstration in front of the President's House at 3:00 a.m., but to no avail. The students retaliated by nicknaming the unyielding, bald headed president, Cueball. The name amused young Bill McGlothlin ---in full rebellion against his father – until the students began referring to the son as Little Cueball. The next spring when temperatures began to rise, students appeared in the refectory without their coats, and President Cueball said not a word in protest! [18]

McGlothlin's Progressivism was evident in his views on race relations. His son Bill remembered long afterward how his father chided him for a slang reference to a black man he encountered on the street in Louisville. The proper term of reference, the elder McGlothlin told his son was "colored gentleman." [19]

In Greenville McGlothlin invited the first black to address the Furman faculty and student body in chapel – Dr. George Washington Carver – on November 19, 1923. The president also became active with the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, an organization

with headquarters in Atlanta committed to improving race relations in the South. He served on the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching that employed the sociologist Arthur Raper to make what became the classic study of lynching in the South. Raper later recalled his visit to McGlothlin's office in Greenville, expecting to find a white, conservative racist. Raper needed the support of the commission members to publish his study which defined lynching as mob violence. McGlothlin asked him only one question: "Are your facts correct?" When Raper assured him they were, McGlothlin replied: "Well, publish them." That was the end of the interview. [20]

Perhaps more volatile at the time among the Baptist constituency was the issue of Darwinian evolution. The controversy reached a climax nationally during the Scopes Trial in Dayton, Tennessee in 1925. When J. Frank Norris, the leader of the fundamentalists in the Southern Baptist Convention, introduced a resolution to require every faculty member in Baptist colleges to sign a pledge that he or she believed in the Biblical, not the evolutionary view of creation, McGlothlin and others killed the resolution on the ground that it violated the Baptist view of freedom of conscience. [21]

In addresses to Baptist Assembly meetings on the campus at Furman in the summers, McGlothlin attempted to reconcile the views of science and religion in a way that did justice to the claims of both. Eventually, however, McGlothlin was asked to state his views on evolution before the South Carolina Baptist Convention. From the platform he recalled that he had joined the faculty of the seminary at Louisville in 1894, had been interrogated about his beliefs, and had signed the Abstract of Principles - all to the satisfaction of President John A. Broadus and the faculty. "Brothers and sisters of the Convention," he said, "I have seen no reason to change those beliefs since that time." He was strongly applauded but avoided a direct answer to the question. McGlothlin's role in the denomination increased and reached its zenith in 1930 when he was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention. He laid the groundwork for the first concurrent meeting of the Northern and Southern Baptist conventions in 1933. [22]

However, McGlothlin's efforts at Furman and his life ended on a tragic note. Nationally, the struggle over the League of Nations

exhausted the Progressive movement. In the South the advance of the boll weevil across the region brought economic devastation to the Cotton Kingdom. Depression in the South was a prelude to the Great Depression of 1929. At Furman, as elsewhere, the mode changed from expansion to survival. The new law school closed in 1926, and McGlothlin proposed a coordination of Furman and the Greenville Woman's College to save the university's sister institution. Then, while McGlothlin and his wife were on their way to Washington, D.C., to attend the Southern Baptist Convention in 1933, they were involved in a serious automobile accident. She was killed, and he lingered in the hospital a week before his death on May 28, 1933. In his last words to his family, he rehearsed his life story and recalled his ambition to leave the farm in Tennessee and make a difference in the world. He regretted that he had left much undone. "I don't feel triumphant, as I hoped I would," he said; "but I'm not afraid to die."[23] The life of William Joseph McGlothlin — scholar, churchman and educational leader — was a testament to the Progressive spirit of the age.

ENDNOTES

[1] There is a vast literature on Progressivism. A convenient summary is Robert M. Crunden, "Progressivism," in *The Reader's Companion to American History*, ed. by Eric Foner and John A Garrity (Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1991), pp. 868-871.

The definitive treatment of the South in this period is Dewey W. Grantham, Jr., *Southern Progressivism: The Reconciliation of Progress and Tradition* (Knoxville, TN: Univ. of Tennessee Press, 1983).

[2] The impact of Progressivism on American religion can be traced in Sydney E. Ahlstrom, *A Religious History of the American People* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1972), especially ch. 4647.

[3] The term "evangelical" in this context refers to the affective nature of the conversion experience which was associated with the Second Great Awakening and remained common in the South. See Donald G. Mathews, *Religion in the Old South* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1977), *passim*. Unfortunately, there is no comparable volume for the South after the Civil War.

Evangelical, as it is often used in America today, has been adopted by groups that were identified as Fundamentalist in the Progressive era.

[4] Biographical sketches can be found in *Encyclopedia of Southern*

Baptists, 2 vols. (Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1958), 2: 1841-42, and Greenville (SC) *News*, May 29, 1933.

[5] Family reminiscences can be found in Norman W. Cox, "W. J. McGlothlin, Scholar and Teacher," *Review and Expositor* 39: 2 (April 1942), 151-60, and William J. McGlothlin, Jr., "Anecdotes From the Life of William Joseph McGlothlin, Sr., Seminary Professor and University President," a paper presented to the Conversation Club, Louisville, KY, Oct. 6, 1977. William J. McGlothlin Papers, Furman Univ. Library, Greenville, SC.

[6] William A. Mueller, *A History of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary* (Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1959), pp. 143-210.

[7] Ibid.

[8] McGlothlin, *What is Essential Baptist Doctrine? An Inquiry* (Louisville, KY: C. T. Dearing Printing Co., n.d.). There is a copy in the SC Baptist Historical Collection, Furman Univ. Library.

[9] Ibid., p. 8.

[10] Ibid., p. 11.

[11] Ibid., p. 16.

[12] Ahlstrom, *Religious History*, ch. 48.

[13] William J. McGlothlin, Journal, p. 35. Copy in McGlothlin Papers, Furman Univ. Library.

[14] Ibid., pp. 113-14.

[15] McGlothlin, Journal, pp. 153-57.

[16] Ibid., pp. 157-58; William O. Carver, unpublished notes, cited in William J. McGlothlin, Jr., "Anecdotes," pp. 8-11.

[17] Alfred S.Reid, *Furman University: Toward a New Identity, 1925-1975* (Durham, NC: Duke Univ. Press, 1976), pp. 31-61 covers the McGlothlin years.

[18] McGlothlin, "Anecdotes," pp. 14-15.

[19] Ibid., p. 16.

[20] Greenville(SC) *News*, Nov. 20,1923; McGlothlin, "Anecdotes," pp. 15-16.

[21] McGlothlin, "Anecdotes," pp. 16-17.

[22] Ibid.

[23] Ibid., pp. 19-20.

BRIGADIER GENERAL MICAH JENKINS

James J. Baldwin III*

This paper is taken from the author's biography of Micah Jenkins entitled, *The Struck Eagle*. Perhaps a better title for the book would have been, *The Rise and Fall of a Promising, Young, South Carolina Family*. Most of Micah Jenkins' adult life, short as it was, was involved in leading men in war, or in the preparations for war. When the War for Southern Independence finally came, it had a devastating impact on Micah Jenkins and his young family, as it did on so many other families in South Carolina.

Even the great Confederate warrior, General Robert E. Lee, would catch himself being swept up in the romance and excitement of the early years of the war and would turn and face its terrible reality. An example of this occurred on the morning of the Battle of Fredericksburg (Virginia), December 13, 1862. Generals Lee and Longstreet were standing on Telegraph Hill, overlooking the battle, as the Federal brigades began to advance against Stonewall Jackson's corps. It was a compelling spectacle for a professional soldier, the thousands of men in formation, colorful battle flags fluttering in the wind, bayonets gleaming in the sunlight. As the two generals gazed upon this panorama of war, Lee turned and said: "General Longstreet, it is well that war is so terrible - [else] we [might] grow too fond of it."

By the time General Lee made this famous statement in late 1862, Micah Jenkins had himself already begun to understand the terrible reality of the war. In fact, the wording of his letters to his wife clearly reflect his changing from a romantic idealist to a somber realist. But before I tell you how that happened, let me tell you a little about the man, Micah Jenkins.

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JENKINS' EARLY YEARS

Jenkins had to have been one of the luckiest boys in the world, growing up in the 1830's and 1840's on beautiful Edisto Island below Charleston. He was one of five children of Captain John Jenkins, who operated three plantations on or near the island. Much of his time was spent at "Brick House," the plantation on Edisto owned by Micah's uncle, Joseph Evans Jenkins. This uncle later represented Edisto Island at the State Secession Convention and made the statement, "If South Carolina will not secede from the Union, Edisto Island will."

Micah Jenkins left Edisto Island at only age fifteen to enter the Citadel, having barely met the school's minimum age requirement. His goal was to become the number one cadet in his class, which he did achieve when his class graduated in 1854.

FOUNDING KINGS MOUNTAIN MILITARY SCHOOL

During their senior year at the Citadel, Jenkins and his classmate, Asbury Coward, agreed to become partners after graduation and build a military school for boys. The Citadel cadets had engaged in a remarkably successful "March Through the Upcountry" in the spring of 1854 and had spent a few days in Yorkville (now York), South Carolina. It was on that trip that Jenkins and Coward had selected a wooded site outside of Yorkville on the road to the famous Kings Mountain Battlefield.

In January, 1855, only a month after they graduated, Jenkins and his partner began conducting classes in Yorkville in a large rented mansion. At the time they did this, they were only nineteen years old. The following year, a large building was erected on the site they had purchased on Kings Mountain Road. Jenkins had to borrow $5000 for his share of the building, and because he was under twenty-one, his older brother had to co-sign the note. By 1861 Jenkins' school, named the Kings Mountain Military School, would be educating 150 student-cadets.

Jenkins and Coward had intended that their graduates should be able to enter the Citadel as sophomores, exempting the freshman year. In order to arrange his school's curriculum to accomplish this end, Jenkins traveled to Orangeburg to visit a founder and member

of the Citadel's board, David F. Jamison. On this trip, Micah Jenkins met and fell in love with Caroline, D. F. Jamison's eldest daughter. They were married about a year later, in July 1856, an event described in Nell Graydon's well-known book, *Tales of Edisto.*

STORM CLOUDS GATHERING

In a letter written to his brother John, just prior to Jenkins' wedding in 1856, he expressed a definite concern that war could break our between the North and South. No doubt what prompted this concern was the well-known incident between Preston Brooks and Charles Sumner in Washington, D. C., which had occurred only a few days earlier. You may recall that Brooks (from Edgefield, South Carolina) had caned Charles Sumner on the Senate floor for inflammatory remarks Sumner had made about Brooks' aging cousin, Andrew Pickens Butler. Rallies were held all over Massachusetts, where the abolitionist Sumner was from, denouncing Preston Brooks and hanging him in effigy. Counter-rallies were held throughout South Carolina to support what Brooks had done, including a rally in Yorkville, no doubt attended by Jenkins. In fact, a ball took place at the courthouse here in Greenville in support of Brooks, and a dinner was held in his honor at the Mansion House.

The bitter sectionalism between the North and South was becoming more serious than it had ever been, even during the early 1830's when the "Nullification Crisis" almost led to war. After the Brooks-Sumner incident, in Kansas there was bloodshed over the question of whether she would come into the Union as a "slave state" or a "free state," thereby affecting the balance of power in the United States Senate.

By far the most serious event that occurred between the North and South during the 1850's was John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry in October of 1859. Financed by wealthy Northern abolitionists, for the purpose of creating a slave rebellion in Virginia, Brown's raid sent shock waves throughout the South.

Jenkins and many other men in the South could now see war on the horizon. Throughout South Carolina volunteer military companies, which could train more often than the state militia, were established. Micah Jenkins formed such a company in Yorkville,

called "The Jasper Light Infantry," only a few weeks before John Brown's raid. Occasionally Jenkins would drill his volunteer company in combination with the cadets at his military school, which was quite a spectacle for the people of Yorkville.

A few months after John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry, the Democratic National Convention was held in Charleston, South Carolina. After several days of disagreement over the party's platform, almost all of the delegates of five Southern states walked out in protest. Only two South Carolina delegates remained with the convention, and one of these was Benjamin Perry from Greenville, who opposed secession. With the Democratic Party now split along sectional lines, the door was opened for Abraham Lincoln and the Republican Party. Most of the political leaders in South Carolina felt that the Southern states should secede if Lincoln was elected. In fact South Carolina's governor, William Gist, called for a special convention in this state to consider the issue of secession as soon as Lincoln was elected.

Of course, Lincoln was elected in November 1860, and South Carolina did hold its Secession Convention only six weeks later. The delegates included Micah Jenkins' brother, John, and uncle, Joseph E. Jenkins. On the fourth ballot the delegates elected as the president of the Secession Convention Micah Jenkins' father-in-law, David F. Jamison. When the Ordinance of Secession was passed by a vote of 169 to 0, Jamison declared that South Carolina was a sovereign nation. This, of course, raised the thorny issue of the Federal installations in Charleston, most notably Fort Sumter.

Seeing the possibility that South Carolina might have to defend herself from a possible Federal invasion, the Legislature immediately called for the raising of ten infantry regiments of volunteer troops from all over South Carolina. The top three (field) officers in each of these regiments were to be elected by the troops themselves. Two months after South Carolina seceded, Micah Jenkins was elected colonel of the Fifth South Carolina Volunteers, a regiment of more than one thousand men from the districts of Spartanburg, Union and York. One of the ten companies in Jenkins' regiment was the one he had formed in Yorkville, the Jasper Light Infantry. About the same time his regiment was formed, Jenkins

resigned his elected position of intendant of Yorkville.

WAR FINALLY COMES

When President Buchanan refused to turn over Fort Sumter to South Carolina, the fort quickly became the flash point of the coming conflict. When Lincoln took office and sent the Federal fleet into Charleston Harbor to reinforce and resupply Fort Sumter, the conflict finally erupted during the second week of April, 1861.

Jenkins and his men left their homes to defend the state on April 13, 1861, one day after the Battle of Fort Sumter had begun. They arrived in Charleston by train on the day after the Federals had finally surrendered Fort Sumter to General Beauregard, the Confederate officer in command of the forces in Charleston. D. F. Jamison wrote to his daughter, Caroline (Micah's wife), saying he had attended the surrender ceremony with Beauregard and Governor Francis Pickens, and he described the ceremony for her in interesting detail.

Jenkins and his men in the Fifth South Carolina Volunteers remained on Sullivan's Island for the next five weeks, diligently preparing to repulse any Federal invasion along the coast.

In late May it became clear that the initial Federal invasion would come in Northern Virginia and not in South Carolina. Jefferson Davis called for as many volunteers as possible to be sent by the Confederate states to Virginia. Jenkins and most of his men converted their State enlistments into Confederate enlistments and were sent to Richmond on three trains during the first week in June, 1861. A few days later they were ordered on up to Manassas Junction, where a major battle was expected to take place, and Jenkins reported to the army commander there, General Beauregard.

On Sunday night before the battle occurred, one of Jenkins' sentinels shot an intruder in the dark who had refused to identify himself. The intruder turned out to be a large milk cow, and the sentinel, Private Calvin Cook, from near Spartanburg, was arrested for destruction of private property. Cook's defense was so convincing that Colonel Jenkins soon ordered his release. Cook claimed he thought the intruder was "a Yankee in a cow skin."

The Battle, called First Manassas by Southern historians,

occurred on July 21, 1861, and resulted in an utter rout of Federal forces, sending them reeling back toward Washington. Jenkins and his regiment performed admirably in their first test under fire. In the following months, Jenkins and his men were assigned to the division of General James Longstreet. Jenkins was to become Longstreet's favorite brigadier general in the coming battles.

Ten months after the First Battle of Manassas, the Federal Army was within only several miles of Richmond. On May 31, 1862, the two armies collided at Seven Pines, about six miles due east of Richmond. Jenkins was in command of three regiments (a half brigade) during the first day of the battle and they performed so well that Jenkins received many accolades from his superiors. Longstreet said that "[t]he distinguished ability of [Jenkins], and his brigade on the field, far surpasses any conduct of troops [thus far] during the War." A few weeks later, General Robert E. Lee, the new Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, wrote to Jefferson Davis recommending Jenkins' promotion to brigadier general. Lee told Davis that Jenkins' "conduct at Seven Pines was worthy of all commendation" and Davis had him promoted on Lee's recommendation.

It was in this fighting around Richmond, during the summer of 1862, that Jenkins clearly showed his ability to lead men in battle. But it was also that same fighting that changed him forever. In one of his battles, his newly formed regiment (the famous Palmetto Sharpshooters) entered the fight with almost 400 men. The next morning only 125 could answer the morning roll call - more than sixty-seven per cent of their comrades had been either killed or wounded. It was after this battle, called Frayser's Farm, that Jenkins was observed walking over the smoking battlefield, searching for his fallen men and weeping like a child. One of those seriously wounded was Jenkins' young brother-in-law, John W. Jamison, brother of Jenkins' wife Caroline.

Only two months later, in almost the same spot the fight had taken place a year earlier, the Federals met Lee's army again at Manassas, Virginia. Once more the Federals suffered a defeat and withdrew from the field, but here Jenkins was wounded in the chest and left shoulder and came very close to losing an arm. He was sent

home by train to Yorkville, South Carolina, for his recovery but not before General Lee had personally wished him well.

In September, 1863, Jenkins and his brigade were assigned to John Bell Hood's division and sent toward Chattanooga, Tennessee. Jenkins stopped in Yorkville long enough to say goodbye to Caroline, who was pregnant, and to check on his youngest son, Whitemarsh, who was very ill. After he had been in Tennessee for about two weeks, Jenkins learned that his son had died. He needed to be home, but he had no choice but to leave his pregnant wife there to deal with the funeral by herself. He was learning that the war could be just as difficult on the families back home as on the sons, fathers and brothers who were off doing the hard fighting.

JENKINS' LAST BATTLE

Longstreet's corps, including Jenkins' brigade, returned from Tennessee to Lee's Army of Northern Virginia just in time for the Battle of the Wilderness, a few miles west of Fredericksburg. It was during this battle, on Friday, May 6, 1864, that Jenkins and General Joe Kershaw (from Camden, South Carolina) were riding together with Longstreet who was giving them orders for the next phase of the attack. Unfortunately, this mounted party was mistaken, by troops from Virginia, for Federal cavalry and was fired upon. Jenkins was hit in the head, Longstreet in the chest, and a member of Kershaw's staff was killed. Longstreet was knocked out of the war for almost six months, but Jenkins' head wound was mortal. He died at sunset that Friday afternoon. His body was sent first to Richmond, where members of the Confederate Congress attended a memorial service in his honor.

Tradition has it that Caroline and Micah's four little sons learned of his death the next day at the depot in Yorkville, when the train from Chester pulled into town with the bad news. Micah was buried in Summerville beside the still fresh grave of his mother, who had died only two months before. Neither one could be buried on their beloved Edisto Island, because it was still under the control of Union forces

About five months after her husband's tragic death Caroline Jenkins also lost her father, who had become a military judge for the

Confederacy. All of this tragedy came on top of the loss of her youngest son a year earlier, and she had to endure these cruel blows as a twenty-seven year old widow with four little boys.

So, you can see that the story of Micah Jenkins does not have a happy ending. His young family had lost almost everything.

WHY THE TITLE - *THE STRUCK EAGLE*

When Micah Jenkins was killed at the Wilderness, very near the spot where Stonewall Jackson had been killed by his own men a year before, Asbury Coward was devastated. He had been Jenkins' best friend and business partner and had led a regiment in Jenkins' brigade. Coward, at Jenkins' side when he was dying, wept bitter tears over one whom he felt was a great man killed by "stupid blunders." He said that Jenkins' death by mistaken fire of the Virginians reminded him of a verse from a poem by Lord Byron, which reads:

> So the Struck Eagle, stretched upon the plain,
> No more through rolling clouds to soar again,
> Viewed his own feathers on the fatal dart,
> And winged the shaft that quivered in his heart.
> While the same plumage that had warmed his nest,
> Drank the life-drop of his bleeding breast.

Analogous to Byron's eagle, Micah Jenkins had been killed in tragic irony with a bullet from troops in his own army.

CONCLUSION

Coward returned to York after the War and reopened the Kings Mountain Military School. There he educated all four of General Jenkins' sons, free of charge. Two of these boys went on to West Point and one attained the rank of major general. In later years, the military school in York was closed. The site is now occupied by "York Place," the Episcopal Home for Children. Caroline died in 1902, some forty years after her husband's tragic death. She never remarried and none of her letters to her husband have been located. Like many young women widowed during the war, she had somehow

found a way to raise her family in war-torn South Carolina. Micah would have admired Caroline's courage and he would have lamented the fact that she was left to face such difficult times by herself. Caroline's story is one we shall have to save for another day.

BRUSHY CREEK
THE ALEXANDER MCBEE[1] COUNTRY HOME

Roy McBee Smith*

Three miles out Augusta Street in Greenville there is a story and-a-half house at the end of Rice Street, formerly named Henrietta Street for the mistress of that house before 1893. The 672 acre tract it was built on was deeded to Vardry McBee in 1815 as part of the conveyance which included the present- day City of Greenville.[2] The house was referred to in the family as simply "Brushy Creek," for the creek which runs through the property. The house must have been originally intended for a farm overseer. No record has been found of its construction date. Vardry McBee's habit of rapidly bringing his farms to maximum production, and the fact that upon acquiring the 1815 deed his first project was a sawmill to supply his "passion for building," suggests to this author that he provided for a resident overseer upon this land not many years after 1815.[3]

The house's foundation rests upon an extensive sheet of granite. It was built with four downstairs rooms, a wide central hallway, two upstairs rooms with a dormer on the back, a wooden shingled roof, four outside chimneys, a fireplace in every downstairs room, and a high porch across the back. The kitchen was a separate building. The site of the well house can be seen in the woods in front of the house, and behind the house a vigorous spring still flows from under the hill. A formidable corn mill was built on Brushy Creek north of the house.

The house is halfway between where Vardry McBee's house was on Prospect Hill in Greenville and his mills at the place now known as Conestee - about four miles from each.

Over the years, Vardry McBee rode regularly to the Brushy Creek farm from Greenville, accompanied by his youngest child, Alexander. Alexander McBee played in its woods and creeks as a

*Roy McBee Smith is the great grandson of Alexander and Henrietta McBee. He was educated at The Citadel and the University of South Carolina Law School. He resides in Spartanburg, where he is a civil trial lawyer. He is the author of *Vardry McBee. Man of Reason In An Age of Extremes.* On April 26, 1998, his paper on Alexander McBee was read at a meeting of the Historical Society on the grounds of Brushy Creek Farm.

boy and learned to oversee its farming as a youth and man. As the last child in the family, seventeen years younger than the first, he grew up too ready to please and love. It was assumed that he should yield to and serve all the family, with little notice or need for appreciation. Mostly he wanted in his life a measure of approval from his father. For that he exerted all his efforts, until he was forty-two years old, in his father's enterprises. Of his three brothers, two were educated to be attorneys and the other, a civil engineer. But it was always expected that Alexander would learn to carry on whatever his father founded. A strain of longing ran through the otherwise frolicking nature he inherited from his mother's side of the family. The result was that he was a good man, thoughtful and compassionate, dependable and effective in many ways, and accustomed to serving without thanks or notice. It was also a result that he was especially alert to injustices to anyone and quick to try to redress them when he could. He intervened with those who would have abused emancipated slaves after the war. Indeed, his efforts after the war to improve the lives of former slaves would seem singular, except for the fact that he made similar efforts on behalf of others.[4]

In 1856, he married the remarkably beautiful and talented, Henrietta D'Oyley Thruston, the only woman he ever loved. Henrietta had black hair, brown-eyes, clear pale skin, a kind voice, a slim waist, and a graceful carriage. She had haunted Alexander since she was sixteen and began to play the organ for services at Christ Church. She told him when they married, what she had kept to herself since her husband Saxon Thruston's death in 1854, that on his death bed Saxon had recommended Alexander as a worthy husband to succeed him. It is recorded that at their wedding ball Alexander "danced his cotillion into the night."

Henrietta saw and loved Alexander's kindness and abilities. Her love fulfilled his longings. General acknowledgment that she was the most beautiful woman in the county bolstered his pride. Their marriage unleashed in him a pursuit of the most worthy goals of private and public life, through unselfish and courageous actions, under postwar circumstances more difficult than any ever dealt with by his father. Henrietta lived to see the *Greenville Mountaineer* refer to him as "The noblest Greenvillian of them all."[5]

Alexander and Henrietta raised their eight children, and her two boys by Saxon Thruston, in town in a large house on a hill overlooking the Reedy River.

The organ at Christ Church was powered by pedals for pumping by the organist's feet. When their sons, Willie and Roy, were just the right size they took turns sitting on the floor at their mother's delicate feet working the pedals with their hands.

Upon his father's death in 1864, Alexander inherited Brushy Creek. When the war ended his overseer and workers were gone. Yet agriculture offered subsistence and almost the only route to recovery. As he gradually rebuilt his devastated situation with day laborers and planting on shares, he improved the Brushy Creek house. In time it became the summer home for Alexander, Henrietta and their only daughter, Sarah. In 1887, they moved there permanently from the house in Greenville.[6] He shaped and terraced its landscape according to Henrietta's wishes. Vardry McBee's former slave, Hector, and the D'Oyley's venerable Aunt Queen who had delivered all their children, married after the war, continued in the employment of the family, and outlived Henrietta and Alexander. There was a house nearby for them on the Brushy Creek farm. Alexander and Henrietta's children provided for Hector and Aunt Queen in their old age. Aunt Queen fairly dominated the family, highly regarded and somewhat feared by the McBee children she had raised, even in her old age.

Henrietta loved the Brushy Creek house and farm. Its gardens and pond were reminiscent of the Charleston and Lowcountry manor houses of the D'Oyley heritage. Her parents had moved to Greenville from Charleston before she was born. Her speech and her children's speech retained traces of that accent and certain distinctive pronunciations.

The house embraced them and their visiting or lodging children and grandchildren from time to time. Its front and east-side windows reflected the sunrise, and its back windows the sunset beyond Brushy Creek. Its wide central hall captured every summer breeze when the windows were opened. Its windows framed the snow scenes and reflected the flames from the fireplaces. In winter the pond would sometimes freeze for skating. In the warm months

there were barbecues, and dances on a floor constructed on the grounds for the occasion.

Articles of furniture from their big house in the village, and from his late parents' house on Prospect Hill, were moved to the Brushy Creek house. This included the unforgettable portrait of Henrietta which is even today duplicated and cherished by generations of her descendants. It also included the somber engraving of Benjamin Franklin in the ornamental frame that Vardry McBee acquired for their home in Lincolnton, North Carolina, before Alexander was born, and which Henrietta would have willingly done without. They brought the heavy black bureau with posted bedstead of the D'Oyley family, said to have been made by slave craftsmen on the Lowcountry plantation, the walnut chest with grapes craved on its handles, the giant pine bedstead made on one of the McBee farms, the dining room table and buffet with lion's feet, the pine jelly cupboard, and the oaken wall clock with Roman numerals and octagon shaped frame, which struck the hours and quarter hours, and was said to suddenly release its spring and strike erratically if family tragedy was approaching.[7]

They learned the sounds of the creaking of the floors of the house as its beams grew warm or cold, of footsteps up and down the narrow stairway, windows being shut against the rain and cold, curtains being drawn, fires banked, and how the tickings of the several clocks were made sharper by the wooden walls.

For six seasons Henrietta enjoyed the house and from its garden paths saw the woods budding to green, turning to autumn colors, then losing their leaves. In 1893 her health began to fail. Her breathing became increasingly difficult. Aunt Queen and Sarah attended her. Alexander was by her bed as her strength slowly ebbed away on November 8th, in her sixty-first year. For Alexander, thereafter, the past was in the house more often than the present.

His eldest son, Elias, had been in Washington with Senator Matthew C. Butler and as counsel to a committee of the Senate for several years. He returned to Greenville to practice law, and with his wife, Eltinge, and their daughters, Lucy and little Henrietta, moved to Brushy Creek to help care for his father.[8] But it was lonesome for Alexander with Henrietta gone. He still found himself sometimes

expecting to see her sitting in her favorite chair or walking in the garden.

It was only four years until he followed her. His physician had warned him for weeks that he might die of a stroke at any time. He did die of a stroke at sunset on August 14, 1897 at Brushy Creek, in his seventy-sixth year.[9]

That Saturday morning his daughter, Sarah, was visiting relatives near Caesar's Head, and he had ridden into Greenville. He visited about the town and perhaps with his best friends Hamlin Beattie, Absolom Blythe, R.H. Earle, P.D. Gilreath, J.W. Cagle, or H.C. Markley, and with Henrietta's brother Charlie D'Oyley who had lost an eye at Gettysburg.[10] With at least one of these he may have taken a cup of kindness.

Before he started the ride home it was his custom to stop by Christ Church to visit Henrietta's grave. He would soon be buried beside her, if his doctor was correct. Her grave was already surrounded by McBees. There were his brothers Luther and Pinkney, his sister Martha beside her husband, his sister Malinda, so beloved by all the family but who had never married because her only love had been killed in a duel with Ben Perry. Ben's grave was just a few paces north of the church. To Henrietta's left was his father Vardry McBee's grave, and next to it his mother's, where they had lain now for thirty-three years.

Would he be judged by how much he had fallen short of his father's achievements? Not if he was judged for having tried. He had had no ambition for political office, but his father's memory imposed on him a feeling of unending obligation to assist in the affairs of the community. He served two separate terms as intendant or mayor. He was Commissioner for the Poor during the war, magistrate for forty years, and had even been coroner when no responsible person offered to do it.

In 1866, he served in the House of Representatives with that blue ribbon group who legislated so nobly, when most of the personal property of the state had been destroyed or stolen, the banks were all broken, there was no money, the crops had been consumed by the Confederacy and ravages of Federal troops, the people were at the point of starvation, and under military rule. When that session of the

legislature convened, Columbia was a desert of ashes as far as the eye could see, with chimneys and shattered brick walls standing here and there. They paid their own expenses, levied no taxes for operation of the government, depended upon voluntary public service at all levels, but enacted good measures and restored law and order. They offered for re-election in 1868, but were defeated by a slate of former slaves, including one of Alexander's own former slaves,[11] as Congressional Reconstruction and carpetbag government took over. A few months after Alexander's defeat for the House, he was called upon to run for county commissioner, and was elected. All that can be said of his county service during this time of miserable resources was that he worked hard. Once he wrote his brother in Lincolnton that he was so tired of it all and wished he could just run away. When people later began to refer to him as "Squire McBee," he figured he might have earned the title.

He had helped found Methodist missions to former slaves, assisting two of his former slaves to become Methodist ministers.[12] In 1875, when there was Ku Klux Klan rowdiness in Greenville and its culprits were arrested in Newberry, Alexander acted swiftly to have them brought to Greenville for trial, which ended further Klan activities in Greenville.[13] His fellow vestrymen of Christ Church met secretly in his mill office from April through October of 1866, weighing the sad decision to require their rector to turn over all church records and submit his resignation.[14] Vardry McBee had served for years on the vestry for that rector and had always praised him highly.

All these were efforts, not achievements like his father's, in Alexander's view. But he had been on the committee to bring the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line Railway through Greenville.[15] His father could have given him some credit for that. He had been a founder of Piedmont Manufacturing Company, one of the region's leading mills.[16] Also,he got the McBee Mill on the Reedy River back on its feet,[17] was an organizer of the Camperdown Mills[18] and of the first national bank in the state.[19] He personally financed and built the first public water works for Greenville.[20] Now, that was a project his father might even be envious of. His father could not have found much fault with the work he had done as president of the Agricultural

Association and master of the Grange. When Catholics in Greenville wanted to build a church, there had been ugly controversy with bitter attacks upon Catholicism and the Pope. The swiftness with which he contributed, then raised most of the balance of the building fund, and obtained the donation of an acre of land owned by his brother who lived in Lincolnton, attests to his anger over the controversy.

Well, he had done the best he could without inheriting the single-minded, relentless discipline of his Quaker father. Instead, he was afflicted with a sense of humor that led him even to tease his father by referring to him as the "Commander in Chief." He liked dancing, music, dinner parties, shooting matches, hunting, companionship, and more than a dram of whiskey. After his father died he had a dog named "Whiskey." His efforts had, he thought, all been driven in imitation of his father rather than by any virtue of his own. He never saw that the irrepressible thrust that spurred him daily must have been springs of energy inherited from the "Commander in Chief."

Resuming his journey home, he passed through the cemetery gate into Coffee Street, pausing to look back at Christ Church's steeple. He turned his horse left into Main Street and ambled down the hill to the new steel bridge which had replaced Tom Gower's wooden bridge over the Reedy.

To his left from the bridge he glanced from the Camperdown Mills building across the rushing falls to his father's old stone mills. His eyesight was not good enough anymore to make out more than a green spot at the bluff to his right up the river from the bridge. That was where he and his companions had fixed the diving board over the deep pool, on an afternoon like this, when he was a boy. But he could see the old "enchanted tree" with its rock seat just large enough for two. It had been the destination of couples on moonlight walks from summer parties in his youth.[21] The cotton mill had been given the same name as the Camperdown elm trees along the rock he had chiseled his name on, beside the names of generations of young people.[22]

Across the bridge to his right, this side of Chicora College campus, was the long grassy slope his children had played on in front of their big house on what was still called McBee's Hill. He had not

seen his son Willie in nearly a year, since Willie had brought his English wife, Edith Hudson, from their home in Providence, Rhode Island, when turnip greens were in. Even from the time Willie was in Mrs. Mazyck's Sunday school class at Christ Church, he knew he did not want to farm. He was sent to the University of the South at Sewanee, with his cousins from Lincolnton. Now he was an insurance executive in Providence and played golf and bridge. He and Roy had been so close. They named sons after each other, and Roy named his fourth daughter Edith, for Willie's wife. Roy and his wife, Ella Thompson, and their big family lived on the large farm Alexander had given him on Laurens Road. Roy had finished Greenville Military Academy in 1882, sometimes called Captain Patrick's Academy.[23] Ella had finished Greenville Female College in 1888. In 1902, they would move from the Laurens Road farm to the large house at 609 East North Street so their children could attend school in town.[24]

Alexander now turned into the Augusta road. Through the trees to his left he saw that the Furman bell tower had already taken on the pink tint of late afternoon. He had held the staff that day long ago while his father and his civil engineer brother, Pinkney, had surveyed off the tract where the college would be built. It had been a bitter sight when Stoneman's raiders camped among those oak trees after they had looted the town, set fire to Wesley Brook's house, shot and killed old Mr. Choice and Alexander's slave, Andrew. But they did not find the gold dust from the McBee gold mines he had hidden.

Ahead, on top of the hill to his right, was Mrs. Mary Cleveland's house. It had been Tandy Walker's house when Alexander was a young man. He remembered the suppers with champagne and dancing in the wide old hall [25] - those long-past days of parties and balls, picnics, fishing parties, and Fourth of July celebrations before the war.

Here came the street car pulled by mules on iron rails paid for and built by Tom Gower. It was on its last trip for the day, with a few passengers, up Main Street and out West Washington to the depot for the next train.

Mrs. Annie Thruston's brick house,[26] with side porches on the first and second stories and a garden on the side like Charleston

houses, was next on the right. Beyond the Cagle place and Captain O P. Mills' fine residence there were not many houses before he was passing the farms on his right he had given his sons Taylor and Joseph. The Brushy Creek house would be Sarah's. But Sarah would marry Dr. Albert Beck of Monroe, New York, and never live at Brushy Creek again.

His son, Roy, had received the Book of Common Prayer as a prize in Mrs. Hortense Morris' confirmation class on Easter Sunday, 1880.[27] It was brand new and not falling apart as so many were in the pews at Christ Church, or like the one The Reverend Mr. Holley had used at Henrietta's funeral. The Order for Burial of the Dead had not been changed in 104 years. It required Mr. Holley to read from page 271: "I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me ..blessed are the dead who die in the Lord ..for they shall rest from their labors."

The sun was beginning to reach the tree line along Brushy Creek when he rode into the stable. Elias and Lucy were sitting in rocking chairs on the high back porch. He climbed the steep stairs to the porch. As he moved towards a chair, he was stricken. He reached for the bannister, then fell over it onto the granite slab twelve feet below. His physician reported that he was dead before his body hit the granite slab.

The August 18th *Mountaineer* reported that

> ... he was a gentleman of great heart and its every beat was true and strong for his people and his country. He was a South Carolina gentleman and the parts of his robust, honest, broad-minded character were those that have given his state that which has made it reputable and honorable. There was in him no littleness. He was liberal, kindly, charitable and genuine. Scarcely in Greenville is a spot not associated with his name and his life. Where he was known he was loved.

Henrietta would have liked what they wrote. So alas would his father.

Endnotes

[1] Alexander McBee, b.5/22/1822 Lincointon, N.C.; in 1856 married Henrietta D'Oyley Thruston, b. 4/2/1833, Greenville. Their children Elias A., Wm. de Bohun, Silas Le Roy, Wm. Pinkney, Luther, Joseph, Taylor, Sarah; all but Wm. de Bohun and Sarah buried in Christ Church cemetery; Alexander attended Pleasant Retreat Male Academy, Lincointon, and Greenville Male Academy. He managed his father's cotton, woolen, paper, foundry and grist mills, tanneries, farming operations in Greenville. *Vardry McBee, Man of Reason in an Age of Extremes*, Second Edition, by Roy McBee Smith, Laurel Heritage Press, Spartanburg, S.C. 1997. See Genealogical Data p. 336-337; This biography has 33 pages of chapter notes which support most substantive statements in this paper not footnoted herein. Chapter 12, notes 3 and 8, pp. 348-349, for D'Oyley's in Charleston.

[2] Anne McCuen, certified researcher National Register of Historic Places Registration, for construction and historical details of the house and property. The foundation of the house is stone piers with fill; walls weatherboard; brick chimneys; downstairs rooms have board walls 2" x 8," floors of 7 3/8" boards; hallway walls 5 1/8" boards, and floors 6 1/2" boards; ceilings downstairs 11 feet; all windows 6/6; all interior doors 4 panels.

[3] McCuen, refers to circular saw marks on some boards. She cites Hugh Howard, *How Old Is This House?* The Noonday Press, New York, 1989, p. 11, circular saws in use after ca. 1830.

Bernard Grun, *The Timetables of History*. Simon and Schuster. Touchstone Book, 1982, p. 363 F. circular saw invented 1780. Marc McCutcheon, *Everyday Life in the 1800's*. Writers' Digest Books. Cinn., Ohio 1993.p. 296 reports first circular saw as an 1814 innovation. Ben Perry wrote that Vardry McBee had "a passion for building." He brought his Greenville farms to high cultivation years before he moved from Lincointon.

[4] John William DeForest, *A Union Officer in Reconstruction*. Yale University Press, 1948. pp. 60, 63. The *Enterprise and Mountaineer* reported that about 60 former slaves attended his funeral.

[5] *The Enterprise and Mountaineer*. Greenville, S.C. July 29, 1885.

[6] *The Daily News*, Greenville, S.C., August 18, 1897, in reporting Alexander's death stated he and Henrietta had moved there "about ten years ago."

[7] All of the enumerated pieces are still in the family except the engraving of Franklin. The portrait of Henrietta is owned by Henrietta D. Boatwright of Dallas, Tx.; the bureau, bedstead by Mary Jane S. Poole of Spartanburg, S.C.; walnut chest by author; pine bedstead by Roy S.McBee

of Columbia, S.C.; ends of the dining room table by Wm. D. McBee of Union, S.C. and Roy S. McBee. Wall clock by Roy S. McBee.

[8] Roy McBee Smith, *A McBee Genealogy*. Privately printed 1983; in Greenville Public Library. p. 142: See *S.C Industries and Resources,1876*. Elias graduated Wofford College 1876; read law with M.C. Buder, married Mary Eltinge Course.

[9] *The Enterprise and Mountaineer*, Greenville, S. C. August 18, 1897; and *The Daily News* of same date, give accounts of his last day and death, his physician's warning, his fall. They differ as to height of the porch; this paper accords with family tradition that it was very high.

[10] Ibid.

[11] A. V. Huff, Jr., *Greenville, The History of the City and County in the South Carolina Piedmont*. University of South Carolina Press. 1995. p. 166.

[12] Ibid. p. 172 - 173

[13] Ibid. p. 168

[14] Christ Episcopal Church, Minutes of the Vestry. On microfilm at the church, Greenville, S.C.

[15] Huff. p. 181. Alexander has often been confused with his brother Vardry Alexander McBee (1818-1904) who never lived in Greenville though he inherited much property there. Vardry Alexander McBee has often been incorrectly referred to in local writings as Vardry McBee Jr.

[16] McCuen. Huff. p. 186

[17] McCuen. Huff. p. 185

[18] McCuen. Huff. p. 188

[19] McCuen. Huff p. 192

[20] McCuen.

[21] Crittenden, S.S., *The Greenville Century Book, 1903*. Press of *Greenville News. p. 50.*

[22] Kibler, L.A., *Benjamin F. Perry*. Duke University Press. 1946. p.74

[23] Site of the present Poinsett Club.

[24] Site of the Bi Lo Center coliseum under construction in 1998. The author moved to his grandparents' home from Florida with his mother, Edith McBee Smith, (1903-1980) and his brother, Edward L. Smith, Jr., when his father died in 1931. Though the house was only six blocks from Main Street, behind it was a smoke house, an acre of garden, a vineyard, fruit trees, a barn and barnyard with two cows, and with chickens. His grandfather still owned the farms on Laurens Road.

[25] Crittenden, S.S., p. 43. Site of the present Greenville High School.

[26] Ibid. p. 43.

[27] The *Book* of *Common Prayer*, inscribed to Roy McBee, Easter 1880, as "The First Reward, "owned by the author. Minutes of Christ Church list Mrs. Hortense Morris as his teacher.

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Clayton	J. Glenwood	14 Starsdale Cr., Rt. 9	Greenville, SC 29609
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Cleveland	Mr. & Mrs. J. H. III	49 Mount Vista Ave.	Greenville, SC 29605
Cochran	Mr. & Mrs. J. M.	1202 Greenway Drive	Highpoint, NC 27262
Coker	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas H.	925 Cleveland St Unit 207	Greenville, SC 29601
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