VOL. V. JULY, 1905 NO. 1

THE NORTH CAROLINA BOOKLET

"CAROLINA! CAROLINA! HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS ATTEND HER!
WHILE WE LIVE WE WILL CHERISH, PROTECT AND DEFEND HER."

PUBLISHED BY
THE NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The object of the BOOKLET is to aid in developing and preserving North Carolina History. The proceeds arising from its publication will be devoted to patriotic purposes. EDITORS.

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MEETING PLACE OF NORTH CAROLINA REVOLUTIONARY ASSEMBLY IN JUNE 1781

THE NORTH CAROLINA BOOKLET.

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THE GENESIS OF WAKE COUNTY.

By MARSHALL DeLANCEY HAYWOOD.

When the editors of The Booklet requested me to prepare a sketch bearing in some way upon the history of Wake County, no particular period or epoch was assigned me. Thus having a space of more than one hundred and thirty years from which to choose my subject, I have decided that nothing more profitable can be selected than to start with *"In the beginning"*—and so I term this brief dissertation The Genesis of Wake County. I shall endeavor to tell something of the county's origin, of its colonial history, and of the part its people bore in the War of the Revolution, closing with the year 1783, when Great Britain acknowledged North Carolina (with her sister colonies) to be a "free, sovereign, and independent State." My narrative will close about ten years before the foundation of the City of Raleigh, which is the State capital of North Carolina and what our English ancestors would call the "shire-town" of Wake County.

Probably the first white man who ever set foot in the area which is now embraced in Wake county was John Lawson, the explorer and historian, who made his journey in 1700 and crossed Neuse River at the northern end of the present county of Wake, about five miles from where the village and college of Wake Forest now stand. Speaking of the falls of the river (which he called a creek), Lawson says: "We went about 10 Miles, and sat down at the Falls of a

large Creek, where lay mighty Rocks, the Water making a strange Noise, as if a great many Water-Mills were going at once. I take this to be the Falls of *Neus*-Creek, called by the *Indians, Wee quo Whom.*" Another early reference to the land now lying in Wake county is found on a large map made by "Capt. John Collet, Governor of Fort Johnston," dedicated to King George the Third, and published by an Act which passed the British Parliament on May 1, 1770. This map gives Neuse River (spelling it Nuse), and also shows many of that river's tributaries which flow through Wake county, and are still known by the same names. Among these are the two streams on the north and south of the present city of Raleigh, viz.: Crabtree Creek, and Walnut Creek (which Collet calls "Walnut Tree Creek"); also Middle Creek further down, which is now partly in Johnston county. Then, on the eastern side of Neuse River, going up-stream, we find New Light Creek, Beaver Dam Creek, and the Ledge of Rocks. One error in Collet's map is representing Richland Creek as forming part of the headwaters of Crabtree, when, in fact, it is on the northern side of Neuse River, flowing into the river a few miles below the Falls, while Crabtree Creek is on the southern side of the river.

The county of Wake was brought into existence when England's reigning monarch was George the Third and when William Tryon was Royal Governor of the Colony of North Carolina. It is named in honor of Governor Tryon's wife whose maiden name was Margaret Wake. With the exception of Dare county, it is the only county in the State named for a woman. Though it was not fully organized till 1771, its origin was about the end of the year 1770 when a bill was introduced into the Lower House of the Legislature of the Colony at New Bern, on December 23d, providing for the creation of Wake county; and the Upper House, or Governor's Council, passed the bill on the 27th of the same

month, thus making it a law—Chapter XXII of the Public Laws of 1770. This Act, a somewhat lengthy document of sixteen sections, sets forth as a reason for the creation of the new county that "the large extent of the said counties of Johnston, Cumberland, and Orange, renders it grievous and burthensome to many of the inhabitants thereof to attend the Courts, General Musters, and Public Meetings therein." The territory at first included in Wake county was taken from the three counties named in the above quoted extract. By the Act referred to, Joel Lane, Theophilus Hunter, Hardy Sanders, Joseph Lane, John Hinton, Thomas Hines, and Thomas Crawford were appointed commissioners to lay off land on which to erect a Court-House, Jail, Stocks, etc., and Joel Lane, James Martin, and Theophilus Hunter were authorized to contract with workmen for the erection of the said buildings and stocks. Joel Lane, John Smith, Theophilus Hunter, Farquard Campbell, and Walter Gibson were then directed to run the boundary as specified in the Act creating the county. This law will be found in the Revisal published by James Davis at New Bern in 1773. According to its own provisions, said Act was not to take effect till March 12, 1771.

During the year in which Wake county was taking shape as a territory separate and distinct from its mother counties of Johnston, Orange, and Cumberland, North Carolina was in the throes of a small civil war—what is known is history as the Insurrection of the Regulators. The chief seat of trouble was in Orange county; and in Wake (a part of what had been Orange) there was also some disaffection to the government, but no acts of violence and incendiarism by the Regulators occurred here, as was the case in Orange, Granville, and other counties. As early as 1768 Governor Tryon had gone with some colonial militia against the Regulators; but, on that expedition, there was no blood-shed, as the Regulators agreed to cease their lawlessness. In this

expedition of 1768 one of the officers in the Governor's army was Major John Hinton who appeared at the head of a detachment from Johnston county. By the Act of 1770, creating Wake, Major Hinton's plantation was included in the new county. Thereupon Governor Tryon promoted him to the rank of Colonel and called for his services in a second expedition against the Regulators in the early Spring of 1771. The chief place of rendezvous for the colonial militia, which served under Tryon, was Wake Cross-roads, about where Raleigh now stands. The Governor's own headquarters were at a country-seat called Hunter's Lodge, owned by the elder Theophilus Hunter, on the present Fayetteville Road, two or three miles south of Raleigh. This place is now owned by Ransom Hinton, Esq., a descendant both of Colonel John Hinton and Theophilus Hunter. Hunter's Lodge is not the same as Spring Hill, a neighboring plantation later owned by Theopilus Hunter, junior. Near Wake Cross-roads Governor Tryon tarried with his troops from May 2d till May 8th, and then set out towards the scene of the disturbances. About a week later, on May 16, 1771, was fought the Battle of Alamance, where the insurgents were defeated and scattered by the Governor's little army of North Carolina militia—a force about half their own number. In this expedition the Wake county troops under Colonel Hinton acquitted themselves with honor, and received high commendation for the part they bore in the battle.

At the beginning of Tryon's march from Wake Cross-roads it was found necessary for his Corps of Engineers to cut a new road, as the old one—the "Granville Tobacco Path"—was too rough for artillery to pass over. The new thoroughfare was called Ramsgate Road. By the mellowing process of time, Ramsgate assumed a more sentimental form and became *Ramcat,* also giving its name to a section of our county where the more cultured classes write it Rham-

katte. The latter locality, as everyone knows, is a great trade center which supplies Raleigh with light-wood, 'possums, and blackberries, and even begins to threaten the commercial supremacy of our sister county of Chatham in its chief source of support, the rabbit industry.

But my tribute to Rhamkatte has caused me to digress from the course of this narrative, which has to do with the history in general of Wake county. The Charter of the new county was signed by Governor Tryon, in the name of the King, on May 22, 1771, while he was on the Alamance expedition, and this important document was entrusted to the personal care of Colonel John Hinton, who presented it in open court after his return home.

In the early days of Wake county the chief legal tribunal of a county in North Carolina was called the "Inferior Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions." It was composed of all (or a quorum) of the Justices of the Peace meeting in joint session four times yearly. There were also Judicial Districts in the Colony. These districts were composed of several counties, over all of which the "Superior Court" had higher jurisdiction than the above county courts. The Superior Courts were the highest tribunals in the Colony, and their sessions were presided over by the Chief Justice of North Carolina and two "Assistant Judges." Wake county was in what was known as the Hillsborough District, and all of its business with the Superior Court had to be transacted at the town of Hillsborough. The lawyers of that day often came down from Hillsborough, and from other localities, even Virginia, to appear in the Wake Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. On its Docket between 1771 and 1783 we find the names of a number of practicing attorneys, among whom were Bromfield Ridley, John Kinchen, John Rand, James Forsyth, Joseph Taylor, David Gordon, D'Arcy Fowler, James Williams, John Bonton, John Penn, Henry Gifford, Henry Lightfoot, James Spiller, and Alex-

ander Gray. Some of these gentlemen regularly resided in Wake county. Penn lived in Granville and was afterwards a signer of the National Declaration of Independence.

The first Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the county of Wake met on June 4, 1771. There were present Theophilus Hunter, Presiding Justice, and the following Justices: Joel Lane, Joseph Lane, Benjamin Hardy, James Martin, Hardy Sanders, Abraham Hill, Thomas Wootten, James Jones, Thomas Crawford, and Tingnall Jones. Among other officers present were Michael Rogers, High Sheriff; John Rogers and James Alford, Deputy Sheriffs; John Rice, Clerk of the Court and Deputy Clerk for the Crown in the county of Wake; and Bromfield Ridley, King's Deputy Attorney. It is recorded that when another session of this Court met it was at "Bloomsberry, in the County of Wake." Bloomsberry, more properly Bloomsbury, was the name of a hamlet erected at Wake Cross-roads, the present site of the city of Raleigh. The hamlet of Bloomsbury was also known as Wake Court-House.

In days prior to the Revolution, and for some time after that war, it was the law that any person convicted of perjury should have both his ears cropped off by the common hangman and nailed to the pillory. One ear was so cropped for subornation of perjury. Hence any person who was "crop-eared" was always regarded with distrust. But occasionally a citizen was deprived of his ear without due process of law, in consequence of the cannibalistic propensity of some adversary with whom he was engaged in a rough and tumble fight—or "battle," as the old records would say. When such a misfortune befell a man, he generally went into court and had an entry made of the fact that his ear had been bitten off, and not cropped for perjury or subornation thereof. There are several entries of this class on the old records of Wake county. At September Term, 1771,

we find the following: "Averington McKelroy came into court, and by the oath of Mr. Isaac Hunter proved that he unluckily lost a piece from the top of his right ear by Jacob Odem's biting it off in a battle." Nor was Mr. McKelroy the only belligerent who was wounded in battle by a sharp-toothed antagonist; for, by a formal entry made at September Term, 1772, of the above court, we are also informed: "James Murr came into court and produced John Patterson, a witness to prove how and in what manner he lost his ear, who made oath that after a battle between said Murr and one Wagstaff Cannady, he (the said Patterson) found a piece of his (Murr's) ear on the ground: to wit the right ear." Those "good old-fashioned customs" will never come again—and for this may the Lord make us thankful!

There is a homely old proverb, perhaps familiar to some of my readers, which says: "Never trust a nigger with a gun." Our forefathers in the Colonial Assembly, it would seem, went even further and were not even willing to trust a nigger with a club. In examining the proceedings of the court of Wake County, at September Term, 1774, we find the following order: "Whereas, it hath lately been a practice of sundry slaves in this county, especially upon Crab Tree and Walnut Creeks, to carry clubs loaded on the ends with lead or pewter, contrary to the Act of Assembly, to the annoyance of the inhabitants, which may be attended with dangerous and evil consequences, the court therefore appoints the chairman to cause to be put up advertisements at the court-house and other public places in this county, requiring the masters, mistresses, or overseers of slaves, to prohibit their slaves from carrying such unlawful weapons, certifying to them at the same time that, if they therein fail, the magistrates will strictly put in execution the law against such an evil and dangerous practice."

On October 6, 1772, Colonel John Hinton made a list of the officers of his regiment of Wake County troops, and this

roster is here given; for so many of the officers therein, now have descendants living in Wake County and elsewhere that it will doubtless be of interest. The following is a copy in full:

Colonel—John Hinton.

Lieutenant-Colonel—Joel Lane.

Major—Theophilus Hunter.

Captains—Simon Turner, John Hinton, junior, James Moore, Samuel Pearson, Nathaniel Jones, Edward Mobley, Jeremiah Mobley, Michael Rogers, Sandy Sanders, William Simms, and William Anderson Fowler.

Lieutenants—John Myatt, Swann Thompson, Edward Mobley, junior, John Beddingfield, Tingnall Jones, Dempsey Powell, Jacob Utley, Isham Hendor, and Mosier Jones.

Ensigns—Andrew Collins, Reuben Rogers, Jacob Bledsoe, Joshua Sugg, Thomas Philips, Aaron Rogers, Etheldred Jones, Joel Simms, and Godfrey Fowler.

The gentlemen who held the office of High Sheriff of the county of Wake from the foundation of the county to the close of the Revolution, were the following: Michael Rogers, from the foundation of the county till June, 1773; Thomas Hines, from June, 1773, till June, 1777; Thomas Wootten, from June, 1777, till September, 1780; Hardy Sanders, from September, 1780, till September, 1782; and Britain Sanders, from September, 1782, till after American independence was acknowledged. During the days of our colonial existence the office of High Sheriff was one not only of importance but of the greatest honor as well, as has always been the case in Great Britain, where even now some of the principal peers hold the title as an hereditary honor—the Duke of Montrose being hereditary High Sheriff of Dumbartonshire, the Duke of Argyll hereditary High Sheriff of Argyllshire, with other noblemen of like rank who might be mentioned.

At the beginning of the War of the Revolution, field-officers for the troops of Wake County were appointed by

the Provincial Congress of North Carolina at Hillsborough on the 9th of September, 1775, as follows: John Hinton, Colonel; Theophilus Hunter, Lieutenant-Colonel; John Hinton, junior, First Major; and Thomas Hines, Second Major. These officers were re-elected to the same ranks by the Provincial Congress of North Carolina at Halifax on the 22d of April, 1776. At a later period Thomas Wootten was also Colonel; and Michael Rogers, Lieutenant-Colonel, the latter being appointed in February, 1778. There may have been some other changes also.

About the beginning of January, 1776, there was a great uprising of the Tories of North Carolina, chiefly among the Highland Scotch of the Cape Fear section, with some of the old Regulators from further west; and Wake County was called upon to do her part in suppressing the out-break. Colonel Hinton then marched eastward with a detachment of his regiment, which became a part of Colonel Richard Caswell's command, numbering about eight hundred. These later united with the lesser command of Colonel Alexander Lillington, after which the joint forces (about a thousand men) gave battle to a vastly superior force of Loyalists at Moore's Creek Bridge, on the 27th of February, 1776. The scene of this fight was then in New Hanover County, but is now a part of the county of Pender. The result was one of the most crushing defeats which ever befell the King's troops in America. Colonel Caswell (later General and Governor), who commanded in this battle, afterwards spoke in high terms of the bravery there displayed by Colonel Hinton.

A good deal of recruiting was done in Wake County while the war was in progress. In the Summer of 1781, one of the French volunteer officers, Francis Marquis of Malmedy, mustered into his regiment a company of Wake Light Horse. Of this company Solomon Wood was Captain, Mark Myatt was Lieutenant, and Thomas Gray was Cornet.

In connection with the last named rank (now no longer in use) it may be mentioned that a Cornet was a commissioned officer in a cavalry company whose duty it was to carry the colors of his troop.

While the above Whigs were striving for independence, the Tories were by no means inactive, though few could stay in Wake County. When a man refused to take the oath of allegiance to the new State government, he was ordered to move out of North Carolina. Alexander Munn and Sampson Strickland were driven out for so refusing, and there may have been others. Munn's property, with that of other Loyalists, was later confiscated by Chapter VI. of The Laws of 1781. He went to Nova Scotia in 1783.

There were some men who attempted to shirk the military duty which the law required of them during the Revolution. Of this class was one Timothy Duck, who failed to appear when summoned for military duty in April, 1781. At that time Colonel Thomas Wootten commanded the militia forces of Wake County. In accordance with a power which was given him by law, Colonel Wootten ordered the Sheriff to seize and sell Duck's plantation. With the proceeds of this sale, John Abernethie was hired as a substitute, and the unfortunate Duck had to hunt for another nest.

The most active and daring partisan in North Carolina on the Tory side during the Revolution was Colonel David Fanning, a native of what afterwards became the county of Wake, though that part of Wake was in Johnston at the time of his birth. The deeds of blood committed by him in his native State fill a volume which he prepared, entitled *Fanning's Narative*. After the war, when North Carolina passed an "Act of Pardon and Oblivion," giving a general amnesty to her late enemies, he was excepted by name from its provisions, and died an exile in Canada.

Wake county had a good share in establishing the independent government of North Carolina. To the Provincial

Congress at New Bern in April, 1775, John Hinton, Michael Rogers, and Tingnall Jones were sent as its delegates. In another Provincial Congress, held at Hillsborough in August of the same year, the county's representatives were John Hinton, Joel Lane, Theophilus Hunter, Michael Rogers, Tingnall Jones, John Rand and Thomas Hines. On September 9th, while the last named Congress was in session, it appointed Committees of Safety for the several Districts into which the State was divided, and Joel Lane, Michael Rogers, and John Hinton, of Wake, were made members for the Hilsborough District, of which their county was a part. In the Provincial Congress at Halifax in April, 1776, the representatives from Wake were Tingnall Jones, John Rand, John Hinton, Joel Lane and William Hooper. The last named gentleman, Mr. Hooper, who is recorded as a delegate from Wake, was not a citizen of the county. Later he added to his already established fame by signing the National Declaration of Independence. Another Provincial Congress met at Halifax in November, 1776, and from Wake County to that body went Britain Fuller, James Jones, Tingnall Jones, John Rice and Michael Rogers. On April 19, 1776, during the session of the first Provincial Congress at Halifax, Theophilus Hunter and Thomas Hines, of Wake, were made members of a Committee to procure, by purchase or otherwise, fire-arms for use by the American troops.

In the State Senate of North Carolina during the Revolution, Wake County was represented by James Jones in 1777, by Michael Rogers from 1778 till 1781, and by Joel Lane from 1782 till after the end of the war. In the House of Commons of North Carolina during the war, appeared the following Wake County members: John Rand and Tingnall Jones in 1777; Lodwick Alford and Hardy Sanders in 1778; Thomas Hines and John Hinton, junior, in 1779; Nathaniel Jones and John Humphries in 1780; Burwell

Pope and James Hinton in 1781 and 1782; and Theophilus Hunter and Hardy Sanders in 1783.

While the above delegates from Wake in the Provincial Congresses and General Assemblies were looking after the State's general welfare, the interests of the county were faithfully guarded at home by the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. Among the Justices who sat at different times in this tribunal during the Revolution were the following: John Abernethie, Lodwick Alford, Kedar Bryan, Richard Banks, Thomas Crawford, Joseph Davis, Abraham Hill, Thomas Hines, John Hinton, John Hinton, junior, James Hinton, Francis Hobson, Theophilus Hunter, Albridgton Jones, James Jones, Nathaniel Jones of White Plains,* Tingnall Jones, Joel Lane, Joseph Lane, James Martin, James Moore, Burwell Pope, Michael Rogers, Hardy Sanders, Joshua Sugg, William Walton, John Whitaker, and Thomas Wootten. Beginning with the early part of 1777, the court composed of these Justices cited various citizens of the county to take the oath of allegiance to the new State government as required by a recent enactment. When a person refused to take such oath, he was forthwith ordered to leave the county and State.

In 1781 one of the sessions of the General Assembly of North Carolina (there were two or more sessions that year) met at Bloomsbury, the county-seat of Wake. Colonel Joel Lane's residence (which is still standing in the city of Raleigh) was its place of meeting. At that time the State and Continental paper money had become so utterly worthless that the sum of *fifteen thousand pounds* was paid by the Assembly to Colonel Lane for the rent of this house for two weeks, with pasturage included. During this session several detachments of troops were ordered to Bloomsbury for the Assembly's protection.

The present city of Raleigh, as is well known, stands on

*Nathaniel Jones of White Plains lived near the present village of Cary. He died in 1815. His connection by marriage (though probably not of the same paternal line), Nathaniel Jones, Sr., of Crabtree, who died in 1810, was a brother of Robert Jones, Jr. ("Robin" Jones), Attorney General under Governors Dobbs and Tryon. See Jones Genealogy by Col. Cadwallader Jones. Nathaniel Jones, Jr., of Crabtree died in 1828, and was father of the late Kimbrough Jones, Sr.

land purchased by North Carolina from Colonel Joel Lane for the purpose of erecting thereon the capital of the State. Lane's deed to the State is dated April 5, 1792, and the streets of the new town were laid out shortly thereafter.

In 1835 and again in 1841 the United States government published lists of soldiers of the Revolution who were pensioned for services in that war. At the risk of being tedious I give the Wake County lists in full. Persons desiring a statement of the war record of any veteran herein named can obtain the same free of charge by addressing a request therefor to the Commissioner of Pensions, at Washington City. Except when otherwise designated, persons mentioned were privates in the service of North Carolina. Some of the names are spelled differently on the two lists, and these variations I have indicated below. The list published in 1835 was as follows: Berthett Allen, James Adams, Philip Adams, James Ames, John Amos, Christopher Babb, James Brown, Jesse Bryant (Virginia), William Burton (or William H. Burton), Jacob Byrum, Benjamin Carpenter, James Christian 2nd, William Clifton, George Cole, Robert Dodd, Reuben Evans, John Green, Jesse Harris (or Horris), James Hughes (Virginia), Thomas Jinks (Corporal), Francis Jones, Vincent King, Joshua Lynch, David Mabry, Jesse Manuel, John Marr, Shadrach Medlin, Naaman Mills, James Nance, senior (Virginia), Jesse Osbourn, Drury Pittiford (Virginia), William Polk (Major), Elisha Pope (Virginia), Frederick Rigsby (or Rigsbee), James Rigsby (or Rigsbee), Thomas Ross, John Rhodes, Aaron Roberts, Robert Sneed (Virginia), Joseph Shaw (Pennsylvania), Isaac Smith, Samuel Standeford (Virginia), Samuel Scarborough, senior (Virginia), Jonathan Smith, senior (Captain), John Sherron, John Swenney, William Tate, Nathan Upchurch, William Wilder, Burrell (or Burwell) Whitehead, John Walker, John Williams, and Jesse Wall. In addition to the above, the list of 1841 gives the following names, without indicating rank, or State in which they

served: James Harward, Thomas Holland, Richard Pipen, William Sledd, Rufus Willie, and William Wood. Some of these veterans were dead before lists were published. Joel Terrell, whose name also appears on the pension roll of 1835, appears to have rendered his military service in the United States Army after the Revolution—possibly in the War of 1812.

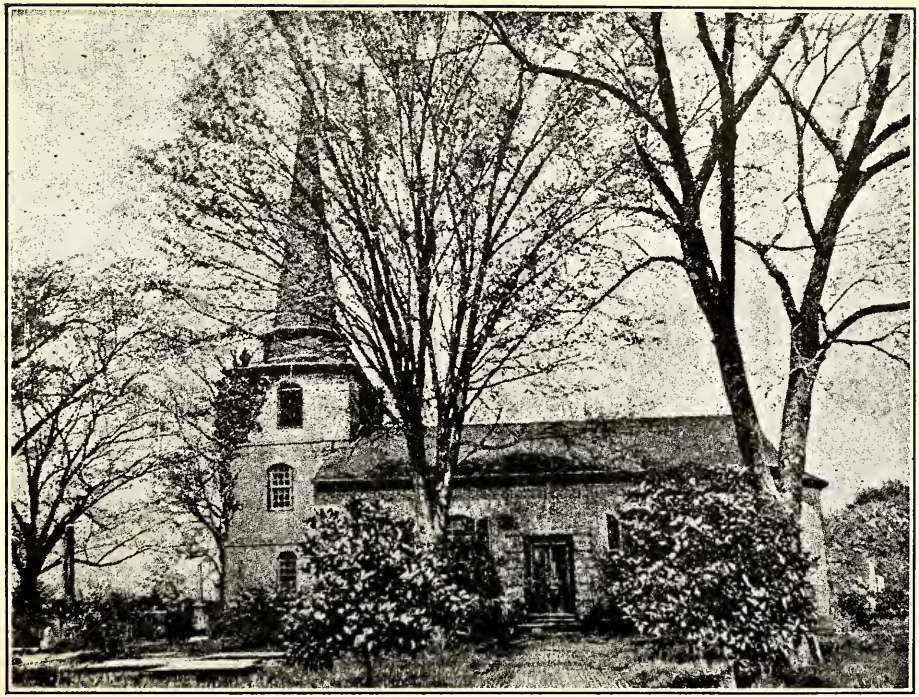
When the county of Wake was first created, and up to the time of the Revolution, the Church of England was established by law, and each county contained one or more parishes. The one in Wake was called the Parish of St. Margaret, this probably being done to canonize, as it were, the same lady in whose honor the county was called—Mrs. Tryon, formerly Miss Margaret Wake, a zealous churchwoman and generous contributor to religious work in the colony. I have also seen it stated that the present townships of St. Mary's and St. Matthew's in Wake County take their names from either chapels or parishes of the old Established Church in the Colony.

By what I have already set forth herein, my story has been brought to a close. It was not at first intended to impose upon the patience of my readers further than to bring the history of Wake County down to a time when North Carolina's independence of Great Britain was acknowledged. But I cannot resist the temptation of adding a few more words about the men and customs of that day.

The old colonists were a sturdy and substantial race of men, not the mimic courtiers so finely pictured in the historical novels dealing with that time. They had their virtues and they had their vices, as men always have had and always will have. They were not devoid of ability as legislators, and possessed a practical knowledge of the needs of the colony. Personally they were bold, fearless, and independent, prompt to answer a call for their services in the field, and at times too forward in a personal quarrel. At the

period of which I write, there were places in North Carolina, particularly in the extreme east, where could be found commodious houses, churches, schools, and private libraries, together with what were then considered the luxuries of life. But when some of the bolder spirits of that time pushed westward and set up new homes in what is now the center of the State, they had more serious problems to confront than those to which they had been accustomed. The early pioneers of Wake County knew more about blazing paths through the primeval forests by which they were surrounded than they knew about winding through the intricate mazes of a minuet. Great houses, servants, and fine apparel form no part of the equipment of a backwoodsman. Even so we find it in the Gospel of St. Luke that when the multitude sought St. John the Baptist, it was asked of them: "What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? * * * * A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts." So might an old colonist in Wake County describe the locality where his lot was cast, not as a place of soft raiment and delicate living, but a land—

> "Where thoughts, and tongues, and hands, are bold and free,
> And friends will find a welcome, foes a grave;
> And where none kneel, save when to heaven when they pray,
> Nor even then, unless in their own way."



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, EDENTON, N. C., BUILT 1745.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, EDENTON, N. C., AND ITS ASSOCIATIONS.

By RICHARD DILLARD, M. D.

(Member of North Carolina Historical Commission,)

It is written that Selim, the son Soliman, was accustomed to eat every day a certain cereal which grew in Turkey, the effect of which was to erase from the mind every disagreeable circumstance, every painful emotion, unfortunately I have no such extravagant nepenthe, I bring no golden apples snatched from the Gardens of the Hesperides.

Edenton, and its environs, was the focal point of civilization for North Carolina, and the history of St. Paul's Parish is but the history of the early struggling colony. The exact date of the settlement of Edenton is not known, but as early as 1658 there was considerable development about this point, bearing the name of Chuwon Precinct. The beauty and fertility of the country, the mildness and equability of the climate, together with religious liberty, and the ease of access by land and water lured the adventurous settler; so that in 1710 it had grown so rapidly that it was a borough of considerable importance, the capital of the colony, and the home of the royal governors. It is sometimes alluded to as the "Towne in Queen Ann's Creek," the "Towne in Mattercomock Creek,"* and "Port of Roanoke." Upon the death of Governor Charles Eden in 1722, it was called Edenton in his honor.

In 1708 Lawson wrote of us: "The fame of this new discovered country spread through the colonies, and in a few years drew a considerable number of families thereto, who all found land enough to settle themselves, and that which was very good, and commodiously seated, both for profit and

*"Mattercomock" an Indian word meaning Temple of God. By way of parenthesis the name of the section of the country near Edenton called Rockyhock was derived from the word "Rakiock," meaning our common Cypress tree, by metathesis and corruption it has become Rockyhook the "land of Cypress trees."

pleasure. They are kind and hospitable to all that visit them; and, as for the women, who do not expose themselves to the weather, they are often very fair, and have brisk and charming eyes, which sets them off to advantage. They marry very young, some at thirteen or fourteen, and she that stays till twenty is reckoned a very indifferent character. The young men are commonly of a bashful and sober behaviour. The easy way of living in this new and plentiful country fosters negligence. The women are the most industrious sex in the place, and by their good housewifery make a good deal of cloth of their coton, wool and flax, some of them keeping their families, though large, very decently appareled with linens and woolens, so that they have no occasion to run into the merchant's debt, or lay out their money in stores for clothing."

These copious extracts from our first historian will tend to give you some idea of the life in this new and undeveloped country then.

Our historic field is extensive and "rich with the spoils of time," but, of course, I can only give here a sort of coup d'oeil, or momentary glance like that obtained by passing on a train at lightning speed through some beautiful and ever-changing landscape.

Pursuant to an act of assembly, the vestry of St Paul's met at the house of Thomas Gilliam, December 15, 1701. The Hon. Henderson Walker, then governor, Colonel Wm. Wilkinson, and Captain Thomas Lewton, were appointed wardens for a year, and instructed "to agree with a workman for building a church twenty-five feet long, posts in the ground, and held to the collar beams." It was built upon an acre of land given by Edward Smithwick, and was finished in 1702. *This was the first church ever built upon North Carolina soil.* The vestries of those old days, when church and state were united, possesses considerable civil authority, and were about equal in power to our county commissioners. They were em-

powered to collect tithes, provide standards of weights and measures, etc.

In 1704 Dr. John Blair presented himself to the vestry as a minister, and was received by them at a salary of thirty pounds per year.

The services had previously been conducted by readers employed at a small salary, whose only qualifications were that they should promise to live sober and exemplary lives during their periods of service. This temporary church lasted but a few years, for in 1709 the Rev. Mr. Adams, who came here under the auspices of the "Society for Propagating the Gospel" wrote: "They built a church some years ago, but it is small, and very sorrily put together, and therefore I prevailed with them to build another, which they went about when I came away." The dimensions of the new church were forty feet long, twenty-four feet wide, and fourteen feet high. In 1714, according to the records, this church was still unfinished, and it was either never finished at all, or soon fell into decay. It was not until 1729 that the initial step was taken toward building the present brick edifice. In April, 1729, Governor Everard wrote the following letter to the Bishop of London in regard to the church: "'Tis no small concern I send you this, to inform you that our church is not built now, nor is it like to be gone about; for those men that were appointed commissioners for the building it have six hundred pounds in their hands, and are now the only opposers of building one. I was, in order to laying the foundation, chose church-warden with one Mr. Mosely. We had several meetings to consult about building it, but could not agree, being always hindered by our secretary, one Mr. John Lovick, a man of no religion, fears not God or man, believes neither, seldom seen at any place of divine worship, his money is his God, ridicules all goodness. While such a man is in power no good can be expected." In 1736 a tax was laid for building this church, and in 1738 the work was

actually begun; it was not, however, finished until 1745. About the latter part of that century the church fell into decay, and was restored to its present beauty largely through the munificence of Mr. Josiah Collins, and the stained-glass window of the apse memorializes this act of generosity.

That curious compound of learning, and good natured facetiousness Colonel William Byrd, of Virginia, who was here in 1729, on the commission to run the boundary line between North Carolina and Virginia, wrote that Edenton contained then forty or fifty houses, most of them small and inexpensive, and that a man was called extravagant if he aspired to brick chimney for his house. "Justice itself," says he "is but indifferently lodged, the court-house having much the air of a common tobacco house, and that this in the only metropolis in the Christian or Mohammedan world where there is neither church, chapel, mosque, synagogue or any other place of worship, of any sect of religion whatsoever. This much, however, may be said of the inhabitants of Edenton, that not a soul has the least taint of hypocrisy or superstition."

Bishop Spangenburg, of the Moravian Church, wrote in his diary while in Edenton in 1752: "Edenton is one of the oldest towns in America, and yet it is hardly one-quarter as large as Germantown, although it has a beautiful situation. There are other cities mentioned in the Law Book, but there are no houses, they are only created cities by act of assembly."

In 1777 a young man named Watson, about nineteen years old, from Providence, R. I., made a tour through this section, and left a valuable account of his trip. He said that "Edenton contained then about one hundred and thirty-five dwellings, a brick court house, and was defended by two forts." There were few roads here then. An early minister of the S. P. G. (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel), wrote to England: "I was obliged to buy a couple of horses,

which cost me 14 pounds, one of which was for a guide, because there is no possibility for a stranger to find his road in that country, for if he once goes astray, it is a great hazard if he ever finds his road again." Edenton was at this time the court end of the Province, hither had gathered the wealth and refinement of the colony, who constituted for themselves a sort of social oligarchy.

Edenton, before the Revolution manufactured harness, hats, nails and rope. The incorporation of the town included four hundred and twenty acres. It had a good foreign trade. During one year there were forty-three arrivals of vessels from foreign ports, and about the same number of departures.

Those principally engaged in the foreign trade were John Campbell, Robert Armistead, Richard Brownrigg, Benjamin Russell, Alexander Miller, John Little and Messrs. Collins, Allen and Dickinson. The names of the largest vessels were the Sterling, Roanoke, Providence, Betsy, Liberty, Two Brothers, the Mary and the Mary Anna.

The first steamboat ever in our waters was the Albemarle. It was used as a ferry boat between Edenton and Plymouth and caried the Raleigh mail. The trial trip was made in two hours and five minutes. It was tendered President Monroe as a pleasure boat when he visited our town in 1819.

Bancroft, the father of American history, wrote: "Here was a colony of men from civilized life, scattered among the forests, resting on the bosom of nature. With absolute freedom of conscience, benevolent reason was the simple rule of their conduct. Are there any," says he, "who doubt man's capacity for self-government, let them study the early history of North Carolina."

I wish the reader to note, and history confirms the fact, that resistance to British authority existed here one hundred years before the Revolution, for the many early disturbances and frequent rebellions, such as those of Culpepper, Cary,

and Eastchurch, wer nothing more than resistance to illegal and usurped authority, and a contest for political and religious freedom. There were the long shadows cast before the mighty Revolution. This little colony might, therefore, be styled the birthplace of American Independence.

In the history of all governments the oppressed are long tolerant of their oppressors, and a revolution is of progressive development. It took nearly five hundred years to free France of its despots. Brazil, I believe, presents a singular exception, when, as if by magic, the empire ceased to exist, and a virgin republic sprang full panoplied upon the scene.

Nine ministers officiated in this church up to the time of the Revolution, the last one being the Rev. Daniel Earle, D. D., familiar to tradition and history as "Parson Earle." He was a man of such strong points of character, and was so typical of the old fashioned parson of those days, that it is interesting to study his life and character. Oliver Wendell Holes has limned his prototype in that matchless poem the "Wonderful One-Horse Shay." We can see him now as he passes along the highway in his old stick gig, working his Sunday text, and "drawn by his rat-tail, ewe-necked bay." He was the much beloved parson of all this section, baptizing all the children and ministering at all the death beds and marriages, he thus became the welcome guest of every fireside. He was in striking contrast to some of our earlier ministers, who cared but little for their parishioners.

"Parson Earle" was born in the town of Bandon, province of Munster, Ireland, and was the younger son of an Irish nobleman. His family was one of prominence and distinction. One of his ancestors was General Earle, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland in the reign of Queen Anne. In early life he was an officer in the British army, but his marriage with the daughter of a church official changed

the whole tenor of his life, and he soon resigned his commission to take holy orders. The exact date of his emigration to America is not known, but he was first sent by the Bishop of London to that part of Virginia now called Gloucester county.

In 1757 he came to the Albemarle section to act as curate for the venerable Clement Hall, rector of St. Paul's, then in very feeble health, and upon his death was made full rector. His charge not only included Edenton, but many mission stations scattered at great distances throughout the section now known as Chowan, Hertford and Gtaes counties. His wife, who had died before his departure for America, left him with two little daughters, these he committed to the care of relatives in England to be reared, and educated.

When he first came to this section he settled fifteen miles above here on Chowan River, and named his residence Bandon, after his native town. He was soon afterwards married to a Welch lady, a widow Charity Jones of Smithfield, Va., by whom he had no issue. As soon as he was well established in his new home he sent to England for his two daughters.

Parson Earle was full of energy, public spirit, and enterprise, and established at Bandon *the first classical school in North Carolina for boys,* in which he was assisted by his daughter, Nancy. He instructed in Latin, Greek and Mathematics, and numbered among his pulpils the children of the Baron de Poelnitz, placed there at the suggestion of James Iredell. The Baron, who was Grand Chamberlain at the Court of Frederick the Great, and his wife, who was Lady Anne Stuart, were spending some time in travel through America.

Parson Earle made improvements in the cultivation of flax, and taught the people of this section the proper method of preparing it for the loom, and the manner of weaving toweling, tablecloths, etc., a household industry still pursued in our rural districts.

He was a sympathizer in the struggle of the colonies for independence, and was on that account debarred from preaching in his church at Edenton during the Revolution. Several attempts were made by the British to capture him. Upon one occasion he was informed by a messenger that some scouts were coming to take him prisoner. He immediately buried his silver and treasures in his cellar, and dispatched a servant to his plowmen in the fields to tell them to fly to the woods, and secrete the horses, but his servant was too late, and four of his best horses were captured, the parson himself barely escaping.

Some, following the beaten track of predecessors, have claimed that he was a Tory, because he received his stipend regularly during the Revolution from the S. P. G. This society, as its name indicates, was a religious organization, and not a political one. Organized about the beginning of that century through the untiring zeal of Dr. Thomas Bray for the dissemination of the Gospel in foreign lands, it took no cognizance of political differences; as a proof of this, when the infamous "Church Act" was passed in South Carolina through the chicanery of Sir Nathaniel Johnston, this society finding that it was for his political advantage, and not for the good of the church, held a special meeting in London, and resolved to send no more missionaries until it was repealed. And then, too, it is hardly rational to suppose that he would have espoused the British cause for the sake of the paltry stipend, when he owned such large interests here exposed to the revolutionists, and it is not probable either that he would have antagonized himself to his dear ones, his daughter and grandson, respectively, the wife and son of Charles Johnson, an ardent apostle of liberty, and Mr. Johnson would hardly have been so intimate with a family whose feelings were so inimical to his in a day when political lines were so closely, and so dangerously drawn.

Some stress must also be laid upon the tradition and local history concerning him. Parson Earle's memory is still

held in great veneration through all this section, and but a few years have passed since there were old people living in this county, who bore testimony to his patriotism and virtues. The life of a Tory in this liberty-loving section could hardly have had such a glorious sunset. He was the exponent of the popular sentiment here then, and was selected to preside over a revolutionary meeting of the freeholders and other citizens of Chowan county in the court-house at Edenton, August 23rd, 1774, among whom were such patriots as Joseph Hewes, Samuel Johnston and Thomas Benbury, and who passed resolutions condemning the Boston Port Act and the unjust imposition of tax upon the colonies, no Tory could have presided over such a meeting.

He was also unjustly accused of being a Tory because he did not sever all connection with the Church of England, and establish an independent church, but he held that the church was a unit; that it was of Divine origin; that he was a simple priest, and that the Bishop of London, then the head of the church, alone had that power. He was a man of the highest educational attainments, verily a learned Theban in its broadest sense, he possessed great wit and humor, blended with the kindest of hearts.

Parson Earle was not only an able and faithful minister, but proved to be a successful farmer and fisherman. He was one of the pioneers in the shad and herring fishing in this country. About the time of the revolution his church at Edenton became somewhat dilapidated, and the worshippers few in number. One Sunday morning, when the parson arrived at Edenton to preach to the faithful, he was shocked and surprised to find that some village witling had placarded upon the church door the following quartrain:

"A half built church,
And a broken-down steeple,
A herring-catching parson
And a dam set of people."

He was ever afterwards styled the Herring-catching Parson.

He died in 1790, and was buried near the site of his old home, but the modest slab, which once marked his resting place, has long since been covered by the drifting sands, and the tall pines which surround this lonely spot sigh out to every passing zephyr, in a weird melancholy monotone, their requiem for the repose of his soul:

"Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet, and blossom in the dust."——

The original bell of this church was taken down in response to Beauregard's call to melt the church bells of the Confederacy, and cast them into cannon, which incident inspired that beautiful Southern war lyric "Melt the Bells," the beauty and pathos of this poem will excuse its interpolation here.

Melt the bells, melt the bells,
Still the tinkling on the plain,
And transmute the evening chimes
Into war's resounding rhymes,
That the invaders may be slain
By the bells.

Melt the bells, melt the bells,
That for years have called to prayer
And instead, the cannon's roar
Shall resound the valley o'er,
That the foe may catch despair
From the bells.

Melt the bells, melt the bells
Though it cost a tear to part
With the music they have made,
Where the friends we love are laid,
With pale cheek and silent heart,
'Neath the bells.

Melt the bells, melt the bells,
Into cannon, vast and grim,
And the foe shall feel the ire
From their heaving lungs of fire,
And we'll put our trust in Him
And the bells.

Melt the bells, melt the bells,
And when foes no more attack,
And the lightning cloud of war
Shall roll thunderless and far,
We will melt the cannon back
Into bells.

Melt the bells, melt the bells,
And they'll peal a sweeter chime,
And remind of all the brave
Who have sunk to glory's grave,
And will sleep thro' coming time
'Neath the bells.

(F. Y. Rockett in Memphis Appeal.)

This bell helped to form the "Edenton Bell Battery," which was organized in the winter of 1861-'62, by that cultured gentleman and gallant soldier, Captain William Badham,* of this town, whose unmarked grave lies in yonder silent churchyard, where twilight zephyrs fan the graceful Eulalias to sleep, and whose feathery aigrettes, in turn, like sacred aspergills sprinkle the morning dew like holy water over his grave.

The name of this gun was the St. Paul. It was in numerous actions, and did efficient service during the war, and was finally surrendered at Town Creek.

The Honorable John H. Small is making a praiseworthy effort to locate this war trophy, and have it returned to the parish.

*See Appendix.

This venerable church is the admiration of the stranger; to us it is the sacred shrine of our religious liberty, the radiance from whose Shekinah shall pervade—shall live on through all the eons of eternity. Half clad in ivy, Time's green uniform, it stands a majestic, but not a voiceless sentinel of the Past, and as the sun in his eternal flight traces the shadow of its tall spire upon the sacred globe below, unerring as the Dial of Ahaz, which only the finger of God could turn backwards, its aereal gnomon points almost every hour of the day to the grave of some distinguished citizen. Its gilded cross, silhouetted in bold relief against the crimson evening sky, suggests the vision of the Emperor Constantine.

Live on thou mighty instrument of good! Live on thou granary of God's eternal harvest! Oblivion shall not blur, nor Time's remorseless hand can alter, one single page of thy history! "Thou art the Zion of the Holy One of Israel, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against *thee!*"

APPENDIX.

NOTES CONCERNING THE EARLY SECESSION MOVEMENT IN CHOWAN COUNTY.

On February 12th, 1861 a mass meeting was held at the Court-house in Edenton to consider the interest of North Carolina, and her relation to the National Government. John H. Leary was elected chairman, and T. J. Bland Secretary. A committee was at once appointed consisting of John C. Badham, John A. Benbury, Riddick Mansfield, John Thompson, and John H. Garrett to draft resolutions expressive of the sentiment of the people of the county. Three reports were submitted, a majority report by John A. Benbury, advising prudence, and caution, and discretion, believing that the Peace Congress then in session would find

a solution of the trouble between the states; then a minority report was submitted by John C. Badham urging an immediate separation from the Union, and the necessity of adopting means of defense: A third report was offered by John H. Garrett counselling a strict adherence for the time to the Union, until the incoming administration should commit some overt act sufficient to cause a rupture with the National Government. The majority report was, however, adopted, the minority withdrew at once from the Convention, and nominated John C. Badham as the secession candidate to represent the County in the State Convention, which had been called to convene in Raleigh. William E. Bond was nominated as the Union candidate. At the election held on February 22nd the result was as follows, Bond, four hundred and twenty-seven; Badham, seventy-nine; Bond's majority, three hundred and forty-eight.

On the 4th of March Lincoln was inaugurated, but those who loved the Union, and hoped for so much perceived in his inaugural address not a straw to cling to, and he soon afterwards issued his celebrated proclamation calling upon North Carolina to furnish troops to invade her sister states, and to force them again into the Union; so on the 1st day of May a second convention was held in Edenton, and nominated Dr. Richard Dillard, senior, who was elected without opposition to the State Convention called by Gov. Ellis, which met in Raleigh on May 20th, the anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, and severed our connection with the Union. This convention is considered the ablest body of men which ever assembled for any purpose within the borders of the State.

Warlike preparations at once began, the "Dixie Rebels," a six-month's volunteer company, was at once organized by Capt. James K. Marshall, he was afterwards promoted to the rank of Colonel. John C. Badham, a Lieutenant in

this company, afterwards became a Major in the 5th N. C., and gave his life for his country at Williamsburg, Va., May 5th, 1862, at which time he held a commission of Lieut.-Colonel. Capt. T. L. Skinner also organized a company, he fell at Mechanicsville, and was succeeded by John A. Benbury, who soon shared the same fate. The few survivors of this famous company are Kader McClenny, R. S. Hedrick, Jerry Mitchell, and W. H. Pratt.

In November, 1861, the entire militia of Chowan county was ordered to Roanoke Island for its defense, it consisted of four companies, commanded by Captains Jno. C. Pearce, Thos. Wilson, Isaac Byrum and J. C. Johnston. These companies constituted the 5th Regiment of N. C. militia. The regimental officers were W. A. Moore, Col., R. G. Mitchell, Lt-Col., Wm. H. Bonner, Major, Wm. Badham, Quarter Master, Jos. G. Godfrey, Commissary, Dr. R. H. Winborne, Surgeon and Dr. L. P. Warren, Assistant Surgeon.

The Edenton Bell Battery was recruited by Capt. Wm. Badham in the winter '61-'62, and left Edenton soon after the fall of Roanoke Island, then went to Weldon, and on to Raleigh with sixty men, there they were joined by Lieut. Nelson McClees, of Tyrrell County, with twenty-two men, and by Lieut. Gaskins with about twenty men.

It was understood that Mr. McCleese in attaching himself to this battery would receive a commission as Lieut. Lieut. McCleese was to command one section and two guns, and Lieut. John M. Jones another section and two guns also. After drilling in Raleigh about two months, they were ordered to Camp Lee near Richmond for instruction. As gun metal was scarce, Capt. Badham sent Lieut. Jones to Edenton to secure the church bells, and any others that he might obtain, to be cast into cannon, in response to Gen. Beauregard's famous call. He readily secured all the bells except the Baptist (several members objecting), including the town and court-house bells, the Academy bell, and the

shipyard bells; these were conveyed to Suffolk across the country in a wagon, and shipped to the Tredegar Iron Works at Richmond, where they were cast into four cannon, and named respectively, the "St. Paul," the "Fannie Roulhac," for a devout and patriotic lady, a staunch member of the Methodist Church, the "Columbia," and the "Edenton." As the complement of the artillery corps of Gen. Lee's army was then complete, an order was issued that all other artillery in camps should be transferred, for the time, to the infantry service; this produced great mortification, and disappointment in the company, and Capt. Badham at once dispatched Lieut. Jones to President Jefferson Davis with the following note: "Sir: The guns of my company were made of the bells of my town, and have tolled to their last resting place a great many of the parents and relatives of my command, and sooner than part with these guns they had rather be taken out and shot. But, if allowed to keep these guns they will stand by them till they die."

This spirited, and patriotic letter was handed to Colonel Dorcas then chief of ordinance, who conveyed it at once to President Davis. Lieut. Jones had not long to wait, the reply came at once that the company would be furnished as soon as possible with both artillery-horses, and harness. The Battery was then assigned to Moore's Third North Carolina Battalion. Horses were difficult to procure, in the meantime McClellan had assumed the offensive around Richmond, and the battery was ordered to Redoubt No. 7, until the horses arrived, when they were sent to Winchester to report to General Pendleton, after being there three months the battery was ordered to report for duty to General McLaw, but the order was soon rescinded. Then came a call from North Carolina ordering the battery to Wilmington, the guns were immediately shipped by rail to Wilmington, and Lieut. Jones with a special detachment carried the horses, and accoutrements through the country. When he

arrived at Goldsboro, Gov. Vance, finding that the enemy were threatening, and near, ordered him to halt there, and the guns which had already arived in Wilmington were immediately ordered by telegraph back to Goldsboro. From Goldsboro they marched to Kinston, and reported to Gen. R. F. Hoke.—Capt. Badham, upon receipt of news that an engagement was in progress, sent Lieut. McCleese with section No. 2 to Whitehall bridge, Lieut. Jones was ordered down ten hours later, when he found that McCleese had lost two of his men. Jones was then sent six miles up the river, but as no demonstration was made there, he was ordered on to Goldsboro to protect that town. After about a week the battery was ordered to Wilmington, and guarded the railroad bridge at Northeast, from there they went to Bald Head Island, and did guard duty on the coast until the fall of Fort Fisher, when they fell back on Fort Anderson: after the flank movement of the enemy, and the evacuation of Fort Anderson, the battery was located at Town Creek, where they were attacked by the enemy with considerable force, Capt. Badham sent Sergeant B. F. Hunter with one gun, the "St. Paul," to prevent them from making a flank movement, while he was engaging them at Town Creek; Hunter was supported by a detachment of South Carolina infantry, who broke and ran, leaving him on the field with but a squad of men. Hunter stood his ground fearlessly, and when the enemy arived at the very muzzle of his gun, a Federal officer shouted to him, "If you fire that gun I will kill you:" the Confederate Sergeant, with that coolness, and intrepidity which always characterized him, replied, "Kill, and go to hell," and then ordered his gunner, William Hassell, to fire immediately. He was captured, and would have been cut down at once, but the Federal officer ordered his men to spare his life, saving, "He's too brave a man to be killed." About fifteen men were captured along with Sergeant Hunter and sent to prison at Point Lookout, among them Mr. A. T. Bush of this town. The remainder

of the battery fell back to Wilmington, and were subsequently engaged at Cox's Bridge, finally surrendering to General Sherman at Greensboro.

The names, dimensions, and officers in command of the Edenton Bell Battery taken from the note-book of the late Capt. Wm. Badham.

The "St. Paul"—made from St. Paul's church bell in charge of Sergeant B. F. Hunter. Howitzer 1533, E. B. face 1862, left trunnion I. R. A. & Co., F. F. right trunnion 7760 breech.

The "Fannie Roulhac"—made from the Methodist Church bell, and in charge of Sergeant Harry Gregory. Howitzer —1532 face E. B. also 1862, left trunnion I. R. A. & Co., F. F. Right trunnion breech 770.

The "Columbia"—made from the bells of the two shipyards, owned by Col. T. L. Skinner, and Col. R. T. Paine. Gun in charge of Sergeant Ed. Davenport, 1534 face E. B. also—1862 left trunnion I. R. A. & Co., F. F. right trunnion, breech 860.

The "Edenton"—made from the Academy, Court House, and Hotel bells, and other bells presented by private individuals. Gun in charge of Sergeant George Parish. No. 1531 face E. B. 1862—left trunnion I. R. A. & Co., F. F. right trunnion 860 pounds breech.

The "St. Paul," and the "Edenton" were commanded by Lieut. John M. Jones, the "Fannie Roulhac," and "Columbia" were commanded by Lieut. Nelson McCleese. The guns did service at the following places, Winchester, Culpepper Court House, the Seven days fight around Richmond in redoubt No. 7, Goldsboro, Kinston, Whitehall Bridge, Bald Head, Smithfield, (now called Southport), Fort Anderson, Town Creek, the streets of Wilmington, Bentonsville, Cox's Bridge, and surrendered to General Sherman at Greensboro.

RICHARD DILLARD.
"BEVERLY HALL."
Edenton, N. C.

William Hooper.

LIFE OF

WILLIAM HOOPER

SIGNER OF

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

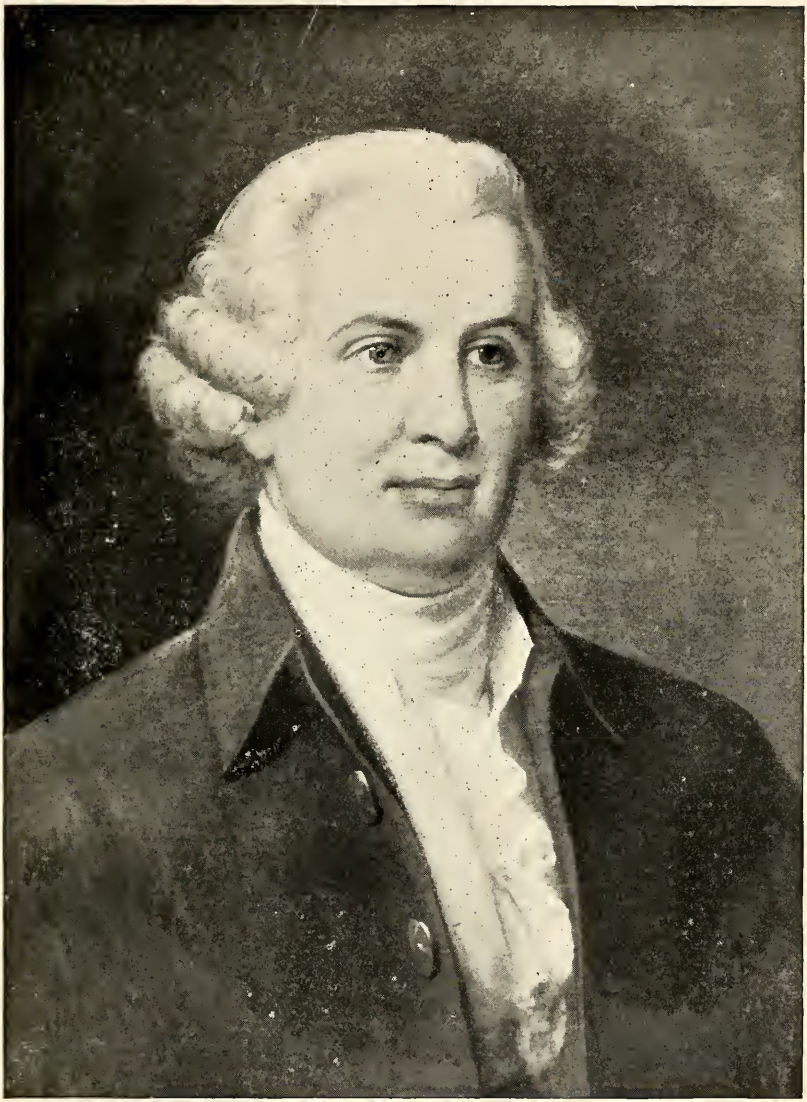
BY HIS NEPHEW

ARCHIBALD MACLAINE HOOPER

First Printed in the Hillsboro Recorder of Nov. 13th, 20th, 27th, and December 4th, 1822.

Preface by his great-grand-daughter, Mrs. Spier Whitaker of Raleigh, N. C., formerly Fannie De Berniere Hooper.

1905.



Wm. Hooper

OF NORTH CAROLINA

Signer of The Declaration of Independence

Son of Rev. Wm. Hooper, Rector of Trinity Church, Boston, and Mary (Dennie) Hooper.
Born at Boston the 17th day of June, 1742. Died and was buried at Hillsboro, N. C., October 1790
Removed to Guilford Battle Ground, April 25, 1894.

PREFACE.

Being assigned the task of contributng to the Booklet a sketch of the life of William Hooper, one of the Signers from North Carolina, of the Declaration of Independence, I can not do better than to present that written in 1822, by his nephew Archibald Maclaine Hooper, over the signature Callisthenes, as it originally appeared in a series of articles entitled "Biographical Sketches," in the *Hillsboro Recorder* for November and December of that year. Mr. Griffith J. McRee, in his pamphlet, *Life and Character of Archibald Maclaine Hooper*, published in 1856, referring to this sketch, says: "About this time Mr. Hooper wrote a memior of William Hooper, to be seen in Wheeler's History and elsewhere, which is decidedly superior to any other of that great patriot as yet offered to the public." Wheeler, publishing in 1851, in expressing his obligations to Mr. Heartt, editor of the *Recorder*, for a copy of the memoir, characterizes it as "from the pen of one of the best writers of his day, whose connection with the distinguished subject of his biography *gave him facilities for procuring facts possessed by no other* person."* This sketch is, without doubt, the first—as Mr. McRee says that up to his time it was the best—of William Hooper ever written, and is the source from which his subsequent biographers have largely drawn their material, and to which, as far as regards him, the bibliography of the Lives of the Signers is most indebted.

The author of the Life of William Hooper, in Volume VII of the work entitled "*Sanderson's Biography*," published by R. W. Pomeroy—this seventh volume in 1827—with the addition of some subject matter, has incorporated into his essay the whole of A. M. Hooper's article published five years before, sometimes verbatim, sometimes with slight changes of phraseology, sometimes liberally paraphrasing, but fails to credit its author with the transcriptions so freely made, except in the case of one passage and then with a note of disparagement, without designating him by name, and as if this extract were his first or only draft on the sketch in question. Introducing therefrom, A. M. Hooper's description of the society of Wilmington, N. C., at that time, he comments: "A flattering picture of it has been drawn by one of his (William Hooper's) relatives, which if somewhat highly colored, may at least have the advantage of exciting or gratifying local recollections." Mr. McRee retorts upon the writer, that while quoting this account he intimates a suspicion that it is "too highly colored," and that, "unable to realize upon the distant Cape Fear, the existence of a society at that period less numerous but more refined than that of Boston or Philadelphia, with shallow arrogance he insinuates his doubt."

Incidental, internal evidence of the respective dates of publication of the articles above enumerated, may be seen in their different renderings of a single passage. A. M. Hooper, in his narrative in the *Hillsboro Recorder*, in 1822, says: "He (William Hooper) died October, 1790, in the forty-ninth year of his age, leaving a widow two sons and a daughter, all of whom, except Mrs. Elizabeth Watters, of Hillsboro, are deceased. There survive also, of his descend-

*Italics not in the original.

ants, three grandsons, children of his eldest son, William, to wit.: William, pastor of the Episcopal Church and superintendent of the academy at Fayetteville; Thomas, a lawyer; and James, a merchant, all residents of the same place." The author of the life of Hooper in "*Sanderson's Biography*" copies this passage almost verbatim, until, reaching the name of the eldest grandson, Rev. William Hooper, of North Carolina, he mentions him, not as "pastor of the Episcopal Church and superintendent of the academy at Fayetteville," but as "*Professor of Logic and Rhetoric at the University of North Carolina**" he having occupied that position from 1825 to 1828—thus correctly bringing up the facts *to the date of his own writing*. Wheeler, though always loyal to the people of his State and University, while admittedly copying A. M. Hooper's sketch, of 1822, in this passage takes liberties with the text and commits anachronisms in endeavoring to make it conform to the time of his own publication, 1851, in its statements regarding Rev. William Hooper, of North Carolina, who, he says, "was distinguished as a literary writer, was *Professor of Languages at the University, a Baptist minister*** and resides in Raleigh." It was correct that he had been (1828-1837) Professor of Languages in the University, that he had become (1831) a Baptist minister, and that he resided for a few months of the year 1851 in Raleigh; but it is obvious that these statements could not have been contained in a paper written in 1822; and, in the meantime, the two brothers, Thomas and James, mentioned by Wheeler as still living had died, the former in 1828, the latter in 1841.

Rev. Charles A. Goodrich's sketch of William Hooper, in his *Lives of the Signers to the Declaration of American Independence*, published in 1829, Lossing's in *Biographical Sketches of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence*, and those of other writers or compilers bear evidence, with that in "Sanderson's Biography," of a common deviation from A. M. Hooper's sketch. These facts and the consideration that the file (probably the only one extant) of the *Hillsboro Recorder*, which is in the possession of the descendants of Mr. Dennis Heartt, for so long editor of that paper, is inaccessible to most persons and must eventually be disintegrated by time, and that Wheeler's History of North Carolina has long been out of print, furnish sufficient ground for the republication of the original article. It had been intended to publish, in connection with it, a number of documentary records relating to William Hooper and his family, but having been found too extended for the space usually occupied by a contribution to this periodical, they do not appear.

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*Italics not in Sanderson.

**Italics not in Wheeler.

FROM THE HILLSBORO RECORDER.

(Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1822.)

"An obliging correspondent has furnished us with sketches of the life and character of William Hooper, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, the introductory number of which we give to our readers in to-day's papers. It is now forty-six years since that memorable period, and the hands which affixed their imperishable names to the instrument which proclaimed to the world the birth of our independence, with three exceptions only, are now mouldered into dust. The actors in that proud period are fast fading from our view; and though a dazzling brightness is spread over that portion of our history, the names only of many once prominent individuals are all that remain to us of them; the evidences of their eloquence, of their zeal, of their prowess, of their patient endurance of suffering, and of their patriotism, are irrecoverably lost. While the oblivious hand of time is thus burying in the dark mists of revolving years the memory of the heroes of the revolution, the broken fragments and detached incidents of their lives will be seized upon as sacred relics and cherished in fond remembrance. It is therefore highly gratifying to us, and we are persuaded that it will be not less gratifying to our readers, that we are enabled to lay before them the following sketches of the life and character of one of those hardy patriots who fearlessly signed the instrument which declared us free and laid the foundation of civil liberty throughout the world." [Editor of the *Recorder*.]

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH NO 1.

To the Editor of the Hillsboro Recorder.

Sir—It is much to be regretted that the State of North Carolina has never possessed a good historian. Thence it has happened that her eminent patriots in the cabinet and in the field are unnoticed and unknown; and thence it is, that the most interesting incidents connected with their lives are irretrievably lost.

This State certainly had her full portion of men of talent, when she was a British colony, during her revolutionary contest, and even after that eventful period, forming an epoch from about 1737 to 1790. Many of these enjoyed the advantages of a liberal education, but many were indebted for their stores of knowledge to the exertions of vigorous intellect availing itself of books, of experience in

the transactions of business, and of extensive intercourse with enlightened society. The specimens of genius, which appeared in the prints and pamphlets of the epoch alluded to were lost, either in the ordinary casualties of peace or destroyed during the ravages of the revolutionary war. Yet, these, important as they might seem, are not to be compared with the eloquence of the bar and of the senate.

How much is it to be deplored, that means were not adopted to preserve memorials which would cast a splendor over the annals of the state, which would enable us to do justice to names that once adorned her literary and political circles, and above all, to those illustrious patriots who planned and achieved her independence!

The bold and animated discussions which occupied our provincial assemblies, which shook our popular meetings, our conventions and our state assemblies during the progress of the revolution, and the angry and obstinate debates which succeeded the ratification of the treaty of peace were consigned to oblivion. All the actors in these memorable and anxious scenes have sunk into the grave; and we have now nothing to assist us in forming an estimate of their moral worth and intellectual greatness but imperfect hints and broken outlines caught from the representations of those who have received them by transmission, and whose second-hand intelligence may be suspected of being embellished by partiality or distorted by prejudice.

I have, sir, been involuntarily led into this train of reflections, by the publication of the proposals for compiling the lives of the signers of the declaration of independence. It is natural that a native citizen of North Carolina should feel a solicitude that the delegation from his state, whose names are subscribed to that instrument, should be treated with a consideration due to their high political career and to their successful exertions in the cause of civil liberty. The merits of Penn and the worth of Hewes are entitled to historical notice, yet I am at a loss, after the lapse of so

many years, where to seek for the incidents of their lives, which preceded that ever memorable act that has immortalized their names. Of William Hooper, who was the head or efficient member of that delegation, some traditionary accounts have come to my knowledge. These, I endeavored to preserve for the purpose of composing, at some convenient season, a volume of memoirs. The undertaking is, however, too much for my ability, and is certainly incompatible with my business and my numerous engagements.

The fame of this distinguished statesman has suffered more from the injuries of time and neglect, than that of any of his competitors. His political life comprehended a wider extent of the exigencies and emergencies of the times than that of any of them; and his various talents were kept continually in action. Instead, therefore, of attempting to write memoirs of his life, I have resolved to commence the humble task of furnishing sketches for the assistance of his biographer. These sketches written amid the bustle of business and under the weight of many cares, shall appear in a series of numbers in your journal. There seems to me, sir, to be a peculiar propriety in selecting the columns of your journal, for the occurrences of the life of William Hooper. The tomb of the patriot is the shrine where offerings should be made to his memory. The town of Hillsborough was his last and chosen residence. There he enjoyed years of the purest domestic felicity, and there his warmest friendships were cemented by social intercourse. There he poured forth the last fervours of his genius, and there he last awakened emotions of delight and admiration. Indeed, sir, this is ground which, even if it had not been the residence of the signer of independence, ought to be held sacred. It has been the scene where orators and statesmen have engaged in emulous debate, where patriotism has achieved her highest purposes and where eloquence has risen in her noblest flights.

CALLISTHENES.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH NO 2.

Wednesday, Nov. 20, 1822.

To the Editor of the Hillsborough Recorder.

Sir—In the narrative which I have undertaken to furnish for your columns, I entertain no fear of incurring the imputation of incorrectness in detailing ordinary facts; but I must at the same time apprise you that I am not equally confident of that accuracy which consists in the full relation of circumstances, or the precision which is desirable in recurring to dates. A careful biographer will no doubt have it in his power to rectify errors of the last mentioned kind, and to supply deficiencies by reference to the public offices and to the departments of state.

William Hooper, the subject of these sketches, was born 17th June, in Boston, Massachusetts. His father, the Rev. William Hooper, pastor of Trinity Church in that town, is mentioned briefly and imperfectly in Elliott's Biographical Dictionary. The addition of a few words would have prevented the suspicion that the account was penned in the spirit of prejudice. Certain it is, that no minister ever enjoyed more fully the affection and reverence of his congregation, and few have been so much admired for elegance of manners and a bold and impressive eloquence. Besides the learning and the sciences which are obtained at universities, he possessed accomplishments* such as are not considered, in any degree, essential in forming the erudite and well-bred divine. He married in Boston, the daughter of Mr. John Dennie, an eminent merchant. William was the eldest of five children by this marriage.

The plan of his education commenced in his infancy. At the age of seven he was removed in part from the pupilage of his father, and placed at a free grammar school in Boston, the master of which was John Lovel, almost as much

*In a letter from the late venerable Doctor Lloyd, of Boston, dated 24th September, 1796, to one of the sons of W. Hooper, pastor of Trinity Church, he says, "Your father's memory will ever be dear to me. He was the most accomplished gentleman, and one of the best friends I ever had."

celebrated in America, in his day,* as was once the famous Doctor Busby in England. Here he was distinguished for his proficiency in the studies preparatory to his entering into College, and completed the regular course of seven years with commendation and praise.† At this early period he was remarked on for the weakness of his constitution. His nerves were so sensitive, that he became an object of incessant raillery to his group of little relatives and to his father's domestics. With increase of years his constitution grew firmer, but his nerves always retained much of their early delicacy. Aided by the instruction of his father, which was never remitted, he made literary acquirements uncommon for one of his age, and advanced himself in his scholastic studies beyond his cotemporaries. It was, no doubt, owing to this circumstance that he was admitted, contrary to established rules, into the sophomore class at Harvard College,‡ There he took rank among the most distinguished, and signalized himself in oratory. He graduated A. B. in 1760, and A. M. in 1763.

Such was the anxious attention which his father bestowed on him in order to form him as an orator, that his vacations were periods of more laborious study and exertion than the terms of his scholastic exercises. And here it is worthy of observation, that the genius of the father and son were diametrically opposite. That of the father was of a loftier cast, and was formed in the school of Demosthenes; that of the son was Ciceronian in its features. The characteristic of the father was vehemency; that of the son insinuation. Were it not a presumptuous comparison, I would say, the father was Chatham, the son was William Pitt.

It was the early intention and earnest wish of his father to devote this son to the ministry. To this, however, the son was disinclined, for reasons that were considered satisfactory by his father, who agreed to alter his destination. Find-

*1749. †1756. ‡1757.

ing that he preferred the study of the law, he placed him with James Otis, Esq., who was then a lawyer of eminence.

At this period commenced the attempts of the English Parliament against the rights and privileges of the subjects in the provinces. Mr. Otis took an early and decided stand, by his writings and open declarations, against this assumed power of the British government. He was exceeded by none in zeal, and equalled by few in abilities. The high esteem and respect which the subject of these sketches entertained for Mr. Otis, naturally rendered him partial to his political principles; and there can be no doubt, had the effect of assisting to engraft those principles on his mind, and to establish them permanently there. Subsequent events ripened them into maturity, and rendered them active.

Mr. Hooper, having prepared himself for the practice of law, and finding the bar in his native State so overflowing that there was no encouragement for juvenile practitioners, determined, about 1763, to try the experiment of making his fortune in North Carolina. To this he was invited by the circumstance of his family's having very particular friends, influential characters in the province. Accordingly, in 1764, he embarked at Boston for Wilmington, on Cape Fear. He did not remain long in North Carolina at that visit, but returned to Boston in about a year. In 1765 he again visited North Carolina, and advanced in the practice of law. His health, however, sustained such severe shocks, that he resolved, conformably to the wishes of his father, to abandon it.

In 1767, the death of his father made it necessary that he should revisit his native place, and at the same time blasted the hope of his quitting North Carolina, which, on account of his health only, he wished to do. In the fall of 1767, having determined to fix his residence permanently in Wilmington, he married, in Boston, Miss Ann Clark, of the former place, daughter of Thos. Clark, Esq., deceased,

and sister of Gen. Thos. Clark, afterwards of the United States Army. The choice was most fortunate, considered in reference to the qualifications of the lady to adorn and sweeten social life, and most fortunate, too, considered in reference to that firmness of mind, which enabled her to sustain, without repining, the grievous privations and distresses to which she became peculiarly exposed in consequence of the prominent station which Mr. Hooper held in the War of the Revolution.

CALLISTHENES.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH NO. 3.

Wednesday, Nov. 27, 1822.

To the Editor of the Hillsborough Recorder.

Sir—In relating the events and circumstances in the life of an individual who has acquired distinction by the exercise of superior faculties, it is proper to notice every particular which has an influence on the progress of the mind.

The fatigue of attending to the practice of the law is, in our days, considered excessive. When Mr. Hooper came to the bar, and for several years after, it was infinitely greater. Then the luxury of carriages for travelling, was not common. Mr. Hooper attended the county courts of Rowan, and other counties in the back country, at least one hundred and eighty miles distant from Wilmington, and he travelled always on horseback. Such fatigue was too great for a constitution naturally delicate.

The manners and customs of the people of Cape Fear, at that period, were not more favorable to a proficiency in legal science, than was the organization of the courts. Hospitality carried to an extreme, and an excessive fondness for conviviality, were the characteristics of those days. In fact, every class of society became infected by the example; and numbers of old families, now reduced to comparative

poverty, have reason to rue the prodigal liberality of their ancestors. Hospitality is indeed a virtue, which travellers and geographists, who have attempted to describe North Carolina, very generally allow to her, however penurious their praise may be in other respects.

The British Governor Martin, on a visit to Wilmington, having occasion to reply to an address of the inhabitants, presented by Mr. Hooper, styled it "the region of politeness and hospitality." The commerce of Wilmington was then improving, and derived great advantage from a bounty on naval stores. Many of the families residing in it were possessed of fortunes, and all of them in respectable stations, obtained subsistence without painful exertion.

But the dissipation which arose out of an excess of hospitalty, exhibited a more animated picture in the surrounding country. Whole families, and frequently several families together, were in the practice of making visits; and, like the tents of the Arabs, seemed continually in motion. The number of visitants, the noise and bustle of arrivals and greetings, the cries of the poultry yard, and the bleating of the pasture, require some sounding polysyllable to convey an idea of the joyous uproar; some new-coined word to disinguish their caravan approaches from ordinary visits or formal visitations. Every visit was a sort of jubilee. Festive entertainments, balls, every species of amusement which song and dance could afford, was resorted to. The neighing courser and the echoing horn, the sports of the turf and the pleasure of the chase, were alternately the objects of eager pursuit. Everywhere, on the eastern and western branches of the River Cape Fear, were men of fortune, related by blood or connected by marriage, whose settlements extended almost as far as the then lowly hamlet of Cross Creek, since dignified by the name of Fayetteville, and now swollen into importance by a numerous population.

This general ease and prosperity was highly favorable to

the cultivation of polite literature, and to the development of talents of a certain kind. The state of manners tended to awaken a spirit of improvement, which pervaded the whole community. Every family possessed a collection of the best English authors, besides which there was a public library, supported by a society of gentlemen, and styled "the Cape Fear Library." Wit and humor, music and poetry, were drawn into action in social and convivial intercourse. Conversation was cultivated to a high degree. Emanating from letters or science, or rising out of the busy scenes of life, it always teemed with instruction and imparted delight. The point of honor was understood and recognized, and the slightest approach to indignity resented. In this exercise of colloquial talent, the ladies participated and heightened the pleasures. Then they were not, as now, early instructed, or perhaps, were not instructed at all in the rudiments of knowledge; but they derived from reading, and imbibed from an association with eminent persons of the opposite sex, a tincture of taste and elegance, and they had softness, sentiment, grace, intelligence—every quality which in the female sex can inspire and exalt the enthusiasm of romantic passion.

In the hospitable conviviality of those times, allurements to dissipation were greater than social life usually presents. The actors were far above the cast of ordinary *bon vivants.* I once hoped to be able to present a biographical sketch of each of them, but my cares and avocations have compelled me to relinquish the task. Among these was Eustace,* the correspondent of Sterne, who united wit, and genius, and learning, and science; Harnett,† who could boast a genius for music, and a taste for letters; Lloyd,‡ gifted with talents and adorned with classical literature; Pennington,§ an elegant writer, admired for his wit and his highly

*Doctor John Eustace. †Cornelius Harnett, afterwards member of Congress. ‡Colonel Thomas Lloyd. §William Pennington, comptroller of the customs of the port of Wilmington, and afterwards Master of ceremonies at Bath.

polished urbanity; Maclaine,* whose criticisms on Shakespeare† would, if they were published, give him fame and rank in the republic of letters; Boyd,‡ who, without pretentions to wit or humor, possessed the rare art of telling a story with spirit and grace, and whose elegiac numbers afforded a striking contrast to the vivid brilliancy of the scenes in which he figured; Moore,§ endowed with versatile talents, and possessed of extensive information—as a wit, always prompt in reply, as an orator, always "daring the mercy of chance;" Howe‖ whose imagination fascinated, whose repartee overpowered, and whose conversation was enlivened by strains of exquisite raillery. Wit and humor, and music and poetry, displayed all their charms among the festive deities, and heightened the glow of delight. Is it to be wondered at that the banquet was often carried to an injurious excess?

Mr. Hooper did not escape the contagion. He played his part among these distinguished wits, and shed a classic lustre over these refined revels. He kept, however, his professional pursuits in view, advanced himself, and was considered eminent in 1763.¶ The cause of The State *vs.* McGufford, tried in the Superior Court of New Hanover county, seemed first to establish his claims to eminence. It was a case of atrocious murder, committed by a master on his slave, tried before a Court of Oyer and Terminer. In that cause he was counsel for the defendant; and he displayed such extent of research, and such powers of argument, as excited universal admiration. Maurice Moore was also employed in the same cause, and displayed great dexterity. He thought, and he thought justly, that nature and feeling would resume their rights in time to defeat the force of eloquence. He, therefore, moved to set aside the commission of Oyer and Terminer, and succeeded.

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*Archibald Maclaine. †Now in possession of his descendents.
‡The Rev. Adam Boyd. §Judge Maurice Moore. ‖Gen. Robert Howe.
¶(Evidently a mistake; probably intended for 1768.—Copyist.)

Mr. Hooper distinguished himself about the same time at Halifax Superior Court, as counsel for the heirs of Governor Dobbs, in a suit instituted for the recovery of a landed estate, against Abner Nash, who had married the widow of Governor Dobbs. In this suit he was opposed by several advocates, and among the rest, by the defendant, Abner Nash.

Such is the effect of impressions early received, that the name of Abner Nash always brings to my imagination the inflamed energy of Demosthenes, and produces some of that perturbation which is felt in reading his orations. The eloquence of Nash and that of Mr. Hooper, must, indeed, have exhibited a very fine contrast. Nash was vehemence and fire; Mr. Hooper was stately and diffusive elegance.

Having noted, in the commencement of this number, those particulars which influence the progress of the mind, let me here observe, that the adverse or the prosperous situation of communities depends very much on the state of manners. This observation will be illustrated by a hasty view of the comparative situation of North and South Carolina at this period.

South Carolina was destined to become a mine of wealth, in consequence of most laborious exertions in opening her swamp lands for the cultivation of rice. Economy preserved what industry acquired.

On the contrary, the planters of Cape Fear, many of them holders of great possessions in lands and slaves, scarcely regarded these lands, though superior undoubtedly, to those of South Carolina, and producing a grain larger, more solid, and more nutritious. Content to raise from naval stores a sufficiency to pay the interest on continually increasing debts, they indulged themselves in habits of ease and dissipation. The consequence is, that while the fruitful lands of South Carolina afford an inexhaustible source of riches, the fertile

soil of Cape Fear is destined to remain uncultivated, and to furnish evidence of its superior fertility only in its baneful effects on the health of the inhabitants.

CALLISTHENES.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH NO. IV.

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1822.

To the Editor of the Hillsborough Recorder.

Sir—At this distant day, it is impossible to enumerate the many public appointments which Mr. Hooper filled. It is proper, however, to mention, that he was active in behalf of the government against the insurgents denominated Regulators, who were defeated at Alamance in 1771.

Tryon, the provincial Governor, and Martin, his successor, and also Howard the Chief Justice, distinguished him by their regard, and showed a desire to conciliate his friendship. In 1773, Mr. Hooper represented the town of Wilmington in the General Assembly. In 1774 he represented the county of New Hanover in the same body. There he united himself with a band of patriots, in resisting the demand of the British government, to insert a clause into the bill for establishing a court system, favoring British subjects, on the article of process by attachment, to the prejudice of creditors on this side of the Atlantic.* This measure at once deprived the province of courts, and the gentlemen of the bar of their professional emoluments. On this occasion Mr. Hooper took the lead in legislative debate. He also addressed the people of North Carolina in a series of letters, under the signature of Hampden. These, it is said, were much admired. What effect they produced, in accomplishing the views of the writer, we cannot, at this time,

*Among the papers of the late Archibald Maclaine, of Wilmington, are some memoranda that seem to be intended as the groundwork of a defence of his (Maclaine's) political character, which had been attacked. In one item he refers to his conduct "at the time the ministerial instruction came to alter the attachment law."

ascertain. The province remained without a judiciary until 1777, when it was revived under the new order of things; meanwhile the law practitioners sacrificed their dependency for subsistence, and the other classes suffered greatly.

In the provincial and State assemblies, Mr. Hooper, on various occasions, brought forward high-toned and energetic measures, and supported them with all the powers of his persuasive oratory. The patriots most conspicuous in opposition to the arbitrary acts of the British government, at that memorable era, were Ashe,* Iredell,† Johnston,‡ Moore,§ Harvey,‖ Harnett,¶ Caswell,** Mclaine,†† Nash,‡‡ Burke,§§ and Henderson.‖‖ These was all eminent men. Some of them were natives of the province, and entitled to great weight from their age, their fortune, and the extent and respectability of their connections. From this band Mr. Hoper, at an early age, with small estate, with but few connections, and those few without influence, was selected for the most important public appointments, and that too at conjunctures which called for first rate talents and undaunted firmness.

How he advanced himself so highly in the esteem and confidence of the people of North Carolina, we can at this time only conjecture. It was probably owing to the wider comprehension of his views, to the uncommon fervor of his zeal, to the fascinating splendor of his eloquence; and above all, to the extraordinary activity and perseverance of his exertions.

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*Samuel Ashe, afterwards Governor Ashe. †James Iredell, afterwards Judge Iredell. ‡Samuel Johnston, afterwards Governor Johnson. §Maurice Moore, Speaker of the House of Commons, one of the judges appointed by the crown. ‖John Harvey. ¶Cornelius Harnett, one of the members of the first Congress. **Richard Caswell, afterwards Governor Caswell. ††Archibald Maclaine. ‡‡Abner Nash, afterwards Governor Nash. §§Thomas Burke, afterwards Governor Burke. ‖‖Richard Henderson, for some time Judge Henderson.

In 1775* Mr. Hooper was delegated by the Assembly to Congress, and continued in that capacity till 1777, at which time his private concerns compelled him to resign. The proceedings of the first Congress, having been from policy, conducted with great secrecy, the debates were not recorded. When Mr. Hooper first addressed that illustrious assemblage of compatriots, his speech occupied about half an hour; and it is said, upon authority which seems to be too respectable to be questioned, that he commanded the most profound silence, and was listened to with the most earnest attention. The encomium was, however, qualified with this observation, that the house was seized with astonishment at the display of such powers of elocution from North Carolina. He spoke, it is said, more than once on the floor of the House, and always inspired respect and admiration.

During the same period he was a prominent member and distinguished speaker in the Conventions which sat at Hillsborough and Halifax. At the Convention which sat at the former place, in April, 1776,** he reported an address to the inhabitants of the British Empire. This was, without doubt, the exclusive production of his pen, and it was, at the time, universally admired. Many other public documents emanated from the same source.

On the most trying occasions, the loftiness and elasticity of his spirit were strikingly manifest. Events which cast a gloom over the minds of others, had no effect in damping his ardor, or in depressing his hopes. The disastrous result of the battle of Germantown, which spread dismay among the whigs, seemed to give fresh courage to his zeal. When the report of the battle reached Wilmington, he was among a party of patriotic friends, who were overwhelmed with consternation. He instantly started from his chair, with unusual animation, and exclaimed, "We have been disap-

*(Evidently an inadvertence, intended for 1774.—Copyist.)

**Obviously intended for Aug. 1775 (Copyist.)

pointed! No matter! Now we have become the assailants, there can be no doubt of the issue."

Johnston sometimes endeavored to restrain in him what he considered an excess of zeal. "I have," said that great patriot and statesman, "I have resolved to stake my life and my fortune in the contest for liberty, but I am not without painful apprehension of the result. I am indeed afraid that when independence shall have been achieved, talents and virtue may be thrown into the shade, and the mob may govern." In relating this anecdote to me, in May, 1802, Judge Johnston thought that his prediction was rapidly fulfilling.

In the early part of the Revolutionary War, Mr. Hooper's name was extremely obnoxious to the British officers. The captain of a sloop-of-war stationed in the River Cape Fear, meanly descended to fire a house which he had built about three miles below Wilmington.

On his return to private life, his family resided at his seat on Masonborough Sound, about eight miles from Wilmington. There he continued taking part as occasion required, in public measures, until January, 1781. At this time a force under Major Craig, arrived in Cape Fear River. Mr. Hooper found it necessary to remove his family; and having no place to resort to less dangerous, he removed them to Wilmington, preferring to trust them to the humanity of an open enemy, rather than suffer them to remain exposed in a predatory warfare* He sought for safety for himself by flight into the country. His family remained at Wilmington without any outrage until October,

*He had made arrangements for taking refuge in one of the French West India islands in the event of the success of the British arms. Mrs. Hooper understood him that an arrangement of this kind was projected by all the members of Congress, and that it was understood by the French minister. An exile such as this would have been less irksome to him than to many of his compatriots. His father, who was intimately acquainted with French, gave him a critical knowledge of that language, and it is probable that he would soon have acquired fluency in speaking it.

1781, when they with others were ordered at a short notice to leave the town. Mr. Hooper and his family returned to it immediately after its evacuation by the enemy in November of the same year; and shortly afterwards removed to Hillsborough, in Orange county. After this and until about 1787, he continued to hold a distinguished rank in the councils of his country, and to maintain a very high station at the bar. Speaking of him, the late Judge Iredell observed that his latest exertions were equal to the most splendid of his meridian days.

Meeting with opposition in his elections Mr. Hooper became soured,* and seemed inclined to retire. He gradually relaxed his exertions and at length withdrew wholly from public life. His withdrawal excited much speculation. Some ascribed it to a solicitude for the interest of his family, which had suffered much by his devotion to the public weal, and others attributed it to disgust occasioned by some legislative measures of the State. It is probable, however, from circumstances, that a union of both causes influenced him. The few years which he lived after his retirement, were spent in domestic enjoyment, for which, indeed, he was better fitted by his temper and sensibilities, than for public life.

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*He was probably soured by finding himself in collision with some of his compatriots and best friends. Maclaine, who was one of these, became irritated by the difference of opinion between them. After the ratification of the treaty of peace, Maclaine was anxious to shield the disaffected from persecution, and in the pursuit of this object he exercised no address. Mr. Hooper, who no doubt coincided with him so far as respected the justice and humanity of this course, thought that great prudence and circumspection ought to be observed; and this prudence and circumspection was the more necessary on his part, from the circumstance of all his connections having espoused the royal cause. Aware that his station was such that he ought to be above suspicion, he suppressed, on this occasion, the best and warmest feelings of his heart. In a letter to a friend, dated 18th February, 1785, Maclaine adverts to Mr. Hooper's conduct in this respect, and in the asperity of his temper puts a construction on it which in his cooler moments he would have retracted. In this letter he speaks, in the style of complaint, of the superiority which Mr. Hooper's education gave him, of the deference paid to him by Iredell, and of the homage he received from Johnson, and adds, "I never pay him compliments, but, on the contrary, have opposed him."

On his return from the Assembly, which met for the purpose of carrying into effect the State Constitution, many inquiries were made by the crowds which collected around him, relative to the powers confided to the several departments of the government. Mr. Hooper having satisfied curiosity as to other particulars, one of the crowd asked, "And what powers, sir, have the Assembly given to the governor?" "Power, sir," replied Mr. Hooper, "to sign a receipt for his salary."

He died October, 1790, in the forty-ninth year of his age, at Hillsborough, leaving a widow, two sons and a daughter, all of whom, except Mrs. Elizabeth Watters, of Hillsborough, are deceased. There survive also of his descendants, three grandsons, children of his eldest son William, to wit.: William, pastor of the Episcopal Church, and superintendent of the academy in Fayetteville; Thomas, a lawyer; and James, a merchant, all residents of the same place.

In person he was of the middle size, elegantly formed, delicate rather than robust. His countenance was pleasing and indicated intelligence. His manners were polite and engaging. With his intimates and friends, his conversation was frank and animated, enlivened by a vein of pleasing humor, and abounding with images of playful irony. It was sometimes tinctured with the severity of sarcasm, and sometimes marked by comprehensive brevity of expression. His father, himself a model of colloquial excellence, had cultivated this talent in his son with great assiduity.

From the same preceptor he learned the art, rarely attained, of reading with elegance. In this respect the grace and propriety which marked his manner, communicated, it is said, a pleasure even when he read cases from the law reporters, or the ordinary documents of a suit in court. In mixed society he was apt to be reserved. Sincerity was a striking feature in his character. He never practiced disguise. Hospitality he carried to excess.

In his domestic relations he was affectionate and indulgent. Failings he certainly had, but they were not such as affected the morality of his private or the integrity of his public conduct.

As a writer we cannot fairly graduate his pretensions. The letters of Hampden, which would have furnished the best criterion for this purpose, have perished with the prints which contained them.

As a letter writer he was, I think, deficient in ease and simplicity; but his epistolary compositions must have been

unequalled. Major Craig intercepted one of these, which impressed him with such an exalted opinion of the writer, that afterwards, when Mr. Hooper, accompanied by Maclaine, visited Wilmington under the protection of a flag of truce, Craig scarcely noticed the latter, while to Mr. Hooper he paid the most marked and respectful attention.

On all important occasions he was called upon by the inhabitants of Wilmington and its vicinity to exercise his pen. A very flattering testimony to his talents, considering the number of eminent men who then resided in the same part of the country, some of whom had cultivated the art of composition with great success. Among these were Maclaine, Eustace, Lloyd, Pennington, and Moore.

In classical learning and in literary taste he had few superiors; yet he was never ostentatious in the display of these qualifications. He possessed a talent for elegant versification, which he exercised in his moments of recreation. His ode on the birthday of Washington, which circulated only among a few friends, was pronounced, by a competent judge, superior to any which had been published.* I have never been able to procure the manuscript.

Among his friends were some of opposite political principles, but it produced no change of regard towards them, nor did he in any instance depart from an inherent benevolence, by becoming the persecutor of any on account of his principles or prejudices.

In his private concerns his probity and honor were unimpeached. His estate was moderate, and he was not avaricious.

His religion was that of a sincere Christian, free from bigotry to any sect or denomination.

He appears to have been free from envy. In a letter to Maclaine he describes the death of Judge Henderson in a strain of enthusiastic admiration of the talents of that extraordinary man.

*In 1789.

After John Haywood, now Judge Haywood, appeared at the bar, and before his faculties were developed, or perhaps even known to himself, he had to contend with men of great intellectual powers and profound legal science. Mr. Hooper sustained him in the unequal contest. This patronage of rising merit, if it arose from generous feeling, is worthy of mention; and it is not less worthy to be noted if it arose from a sentiment of friendship, for that revered personage* who has rendered the names of Haywood dear to the people of North Carolina, whose boundless benevolence pointed him out as the Atticus of his native State, until more recent events presented him in the sterner aspect of Aristides the Just.

His penetration into character was obvious in the choice of his friends. He always selected them from the most worthy; and he experienced in every instance, that warm reciprocal attachment which was due to the ardor and constancy of his friendship.

The champion of that illustrious band, which in North Carolina first opposed the encroachments of arbitrary power, no man ever entered into the public service on more correct principles, or with purer or more disinterested motives. When he engaged in revolutionary measures, he was fully aware of the dangers to which he exposed his person and estate; yet in spite of untoward events, his enthusiasm never abated, his firmness never forsook him. In times the most disastrous he never desponded, but sustained his situation with increased intrepidity.

CALLISTHENES.

It seems fitting to subjoin to the foregoing memoir some estimates of William Hooper by more recent writers and who are not related to him by ties of blood. Says Wheeler:

"The life and character of William Hooper, who was long a resident and representative of New Hanover county,

*John Haywood, Treasurer of the State.

deserve our especial attention. It was most strangely aspersed by Mr. Jefferson, in a letter to John Adams, dated 9th July, 1819, in which he says, that 'we had not a greater Tory in Congress than Hooper.' This remark produced in 1834, Jones' 'defence of North Carolina.' That his prejudices had clouded Jefferson's judgment in regard to this, as well as to our Declaration of Independence at Charlotte, there can be no doubt. It is, however, a matter of no regret, since these very errors have stimulated the sons of North Carolina to examine the records and vindicate her character and the integrity of history. The character of William Hooper has been placed beyond all cavil, and the Declaration of Independence at Charlotte in May, 1775, now rests on as solid foundations for truth and reality, as the National Declaration at Philadelphia, on 4th July, 1776."

Mr. Griffith J. McRee, in his invaluable work, *Life and Correspondence of James Iredell,* now like Wheeler's History out of print, noting the friendship between Iredell and Hooper, says:

"Mr. Hooper was nine years Mr. Iredell's senior and already a man of mark at the bar and in the Assembly. To estimate at its full value his deference to Iredell, these facts must be borne in mind. Mr. Hooper was a native of Boston, and a graduate of Cambridge, Mass. After studying law with James Otis, he removed to North Carolina in 1764.* He became a citizen of Wilmington. That town and its vicinity was noted for its unbounded hospitality and the elegance of its society. Men of rare talents, fortune and attainment, united to render it the home of politeness and ease and enjoyment. Though the footprint of the Indian had, as yet, scarcely been effaced, the higher civilization of the 'Old World' had been transplanted there and had taken vigorous root." Then, after enumerating the eminent patriots and *literati* among whom William Hooper figured

*Mr. Hooper did not settle permanently in Wilmington until 1767. See Memoir ante.—[Copyist.]

in the Cape Fear region, he continues: "These were no ordinary men. They were of the remarkable class that seem ever to be the product of crises in human affairs. Though inferior to many of them in the influence that attends years, opulence and extensive connections, yet in scholarship and genius Mr. Hooper was pre-eminent. I use the word genius in contradistinction to talent. He had much nervous irritability, was imaginative and susceptible. With a well-disciplined mind and of studious habits, he shone with lustre whenever he pleased to exert himself. He had generous impulses, and his intercourse with his family and friends was marked by a caressing tenderness. In the course of the Revolution he never wavered, though he often desponded. If hope seemed sometimes about to desert him forever, and he felt in his heart the rustle of her wings as she prepared for flight, his deep-rooted principles were never shaken. He lived long enough to see the political edifice, to whose construction he had so largely contributed, completed, and its soaring dome to the nations of the earth 'a lamp unto *their* feet, and a light unto *their* path.' As his fame is national, I need not dwell longer upon his career." *Life of Iredell,* Vol. I., pp. 194, 195, 196.

"Was Jefferson jealous of Hooper?" asks McRee later on. "Was he impatient of what he did not himself possess —splendid elocution, as he was notoriously envious of military fame? Was there a feud between these two eminent men? An affirmative answer to these interrogatories will certainly throw much light upon the calumny of Jefferson, that 'there was no greater Tory in Congress than Hooper,' and explain Mr. Hooper's personal dislike to Jefferson and his followers, in the early days of the Republic. If Hooper's fame, so well defended by Jones, needed further vindiction, his letters to Iredell place upon impregnable ground his virtue and patriotism." Ibid. Note on p. 427.

Dr. Alderman, now President of the University of Vir-

ginia, then Professor in the University of North Carolina, in his address on William Hooper delivered at Guilford Battle Ground, July 4, 1894, says: "In the first decades of this century our grandfathers were filled with indignation and astonishment at Mr. Jefferson's remarkable letter to John Adams in which he declared that 'there was no greater Tory in Congress than William Hooper.' Jo. Seawell Jones, choking with rage, rushed to the rescue in his celebrated Defence of North Carolina, and with an uncommon mingling of invective, passion, partizanship, critical power and insight, effectually disposed of his great antagonist. The charge on the face of it was absurd. * * * * It is a hard thing to say of so illustrious a man as Mr. Jefferson, that he had strange moments of liability to post-mortuary slander, but the poisonous scraps of the 'Anas' and the researches of two generations into his accusation against Hooper abundantly and mournfully attest its truth. Mr. Hooper's mental attitude toward the idea of independence is a matter of vital interest to our people, however, and his private and confidential correspondence reveals this attitude in a most complete and perfect way: 'Before April 19, 1775,' said Thomas Jefferson himself, 'I had never heard a whisper of a disposition to separate from the mother country.' 'When I first took command of the army (July 3d, 1775) I abhorred the idea of independence,' said George Washington. Over one year before these words were uttered, April 26, 1774, Hooper wrote a letter to James Iredell in which occurred the following prophetic words: *'They* (the Colonies) *are striding fast to independence, and ere long will build an empire upon the ruins of Great Britain; will adopt its Constitution purged of its impurities, and from an experience of its defects, will guard against those evils which have wasted its vigor.'*" Says Mr. McRee: "Of this letter Jones remarks, 'I look upon this letter as not inferior to any event in the history of the country; and in the boldness and originality of its views,

I say that it is a document without a rival at the period of its date. It takes precedence of the Mecklenburg Declaration as that does of the national Declaration of Independence.'" Dr. Alderman adds: "This is the most noteworthy personal letter of the Revolution. It antedates all known expressions on the subject of separation and confers upon William Hooper the proud title of the Prophet of American Independence.* Let me not conclude," says the same writer, "without speaking of Mr. Hooper, as a man. No more fascinating and courtly figure graces the life of our simple, earnest past. His slight, fragile form, his serene, beautiful face wherein is blended masculine strength and womanly sweetness, 'a face that painters love to limn and ladies to look upon' stands out, like some finely wrought cameo, against a background of chaos and revolution. In his letters we catch a glimpse of the ceremoniousness, the sleepless deference, the delicate punctilio of an unhurrying age; in his merry-makings we are able to reproduce the stately minuet, the vanished draperies, the personal royalty expressing itself in stately dignity, of a time forever gone. He was a tender, sensitive, loyal, happy gentleman, a fearless, forceful, vigorous-minded citizen, a great orator—a great lawyer; he loved his friends and was by them beloved. * * * * He loved the people of his state and was willing to spend himself in their service. * * He had that proud faith in family and breeding which taught him the sacredness of *noblesse oblige,* unfailing self-respect and freedom from sordidness or any sort of stain."

Another accomplished writer of to-day thus concludes an account of William Hooper: "Of Mr. Hooper it may be

*In this letter of April 26, 1774, Hooper pays a warm tribute to Iredell, as follows: "I am happy dear sir, that my conduct in public life has met your approbation. It is a suffrage which makes me vain, as it flows from a man who has wisdom to distinguish and too much virtue to flatter. * * * * While the scene of life in which I was engaged would have rendered any reserve on my part not only improper but even culpable, you were destined for a more retired but not less useful conduct; AND WHILST I WAS ACTIVE IN CONTEST YOU FORGED THE WEAPONS WHICH WERE TO GIVE SUCCESS TO THE CAUSE which I supported.

truly said, that as brilliant as were Howe, Harnett, Iredell, Ashe and Moore, and all those renowned names that adorned North Carolina's annals during his time, taking a view of the entire galaxy, none surpassed him in shining talents and fine accomplishments, and none deserves more grateful appreciation by North Carolinians." Noting the historic friendship between Judge Iredell and Mr. Hooper, he quotes the former as writing to Mrs. Iredell: 'I wish to be like him,' adding: "Indeed, the admiration of Judge Iredell for him was unbounded."

Says Capt. S. A. Ashe, of Raleigh, N. C., in a letter under date of June 5, 1905: "Of late years I have come to still further appreciate the influence of Mr. Hooper in determining patriotic action on the Cape Fear. I think he was the leader in stirring up feeling in 1774, in response to Boston sentiment, his connection with Boston being close. And he certainly was the prime mover in calling together the meeting that issued the address requesting the voters in the different counties to elect delegates to the first Provincial Congress."

Still another able writer of the present time, refers to William Hooper, as "one of the greatest and best men of whom the annals of North Carolina can boast."*

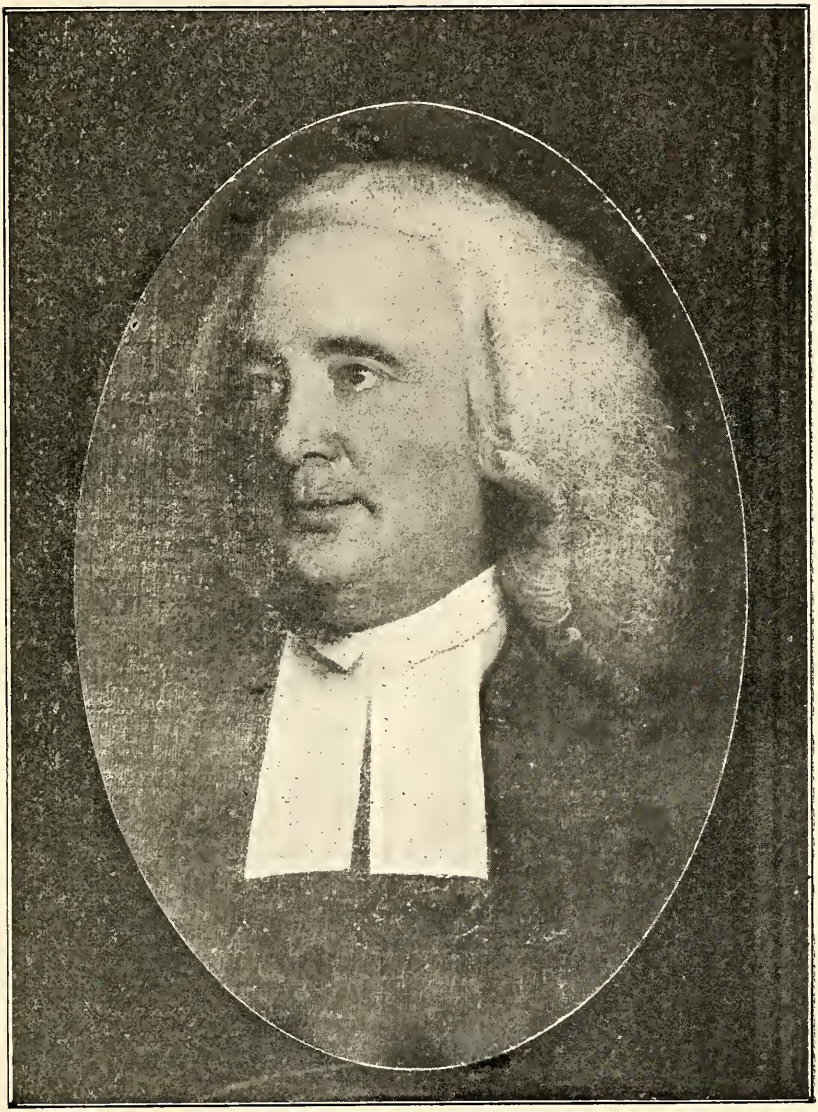
SUPPLEMENT.

THE HOOPER FAMILY.

(BY MRS. FANNY DEBERNIERE (HOOPER) WHITAKER.)

As William Hooper, Signer of the Declaration of Independence, like the other founders of this Republic, belongs in a sense to the nation, it was hoped that the addition to the reprint of the preceding sketch, of a number of miscellaneous and desultory records relating to himself and his family would not be deemed impertinent and that they would

*Mr. Marshall DeLancey Haywood, of Raleigh, N. C., in his LIFE OF GOVERNOR TRYON.



William Hooper

Rev. Wm. Hooper. (1704–1767) second Rector of Trinity Church, Boston, from 1747 to 1767; father of William Hooper, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

be found of interest to that public the foundations of whose existence and prosperity he aided in establishing. Furthermore, mistakes have been made by certain persons whose names are on the Lineage Books of the "Daughters of the *American* Revolution," in entering that Society through alleged descent from him, whose claims to this descent can not be other than apocryphal, as a careful perusal of the documents referred to would show.

Doubly descended from the Rev. William Hooper, of Boston, Mass., who was the founder of his family in this country and second Rector of Trinity Church in that city, from 1747 to his death in 1767—on my mother's side through his son, the Signer, and on my father's through his son George—and having made a study of the family history, I may be pardoned a double interest in its exposition *as the facts warrant.* In the pursuit of this object, by investigation and by the collection of all available data bearing upon the subject, no pains have been spared and much expense has been incurred, and it was intended, as above-intimated, to publish, in connection with the foregoing memoir, the documents obtained, but the plan has been found ~~in~~ incompatible with the limits of this periodical, and the following outline of the family is submitted.

The name Hooper is widespread in America, only less so, perhaps, than those respectable and time-honored patronymics Smith and Jones, and embraces very many entirely unconnected families. That to which William Hooper, Signer of the Declaration, belongs, is restricted to well defined and demonstrably narrow limits. The frequent occurrence in this family of the names William and Thomas, renders somewhat difficult, without awkward circumlocution or repetition, a perfectly clear account of it, the Rev. William Hooper, of Boston, his son William, his grandson William and his great-grandson, Rev. William Hooper, of North Carolina, each having had sons by those names. It

is convenient in this account to speak of the second William as the Signer. As stated in the memoir, he married on 1767, Anne Clark, of Wilmington, sister to Thomas Clark, Jr., Colonel and Brevet-Brigadier-General in the Revolutionary army, and his children were three in number, namely:

William,
Elizabeth,
Thomas.

Thomas died, unmarried, about 1806, probably in Brunswick county, where he owned considerable property and most likely resided.

Elizabeth married in 1790, Col. Henry Hyrn Watters,* and her only child, Henry H. Watters, Jr., died, unmarried, at Wilmington, Nov., 1809, aged eighteen years, while at home on vacation from the University.

William, the eldest, married, June 26, 1791, Helen Hogg, daughter of James Hogg, of Hillsboro, and died in Brunswick county, July 15, 1804, leaving, like his father, three children, as follows:

William (Rev.),
Thomas,
James.

Of these, James, born in Hillsboro in 1797, married Margaret Broadfoot, daughter of Andrew Broadfoot, of Fayetteville, N. C., and died, without issue, in Fayetteville, June 26, 1841.

Thomas, born in Hillsboro, 1794, married, May 25, 1825, Eliza Donaldson, daughter of Robert Donaldson, of Fayetteville, and he also died childless, Nov., 1828, at Chapel

*Col. Henry H. Watters is said to have commanded a regiment of Continental troops at the battle of Cowpens. He died at Wilmington, October 1809. Mrs. Watters died June 30, 1844, aged seventy-four years.

†Mrs. Helen Hogg Hooper married August 17, 1809, Rev. Joseph Caldwell, D. D., first President of University of North Carolina, and died October 30, 1846. There were no children by this marriage.

Hill, his wife having died October, 1825, within five months of their marriage.

The line of descent was thus left in the eldest son, Rev. William Hooper, of North Carolina, who was born in Hillsboro, 1792, married in 1814, Frances Pollock Jones,* eldets daughter of Edward Jones for many years Solicitor General of North Carolina, and died at Chapel Hill August 19, 1876. He was father of seven children, namely: William, M. D., Edward, M. D.,† Mary,‡ Joseph,§ Elizabeth, Thomas‖ and Duponceau, M. D.,¶ all of whom, except Elizabeth and Duponceau, are represented by posterity, and concerning whom and their posterity, information may be had from the latter.

It is thus apparent that two (Elizabeth and Thomas) of the Signer's three children, and three (Henry H. Watters, Jr., and Thomas and James Hooper) of his four grandchildren, having died leaving no issue, the line of descent from him was left solely and exclusively in his grandson, Rev. William Hooper, of North Carolina, and that no one not descended from the latter has a right to claim descent from his grandfather, William Hooper, Signer of the Declaration. Which, as above said, may be demonstrated.

In this account we shall go no further back than the Rev. William Hooper, of Boston. His children were:

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*Mrs. Hooper died in Fayetteville, March 10, 1863.

†Dr. Edward Hooper's daughter, Theresa, is wife of ex-Governor Joseph F. Johnston, of Alabama.

‡Mary, my mother, who married her 4th cousin, John DeBerniere Hooper, son of Archibald Maclaine Hooper.

§Joseph, sole survivor of these—"84 years young"—now residing in Jacksonville, Florida.

‖Thomas spent his life in teaching. One of his sons, James S. Hooper, is in business in Wilmington, N. C.

¶Dr. DuPonceau Hooper, Assistant Surgeon 8th Fla. Reg., mortally wounded at the battle of Fredericksburg, died at Fayetteville, unmarried, April 4. 1863.

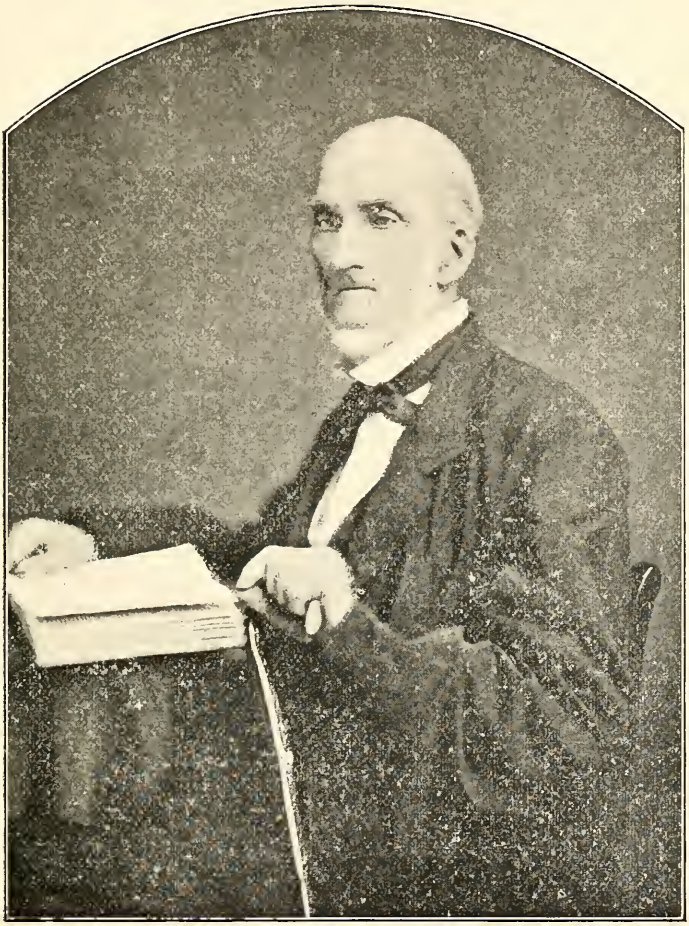
William (the Signer),
John,
George,
Mary,
Thomas.

Mary married in 1768, John Russell Spence, of London, who died in Boston, Nov. 1771. John died about 1795. Administration on his estate, granted in Boston in that year, does not mention widow or children. George and Thomas, like their eldest brother William, whose history is recounted in the foregoing pages, came to North Carolina, and both prospered in merchandising. Thomas married, Dec., 1778, Mary Heron, daughter of Capt. Benj. Heron, of Bertie county, North Carolina, removed to South Carolina and died without issue, Aug. 1, 1798, in the 48th year of his age, being survived by his widow twenty-two years.

George, though a loyalist from conviction, was a man of unimpeachable integrity, and charming personality, and possessed the esteem and confidence of his acquaintances. He was considered by competent judges to be the equal of either of his brothers in ability and literary taste. He married Catharine Maclaine, only daughter of Archibald Maclaine, an ardent Revolutionary patriot of North Carolina, and died in 1820 or 1821, leaving two children, Archibald Maclaine Hooper, and Mary; Spence, an intermediate child, having died in infancy.

Archibald Maclaine Hooper, lawyer and journalist, "a ripe scholar and one of the most graceful and accomplished writers of his day," was born in Wilmington, North Carolina, December 7, 1775, married, June 8, 1806, Charlotte DeBerniere, daughter of Lieut. Col. John A. DeBerniere,* of the 60th Regiment of the British Army, and died Sept. 25, 1853, aged 78 years. Of his children may be mentioned

*Lieut.-Col. John A. DeBerniere, emigrated to America in 1799, grandson and namesake of the Huguenot refugee, Jean Antoine DeBerniere, who fled from France about the time of the Revocation, and settled in Ireland.



Yours very truly
W. Hooper

William Hooper, D. D., LL. D., for many years Professor of the University of North Carolina and other institutions of learning; President Wake Forest College, N. C., 1846 to 1849; an instructor of youth for sixty-five years. He was eldest son of William and Helen (Hogg) Hooper, and grandson of William Hooper, Signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Anne (Clark) Hooper. Born Aug. 31, 1792, died at Chapel Hill, Aug 19, 1876.

George D., (1809-1892), who was a member of the bar of Columbus, Ga., for a time chancellor of the east division of Alabama, and one of the best known supreme court and chancery lawyers of the state; John DeBerniere, (1811-1886) for many years Professor of Languages in the University of North Carolina, said by Mr. McRee to be, in his opinion, "the most accurate Greek and Latin scholar of his age and day;" Johnson J., (1815-1862) author of *Simon Suggs* and other humorous works, and Secretary of the Confederate Provisional Congress; Louisa and Mary, remarkable for their personal beauty and loveliness of character, of whom Mary died at Pittsboro, Aug. 1837, aged about eighteen years. Louisa married first, Rev. Daniel Cobia, of South Carolina, "but to smooth his path to the grave;" second Sept. 20, 1842, Rev. John J. Roberts,* and died June 16, 1846, in the 30th year of her age, leaving two children, John DeBerniere Roberts, and Mary Charlotte Roberts. The latter is now the widow of Thomas McCrady, whose home was Charleston, S. C., and resides with her children at Cambridge, Mass.; the former married Miss Lapham and died young, leaving an only child, John Lapham Roberts.

Mary, daughter of George (brother of the Signer) and Catharine (Maclaine) Hooper, married, first, Mr. Shaw,† a daughter, Catharine, being the only child of the marriage; second, June 6, 1806, James Fleming,‡ a merchant of Wilmington. The children of the second marriage were Mary, who married Col. Haynes Waddell, Elizabeth, wife of Rev. Thos. F. Davis, afterwards Bishop of South Carolina from 1853 to 1871; Charlotte, wife of Rt. Rev. Wm. M. Green, of North Carolina, Bishop of Mississippi from 1850 to 1887; and James, who died young, unmarried. There are numerous descendants of these three sisters, prom-

*Rev. John J. Roberts, D. D., now living, and resides alternately in New York City and Sandwich, Mass.

†The Shaw line is now extinct.

‡Mr. Fleming was killed by a horse, about 1811. Mrs. Fleming died of a lingering malady, in 1831.

inent among whom are Rev. DeBerniere Waddell, Mr. Thos. F. Davis, of Yazoo City, Miss., Rev. Stephen H. Green and many others.

Most of the children of George D. Hooper, of Alabama, died in infancy. Of those who survived to maturity, the following may with propriety be mentioned. George W. and Charles M. joined volunteer companies of the Confederate Army at the beginning of the War for Southern Independence. George went into the battle of Seven Pines, as Captain in the 6th Alabama Regiment, was shot in the side, had the bones of both legs broken and lost the use of his right hand. He was highly complimented by Gen. Rhodes for his courage and ability and received promotion as Lieutenant Colonel for that day's fight. He was then about twenty years old and this was his only battle, but he afterwards performed for the Confederate States Army, several commissions such as were possible to a cripple. After the war he was Prosecuting Attorney for Russell county, Alabama, was a successful lawyer and died in 1883, leaving a widow and children. His brother, Charles, was promoted from Second Lieutenant to Lieutenant Colonel on the battle field of second Manassas, for distinguished gallantry in the face of the enemy, was afterwards awarded a medal of honor authorized by the Confederate Congress, and made Colonel on the recommendation of General Lee himself. John DeBerniere, the youngest son, was the first Inspector of Mines in Alabama and is a Civil and Mining Engineer in that State.

Johnson J. Hooper, author of *Simon Suggs* and Secretary of the Confederate Provisional Congress, who died in Richmond, Va., in June, 1862, left two children, William and Adolphus, both of whom met tragic deaths. William was in the Confederate Army, and after the war studied and practiced law at Aberdeen, Mississippi. He was a young man of the highest character and brilliant promise. He was shot down in the court-house at Aberdeen in 1875, and was

survived by a widow, two sons and a daughter. Adolphus was too young to enter the army. He also was a man of talent and lovable qualities, was successful in business and always had the confidence of those who knew him. He was killed in New Orleans about 1895, by a railroad train. There were several side tracks at the place where he was standing, two trains were passing at the same time, and in stepping back to avoid one he was struck by the other. He was unmarried.

MONUMENT AT GUILFORD BATTLE GROUND