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Vol. XVI

JULY, 1916

No. 1

# *The* North Carolina Booklet



## GREAT EVENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA HISTORY



PUBLISHED QUARTERLY  
BY  
THE NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY  
DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION  
RALEIGH, N. C.

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SINGLE NUMBERS 35 CENTS

\$1.00 THE YEAR

Entered at the Postoffice at Raleigh, N. C., July 15, 1905, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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# The North Carolina Booklet

## Great Events in North Carolina History

VOLUME XVI of THE BOOKLET will be issued quarterly by the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the Revolution, beginning July, 1916. THE BOOKLET will be published in July, October, January, and April. Price \$1.00 per year, 35 cents for single copy.

EDITOR:

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### VOLUME XVI.

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Editor North Carolina Booklet,

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*The*  
**NORTH CAROLINA BOOKLET**

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*"Carolina! Carolina! Heaven's blessings attend her!  
While we live we will cherish, protect and defend her!"*

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Published by  
**THE NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY**  
**DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION**

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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.

EDITOR.

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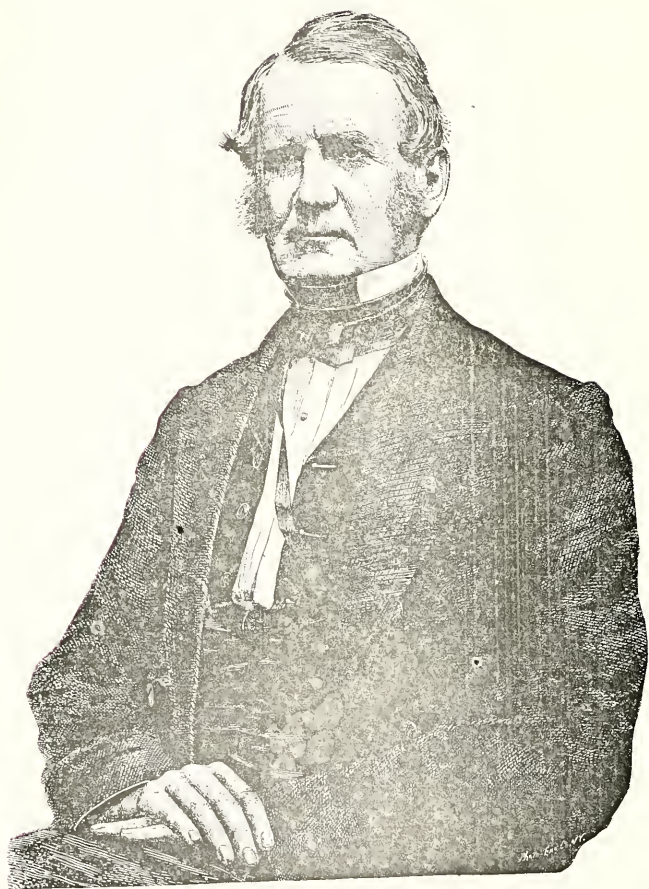
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WILLIAM A. GRAHAM.



# The North Carolina Booklet

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## William Alexander Graham

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By Chief Justice WALTER CLARK.

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William Alexander Graham, Speaker of the House of Commons, Governor of North Carolina, Secretary of the United States Navy, Senator of the United States and also of the Confederate States, nominee of the Whig Party for the Vice Presidency, was born at Vesuvius Furnace, the residence of his father, General Joseph Graham, in Lincoln County, North Carolina, 5 September, 1804. He sprung from that sturdy Scotch-Irish race which has furnished so many prominent men to the Republic. His mother was Isabella, daughter, of Major John Davidson, who was one of the signers of the famous "Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence" at Charlotte on 20 May, 1775, of which John Adams wrote: "The genuine sense of America at that moment was never so well expressed before nor since."

The father of Governor Graham, General Joseph Graham, merits more than a passing notice. At 18 years of age he entered the Continental Army in 1778, soon became Adjutant and was promoted to Major of 4 North Carolina (Continental) Regiment. He was in many engagements and was often wounded. At the capture of Charlotte by Cornwallis 26 September, 1780, he received nine wounds (six of them with sabre) and was left on the ground for dead. He was a member of the State Convention of 1788 and also of 1789, served in several legislatures and in the war of 1814 commanded a brigade from this State and South Carolina sent by President Madison to the aid of General Jackson in the Creek War. William A. Graham was the youngest son in a family of seven sons and three daughters who grew to ma-

turity. One of his brothers, James Graham, was a member of Congress from this State, continuously from 1833 to 1847, except one term. One of his sisters married Rev. Dr. R. H. Morrison, President of Davidson College, and was the mother of the wife of Stonewall Jackson.

The subject of this sketch began his academic education under Rev. Dr. Muchat, at Statesville, a scholar of repute. Thence he was sent to Hillsboro, where he was prepared for college. He entered the University of North Carolina in 1820. At school and college he evinced the characteristics which distinguished him in later life—studious, thoughtful, courteous, considerate of others, with great natural dignity of manner, and marked ability. His schoolmate, Judge Brevard, said of him at this early age: “He was the only boy I ever knew who would spend his Saturdays in reviewing the studies of the week.” He graduated in 1824 with the highest honors of his class, which he shared with Matthias E. Manly, afterwards a Judge of the Supreme Court.

After a tour of the Western States, made on horseback, as was then the most convenient and usual mode, he began the study of law in the office of Judge Ruffin, at Hillsboro, and was admitted to the bar in 1826. Though his family connections were numerous and influential in Mecklenburg, Cabarrus and Lincoln, he decided to locate at Hillsboro, among whose resident lawyers then were Thomas Ruffin, Archibald D. Murphey, Willie P. Mangum, Francis L. Hawks, and Frederick Nash; and among the lawyers regularly attending from other courts were George E. Badger, William H. Haywood and Bartlett Yancey. At this bar of exceptionally strong men, he quickly took first rank.

In 1833 he was elected a member of the General Assembly from the Town of Hillsboro, one of the boroughs which up to the Convention of 1835 retained the English custom of choosing a member of the legislature. It is related that he was chosen by one majority, the last vote polled being cast by a free man of color, this class being entitled to the fran-



chise till the Constitution of 1835. Being asked why he voted for Mr. Graham, the colored voter, a man of reputation and some property, replied: "I always vote for a gentleman."

His first appearance on the floor of the House of Representatives was on a motion to send to the Senate a notice that the House was ready to proceed to the election of a Governor for the State, and to place in nomination for that office, David L. Swain, who had been his college mate at the University of North Carolina. Two days later he had the satisfaction to report his election, and was appointed first on the committee to notify him of his election. The relations of these two distinguished men remained singularly close and cordial through life. In 1834 and again in 1835 he was re-elected for the borough of Hillsboro, and at both sessions he was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, then as now, deemed the highest position, next to the Speaker. In 1838, as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, he submitted the report of the Commissioners who had prepared the "Revised Statutes."

It was to him that in 1834 Judge Gaston, who was a Roman Catholic, addressed his open letter in defence of his acceptance of a seat upon the Supreme Court, notwithstanding the provision in the old Constitution (repealed by the Convention of 1835) which declared incapable of holding office all those who "deny the truths of the Protestant religion." With all deference to the writer thereof whose name will always command the highest respect, that letter will remain a plausible instance of special pleading whose defective logic has been pardoned by reason of the inherent opposition of all generous minds to the constitutional provision which gave rise to it, and the eminent public services, ability and popularity of its author.

In 1838 and again in 1840, Mr. Graham was elected to the General Assembly from Orange County, and was Speaker of the House of Representatives in both. The journals, during his legislative career, attest his great industry and his

leadership. He introduced the first bill that was passed to establish a system of common schools, and the bills introduced or supported, or reported by him on the subjects of banking, finance, education, and internal improvements, demonstrate the broadness of his views, and that he was one of the most progressive men of his time.

In 1840, Judge Strange and Hon. Bedford Brown, the United States Senators from this State, resigned their seats rather than obey instructions which had been passed by the General Assembly. Willie P. Mangum, of Orange, was chosen to succeed Brown, and though Mr. Graham was from the same county and only 36 years of age, he was elected to fill Mr. Strange's unexpired term. This was a most emphatic testimonial to his commanding position in the Whig Party, which held so many eminent leaders, and in the State at large. He was among the youngest, if not the youngest member, of the United States Senate, when he took his seat. He commanded the respect and attention of that body upon all occasions, and we are told by a member of that Congress that "Mr. Clay regarded him as a most superior man, socially and intellectually."

The time of Mr. Graham's service in the Senate was a stormy period. President Harrison, who had gone into office upon a tidal wave, died just one month after his inauguration, and was succeeded by the Vice-President, Mr. Tyler, who soon placed the administration in complete opposition to the policies of the party by which he had been elected. Upon all the most important measures which came before the Senate, Mr. Graham impressed himself by arguments which received general approbation and which drew forth specially commendatory letters from Clay, Webster, Chancellor Kent, and others.

At the expiration of his term in March, 1843, Mr. Graham resumed the practice of his profession, the Democratic Party having secured a majority in the General Assembly and chosen a member of that party, William H. Haywood,

Jr., to succeed him in the Senate. In 1844 he was nominated by the Whig Party for Governor. He had not sought nor desired the nomination. The salary of the office was small and its expenses great. In 1836 he had married Susan Washington, daughter of John Washington of New Bern, a lady of great beauty of character and person, and a young and growing family made demands upon his income, which was impaired by the inroads which public life had made upon his law practice. But true as always to the calls of duty, he yielded to the representations of gentlemen of high standing in all parts of the State. His Democratic competitor was Hon. Michael Hoke, like himself, a native of the county of Lincoln. Mr. Hoke was about the same age, of fine presence, decided ability and great popularity. After a canvass whose brilliancy has had no parallel in the history of the State, save perhaps that between Vance and Settle in 1876, Mr. Graham was elected by a large majority. His competitor died a few weeks after the election, his death having been caused, it was thought, by the great physical and mental strain of the campaign. On 1 January, 1845, Governor Graham was sworn in, with imposing ceremonies, which, for brilliancy and the size of the audience, were till then without precedent.

His inaugural address was especially noteworthy, not alone for its purity of style and elevation of thought, but in its recommendations. The Asylum for the Insane, and for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind, and the Emmons Geological Survey all had their genesis in this Inaugural, the first two being established by laws enacted during his administration and the latter just afterwards. He also laid special emphasis upon the Common School System, then lately inaugurated, and the first act in favor of which had been introduced by himself when a member of the legislature. Mr. Webster in a letter specially commended the address for its wisdom and progressiveness, as did Prof. Olmsted for its recommendation in favor of the establishment of a Geological Survey.

His aid to our new and struggling railroads built by State aid was invaluable.

In 1849 he delivered the address before the Literary Societies at the University. This address remains to this day one of the very best of the long series delivered since the incipency of the custom. Upon the success of his party in the election of President Taylor, Senator Mangum, one of the confidential advisers of the new administration, wrote Governor Graham that he could make his choice between the Mission to Russia and the Mission to Spain. Subsequently the Mission to Spain was tendered him and declined.

Upon the accession of President Fillmore, Mr. Graham was tendered the appointment of Secretary of the Navy in a very complimentary letter from the President, who urged his acceptance. In July, 1850, he entered upon the duties of the office. Such was his diligence that his first report, 30 November, 1850, embraced a review of the whole naval establishment with recommendations for its entire reorganization. Even an opposition Senator, Thomas H. Benton, joined in the commendation of his report, and wrote with special reference to the Coast Survey service: "I consider it one of the most perfect reports I ever read—a model of a business report and one which should carry conviction to every candid inquiring mind. I deem it one of the largest reforms, both in an economical and administrative point of view, which the state of our affairs admits of."

His administration of the Navy Department was marked by one of the most remarkable enterprises, whose success has been of world wide importance—the organization of the Perry Expedition to Japan, which opened up that ancient empire to modern civilization. The success of that expedition constitutes one of the principal claims of Mr. Fillmore's administration to the admiration of posterity and was, indeed, an era in the history of the world, of which the events of the last few years are striking results. The expedition was conceived and inaugurated by Mr. Graham and was executed

upon the lines laid down by him, and the commander, Commodore Perry, was selected by him, though the expedition did not actually set sail till after he had resigned. In 1851 Mr. Graham also sent out under the auspices of the Navy Department, an expedition under Lieutenant Herndon to explore the valley and sources of the Amazon. The report of this expedition was published by order of Congress in February, 1854, and was noticed by the London "Westminster Review" of that year, which bestowed high praise upon the author for his conception, and the thoroughness and wisdom of his instructions to the commander.

The great compromise measures of 1850, which would have saved the country from the terrible civil war, if it could have been saved, received strong aid and support from the then Secretary of the Navy, who was on terms of intimacy and personal friendship with Clay, Webster and other leaders in that great movement to stay destructive tendencies, which proved, "alas, too strong for human power." When the Whig National Convention assembled in June, 1852, it placed in nomination for the presidency, Winfield Scott, and William A. Graham for Vice-President. With a delicacy which has been rarely followed since, he resigned "to relieve the administration of any possible criticism or embarrassment on his account in the approaching canvass," and the President appreciating the high sense of delicacy and propriety "which prompted the act, accepted his resignation with unfeigned regret."

It may well be doubted if any of his predecessors, or successors, either in the office of Secretary of the Navy or Governor of North Carolina, has shown as much progressiveness, and as large a conception of the possibilities of his office, in widening the opportunities for development of the country. Certainly none have surpassed him in the wisdom and breadth of his views, and the energy displayed in giving them successful result. It is his highest claim to fame that he was thoroughly imbued with a true conception of the possibilities



and needs of the time and his whole career marks him as second to none of the sons whom North Carolina has given to fame.

In 1852, after his retirement from the Cabinet, he delivered before the Historical Society of New York his admirable and instructive address upon "The British Invasion of the South in 1780-81." This address preserved and brought into notice many historical facts, which with our usual magnificent disregard of the praiseworthy deeds of our State had been allowed to pass out of the memory of men and the record proofs of which were mouldering and in danger of being totally lost.

Mr. Graham was State Senator from Orange in 1854-55, took, as always, a leading part, and gave earnest support to Internal Improvements, especially advocating railroad construction. He and Governor Morehead headed the delegation to the Whig Convention in 1856 at Baltimore, which endorsed the nomination of Mr. Fillmore. He was one of that number of distinguished men from all sections, who met in Washington in February, 1860, and who in the vain hope of staying the drift of events towards a disruption of the Union and Civil War, placed before the country the platform and the candidates of the "Constitutional Union" party.

In February, 1861, he canvassed parts of the State with Governor Morehead, Judge Badger, Z. B. Vance, and others, in opposition to the call of a State Convention to take the State out of the Union, which was defeated by a narrow margin and doubtless by their efforts. But the tide of events was too strong. The fall of Fort Sumter 13 April, 1861, and the call by Mr. Lincoln upon North Carolina for her quota of 75,000 men—a call made without authority—changed the face of affairs. The State Convention met 20 May, 1861, and on the same day unanimously pronounced the repeal by this State of the Ordinance of 1789 by which North Carolina had acceded to the Federal Union under the Constitution of the United States. Mr. Graham, Judge



Badger, and others concurred in the result, after first offering a resolution (which was voted down) basing the withdrawal of the State, not upon the alleged inherent right of the State to withdraw from the Union at its will, but upon the right of revolution justified by the action of the Federal authorities.

One of Mr. Graham's most eloquent and convincing speeches was that made before the Convention in December, 1861, in opposition to an ordinance requiring a universal test oath, which was defeated. While giving to the Confederate Government his full support, he earnestly opposed arbitrary measures which indicated any forgetfulness of the rights of the citizen, and in March, 1861, he procured action by the Convention which caused the return to his home of a minister of the Gospel in Orange County, who had been illegally arrested by military order and confined in prison at Richmond. His speech against the test oath was used by Reverdy Johnson in arguing *ex parte Garland*, in the United States Supreme Court.

In December, 1863, Mr. Graham was elected to the Senate of the Confederate States by a vote of more than two-thirds in the General Assembly, and took his seat in May, 1864. It was at a troublous time and his counsel was, as usual, earnestly sought. In January, 1865, after consultation with General Lee, and with his full approval, Senator Graham introduced the resolution to create the Peace Commission, whose adoption caused the Hampton Roads Conference, 3 February, 1865, and might have saved the brave lives so uselessly sacrificed after that date, but that President Davis declared himself without power to come to any terms that would put an end to the Confederacy. Thereupon Senator Graham gave notice that to save further useless effusion of blood he would introduce a resolution for negotiations looking to a return to the Union, but the notice was unfavorably received, and he decided that the introduction of the resolution would be unavailing. Had it passed, we might not only have

saved much useless bloodshed, but have avoided the unspeakable horrors of Reconstruction. But blindness ruled those in power. His course has been thought like that of North Carolina—reluctant to leave the Union, opposed to usurpations by the new government, willing to negotiate for honorable peace when hope was gone, but that being denied, holding out to the end. Five of his sons, all of them who were old enough, were in the Confederate Army to the end, and each of them was wounded in battle.

The Confederate Senate adjourned 16 March, and on the 20th he visited Raleigh at request of Governor Vance, and in the conference told him that he left Richmond satisfied that all hope for the success of the Confederacy had passed; that Mr. Davis had declared that he was without power to negotiate for a return to the Union; and that each State could only do that for itself; but he advised Governor Vance that should he call a meeting of the Legislature to consider such action, Mr. Davis should be apprised. To this Governor Vance assented. But before further action could be taken the approach of General Sherman made it useless. On 12 April, 1865, Governor Vance sent ex-Governors Graham and Swain as Commissioners to General Sherman, then approaching Raleigh, with a letter asking a suspension of arms with a view to a return to the Union. The letter is set out in "North Carolina Regimental Histories" Vol. I, page 58. General Sherman courteously received the Commissioners but declined the requested truce. Of course Governor Graham's course in this trying time expressed the views of all those who saw the hopelessness of the situation, and who felt that the lives of the gallant men who had served their country faithfully should now be preserved for its future service in days of peace. He was not wanting in this supreme hour in the highest fidelity to the people that had honored and trusted him.

Of especial interest, showing his wisdom and foresight are his letters to Governor Swain, of this period, published in

Mrs. Spencer's "Last Ninety Days of the War." He was the trusted adviser of Governor Vance, who in his life of Swain says: "In those troublous years of war, I consulted him more frequently perhaps than any other man in the State except Governor Graham," adding, that "in him there was a rounded fullness of the qualities, intellectual and moral, which constitute the excellence of manhood in a degree never excelled by any citizen of North Carolina whom I have personally known, except by William A. Graham." Governor Graham was also the sure reliance of Governor Worth, whose most important State papers are from his pen.

In 1866 Mr. Graham was elected to the United States Senate with his former classmate and competitor at college, Hon. Matthias E. Manly as colleague, but the Republican majority in Congress was contemplating Reconstruction and they were refused their seats. When such legislation was enacted, a universal gloom fell upon the entire South. In its midst a Convention was called of all conservative citizens, irrespective of former party affiliations to meet in Raleigh, 5 February, 1868, over which Mr. Graham was called by common consent to preside, as our wisest citizen. His earnest, able and statesmanlike speech had a powerful effect, it aroused the people from despondency and infused into them that spirit of determination which continued to grow in strength till the State returned to the control of its native white population. In this speech, he was the first, in view of the recent Act of Congress, conferring suffrage upon the colored race, to lay down the necessity for the Whites to stand together, and he enunciated the doctrine of "White Supremacy" as indispensable for the preservation of civilization in the South. While others favored efforts to obtain control or guidance of the Negro, he, with a better knowledge of that race, insisted upon the solidarity of the Whites as our only hope. The event has proved the accuracy of his foresight. This speech while the Convention was in session was as brave as any act of the war.

He was prominent in asserting the right of the citizens to the writ of habeas corpus in 1870, when Judge Pearson declared the "judiciary exhausted"; and when Governor Holden was impeached in December of that year, his was the first named selected among the eminent counsel, who were retained to assist the managers appointed by the House of Representatives in the prosecution. His speech was one of great ability, but singularly free from personal denunciation of those who had trodden under foot the Constitution and the laws.

He was selected by the great philanthropist, George Peabody, as one of the board of eminent men whom he requested to act as trustees in administering the fund donated by him to the cause of education in the South, which had been so sorely impoverished by the war, and attended its sessions with great regularity.

He was also selected by Virginia to represent her upon the Board of Arbitration appointed by that State and Maryland to settle the disputed boundary between the two States.

On 20 May, 1875, he delivered an address at Charlotte upon the celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and arrayed in a masterly manner the historic evidence of its authenticity.

Among his many valuable addresses is that delivered at Greensboro in 1860 upon the services of General Nathanael Greene, and memorial addresses upon the life and character of Judges A. D. Murphey and George E. Badger and Chief Justice Thomas Ruffin. His address at the State University and that upon the British Invasion of North Carolina in 1780-81 have already been mentioned. Notwithstanding his frequent public services, in the intervals he readily returned to his professional duties and to the last was in full practice at the bar. His argument before Judge Brooks in 1870 at Salisbury on the habeas corpus for release of Josiah Turner and others was a masterpiece.

He was nominated by acclamation in Orange County to the State Constitutional Convention of 1875. His declining health prevented his taking part in the canvass. He issued a strong address to his constituents which was widely circulated throughout the State, with great effect. His election was a matter of course, but before he could take his seat, he had passed beyond earthly honors. He was at Saratoga, N. Y., attending the session of the Virginia and Maryland Boundary Commission when renewed and alarming symptoms of heart trouble appeared. The best efforts of medical science proved unavailing, and he passed away early in the morning of 11 August, 1875, being nearly 71 years of age.

Numerous meetings of the Bar and public bodies, not only in North Carolina, but elsewhere, expressed their sense of the public loss, and the great journals of the country responded in articles expressive of the national bereavement. The States of Maryland and Virginia took care that his remains should be received with due honor and escorted across their borders. At the borders of North Carolina they were received by a committee appointed by the Mayor and Common Council of Raleigh, a committee appointed by the bar of Raleigh, and another by the authorities of the town of Hillsboro, by officials and many prominent citizens of the State and conveyed by special train to Raleigh where they were escorted by a military and civic procession to the Capitol, in whose rotunda, draped for the occasion, they lay in state. Late in the afternoon of the same day, attended by the Raleigh military companies and by special guards of honor, appointed by cities and towns of the State, and by the family of the deceased, his remains were carried by special train to Hillsboro, where they were received by the whole population of the town and escorted to the family residence, where they lay in state till noon on Sunday, August 15th. At that hour they were conveyed to the Presbyterian Church, and after appropriate funeral serv-



ices were interred with solemn ceremony, amid an immense concourse gathered from many counties, in its historic graveyard, where rest the ashes of William Hooper, A. D. Murphey, Chief Justice Nash, Judge Norwood, and many others, worthily prominent in the annals of the State.

Governor Graham left surviving him his widow, who subsequently died 1 May, 1890; seven sons, to wit: Dr. Joseph Graham, of Charlotte (died August 12, 1907); Major John W. Graham, of Hillsboro; Major W. A. Graham, of Lincoln; Captain James A. Graham (died in March, 1909), and Captain Robert D. Graham (died July, 1904), both resident in late years in Washington City; Dr. George W. Graham, of Charlotte; Judge Augustus W. Graham, of Oxford; and an only daughter, Susan Washington, who married the author of this very imperfect sketch of his life and services. She died in Raleigh 10 December, 1909.

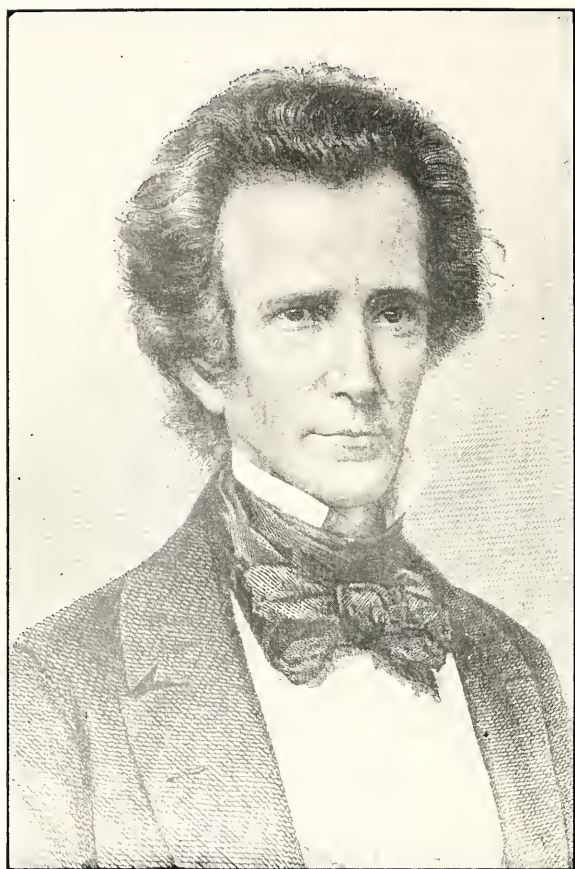
Fortunate in his lineage and the sturdy race from which he sprung, strikingly handsome in person, of commanding appearance and stature, courteous in his bearing toward all, high or low, of high mental endowments, of a personal character without spot or blemish, true to all men, and therefore true to himself, possessed of undaunted courage, moral and physical, with remarkable soundness of judgment, conservative in his views, but progressive in his public action, abundant in services to his State and to his country, holding the entire respect of all and the hatred of no one, North Carolina has laid to rest in her bosom no son greater or more worthy than William A. Graham. His fame will grow brighter as the records are examined and weighed in the cold, clear, impartial light of the future.

To North Carolinians, the name of William A. Graham is the synonym of high character and true service, and in rendering to him and his memory high honor, the people of the State have indicated those traits of character which most strongly command their approbation.

*Stat nominis umbra.*







JAMES C. DOBBIN.

## James Cochran Dobbin, Secretary of the Navy in the Cabinet of President Pierce 1853-1857

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By HENRY ELLIOT SHEPHERD, M.A., LL.D.

Author "History of the English Language," "Study of Edgar Allan Poe," "Life of Robert E. Lee," "Commentary Upon Tennyson's 'In Memoriam,'" "Representative Authors of Maryland," Contributions To "The Oxford Dictionary," "The American Journal of Philology," etc.

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The Dobbin family, a branch of which was founded in North Carolina, not far from the middle of the eighteenth century, seems to have descended from a French Huguenot ancestry, the name, it is said, being a phonetic corruption of its original form, Daubigné, into Daubin or Dobbin. The family to this day, has representatives in other States, sprung from the same source, but these lie beyond the scope of the researches contemplated in the present biography. During the relentless persecutions and proscriptions, which both preceded and succeeded the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, October, 1865, a large Huguenot element found refuge in England and in Ireland, in the latter country many being established in the region which includes Carrickfergus and Belfast. The Huguenot influences in America, above all in the South, forms part of our national record, and in relation to our present theme, demands neither elaboration nor enlargement at the hands of the historian or chronicler of the house of Dobbin. The first of whom we have definite knowledge as associated with North Carolina, was my great-grandfather in the maternal line, Hugh Dobbin. The name is not unknown in our mountain region, and it was borne in a period not distant from the American Revolution by at least one of the evangelists who preached the gospel in a country then hardly rescued from the sway

of the primeval forests in which "the groves were God's first temples." These, however, have assumed almost the shadowy form of tradition. The family acquires a clearly defined attitude in North Carolina, with Hugh Dobbin, paternal grandfather of James C. Dobbin. Hugh Dobbin was engaged in commercial pursuits in both Carolinas. In addition, he was interested in the maritime trade of that age, and in vessels that frequented the port of Baltimore. The exact date of his settlement in the South I have not been able to ascertain, 1760 would constitute an approximation at least. The time of his death, was not distant from 1790 or 1795. About 1780 or 1782, he married Margaret Moore, of Bennettsville, S. C., who was a daughter of Gully Moore, a patriot of the Revolutionary era and a man marked by force of character, as well as vigor of intellect. From this marriage sprang John Moore Dobbin (father of James C. Dobbin), who died in 1837. His early years were passed in Person County; and not far from 1813 he married as his first wife, Miss Anness Cochran, mother of James Cochran Dobbin, whose middle name perpetuates the memory of his maternal ancestry. Miss Cochran's father had been a conspicuous figure in the political life of his time, having served in Congress during the critical era which embraced the second war with England. When in the years of dawning manhood, John Moore Dobbin, born in 1784, established himself in Fayetteville, then an expanding commercial centre, its development not yet arrested, nor its growth paralyzed by adverse and hostile combinations in the sphere of railway creation and extension. He became a leading factor, a potent element in the material growth of both Carolinas. In Fayetteville, James C. Dobbin was born, January 17, 1814; when hardly beyond the age of six, his mother died, in the white flower of early womanhood; some three years later his father married a second time, Margaret MacQueen, of Chat-

ham County.\* The natal day of Mr. Dobbin is coincident with that of Benjamin Franklin, and two days removed from that of Edgar Allan Poe and Robert E. Lee. The world, then as now, was enveloped in war, the combined hosts were pressing out the heart of France, and the overthrow of the first Napoleon was almost a foregone result.

Of Mr. Dobbin's childhood years, no definite or continuous account has been preserved; only a fragmentary reminiscence, or a tradition of some boyish prank, rescued from oblivion by the loving memory of those that came after him in his own household, or recalled from forgetfulness when his co-mates of this dawning period contemplated with manly pride, unmarred by touch of envy, his rapid ascent from local celebrity to the lofty dignity of a national figure, absorbed in the complex diplomatic negotiations with Japan (1854), the effect of which has proved a potent agency in shaping the development of all subsequent history. His intellect ever normal in its attitude, was unmarked by the spectacular episodes and moving incidents that are the charm of the sensational biographer. If his genius "was nursed in solitude," its perfect accord and equilibrium were maintained to the last, as he lay on his deathbed on a serene August morning in 1857. The routine of his early life found variety and diversion by visits during the prolonged summer season, to the ancestral home in Person County. His scholastic career seems to have assumed a definite character in an academy at Fayetteville, conducted by the Rev. Colin McIver

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\*The reader will not fail to note that in the earlier phases of my narrative, I have been compelled to depend in a measure upon family traditions and transmitted memories. Many invaluable records and letters were destroyed during the sacking of our home at Fayetteville, March, 1865, by Sherman. Yet with these disadvantages to overcome, I do not think that I have fallen into any serious error, or marked variation from truth, either in reference to statements of fact, or in cases which involve questions of chronology. In regard to the essential features of Mr. Dobbin's own life, there exists no shadow of doubt.

(a notable figure in the ecclesiastical annals of his day) in strict conformity to the ancient classical standards prevailing in England and in Scotland; the fame of its instruction had passed beyond the bounds of the State: among his associates was Judah P. Benjamin, of Charleston, S. C., a name linked with brilliant achievement in both Great Britain and America. We find young Dobbin at a time not much later than that which we now contemplate, a pupil of the Bingham School, then having its home at Hillsboro, a point distinguished from an early period, as a centre of social and intellectual culture. In June, 1828, a lad of fourteen, he passes from the guardianship of Mr. Bingham and is admitted to the University of North Carolina. Among his classmates was Thomas H. Haughton, whom in 1845, he defeated for Congress, and Thomas L. Clingman—memorable in peace as in war, for it was Clingman's North Carolina Brigade which was in large measure the agency that in June, 1864, turned back the tide, and rescued Petersburg from the premature grasp of the invader and spoiler. Mr. Dobbin graduated in 1832, attaining scholastic distinction of the highest order. His ideal grace was resistless; faculty and students alike, yielded to the magnetic influence; to the lover of romance he might have been regarded as some Percival or Galahad, diverted from the quest of the grail and brought from dreamland into our grim world of austere realities. Dr. Caldwell cherished for him a genuine affection, despite the college prank to which young Dobbin was a party, several lads taking possession of the Doctor's coach, conveying it under cover of night to a distance from his residence and leaving it concealed in a dense wood. As they were on the point of returning to their quarters, the coach, as they supposed, being securely disposed of, to their unspeakable amazement, the Doctor appeared at the window of the vehicle, and in his peculiar tone quietly observed: "Well, young gentlemen, you have brought me down here; now, you can carry me back." Carry him back they did,



but the story had no sequel, as the Doctor seems to have entered heartily into the humorous phase of the incident. During Mr. Dobbin's college career, his tastes, sympathies, and aspirations were moulded and fashioned by his affectionate devotion to the sovereign masters of literary and classical culture, not as illustrated in our native speech alone, but in the supreme lords of the antique world as well. His "mental armor" as he himself described it, in his address to the literary societies of the University (delivered when I was emerging from childhood to boyhood) was bright and brilliant, even when he was fading from us, the victim of immitigable disease. With unabating zeal and diligence, he directed the education of his sons and nephews; whenever he visited his home during his official life in Washington, a rigid inquiry into their progress was a marked feature of his coming. The academic record was thoroughly scrutinized, and the work accomplished in *Cæsar*, *Virgil*, *Cicero*, during the term, was subjected to rigid, minute review. Among the treasures of my library, I reckon, with a consciousness of increasing pleasure, the Bible presented to him at the University in 1831, the year preceding his graduation; his edition of Macaulay's "Miscellanies," and the account of Commodore Perry's Expedition to Japan, edited by Rev. Francis L. Hawks, D. D., the historian of North Carolina. Each of these contains the autograph of Mr. Dobbin; and the last I received as his special gift, September 10, 1856. Not long after the completion of his university course, he applied himself to the study of the law, under the direction of Hon. Robert Strange, a judge of the Superior Court, and one of the lights of the bar and the bench in the period of which he formed a part. In 1835, he was admitted to the practice of his profession.

Fifteen years later (November, 1850) teacher and pupil were arrayed against each other in the trial of one of the most notable criminal cases associated with the history of the South: that of Mrs. Simpson, at Fayetteville, charged

with having caused the death of her husband by means of poison. Judge Strange appeared for the defense, and Mr. Dobbin assisted the State, in the conduct of the prosecution. Two years after his admission to the bar, or in 1837, his father died, his illness being brief, as well as sudden. His second wife, as well as six children survived him, of whom James C. Dobbin was the eldest. In 1838, Mr. Dobbin married Miss Louisa Holmes, of Sampson, who died in 1848, leaving three children, of whom one only is still living. He never again assumed the matrimonial relation. During the earlier stages of his professional career, Mr. Dobbin was guided by a wise and judicious conservation of mental and physical resources. There was no gratuitous expenditure of force, no dissipation of energy. His circuit was restricted to the counties adjoining his home, Cumberland, Robeson, Sampson. The blare of trumpets, the quest of notoriety, entered not into his life, and to him, in its intensest significance, "fame was no plant that grows on mortal soil." With the increasing years, he attained unchallenged rank among the foremost advocates of an age, which numbered among its representatives such "men of light and leading" as Toomer, Eccles, Strange and Henry. His summary or synopsis of the evidence in the case of Mrs. Simpson was a masterful illustration of ideal eloquence, "logic on fire," relentless in its vigor, remorseless in its conclusions, resistless in its power. The coming of 1845, heralds the first period of Mr. Dobbin's development in the sphere of politics. During the campaign of this eventful season, he was nominated by the Democratic party as one of its candidates for congressional honors. He had just passed his thirtieth year, and the honor was not only unlooked for, but absolutely unsolicited. Yet he defeated his classmate, Mr. John H. Haughton, by a majority of 2,000 votes, a marked advance upon the numerical results that had been attained by his successful predecessors in his own party, and one which implied an emphatic tribute to his personal charm, and his magnetism of charac-

ter. Despite both youth and want of parliamentary experience Mr. Dobbin speedily became a name to conjure with in the Twenty-ninth Congress. A place was assigned him upon some of the committees which involved delicate and critical functions, as that upon Contested Elections, and in some of their most complex procedures, he maintained a part as vigorous and effective as it was manly and honorable. In the discussion of the Public Land Bill, in the debates upon the Oregon Question, which had engaged us in serious complications with Great Britain, we see him in the forefront of the battle. Above all, he was the inflexible and dauntless champion of the South, and whenever her claims were assailed, or her prerogative invaded, the very *gaudium certaminis* seemed to lighten his pale and classic features as if a radiance from an undreamed sphere had descended upon them. His speech upon the repeal of the tariff of 1842, illustrates his eloquence in its purest and noblest form. Mere extracts or detached fragments, would tend rather to mar its unity, artistic and dialectic, than to convey an adequate impression of its power. Upon the expiration of his term, Mr. Dobbin declined a re-election, which he might have secured without doubt, or even without effort, and resumed the congenial pursuit of the law at Fayetteville. Yet the "jealous mistress" was not suffered to absorb all his energies, or to assume an unchallenged monopoly of his versatile faculties. We find him in the Legislature of 1848-9, the most responsible positions of trust being assigned to his guidance. It was during this Legislature that a notable incident in the life of Mr. Dobbin, and in the history of North Carolina becomes the subject of an especial record. I refer to the creation of the Asylum for the Insane (State Hospital), at Raleigh, the abiding memorial of his genius, destined "to live with the eternity of his fame." It was during this session that Miss Dix, whose heroic labors in the sphere of philanthropy, are familiar to two continents, memorialized the Legislature to erect an asylum for the insane. The

memorial being referred to a special committee, a bill was reported in favor of granting the prayer of the memorialist.

At this stage, however, the chairman of this committee, whom at a later period we encounter as Governor Ellis, had retired from the Legislature in order to accept a judicial position, and the bill introduced by him, providing that \$100,000 be appropriated for the erection of the institution, though advocated by Mr. Kenneth Rayner in an appeal marked by rare fervor and earnestness, was defeated by a vote of 44 ayes, 66 noes. Two days preceding, Mrs. Dobbin had been consigned to the grave, and Mr. Dobbin was absent from the sessions of the House. Miss Dix was naturally alarmed in reference to the fate of the bill, and having absolute faith in Mr. Dobbin's influence, and the power of his oratory, recalled to his memory the urgent request of his wife that he would advocate and champion the measure. The appeal was one that he could not disregard, and on the next day he was present in his place. The bill had been reconsidered, upon a motion to appropriate \$25,000, but Mr. Dobbin introduced a substitute by which, in four years \$85,000 could be provided by the State for the institution. The proposed substitute he advocated with even more than his wonted grace and appealing power, the result being that it was adopted by an almost unanimous vote. In 1852, we find him in the Legislature for the last time. Nominated in caucus for the Senate of the United States, he failed of election, it was currently reported, through the perfidy of one of his own allies, a name long since effaced from the political heavens, but associated with a family by no means extinct in North Carolina. It was in March, 1853, that Mr. Dobbin became Secretary of the Navy, succeeding in that capacity, John P. Kennedy, of Baltimore, who was chosen to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of William A. Graham, as soon as nominated for the Vice-Presidency upon the same ticket with General Scott, June, 1852. The nomination of Mr. Pierce by the Baltimore Convention was

in large measure the outcome of Mr. Dobbin's brilliant appeals in his behalf, and as an acknowledgment of his invaluable services, the Naval Bureau was tendered to him by the incoming president upon his election in November, 1852. The Cabinet of Mr. Pierce was especially distinguished by its combination of varied and marked intellectual abilities—William L. Marcy, Jefferson Davis, Caleb Cushing, James C. Dobbin. It may be declared with no trace of hyperbole, that in this elect company which blended "all the talents," the modest and gracious gentleman from North Carolina, if not the most richly endowed with gifts of intellect or genius for administration, was the most attractive and fascinating figure. As a delegate from his native State, he had accomplished the nomination of Mr. Pierce by the Democratic Convention, and that he possessed the special regard and admiration of his chief, I have ample reason to know, such as has never been brought into the fierce light of popular knowledge, or passed beyond the bounds of his domestic circle. His administration of the Naval Department was not merely marked by efficiency and excellence in detail; it was crowned by episodes and incidents whose logical influence has tended in certain spheres of development, to direct and control the evolution of contemporary history. Foremost among these, stands the treaty with Japan, March, 1854; the construction of the steam frigates, of which one was the *Merrimac*, 1856, transformed at a later period, 1861-2, into the Confederate *Virginia*. In view of the maritime complications which now prevail, the Martin Koszta incident, 1853, acquires a renescent interest. The student of North Carolina history, cannot fail to note that the Perry Expedition originated in the creative brain of Governor Graham; that the fleet was dispatched by Mr. Kennedy, November, 1852, during his brief official term, June, 1852, to March, 1853; and that the treaty which represents the climax of this epoch-making movement, assumed definite form under the auspicious guidance of Mr. Dobbin. Four "crowded years of



glorious life" in Washington, the effects of which are growing from more to more with the increasing ages; and for him the end is nigh at hand. To those who stood in intimate relation to Mr. Dobbin, it was evident that death had set his royal seal upon him not long after he had entered the Cabinet of Mr. Pierce; the malady had probably asserted its power in germinal form, ere he attained that stage. Five months after the close of his administrative period, he died at his home near Fayetteville, August 4, 1857, aged 44; his colleague, Mr. Marcy, preceeding him to the grave by a single month. Of his three children, his daughter, Mary Louisa Dobbin (who married the late Colonel John H. Anderson), alone remains; for a series of years Brooklyn, N. Y., has been her home. James C. Dobbin, Jr., the elder son, died in August, 1869. Some of his father's richest gifts and graces descended upon him like golden showers, above all, that of eloquence, in whose mastery, his rank was in the foremost files. The younger son, John Holmes Dobbin, died in 1865, a youth whose genial, lovable nature clung to him in sunshine and in shadow, in war as in peace, and failed him not even when he stood face to face with the last enemy that shall be destroyed. Mr. Dobbin was laid to rest in the Dobbin-Shepherd grounds, Cross Creek Cemetery, on the 6th of August. The services were held at the Presbyterian Church, a eulogy, based upon the 37th Psalm, 37th verse, being delivered by the pastor, Rev. Adam Gilchrist. The tribute to the dead, was characterized by the urbanity and lucidity of expression which formed the native vesture of his unstudied and habitual utterances. A happy accord in ideals both of life and language, linked into harmony, the eulogist and the subject of his eulogy.

Mr. Dobbin's affability and magnetic charm were unabated, even when the long grapple with a relentless malady had reduced him to a mere vestige of his former self. His habitual loveliness of expression remained with him, prelude, as it were, "that sweet other-world smile, which will be reflected in



the spiritual body among the angels." Just as the transition from death unto life, was reaching its final stage, a friend and kinsman watching at his bedside, asked, "Is Jesus precious to you," to which he replied in a tone not merely audible, but distinct and emphatic, "O yes." Consciousness, as well as an unclouded intellect, remained with him as he was passing into "the twilight of eternal day." When a lad in my teens, I was wounded almost unto death at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863. I fell into the hands of the enemy and for a series of dreary months lay helpless in their hospitals, remote from home, in ceaseless contact with the dying and the dead. Remembering Mr. Pierce's regard for Mr. Dobbin I wrote to the former president, fully aware that my letter had its origin in despair, and was not an inspiration drawn from hope. To my astonishment there came back a prompt, gracious, and cordial reply, containing a generous and enthusiastic tribute to my uncle, as well as an assurance of sympathy for myself in the desolate situation which confronted me; closing with these notable words: "You could not commit a greater mistake than to suppose that I have any power for good with this government." To me it seemed incomprehensible, that this manly and defiant communication from such a source was suffered to pass into my hands, but it came unmarred by the shears of the censor, and I brought the letter with me when I returned to the South, a prisoner on parole. By a melancholy irony of fate, this historic memorial was lost or disappeared from our home at Fayetteville, along with other precious household treasures associated with the name and achievements of our peerless kinsman. The havoc wrought by Sherman in March, 1865, accounts for much, as his spoiling of our goods was remorseless, but it does not resolve the mystery linked with the fate of Mr. Pierce's letter. A gold-headed cane, marked by rare beauty of workmanship, and presented to Mr. Dobbin during his official residence in Washington, was one of the *trophies* of Sherman's occupation of his native town. My personal recol-

lections of my uncle are clear and distinct from the earliest period. When just five years of age, I was carried by an aunt to the Methodist Church at Fayetteville to hear his eulogy upon James K. Polk, who died in June, 1849. A child of eight, I listened to his speeches during the presidential campaign of 1852, he being a candidate for elector. Among the master lights of modern oratory, his proper relation and analogy must be sought in Fox, Hayne, Legare, Preston, by comparison with whom, even in their moments of supreme inspiration, his glory does not fade and his garlands do not wither. His voice was like the note of a clarion, "trumpet tongued," as was that of Shakespeare's appealing angels. A strange and all-prevading faculty of assimilation entered into his language; those who listened were drawn toward him by a magnetic power which took possession of intellect, sensibility, will, and guided them without violence or passion to the assured result, by the exercise of a mysterious and resistless charm. His diction was characterized by an almost ethereal chasteness and purity; his invective or his appeals were bodied in words "headed and winged with flame." The grace and ideal form of an Augustan age, were fused into harmony with the fervor and passion of the South which died at Appomattox in the broadening spring-tide of 1865.

"Who, but hung to hear  
The rapt oration flowing free  
From point to point, with power and grace  
And music in the bounds of law,  
To those conclusions when we saw  
The God within him light his face."

The sovereign elegy of our literature, has glorified the memory and idealized the character of Arthur Henry Hallam, until the world adores the creation wrought by art and by poetic fantasy. Where is the biographer or eulogist of James C. Dobbin, in whose life and achievement were illustrated and revealed the fadeless figure and vesture of Lancelot, while within the mortal frame there breathed the soul of Arthur?

"Whatever record leap to light  
He never shall be shamed."

Of the several portraits of Mr. Dobbin, that in the Navy Department, Washington, seems to me most accurately to reproduce his features. There is a touch of flashiness and gaiety in the portrait in the hall of the Philanthropic Society at Chapel Hill, which was not characteristic of the man. The Washington portrait reveals the placid dignity and serenity that never failed to reflect themselves in his expression. Apart from his speeches during his single term in Congress (1846-48), very few illustrations of his oratorical power remain in complete or available form. I am the fortunate possessor of a copy of the report of the celebrated Simpson trial (November, 1850), but only fragments survive of Mr. Dobbin's numerous eulogies, orations and addresses, some of which have never been excelled during any period in the history of modern eloquence. The extract that follows, is from his speech in Congress, advocating the repeal of the tariff of 1842. It presents a suggestive contrast to the type of parliamentary oratory prevailing in our own day. The diligent reader will not fail to note that an economical issue, associated with Carlyle's "dismal science," is presented with a charming lucidity of statement, and a range of historical acquirement illuminating complex details, which remind us of Macaulay, and bring back the memory of his brilliant feats in this sphere during his career in the British parliament. I quote from the speech referred to:

"Mr. Chairman.—It has fallen to our lot to become actors on the theatre of public life at a most remarkable era in the history of the world. The human mind evincing its mighty and mysterious capabilities is achieving triumphs at once wonderful and sublime. The elements of nature are playthings for it to sport with. Earth, ocean, air, lightning, yield subservient in the hands of genius to minister to the wants, the purposes, the pleasures of man. Science is fast developing to the meanest capacity the hidden secrets of nature, hitherto unexplored in the researches of philosophy. Education is exerting its mild and refining influence to elevate and bless the people. The control of electricity is astonishing the world. The power of steam is annihilating distance, and making remote cities

and towns and strangers at once neighbors and friends. Amid these mighty movements in the fields of science, literature and philosophy, the liberal spirit of a free government, in its steady and onward progress, is beginning to accomplish much for the amelioration of the condition of the human family, so long the hope of the statesman and philanthropist. The illiberal maxims of bad government, too long supported by false reverence for their antiquity, are beginning to give place to enlightened suggestions of experience. England, the birth-place, is proposing to become the grave of commercial restriction. In that land, whose political doctrines are so often the theme of our denunciation and satire, with all the artillery of landed aristocracy, associated wealth, and party vindictiveness levelled at him, there has appeared a learned, a leading Premier, Sir Robert Peel, who, blending in his character much of the philanthropy of Burke, the bold and matchless eloquence of Chatham, and the patriotism of Hampden, has had the moral courage and magnanimity to proclaim that he can no longer resist the convictions of experience and observation, and that the system of commercial restriction and high protection is wrong, oppressive and should be abandoned. Already, sir, has much been done—already has the British tariff, so long pleaded as the excuse for ours, been radically reformed and in obedience to the persevering demand of an outraged people, we hope that the next gale that crosses the Atlantic will come laden with the tidings of a still greater triumph in the repeal of the corn laws, so oppressive to Englishmen, and injurious to Americans.

“And shall we not reciprocate this liberal spirit? Shall republican America, so boastful of her greatness and freedom, be outstripped in her career in this cause of human rights by monarchical England? No sir, I do not, cannot, and will not believe it. I have an abiding, unshaken faith in the ultimate triumph of so righteous a cause.

“Mr. Chairman, we may surpass the nations of the earth in science, in arms and in arts; the genius of our people may attract the admiration of mankind—may cause ‘beauty and symmetry to live on canvas’—may almost make the marble from the quarry to ‘breathe and speak’—may charm the world with elegant attainments in poetry and learning, but much, very much, will be unaccomplished; the beauty of our political escutcheon will still be marred, while commerce is trammelled, and agriculture and trade depressed by bad legislation.”

The extract which follows is taken from Mr. Dobbin’s speech to the jury during the trial of Mrs. Simpson, at Fayetteville, November, 1850. I cannot forbear once more to express my regret that his numerous and brilliant oratorical creations, eulogies, tributes, literary addresses, exist only in fragmentary form, or by the desolation of war, have been

lost beyond recovery. Mr. Dobbin introduces his speech with a graphic portrayal of the conditions, and the individuals associated with this notable tragedy, unsurpassed in celebrity in the annals of North Carolina.

"You have been told, he said (in replying to Hon. Duncan K. McRae, one of the counsel for the defense) of her beauty too, and my distinguished friend has held up before you the picture of her girlhood days—when her life glided on sweetly amid sunshine and flowers, and gay admirers and doting parents—now darkened and beclouded, a prisoner in the damp vaults of the dungeon with the light of heaven only reaching her through iron grates—with the officers of the law now inviting you cruelly to consign her to an ignominious grave, and to hurry her into eternity! The picture was sketched with rare skill and beauty, and presented to you with the finished art of one who knew that your hearts could not fail to be touched by such an appeal. Gentlemen, I complain not of the counsel, but when he spoke of 'hurrying one into eternity' without warning, neither I, nor you, nor any one of this vast concourse, could avoid the contemplation of another, and if possible, a sadder, more touching picture. A youthful stranger came among us, to seek our generous, Southern hospitality. Troops of friends cheered him on. 'None knew him but to love him.' Perhaps the sun never shone on a kindlier youth. Captivated by the charms of one who *seemed* the lovely woman, he blended his destiny with hers. Ann K. Simpson became his bride. For a season, his pathway was checkered over with sunshine and cloud; and then there was seated on his brow, care and gloom and anxiety; and in a moment, *unwarned*, the grim tyrant lays his icy hands upon him. Poor Alexander C. Simpson is in his grave, and his widow is the prisoner at the bar. And while I, too, warn you, not rashly and impetuously, to consign her to an untimely end, but to acquit her, if, in the language of the law, you have 'a reasonable doubt,' I also warn you, that if the testimony has convinced your minds, and points you to the hapless prisoner, as the one who did the dreadful deed, in a moment when poor human nature yielded to the tempter, then—in the face of your countrymen—in the sight of high heaven, you cannot, will not, *dare not shrink from pronouncing the awful doom*. God forbid that I should, in a moment of ardor, appeal to your passions. God forbid that *you*, in a moment of feeling, should forget your duty! Let us, then, gentlemen of the jury, proceed in this investigation calmly and dispassionately, in the fear of God—not man."



## Selwyn

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By VIOLET G. ALEXANDER.

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The English name of *Selwyn* holds an interest today for the students of North Carolina's Colonial history, because as early as 1737, the British Crown granted to Colonel JOHN Selwyn large tracts of land in Piedmont Carolina, and upon the death of Colonel *John* Selwyn and his oldest son in the year 1751, his younger son, *George Augustus* Selwyn inherited the vast estates in America.

In the Colonial Records of North Carolina, Vol. V, page 32, we read the following regarding the early land transactions in Carolina: "McCulloh obtained enormous grants for land in North Carolina." . . . Dobb was one of the partners or associates of McCulloh in the venture. . . . On May 9, 1737, the Crown granted to Murray Crymble and James Huey, two merchants of London, warrants for 1,200,000 acres of land in North Carolina, upon condition that they settled thereupon 6,000 *Protestants* and paid as Quit Rents four shillings (about \$1) per 100 acres. These parties, however, as they subsequently formally declared, were "trustees" for one Henry McCulloh, another London merchant, and his "associates." The Surveyor-General of North Carolina in 1744, in pursuance of an order in Council, surveyed and located the warrants on the head-waters of the Pee Dee, Cape Fear and Neuse rivers; the "associates" being allowed to take out separate grants, provided no grant should contain less than 12,000 acres. These lands it seems were laid out into tracts of 100,000 acres each, as follows: Tracts numbered 1, 2, 3 and 5 on the waters of the Yadkin and Catawba. . . . These tracts were subdivided into smaller parcels, containing 12,500 acres each. Tracts No. 1 and No. 3 were assigned to JOHN Selwyn." . . . Vol. V, page 22. "The grants for these lands are recorded in Book 19 of the Records

of Grants in the office of the Secretary of State." . . . "Colonel Nathaniel Alexander, of Mecklenburg County, and John Frohock, Esq., of Rowan County, were appointed commissioners to ascertain the number of white persons, male and female, young and old, who were, without fraud, resident upon each grant on the 25th of March, 1760, and make return of the same under oath to the Governor and Council. (Also see Records of Rowan County.) It was further agreed that upon such returns being made, McCulloh and his 'associates' should formally surrender the unsettled lands to the Crown and be released from payment of back rents due thereon."

Hunter in his sketches of Western North Carolina, pages 19, 20, tells us that: "In 1766, George Augustus Selwyn, having obtained by some means, large grants of land from the British Crown, proceeded to have them surveyed through his agent, Henry Eustace McCulloh and located. On some of these grants, the first settlers, by their own stalwart arms and persevering industry had made considerable improvements. For this reason, not putting much faith in the validity of Selwyn's claims, they seized John Frohock, the surveyor, and compelled him to desist from his work or fare worse." . . . "The original conveyance of the tract of land, upon which the city of Charlotte now stands, contained 360 acres and was made on the 15th day of January, 1767, by Henry E. McCulloh, agent for George Augustus Selwyn, to Abraham Alexander (Chairman of the Convention and Signer of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, May 20, 1775), Thomas Polk, (Colonel of Mecklenburg Militia and Signer of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, May 20, 1775), and John Frohock, as Trustees and Directors and their successors. The consideration was 'ninety pounds' lawful money. The conveyance was witnessed by Matthew McLure (Signer of Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, May 20, 1775) and John Sample."

The historian, Wheeler, in his History of North Carolina, page 50, states: "That soon after his (Governor Tryon) accession to office, the people of Mecklenburg County opposed Henry E. McCulloh, who was the agent of George A. Selwyn. Selwyn had obtained, by some means, large grants from the English Crown. John Frohock was employed to locate these grants and survey them. The people in arms, seized the surveyor and compelled him to desist."

We find this statement in D. A. Tompkin's History of Mecklenburg County, page 16. "In 1757, the Selwyn tracts of land, one of which (No. 3) is now partly occupied by the city of Charlotte, contained something less than 400 souls" (page 32). "In the latter part of 1765, Henry E. McCulloh donated a tract of 360 acres of land to John Frohock, Abraham Alexander and Thomas Polk, as Commissioners, to hold in trust for the County of Mecklenburg, on which to erect a Court House, prison and stocks. McCulloh was the agent for George Augustus Selwyn who owned several immense tracts of land on a grant from the king; making it obligatory upon him to settle *one* person to every 200 acres of land. He foresaw that the interests of his employer would be advanced by the locating of the county seat on his lands." The city of Charlotte was thus located on a portion of tract No. 3, of the "Selwyn Grant." Mecklenburg County, of which Charlotte is the capital, is located in tract No. 3, of the "Selwyn grant," and was created by act of the Colonial Legislature of 1762; it then included what are now the counties of Mecklenburg and Cabarrus, and parts of Union and Iredell counties. Henry Eustace McCulloh, so frequently mentioned, was of Rowan County, a son of Henry McCulloh, the London merchant, and the agent and "attorney-in-fact" for George A. Selwyn in Carolina.

Neither Colonel John Selwyn nor his son, George Augustus, ever visited their vast possessions in the New World, but they evidenced some interest in them as is shown in their correspondence and through the activity of their agents.

In George A. Selwyn's letters, there is frequent mention of Lord Cornwallis (whom he knew personally) and his movements in Carolina and, it is certain, he watched the military events of the Revolution as closely as was possible, considering the times and great distance.

The home of the Selwyn family was a charming country estate near Matson, a small village on the spur of the Cotswold hills overlooking the Severn Valley. Colonel *John Selwyn* was a man of education and ability, of large influence, ample means, and well known in the courts of the Georges. He was aide-de-camp to the Duke of Marlborough at the Battle of Blenheim and served his country in other official capacities. Sir Robert Walpole was one of his intimate friends, as well as other men of note, and young Horace Walpole was a frequent visitor in his home. Colonel Selwyn married Mary, a daughter of General Farrington, of Kent; she was a woman of unusual beauty, vivacity and wit, and as a "Woman of the Bed Chamber of Queen Caroline" was well known and much admired in court circles. Horace Walpole wrote of her as "Mrs. Selwyn, mother of the famous George, and herself of much vivacity and very pretty." It is said that George inherited his wit, for which he was famous, from his clever mother. Colonel Selwyn and his oldest son, died the same year, 1751, and through this double bereavement George Augustus, the younger son, inherited the large landed interests in Carolina, as well as the family estate in England. George Augustus was born at his father's country home, August 11, 1719. His early school days were spent at Eton, where among his classmates were Gray, the poet, and Horace Walpole. He went from Eton to Hart College, Oxford, but made no record as a student at either place. In 1745, he was forced to withdraw from Oxford without taking his degree, to escape expulsion for desecrating a chalice, using it for a drinking cup at a students' party.

He entered parliament in 1747, where he remained until 1780, a silent and inactive member, never giving himself seriously to affairs of State. He had fallen heir to the family estates in 1751, and had sufficient income to support him handsomely, so never exerted himself over his business or landed interests, delegating this irksome work to agents.

Selwyn obtained several sinecures, one of which was Register of the Court of Chancery at Barbadoes, and Surveyor-General of the works. He early became a member of the leading London clubs, where he was familiarly known as "Bosky." George Selwyn's fame seems to rest on his unusual wit and humor, for which he was widely known and frequently quoted; he filled a conspicuous place in the fashionable life of his day and was intimate with statesmen, politicians and literary men, as well as the court circle, and his wit and *bon mots* were enjoyed in the most exclusive and fashionable drawing-rooms of London. He frequently visited Paris and spent much time there. When the Duke of Bedford, with his large suite, spent some months in Paris while the Duke negotiated the treaty known as the "Peace of Paris," Selwyn was of the party and was such a close friend that the Duke presented him with the pen with which the treaty was signed.

Horace Walpole, from their Eton school days, was a devoted friend, their intimacy being life-long and to him we are much indebted for our knowledge of Selwyn.

In his later years, Selwyn almost abandoned his country estate and spent much time in London, at Castle Howard, or visited some of the great houses which were always open to him, and where he met many of England's most brilliant men and women.

Selwyn's life was in a sense lonely, for he never married and in his last years he had no near relatives. Some biographers tell of a romance and of an unnamed child who filled his thoughts and life in his last years, but that peculiar story has no place in this brief sketch of his life.



One unusual trait of Selwyn was his strange passion for attending the executions of criminals, all of which were public in England at that time. He seldom missed an execution, but in this gruesome pastime he was not alone, for Boswell, Walpole and other great men kept him company.

Selwyn was a prolific letter writer, his most famous correspondence being preserved in what is known as the "Castle Howard Collection." His spelling is not always above reproach, nor is his mode of expression elegant, but he gives an interesting glimpse of that period of English life. Two interesting books have been published about George Selwyn; one in four volumes is entitled, "George Selwyn and His Contemporaries;" the other is entitled "George Selwyn, His Life and Letters."

Selwyn has been called "the first wit and humorist of his day"; many witticisms have been credited to him, but many of them appear flat and stale at this distant date, as the man, circumstances and time, gave them buoyancy and pith. One is quoted here as an example of his wit, and it will still bring a laugh. When Lord Farley crossed over the Channel to escape his many creditors, Selwyn remarked that "it was a *passover* not much relished by the Jews!"

There are several portraits of Selwyn still to be seen in England, probably the most famous one is at Castle Howard. It was painted about 1770 by his friend, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and includes another friend of theirs, Frederic, Fifth Earl of Carlisle, and, also, Selwyn's much beloved dog, Raton. Once when it was rumored that Sir Joshua was a candidate for a political office, Selwyn remarked: "He might very well succeed, for he is the ablest man I know *on canvass!*" The Reynold's portrait shows Selwyn a handsome man, with periwig, and dressed in the elegant and expensive style of that day, with velvet suit, silk hose, real lace frills and fine stock buckle.

Several years before his death, Selwyn's health became impaired and he spent much time "taking cures" and con-

sulting medical men. He gradually grew worse and returned to London for the last time shortly before Christmas in 1790, where he died at his home, Cleveland Row, St. James, on January 25, 1791. He was sincerely mourned by many warm friends, one of whom (Storr) wrote to Lord Auckland, "The loss is not only a private one to his friends, but really a public one to Society in general."

The name of the large landowner, Selwyn, has disappeared from his former possessions in Carolina, except in Charlotte, where one of her finest hostelrys and one of her most beautiful boulevards bears the name of "Selwyn" in memory of the first recognized landowner in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

## An Educational Practice in Colonial North Carolina

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By EDGAR W. KNIGHT.

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Although North Carolina developed before 1860 the most creditable system of public education to be found in any of the states which seceded from the Union, her intellectual and educational growth was very slow during the colonial period. This tardy development was due to conditions under which the colony was settled and to others which lent themselves very sparingly to the encouragement of educational enterprises. Especially was this true of the period from 1663, when settlements first began to be made in the region around Albemarle Sound, to 1728, when the transfer from proprietary to royal control of the colony was made.

One of the conditions which retarded educational development was the slow growth of population. The earliest settlers in North Carolina migrated from the northern colony of Virginia between 1650 and 1675, not as religious refugees, as has been supposed, but for economic advantage. After 1663, however, when the intolerant and illegal government of Berkeley in Virginia was resisted, others came for political reasons, and the colony soon found itself accommodating "rogues, runaways and rebels" who refused to tolerate Berkeley and his tyranny. In 1670 immigrants were encouraged by the promise of the assembly of exemption from taxation for one year and protection for five years from suits for debts made before coming into the colony. But these attractions induced but few. When Drummond was appointed the first governor of Albemarle in 1663 his commission extended over 1600 square miles of territory which contained perhaps not more than fifteen hundred people. In 1675 there were probably 4,000 people in the colony, less

than three to the square mile, and in 1728 the entire white population probably numbered less than 13,000.

From the beginning of the settlement the tendency was towards rural rather than urban communities, the mild climate and the fertile soil both contributing to a stimulation of rural life. The earliest settlers took up large tracts of land on the watercourses, which furnished practically the only means of communication, and agriculture soon became the most promising pursuit of the colonists. The dangerous coasts and poor harbors made the colony difficult of access and the commercial interests of the people were thus retarded. Moreover, there were frequent complaints against the unsatisfactory government and conflicts between the inhabitants and the proprietors or their representatives "who reckoned the lives of the colonists only in quit rents and taxes." Occasional religious dissensions were also unfavorable to educational and intellectual activities, and the need for schools was not keenly felt by those in authority. The educational philosophy of Seventeenth century England, "that the great body of the people were to obey and not to govern, and that the social status of unborn generations was already fixed," was now and later widespread and persistent. Besides, the re-enactment for the colony of the English Schism Act of 1714, after it had been repealed in England, was unduly exasperating and added to other ecclesiastical evils which followed the establishment of the English Church in North Carolina.

In spite of these unfavorable conditions, however, there is occasional evidence of local effort to foster education, though there were but few early attempts to promote formal intellectual and literary training. The poor law and apprenticeship system, which was so popular in Virginia where it was directly inherited from England, was in use in North Carolina also. In the latter colony, however, this system seems not to have been so extensive as in Virginia which was more nearly like the mother country. In Virginia it was so widely

extended and such a popular practice that the *ante bellum* educational system of that state seems a gradual evolution from it. This poor law practice and apprenticeship system form a unique educational scheme; but in order to understand the popular mental attitude to the class of dependents entrusted to its care—an attitude which the system itself reflects—it is necessary to consider that education is a term of varying meaning. The term now generally means an expansion of the mental faculties through a specific organized course of a more or less literary nature. For the more prosperous part of society a “certain tincture of letters” has, in the popular mind, always been regarded as essential, but this particular form of training has not been held in high esteem for the poorer classes. The popular view has been that formal literary training was not requisite to the poor youth of the community, and parents or guardians of such youth appeared more concerned about a practical training of their children or wards in those occupations and crafts through which they were later to maintain themselves than they were interested in “book learning.”

It is through the apprenticeship system that one form of local educational effort may be seen in North Carolina in colonial times. That the system was in operation very early may be seen from the following records of February, 1695, and of April, 1698:

“Upon ye Peticon of Honell Thomas Harvey esqr Ordered yt Wm ye son of Timothy Pead late of the County of Albemarle Deed being left destitute be bound unto ye sd Thomas Harvey esqr and Sarah his wife untill he be at ye age of twenty one years and the said Thomas Harvey to teach him to read.” Three years later the records of Perquimans precinct court show that Elizabeth Gardner, “ye Rellock William Gardner desesed presented his selfe before ye Court to bind hir Son William Gardner to ye Honbl Govener Thomas Harvi or his Heires Thay Ingagen to Learn him to Reed Which In or to Was doon till he comes to ye Age of Twenty



on yeares he being five years ould now a fortnite before Cristmas.”<sup>1</sup>

Four years later, at the January, 1699, term of the same court, we find the following orders:

“Jonathan Taylor And William Taylor Orfens Being Left destressed ordered that they be Bound to William Long And Sarah His Wife Till they Come of Age.”

“Thomas Tailer Orfen being Left destressed ordered that He be bound to John Lawrence And Hannah his Wife till he Comes of age.”

“Mare Tayler Orfen being Left destressed ordered that Shee be bound to Mr Caleb Calleway And Elisabeth his Wife till Shee Comes of Age.”

“Thomas Hallom Orfen being Left destressed ordered that he be bound to ffrancis ffoster And Hannah his Wife till he Comes of Age.”<sup>2</sup>

These four examples are the bare court orders and nothing is said about the maintenance and education of the children bound. Indentures covering each case were likely signed later by the guardian and the court which appointed him. Ordinarily these indentures called for the education and maintenance, according to his “rank and degree,” of the orphan bound or apprenticed. This meant to feed, clothe, lodge, and to provide “accommodations fit and necessary” for the child, and to teach or cause him to be taught to read and write, as well as a suitable trade. This was the customary agreement required by the court. The absence in the cases above of these features is hardly proof that they were here neglected. The indentures were likely formally signed later, as appears to have been the case in the following agreement made in March, 1703, in the same court:

“Upon a petition of Gabriell Newby for two orphants left him by Mary Hancock the late wife of Thoms Hancocke and proveing the same by the oathes of Eliz. Steward and her

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<sup>1</sup> Col. Rec., I, pp. 448, 495.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 522.

daughter the Court doe agree to bind them unto him he Ingagen & promising before the Court to doe his endeavours to learne the boy the trade of a wheelwright and likewise give him at the expiration of his time one ear old heifer and to ye girle at her freedome one Cow and Calfe besides the Custome of the Country and has promised at ye next orphans Court to Signe Indentures for that effect."<sup>3</sup>

At the October, 1704, term of the same court Nathan Sutton petitioned to be appointed guardian for Richard Sutton, the orphan son of George Sutton, who was probably Nathan's relative, but the petition was rejected. A year later, however, he was appointed guardian for the boy. The same court which appointed him guardian heard complaints made by the "orphans of George Sutton deced That Abyham Warren their Guardian hath given Imoderate Correccoon & deprived them of Competent Sustenance." The result was that the court appointed Dennis Macclendon the guardian of Elizabeth and Deborah Sutton, and Nathan Sutton guardian for Richard.<sup>4</sup>

A few more examples of the system will throw additional light on its operation in North Carolina:

"Upon petition of George Bell setting forth that he had two servts bound to him by the precinet Court of Craven in ye month of July 17, 12/13 namely Charles Coggdaile and George Coggdaile as by Indenture may Apppeare. And further that ye Court afsd have pretended to sett ye said Servt at Liberty as he is informed by reason that they could not perfectly read and write when as the time of their servitude is not half expired And he further claimes that during the time they were with him they were well used and much time allowed them to perfect them in their reading and writeing and that he intended to instruct them in ye building of Vessells Therefore prays that in regard there is no other allegation made appeare agt him they may remain with him

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., p. 577.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., pp. 613, 626.

till ye time of the Indenture Specified be expired &c. . . .” It was ordered that the servants remain with their master in accordance with their former indentures.<sup>5</sup>

The records of Chowan precinct for August, 1716, show the following:

“Upon Petition of John Avery Shewing that sometime in August 1713 ye said Avery being in Prince George’s County in Virginia met with one John Fox aged abt fifteen years who being Desireous to live in North Carolina to learn to be a Ship Carpenter bound himselfe an apprentice to ye said John Avery for Six years before one Stith Bolling Gent one of her Majties Justices of ye said County as is practicable in ye Governmt of Virginia whereupon ye said Avery brought ye said Fox into North Carolina with him and Caused the sd John his said Apprentice to be Taught and Instructed to read and write and was at other Charges and Expenses concerning him and haveing now made him serviceable and usefull to him in ye Occupation of Shipp Carpenter to ye Great Content and Seeming Satisfaction of the said Foxes Mother and Father in Law one Cary Godby of Chowan Precinct But ye Said Cary intending to profitt and advantage himselfe by the Labour and usefulness of ye said John Fox hath advised the said Fox to withdraw himselfe from yor petitionrs service and to bring along his Indentures of apprenticeship & is now Entertained and harboured by the said Cary Godby and therefore prayes that the sd Fox may be apprehended and brought before this Board their to be dealt with according to law.” Fox was ordered to return to his master.<sup>6</sup>

A record of November, 1716, in Chowan precinct court, shows that the practice applied to girls as well as to boys: “Upon the Peticon of John Swain praying that Elizabeth Swain his sister an Orphane Girle bound by the Precinct Court of Chowan to John Worley Esqr may in the time of

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid., II, p. 172.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., II, p. 241.

her service be taught to read by her said Master Ordered, that she be taught to read.”<sup>7</sup>

These examples are sufficient to show the principal features of the system as it operated in the colony of North Carolina. If the records were complete earlier and more representative examples would doubtless be in evidence. By the practice in North Carolina poor children were bound to masters and guardians were appointed by the court for orphans, the masters and guardians agreeing with the court, which had general care of this dependent class, to teach the wards a trade or occupation and also to read and write. When an orphan possessed an estate the guardian was entitled to remuneration for administering it, but if the estate yielded no profit the master agreed to maintain and educate him for his services. Under these conditions the child probably took his place in the household on an equality with the other children, and perhaps received similar educational advantages.

Although the practice of apprenticing and binding orphans and poor children under the conditions described was more or less extensive in the colony at an early date, no legislation seems to have been enacted on the subject until 1715. In that year a law was passed by which no children were allowed to be bound, except by the precinct court which was empowered to “grant letters of tuition or guardianship to such persons as they shall think proper” for caring for the “education of all orphans & for taking care of their estates . . .” The law required that “all Orphans shall be Educated & provided for according to their Rank & degree out of the Income or Interest of their Estate & Stock if the same will be sufficient Otherwise such Orphans shall be bound Apprentice to some Handycraft Trade (the Master or Mistress of such Orphan not being of the Profession called Quakers) till they shall come of Age unless some of kin to such Orphan will undertake to maintain & Educate him or them for the in-

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<sup>7</sup> Ibid., p. 266.

terest or income of his or her Estate without Diminution of the Principal whether the same be great or small . . .”<sup>8</sup>

The principal features of this legislation are similar to the features of a law on the same subject in Virginia. Close contact with that colony, from which many of the early settlers of North Carolina came and in which the poor and apprenticeship laws formed practically the only educational system for the poorer classes, may have influenced the gradual introduction of apprenticeship practices into North Carolina. In Virginia one of the first pieces of apprenticeship legislation which has a public educational aspect was that of March, 1643, when the county courts enjoined the overseers of the poor and guardians of orphans “to educate and instruct them according to their best endeavors in Christian religion and in the rudiments of learning and to provide for them necessities according to the competence of their estates . . .”<sup>9</sup>

By an act of 1705, it was ordered that when the estate of any orphan was so small “that no person will maintain him for the profits thereof, then such orphan shall be bound apprentice to some handicraft trade, or mariner, until he shall attain to the age of one and twenty. And the master of each such orphan shall be obliged to teach him to read and write; and at the expiration of his servitude, to pay and allow him in like manner as is appointed for servants, by indenture or custom.”<sup>10</sup>

Another example will serve to make clearer the similarity of legislation on this subject in the two colonies and the probable influence of the law of Virginia on the law in North Carolina. In 1748 it was enacted in the former colony that whenever the profits of an orphan’s estate were insufficient to maintain him, such an orphan was to be bound apprentice, “every male to some tradesman, merchant, mariner, or other person approved by the court, until he shall attain the age

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, XXIII, pp. 70-71.

<sup>9</sup> 18 Charles I. Hening, *Statutes*, I, p. 261.

<sup>10</sup> 4 Anne. Hening, *Statutes*, III, p. 375.



of one and twenty years, and every female to some suitable trade or employment, 'till her age of eighteen years; and the master or mistress of every such servant shall find and provide for him or her, diet, clothes, lodgings and accommodations fit and necessary, and shall teach, or cause him or her to be taught to read and write, and at the expiration of his or her apprenticeship, shall pay every such servant, the like allowance as is by law appointed for servants by indenture or custom . . ."<sup>11</sup>

Seven years later, in September, 1755, there was enacted in North Carolina a law regulating the estates of orphans and their guardians. The preamble of the law explained the need for further legislation on this subject: "Whereas, for want of proper laws for regulating guardians, and the management of orphans, their interests and estates have been greatly abused and their education very much neglected, for prevention whereof for the future, be it enacted . . ." By this law the churchwardens of every parish were to furnish to the justices of the orphans' court, at its annual session, the names of all children without guardians. Failure to perform this duty was punishable by a fine of "ten pounds proclamation money each." The court was to appoint guardians for all such children and these guardians were to make reports to the court of their wards and apprentices. When the court "shall know or be informed that any guardian or guardians by them respectfully appointed, do waste or convert the money or estate of any orphan to his or her own use, or do in any manner mismanage the same . . . or neglects to educate or maintain any orphan according to his or her degree and circumstances," the court was then empowered to establish other rules and regulations for the better management of such estate and "for the better educating and maintaining such orphans." When the profits of any orphan's estate "shall be more than sufficient to maintain and educate him," the surplus was to be invested on good and sufficient security.

<sup>11</sup> 22 George II. Hening, Statutes, V, pp. 499 ff.

But if the estate "shall be of so small value that no person will educate or maintain him or her for the profits thereof, such orphan shall by the direction of the court be bound apprentice, every male to some tradesman, merchant, mariner, or other person approved by the court, until he shall attain the age of twenty-one years, and every female to some suitable employment till her age of eighteen years, and the master or mistress of every such servant shall find and provide for him or her diet, clothes, lodging, and accommodations fit and necessary, and shall teach, or cause him or her to be taught, to read and write, and at the expiration of his or her apprenticeship shall pay every such servant the like allowance as is by law appointed for servants by indenture or custom, and on refusal shall be compelled thereto in like manner . . . ." The act was to remain in force for five years from passage.

In April, 1760, a law similar to the law of 1755 was enacted, and two years later we find further legislation on the subject of the maintenance and education of orphans. Additional legislation was justified, according to the preamble, by the "experience that the court of each respective county, exercising the power of regulating the education of orphans, and the management of their estates, have proved of singular service to them." This law differed from previous legislation in one essential point. Formerly the churchwardens of every parish were required to report to the court the names of orphans and poor children without guardians and masters. By this act that duty was transferred to the grand jury of every county. Provision was further made for an orphans' court to be held by the justices of every inferior court of pleas and quarter sessions. This court was to be held once a year when accounts of guardians were to be exhibited and complaints heard.

The educational features of the act have a certain interest. The guardian of any orphan whose estate furnished the orphan an economic competency was to supervise his education

and maintenance. When the estate was of such small value that "no person will educate and maintain him or her for the profits thereof" the orphan was to be bound apprentice by the court, "every male to some tradesman, merchant, mariner, or other person approved by the court, until he shall attain to the age of twenty-one years; and every female to some suitable employment, 'till her age of eighteen years; and also such court may, in like manner, bind apprentice all free base born children; and every such female child being a mulatto or mestee, until she shall attain the age of twenty-one years; and the master or mistress of every such apprentice, shall find and provide for him or her diet, clothes, lodging, accommodations, fit and necessary; and shall teach or cause him or her to be taught to read and write; and at the expiration of his or her apprenticeship, shall pay every such apprentice the like allowance as is by law appointed, for servants by indenture of custom; and on refusal, shall be compelled thereto, in like manner; and if on complaint made to the inferior court of pleas and quarter sessions, it shall appear that any such apprentice is ill-used, or not taught the trade, profession or employment to which he or she is bound, it shall be lawful for such court to remove and bind him or her to such other person or persons as they shall think fit."

With the exception of certain vestry acts this remained until the national period practically the only legislation governing apprentices and the poor in the colony of North Carolina. The chief of these acts was passed in January, 1764, and described the duties of vestrymen in making provision for the clergy and the poor. By this act the vestrymen of each parish were "directed and required" annually between Easter and November "to lay a poll tax on the taxable persons in their parish, not exceeding ten shillings, for building churches and chapels, paying the ministers' salary, purchasing a glebe . . . encouraging schools, maintaining the poor, paying clerks and readers, etc."<sup>12</sup> No important

<sup>12</sup> Col. Rec., XXIII, p. 601.

changes were made in this legislation until 1777 when an act was passed transferring to "overseers of the poor" certain powers and duties which hitherto had devolved on the vestrymen.<sup>13</sup>

Here may be seen an important change in the conception of educational control. By the act of 1762, already described, the duty of reporting to the justices of the local court the names of orphans and poor children without guardians or masters was transferred from the churchwardens to the county grand jury. By the vestry act of 1777 similar authority was transferred from the vestrymen to the "overseers of the poor." The educational significance of these changes is important; now the authority for controlling the maintenance and education of the poor is transferred from the church to the state. From this change is gradually developed the idea that caring for and "educating" the poor of the community is a state function. This general change is also clearly marked in the legislation dealing with the poor in Virginia.<sup>14</sup>

In the main the foregoing describes the practice in North Carolina of apprenticing poor children and orphans whose economic competency was insufficient to maintain and educate them. The custom was not so extensive and popular as in Virginia which was more directly influenced by conditions and practices in England. Scarcity of evidence on the subject in North Carolina may be accounted for by the fact that children apprenticed by the court probably took their places in the homes of their guardians or masters on conditions of maintenance and education usually allowed other members of the household. The master was probably required to give his apprentice practically the same care and attention given his own children; for when it appeared that the apprentice was ill-used, not properly provided with "accommodations fit

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<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, XXIV, p. 93.

<sup>14</sup> See Knight, *The Evolution of Public Education in Virginia—Colonial Theory and Practice*, in *The Sewanee Review* for January, 1916.

and necessary," or not properly taught as agreed to in the indentures, he was removed and re-apprenticed to some other master approved by the court. This important feature of the apprenticeship practice seems to have been a regular requirement.

A study of the system in North Carolina is not only suggestive but leads to certain interesting conclusions. From it we may see that as early as 1695 the practice required provision for teaching the apprentice to read and write, and that the court released apprentices when "they could not perfectly read and write." It is probable that this requirement was universal in the colony, though abundant evidence on the extent of the custom of apprenticing is unfortunately not accessible. We have also seen that the apprenticeship legislation in the colony of Virginia influenced similar legislation in North Carolina, as the act of 1748 in the former, and of 1755 in the latter colony are evidence. It also appeared that the practice in North Carolina applied to orphans, poor children, free illegitimate children, to girls as well as to boys, and to illegitimate female mulattoes and mestees. Moreover, by act of 1715, requiring that "all Orphans shall be Educated & provided for according to their Rank and degree," the existence of schools or other means of intellectual training is implied. The language of the law of 1755, "neglects to educate or maintain any orphan according to his or her degree and circumstance," and that of the law of 1762, "regulating the education of orphans, and the management of their estates, have proved of singular service to them," and "educate and maintain," may be considered additional evidence that certain educational facilities, however meager they may have been, were available for this dependent class. It is hoped that future study of the local court records of the period will add to the evidence already gathered.



## Biographical and Genealogical Memoranda

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Compiled and Edited by MRS. E. E. MOFFITT.

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### CHIEF JUSTICE WALTER CLARK.

A sketch of Judge Clark is to be found in *THE BOOKLET*, Vol. IX, No. 3.

### DR. HENRY ELLIOT SHEPHERD.

Dr. Shepherd's article in this number of *THE BOOKLET* is most opportune and serves to keep in mind the part played by North Carolina in the President's Cabinet. Among the five who have filled that important position the name and fame of James Cochran Dobbin will be memorable, as it was during his administration in 1854 that the treaty between the American Government and Japan was consummated.

Dr. Shepherd hails from one of the oldest settlements in North Carolina, born at Fayetteville, N. C., the head of navigation on the Cape Fear, January 27, 1844. His father was the late Jesse George Shepherd, one of the most accomplished lawyers, jurists and gentlemen that North Carolina has given to the world, who died in the flower of his manhood in January, 1869, at the early age of forty-eight.

His mother was Catherine Isabella Dobbin, sister of James C. Dobbin, Secretary of the Navy in the Cabinet of Mr. Pierce, 1853-1857, whose crowded years of glorious life have scarcely a parallel in the annals of our Southern civilization. Mr. Dobbin died August 4, 1857 at the age of forty-four.

Besides the lines of Dobbin and Shepherd, other lines represented in the family of our subject are the McQueens of Chatham, the Elliots and Smiths of Cumberland and Harnett; the Whitfields, the Bryans and the Camerons, all

of whom trace their origin to the Colonial period of our Carolina story.

Mr. Shepherd spent his early days in Fayetteville under the care of most competent instructors, added to this his daily contact with father and uncle. Each of these gentlemen embodied in his life and character the purest ideals, the tenderest graces of a day that is dead. He was sent to Davidson College, from there to the Military Academy at Charlotte, which was established by Major D. H. Hill in the year 1859. At both of these institutions he was brought into relation with this strong, heroic soul, under whom he was to serve in more than one campaign during the great war drama of 1861-1865.

In October, 1860, he was admitted into the University of Virginia. Here he devoted his energies to the literary, classical and historical courses, and in several of these he attained honorable and distinguished rank.

When the image of grim-visaged war loomed upon the South in 1861, he was found in the field, though hardly seventeen. He served under his former teacher, General D. H. Hill, at Yorktown, in the Fall of 1861. He served as drill-master of raw recruits at Raleigh and other points. In the Spring of 1862 he was advanced to rank of first lieutenant of infantry in the Forty-third North Carolina Troops. He was probably at the time of his appointment the youngest commissioned officer in the armies of the Confederacy.

The encouragement and commendation as soldier and scholar received from his great instructor and commander, General D. H. Hill, is held in sacred memory by Dr. Shepherd.

He was dangerously wounded at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863, and upon the retreat of Lee's army fell into the hands of the enemy. A long and cruel captivity followed. At last he found his way to his desolate home after Sherman's carnival of ruin had swept over Fayetteville.

After the war Mr. Shepherd taught for one year a school at Louisburg, N. C., in connection with Mr. Matthew S. Davis, the honored head of this classical Academy.

In the next year, 1868, he made his way to Baltimore and in a short time was elected to the Chair of History and English in the City College, an institution that represented the highest or final stage of the public school system of Baltimore.

In 1875 he was made Superintendent of Instruction, an executive position involving far-reaching care and responsibility. He resigned this trust in 1882 to assume the presidency of the College of Charleston, South Carolina, to which he had been called without the slightest solicitation on his part. He restored the College of Charleston to vigorous life at a time when it had fallen into absolute extinction and left it in a flourishing condition. He withdrew from this latter position in 1897 and returning to Baltimore engaged more earnestly than ever in intellectual pursuits—authorship criticism, lecturing, original research in literary and historical spheres.

As a College Professor, College President and Superintendent of Instruction his work has been marked from its earliest stages by the vital power of ceaseless progress in all the higher phases of intellectual development. Dr. Shepherd has contributed to the literature of his vocation at least five or six volumes, several of which have won distinction, not in America alone, but in countries beyond the sea. The History of the English Language; Historical Reader; Advanced Grammar of the English Language; Educational Reports and Reviews; "A Study of Edgar Allen Poe"; Contributions to the American Journal of Philology; Contributions to the New English Dictionary, Oxford; A Commentary Upon Tennyson's "In Memoriam"; Essays on Modern Language Notes; Life of Robert E. Lee.

This enumeration by no means represents the total of Mr. Shepherd's creative work in history, literature and educa-

tion. He has now in contemplation a life of Sir Walter Raleigh, designed especially to portray the intellectual and literary characteristics of his brilliant and versatile genius.

(The above extracts from Ashe's Biographical History of North Carolina).

"The Life of Robert E. Lee," one of the largest works of Dr. Shepherd, deserved especial emphasis, and in which the whole South must be interested. Having served honorably in the Confederate Army, and having known General Lee personally, Dr. Shepherd was in every way fitted to do this work, which is a notable contribution to the fast growing Lee literature.

North Carolina has reason to be proud of her son. Though transplanted to another State his love for the land of his nativity remains strong and loyal. We may predict that his work on Sir Walter Raleigh will awaken to greater activity the project of erecting in Raleigh a monument to this valiant knight and great colonizer.

Dr. Shepherd is vigorous and robust in health, still pursuing, still achieving, and whose work has been most cordially recognized in both Europe and America. Shall not North Carolina hold fast to one whose supreme ambition has ever been to contribute to the glory of the South and especially to his native State?

#### MISS VIOLET GRAHAM ALEXANDER.

One will not be surprised to find the great-granddaughter of John McKnitt Alexander, playing the roll of patriot; interested as she is, in research work, concerning the early history of North Carolina. Her article on George Selwyn, that first disturber of the "Hornets Nest," the sting from which gave warning to the invader to our country's liberties, finds a welcome in the columns of *THE BOOKLET*, the object of which is to preserve important facts in North Carolina history not widely known.

Miss Violet Alexander was born in Charlotte, North Carolina. She is the daughter of Sydenham B. Alexander; an A. B., of the University of North Carolina, 1860, also a gallant Confederate who served in Company K, First Bethel Regiment, that noted aggregation of men of Mecklenburg and six other western counties. He was promoted several times in the army, was State Senator 1879, '83, '85, '87 and 1901. He was the first advocate of road improvement in North Carolina; member of the Fifty-second and Fifty-third Congresses (1891-1895); President of State Grange and of North Carolina Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union; prominent in agricultural advancement, results in evidence all over the State.

Miss Alexander is a descendant of many of the early settlers of Mecklenburg, and patriots who figured so largely in the War of the Revolution, viz.: the Caldwells, Brevards, Davidsons, Osbornes, Grahams and Wilsons, whose names are recorded in history. She is the great-granddaughter of Samuel Wilson, who came to North Carolina in 1740; a delegate to the Provincial Congress from Mecklenburg, 1773; delegate to the Convention of Mecklenburg, May 20, 1775, and a "signer" of that document which has made that county famous.

Miss Alexander was educated at the Mary Baldwin School, Staunton, Va., where she made a special study of History, Literature and French; she has traveled much in Europe, and in our own country, Western States, Old Mexico, Canada and Cuba. She is a frequent contributor to the "Charlotte Observer;" has compiled a "History of Spratt Burying Ground" (which dates back to 1765), published in NORTH CAROLINA BOOKLET, January, 1916. She has written the following: "*Confederate Navy Yard, Charlotte, North Carolina, 1862-1865*," published by Southern Historical Society, Vol. XL, Richmond, Va.; "*First Court in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina*," published by North Carolina Society of Colonial Dames, 1914; "*The Old Cemetery—A*



*Revolutionary Grave Yard,"* published in Charlotte Observer, June, 1916; besides many other historical articles in newspapers.

Miss Alexander is a member of several patriotic organizations, viz.: Charlotte Museum Association; North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, Raleigh, N. C.; Colonial Dames of North Carolina; Mecklenburg Chapter D. A. R.; Signers Chapter (one of its organizers), charter member Stonewall Jackson Chapter U. D. C., and has held office in last three organizations.

As will be seen Miss Alexander is not only interested in the Old Time, but in the New. She was instrumental in placing a tablet on the site of the Confederate Navy Yard, Charlotte; and in placing tablet in Capitol at Raleigh, memorializing the patriots of Mecklenburg; and chairman of both committees, and assisted in designing both tablets. She designed the pin of the "Signers Chapter," and it is proudly worn by its loyal daughters.

Miss Alexander is a notable example of a continuity of qualities possessed by a noble ancestry, and as an exemplar of those timid but capable scions of a like noble race, who, content with the achievements of their ancestors, are apathetic and timid in recording and transmitting to posterity, undisputed traditions that would reflect on the glory of the State. May the pace set by Miss Alexander have many followers and thus aid the Daughters of the Revolution in its effort to preserve authentic North Carolina History through its organ, THE NORTH CAROLINA BOOKLET, which so far has struggled through fifteen years without compensation to its editors, but upheld by the most intelligent, reliable, painstaking historians of this period. Through these THE BOOKLET is encouraged and inspired to continue its valuable work now entering its sixteenth year.

## EDGAR WALLACE KNIGHT.

Born near Woodland, Northampton County, North Carolina, April 9, 1886; attended the public schools of Northampton County and Trinity Park School (Durham, N. C.); A. B., Trinity College, 1909; A. M., Trinity College, 1911; master in history and English, Trinity Park School from 1909 to 1911; instructor in history in the East Carolina Teachers' Training School, summer 1910; Graduate Scholar Columbia University, 1911-1912; Fellow in Columbia University, 1912-13; Ph. D. Columbia, 1913; professor in the department of education in Trinity College since 1913. Author:

"The Influence of Reconstruction on Education in the South," (New York, 1913); "Some Principles of Teaching," (Boston, 1915).

Frequent contributor to magazines on educational and historical subjects. Among his most recent articles which have attracted attention are:

"Some Fallacies Concerning the History of Public Education in the South," "Reconstruction and Education in Virginia"; "The Evolution of Public Education in Virginia"; "The Peabody Fund and Its Early Operation in North Carolina." These articles appeared in the South Atlantic Quarterly, and in the Sewanee Review.

The above recital of Prof. Knight's achievements is indeed remarkable for one not yet thirty years of age, and may we be allowed to predict even greater, as the years roll by. North Carolina may well reckon on this scholarly writer, who, so far, is reflecting credit on his native State.

## Genealogical Department

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Compiled by MISS SYBIL HYATT.

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### LENOIR COUNTY PARKERS.

In 1736 or 37, John Parker moved to Craven County, probably to a place near the section, that is now Woodington, Lenoir County. The similarity of family names indicates that he came from the Chowan section.

The Colonial Records mention two grants of land, one on September 10, 1737; the other February 20, 1739.

All the records covering the name Parker in this section of the State have been examined. The most pertinent records, those of Lenoir County, have been destroyed by fire.

The following abstracts are from records of deeds in Craven County:

December 25, 1756.—Jacob Blount to Joseph Parker. Between Little and Great Contentnea creeks. Test: John Benson, Jonas Griffin.

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July 26, 1757.—John Stanaland to Zenas Parker. North side of Trent River. Test: John Frank, Martin Worsley.

December 2, 1758.—John Parker to Zenas Parker. North side of Trent, next John Parker's line. Part of patent surveyed for John Parker, November 26, 1736. Test: John Frank, Thomas Wood.

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February 10, 1759.—Zenas Parker to John Hudler. North Side of Trent River, near George Carnegee's land. Test: Samuel Colvel, John Parker.

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January 29, 1773.—John Parker, Planter to John Koonce. Part of a parcel of land, granted unto a certain

John Parker on February 21, 1738. North side of Trent River.

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January 23, 1799.—Martha Parker to James Meeks. West side of North West Creek.

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The following abstracts are from deeds in Duplin County:

February 16, 1760.—Mary Parker to Isaac Huggins. Grant to her, September 27, 1756, near John Yarborough's line. Test: John Yarborough, Joseph Eason, James Snell. Clerk of the Court: John Dickson.

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December 30, 1768.—William Roberts, of Duplin, to Gabriel Parker, of Johnston County. East side of Great Coheary. Test: Matthew Parker, Robert Parker, Providence Parker.

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February 17, 1770.—Amos Parker and wife Elizabeth to William Jones. East side of Muddy Creek.

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September 27, 1771.—Jeremiah Simmons to John Parker. Joins Parker's own land, west side of Little Coharie. Test: John Owens, John Davis.

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January 17, 1772.—Gabriel Parker, of Johnston County, to son, Matthew Parker. Deed of gift. East side of Great Coheary Swamp. Bought December 30, 1768. Test: David Holliman, Hubbard Parker.

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November 28, 1772.—Henry Fountain, planter to John Parker, planter. East side of North East River, north side of Muddy Creek. Test: Richard Williams, Stephen Williams.

July 14, 1774.—Amos Parker to Solomon Parker. East side of northeast branch of Cape Fear, north side of Muddy Creek. Test: James Hollingsworth, Charity Goff, Stephen Hollingsworth.

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July 29, 1775.—Matthew Parker to Armager Hall. East side of Great Coharie. Deed of gift from father. Test: Jesse McEndon, Joseph Harris.

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1775.—John Parker to Ezekiel Allen. South side of Muddy Creek. Test: John Williams, Benjamin Brown, William Southerland.

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October 20, 1778.—Jonathan Parker to Matthew Powell. West side of Six Runs. Test: Joseph Register, Thomas Goff.

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There are several deeds recorded in Johnston County, which mention Gabriel Parker of Johnston.

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A will of John Parker filed at Wilmington devises land on main road from Wilmington to Raleigh, through Duplin and Sampson to sons, Owen and Robert Parker, to daughter, Julia Parker, and to second wife, Ann Maria. He states he leaves this to the second wife's children, as the first's had been provided for.

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Vol. XXII, page 318, of the Colonial Records, December 10, 1754, Returns for Craven 1756, "The List of Gentlemen Solgers" gives the names John Parker, Tenes Parker. Vol. VII, page 263. A copy of Captain Richard Pierce's list from the General Muster on October 7, 1766, gives the names, Gabriel Parker, Martha Parker.



There can be little doubt of Gabriel Parker's being the son of the John Parker, first mentioned. It is thought he lived near the line of Duplin and Lenoir. He was a slaveholder and was considered very prosperous. He made silk hats, and even at a recent date, there were some of his hat molds at the home of his granddaughter, Mary Parker Miller. He served in the War of the Revolution. The records, which should give his services have been destroyed. He was wounded in the thigh in an engagement with the British at Burn Coat Bridge, near Sarecta, Duplin County. He was dead in 1790, as his name does not appear on the census of 1790.

The census of 1790, of Dobbs County (now Lenoir) names the following heads of families: John Parker, Sr., John Parker, Jr., Joseph Parker, Lydia Parker, and Sarah Parker. In the family of Sarah there are herself and one slave. In the family of Lydia, there are herself, one other "free white female," and four "free white males of sixteen years and upwards."

Gabriel Parker is known to have had three children: John, Gabriel and a daughter. Gabriel and the daughter died without issue.

Gabriel Parker (son) died intestate in Lee County, Georgia, May 14, 1834. His inventory taken by Owen Jenkins, James Gay, William Tyson and Michael King amounts to \$39,744. His entire estate was heired by his brother John.

John Parker (son of Gabriel Parker) was born in 1767, and died December 22, 1843. He lived on a farm, now owned by Joshua Dawson, about two and a half miles from the Woodington Church. He owned a mill, was very well off and is said to have been a very kind, high-toned man. He married Angelina Loftin, daughter of Elkanah Loftin, Jr., and Ann Lovick. Her pedigree holds three "rights" to membership in the Society of Colonial Dames. She was born in 1769 and died July 1, 1840.

Members of the family say that John Parker and Angelina

Loftin had children named Nancy, Catherine, John and William, but if they did, they were dead in 1840, because John Parker died intestate and his property was divided into six portions, one each to Winnafred, Letitia (wife of John Davis), Julia, Mary, Rachel, and the five children of Zenas.

A member of the family has a legal paper, which was drawn up but never filed, "The Bill of Complaint of Daniel Miller and Winifred, his wife; John Davis and Letitia, his wife; Imla N. Miller and Mary, his wife; against Rachel Cox, Julia Loftin, William A. Cox, executor of Owen B. Cox, deceased; Stephen Gooding and Louisa, his wife; Nathan Parker, Nancy Parker, John Parker, and William L. Parker, the four last named infants, by their guardian, Joseph R. Croom." In this paper John Parker is called Senior, and it is a petition to the court of Lenoir County and states that the surviving administrators, John Davis and Imla Nunn Miller (Owen B. Cox, being deceased) are ready to settle the estate and are put off by part of the heirs.

I. Zenas Parker died in Lee County, Georgia. He married Mary Davis, daughter of Benjamin Davis. She was born in 1800 and died July 6, 1892. Their children were as follows: 1. Mary Louiza Parker, born October 15, 1825; married Stephen Gooding; lived near Woodington. 2. Nathan Zenas Parker, born November 5, 1827. 3. John Gabriel Parker, born February 17, 1830; died in Wayne County, North Carolina. 4. Nancy Ann Elizabeth Parker, born February 21, 1832; died in Onslow County, North Carolina. 5. William Loftin Parker, born January 5, 1834; died in Lee County, Georgia. 6. Zachariah Davis Parker, born March 3, 1836; died in Georgia. 7. William Loftin Parker, born September 15, 1839, now living near Ambrose, Georgia.

II. Winnafred Parker; born January 3, 1795; died September 9, 1851; married March 11, 1813, Daniel Miller; died September 9, 1851, lived in Lenoir County.

III. Rachel Parker; born May 22, 1800; married January 2, 1817, Owen Bryant Cox, born November 2, 1796. They lived near Tuckahoe, Jones County. Their children were as follows: 1. Elany Ann Cox, born November 15, 1817. 2. Nancy Jane Cox, born December 18, 1818. 3. Gabriel P. Cox, born July 2, 1820. 4. John P. Cox, born August 29, 1823. 5. William B. Cox, born January 6, 1826. 6. Delila E. Cox, born December 24, 1827. 7. Mary Susan Cox, born December 8, 1830. 8. Julia Catherine Cox, born November 29, 1835. 9. Edith Caroline Cox, born January 21, 1838.

IV. Mary Parker, born March 26, 1804; married May 6, 1828, Imila Nunn Miller; died April 16, 1891. She was of unusual ability. She lived near Woodington and during the life of her husband on the "Old Place" of the Millers, which was left to her in fee simple, her husband stating in his will that she had done as much to earn his property as he had done. Their children were as follows: 1. Anderson Roseco Miller, born May 8, 1830; married September 19, 1857, Delia Maria Henry, of Waterbury, Vermont; died July 20, 1905, Kinston, North Carolina. He had the degrees of M. D. and D. D. S. He served in the Confederate Army in Nethercutt's Regiment, was in the Eighth Battalion, afterwards the Sixty-sixth Regiment, and later was appointed hospital steward. 2. Nancy Miller, born August 15, 1832; died October 3, 1902, at the home of her niece, Mrs. H. O. Hyatt, Kinston, North Carolina. She was large, strong, active, and ran her farm in Woodington Township until two years before her death. 3. John Parker Miller, born March 30, 1834; married Elizabeth Jones Rouse; lived in Woodington Township. Both of them were murdered by negroes in 1867, during the Reconstruction. He served three, if not four years in Company F, Sixty-sixth Regiment. (Information furnished by John W. Simmons, of the Sixty-sixth.) 4. Francis Xavier Miller, born July 12, 1836; lives Gainesville, Florida; married October, 1864, Martha A. Williams, of

Greene County, North Carolina. He enlisted in the Confederate Army in the spring of 1861, as a private in Company B, Tenth North Carolina Regiment, at New Bern, was ordered to Fort Macon and was in battle there as ordinance sergeant. They were besieged by Burnside in 1862, captured and sent to Wilmington; he was on parole until exchanged and then was in service in Eastern North Carolina until the close of the war; was in the fights at Kinston and Goldsboro. 5. Julia Miller, born March 16, 1839; married October 13, 1869, William M. Dulin; lives at Statesville, N. C. 6. Mary Angelina Miller, born March 22, 1841; married October, 1864, Lovick Prather; lived principally in Arkansas. 7. Frances Elizabeth Miller, born March 17, 1843; married, 1862, Jackson Fordham; lived Woodington Township. 8. Wiley Phillip Miller, born May 1, 1845; married Jennie Prather, of Guilford County; died July 2, 1875; lived in Woodington Township. He served in the Confederate Army and was in Foscine's Brigade at the taking of New Bern.

V. Julia Parker (daughter of John Parker), was born January 18, 1809; married Major Loftin. They lived and are buried at the clump of trees just across the Lenoir County bridge. Their children were as follows: 1. William Waightstill Loftin, born November 10, 1827; married Margaret Wilson. 2. John H. Loftin, born March 3, 1829; married Harriet Loftin, widow of John Nunn. 3. Mary Loftin, born July 7, 1831; married John Whitehead. 4. Winifred Loftin, born April 26, 1834; married Dr. Benjamin F. Cobb. 5. Martha Loftin, born November 29, 1836; married Dr. Lafayette Hussey. 6. Julia Angelina Loftin, born May 15, 1839; married Richard Wooten. 7. Nancy Parker Loftin, born August 10, 1841; married first, Lemuel Kornegay; second, Dr. S. B. Flowers. 8. James Major Loftin, born June 3, 1844; married Sarah Loftin.

## A Correction

Hathaway's Records state that Sarah Whitfield, the daughter of William Whitfield, married Daniel Herring. This is a mistake. There was a Daniel Herring living in Duplin County, but Sarah Whitfield married Stephen Herring, of Duplin County. The family records of Mr. Benjamin Franklin Grady, Clinton, North Carolina, so state her marriage.

The following record appears on the Duplin County Records (in the Sampson County Court House) January 16, 1773: Stephen Herring, of Duplin, to Frederick Bell, of Duplin, £100. Plantation whereon John Bell now lives, south side of Beaver Swamp, joining John Moore, 267 acres. Part of Henry McCulloch's plot. Stephen Herring and Sarah, his wife, the true, sole and lawful owner. Signed Stephen Herring, Sarah Herring. Test: William Dickson, Samuel Wood.

Stephen Herring lived on Goshen Swamp, between Faison and Calypso.