

Appendices

Family Tree

Harget Kornegay

Born Sep 17, 1793, Died Apr 18, 1875



Harget married his first cousin, Susannah SIMMONS. The 1850 Census shows Harget KORNEGAY as a farmer owning real estate at the value of \$3500. Schedule 2 of the 1850 Census shows that Harget and his wife Susanna owned 11 slaves, one of which was a 50 year old black female. The 1860 Census shows real estate in the value of \$2650 and his personal estate as \$10,775. Schedule 2 shows that they still owned 11 slaves. In 1867 Harget and Susanna deeded 232 acres of land to their son Daniel KORNEGAY. The deed to this land can be found starting on page 130 of Book 26 in the Office of the Registrar of Deeds, Duplin County Courthouse, Kenansville, NC. Harget KORNEGAY and his wife Susanna are buried near Albertson, NC in the Westbrook Cemetery across from the tri-county power substation located close to Westbrooks Crossroads.

Will of Harget Kornegay

In the name of God Amen I, Harget Kornegay, Sr., being weak in body but of sound mind and perfect memory thanks be to God for the same, of the State of North Carolina and County of Duplin, do this the 18th day of April AD 1869 make and publish this to be my last will and testament in manner and form as follows Viz:

Item first, I lend to my beloved Wife during her lifetime or widowhood all my plantation and lands whereon I now live consisting of about five hundred and forty two acres more or less with all the buildings thereon with the liberty of having firewood and fencing timber to keep up the same plantation. I also lend unto my said wife, Susannah Kornegay, all the hogs that are on the premises at my death for her own use, also two calves or yearlings. Also one horse or mule to have her own choice. Also two bedsteads and furniture of her choice, all my plows and plow gear, all my weeding and grubbing hoes, all my old plow axes and Ironmade steelyard, all other things to weigh with, one loom and all utensils belonging to said loom, all the poultry of every description thereon, all the Crockery ware, all spoons and flat ware, shoe tools, and leather, all saws, augurs and chisels of any size that may be found, two claw hammers and gimlets, all knives and forks to her Widowhood or lifetime and no longer.

Item 2. I give unto my son Simmons Kornegay five dollars in money to him and his heirs forever.

Item 3. I give unto my son John W. Kornegay five dollars in money to him and his heirs forever.

Item 4. I give unto my two sons Daniel Kornegay and William Kornegay seventy two acres of land joining Daniel Kornegay's Henry R. Kornegay's and Henry J. Wallis' land to be sold and equally divided between them, to them and their heirs forever.

Item 5. I give unto my son Harget Kornegay, Jr. five dollars in money to him and his heirs forever.

Item 6. I give unto my daughter-in-law Martha J. Kornegay, Dudley Kornegay's wife, his being dead, five dollars in money to her and her heirs forever.

Item 7. I give unto my daughter Susannah Smith one bedstead and two sheets, two bed covers, one bolster, and two pillows, and two cows and calves if on the premises at my wife's death or marriage. If they are not then for my Executors to pay her out of my estate twenty dollars in money to her, her heirs and assigns forever.

Item 8. And lastly my wish is that my executors shall sell all the property that I have not given away and pay the money to the heirs that have a small legacy given to them.

Item 9. My wish is that all the property that I have lent unto my wife at her death or marriage shall be sold on a credit of twelve months at public sale for cash according to the judgement of my executors and where collected to be equally divided among my four daughters or heirs or guardians or managers of their mother's estate. Their names are as follows: Peggy Taylor, she is dead, Susannah Smith, Hester E. Westbrook and Francis A. Gooding, widow of Moses Gooding.

Item 10. And lastly, I do hereby nominate and appoint my two sons Simmons Kornegay and John W. Kornegay my whole and sole executors to this my last will and testament. Given under my hand and seal the day and year written above.

Signed in the presence of us
H. J. Wallis
I. O. Graddy

Harget Kornegay (Seal)

Commentary:

The word "Viz" in the heading is the Latin abbreviation for "namely"

I am puzzled by the fact that Harget left so much to Susannah in Item 1 and yet five years later, she appears in the 1880 Federal census as keeping house for one of her young grandsons. What happened to the 542 acre plantation? Susannah herself did not leave a will.

A "steelyard", mentioned in Item 1 in Harget's bequest to Susannah, is a balance consisting of a scaled arm suspended off center, a hook at the shorter end of which to hang the object being weighed, and a counterbalance at the longer end that can be moved to find the weight.

Items 2, 3, and 5 are interesting in that Simmons, John, and Harget, Jr. only received five dollars each as a bequest. We know that Harget and Susannah deeded land to Daniel Kornegay in 1867 (Book 26, page 131, Duplin County, NC Land Records), so I am sure that Harget and Susannah had already deeded land to Simmons and John and Harget, Jr. before Harget, Sr. made his will.

Item 4 confirms that Daniel Kornegay already had land. I do not know its location.

Item 6 refers to Martha J. Howell, Dudley Kornegay's (Harget's fourth son) widow. Although I do not have a death date for Dudley, it must have been before Harget signed his will in 1869. (I think I remember reading somewhere that Dudley died in a Union POW camp.)

Item 7 puzzles me. This is a lot to give to one daughter and leave nothing to two others - Hester and Francis. Harget's daughter Penelope died in 1855 and according to the will, Peggy died before 1869. Yet he makes no separate provision for either Hester or Frances. They are mentioned in Item 9, but only in passing. Perhaps Susannah was a favorite daughter - either that or Hester and Frances had married wealthy men and didn't need Harget's help and Susannah did.

I find Item 9 interesting in that Harget left his possessions to his wife for as long remained a widow or until she died. Apparently if she remarried she would lose everything. Harget was 76 years old when he wrote his will in 1869 and Susannah was 70 so he must have at least thought that her remarriage was a possibility. This was either very succinct legal jargon or an incredible compliment to a 70 year old woman. And they'd been married for 50 years plus at the time. In either event - her remarriage or death, he had already made plans for the division of his estate and leaves her no need (or recourse) to make her own will.

H. J. Wallis, one of the two witnesses to the will must have been a neighbor as he is also mentioned in Item 4 in connection with Daniel Kornegay's land. The other witness, I. O. Graddy, is unknown but must have been Harget's contemporary, neighbor, and friend.

The second item in the probate application lists the devisees and legatees of the will. Martha J. Malpass may be Dudley Kornegay's widow's name by her second marriage. As she is listed as daughter-in-law, Martha J. Kornegay in Item 6 of Harget's will and Martha J. Malpass in probate may indicate that she remarried after the will was signed in 1869. I can only guess at the Taylor children listed. I am assuming that David and Linwood are adults. Cassie Daugherty may be a married Taylor child. I do not have an exact birth date for Peggy Kornegay Taylor, but it was sometime between 1828 (known birth date for Harget, Jr.) and 1836 (known birth date for Hester Kornegay). If Peggy Kornegay married Richard Taylor at 20 years of age, her oldest could conceivably be in his early 20's in 1875. Alice, Nancy, and Franklin Taylor - all living in Lenoir County were minors. I do not know what "without guardian" means; especially since the probate court's comments indicated that they lived with their father, Peggy Kornegay's husband.

Imagine that a 542 acre plantation was considered to be worth only \$1600 in 1875 money and that personal property was valued at only \$400. This was just ten years after the Civil War ended. I guess Harget and Susannah were lucky they still had a plantation at all.

Jerry Quinn
Great-great-great grandson

Susanna A. Simmons

Born Jun 1, 1799 - Died Jun 7, 1881



Susanna SIMMONS married her first cousin Harget KORNEGAY. The 1850 and 1860 Federal Census' show Susanna and Harget with significant slave holdings. The 1880 Census shows Susanna Simmons KORNEGAY keeping house after her husband's death for one of her grandsons, an R. H. KORNEGAY. Apparently, Susanna could neither read nor write. She is buried next to her husband in the Westbrook Cemetery across from the tri-county power substation in Duplin County, NC.

One of Susannah's grandsons, Richard Henry Kornegay, (son of William Kornegay and Susan Catherine Winders) listed the following items on the dates indicated at two separate sales of Susannah's belongings after her death. These lists were found on pages of his journal.

July 16, 1881

1 bed & furniture	\$18.00
2 yarn counterpanes	5.15
2 white counterpanes	3.05
2 white sheets	.25
2 white pillowcases	.35
1 checked sheet	.40
2 white sheets	1.20
	\$29.00

Dec. 1, 1881

4 chairs	2.30
1 dining table	1.95
1 pail	.25
1 pork barrel	.35
a lot of chickens	3.10
1 (piece) of furniture	2.45
a lot of bottles	.30
	\$10.70

Ann Civil Kornegay

Born about 1759, Died about 1839

Ann Civil (also seen spelled as "Seville") was the oldest child of Captain Jacob KORNEGAY and his first wife Mary Elizabeth FONTAINE. She first married William DUNCAN and after his death, married the wealthy John FLOWERS in 1806. Ann was equally wealthy and brought to the marriage a large amount of personal property and land in Duplin Co., NC. It was about this time that John FLOWERS started using a coat of arms. The coat of arms that John FLOWERS used, featured the three gilly flowers and the divided shield of red and blue, as well as the motto: "Perseverando" that is similar to arms used by the FLOWERS family of Wiltshire, England. After John FLOWERS' death in 1812, Ann lived for a time at Poplar Hill, and then returned to her estates in Duplin Co., leaving the care of her small children under the guardianship of their half-brothers, Samuel, John Jr., and Asher FLOWERS. She also deeded her dower rights in John FLOWERS' estates to her two FLOWERS children. We do not

know how often Ann saw her two youngest children, and these circumstances can only make one wonder if the relations with the FLOWERS family were amicable. In Duplin Co., she lived a relatively quiet life, as one notes little of her in the county records. The 1814 tax list of Duplin Co., shows that she owned 3,868 acres of land, and kept several personal slaves to care for her needs. Strong, sustained local tradition says that she was viewed as a remote figure; a rich and highborn dowager. She kept a pirogue (a shallow draft boat) which she used to travel up and down the Northeast Cape Fear River and the navigable creeks and streams of the region, where she visited her friends and family. The story continues that her black servants rowed her, and she sat beneath an awning to shade her from the sun. Given what we know of the KORNEGAY family, this picture might well be accurate. She lived until 1839, when she was around eighty years old.

Additional Documents:

DUPLIN CO., NC Deeds Book 8A-page 73: 27 Dec 1821, Anna Civil (x) Flowers of Duplin Co., NC to Lewis Duncan of same for love, to son Lewis, 105a on N. side NE swamp adj. Thunder Swamp Pecason, Cherry's line, being the land Anna C. Flowers purchased on Stephen Duncan. Wit Lainl. (Lemuel) Cherry, Anna Cherry. (18,837; SLC 10/31/90) Book 2-page 225: 16 Sep 1829, Robert Martin of Rockingham Co., NC, attorney for heirs of Jacob Duncan decd, son & heir of William Duncan decd, to Mr. Wilson Hodges of same, all right etc. to estate which will descend to them on the decease of their Grandmother Anna C. Flowers formerly Anna C. Duncan for \$175 paid by Wilson Hodges. Wit. James Dunn, Jas. Lawson. Proved by oath of James Dunn, Nov. 1829. (18,843; SLC 10/31/90 & 9/14/93)

Chloe

Chloe is a fictional character, but is based on fact and conjecture. Schedule 2 of the 1850 Census shows that Harget and his wife Susanna owned 11 slaves, one of which was a 50 year old black female. The 1860 Census Schedule 2 shows that they owned a 60 year old black female slave. The 1870 Census shows a black Chloe KORNEGAY, 70 years old living with her grandson Chester KORNEGAY. Could she have been the same black female slave who was 50 in 1850 and 60 in 1860? Was she Susanna's cook or maybe mammy to her many children? Whoever she was, she was freed in 1865.

Will of Luke Kornegay

State of North Carolina
Duplin County

In the name of God Amen, I Luke Kornegay, being infirm of body but of perfect mind and memory and recollecting that is is once appointed for all mankind to die do ordain, constitute, and make this my last will and testament in the following manner and form to wit: and first of all I committ my body to the dust from whence it came and recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it.

2ndly, I give and bequeath to my beloved brother and sister James Comar (Carraway) and wife Mary Conway (Carraway) two hundred dollars.

3rdly, to my brother Henry Kornegay, two hundred and two dollars.

4thly, Nathan Garner and wife Penelope Garner two hundred dollars.

5thly, My brother Abraham Kornegay three hundred dollars.

6thly to my mother Mary Kornegay all my negroes to wit: one negro man Ned, one negro woman Milly & her children during her natural life. also two cows and calves, two sows and pigs.

7thly, to my brother Bryan Kornegay the hole of my Lands and my negroes after my mother's decease and be noted the land to her but negroes her lifetime and the rest of my property to be sold as follows to wit: two horses, some cattle, some sheep, some hogs and concluding the hole of my Estate that is not above mention further the above sums of money are not to be paid till the sale of my lands brings it that I have willed to my brother Bryan Kornegay and the ballance of the money that is left after my just debts are paid out of the sale of my perishable property when collected the balance of the money are to be paid off to the above heirs that is to have these above sums of money. I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved and trusty brother Bryan Kornegay as Executor to this my Last will and testament given under my hand & seal this ninth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and nineteen. Signed, sealed, and acknowledged in the presence of us.

Robt. Williams &

her
Matildy X Price
mark

Luke Kornegay (Seal)

State of North Carolina
Duplin County

April Term 1819

The written will was exhibited into Court by Bryan Kornegay the Executor therein named and proved by the oath of Matildy Price one of the subscribing witnesses.

Jesse Pearsall, D.C.

State of North Carolina
Duplin County

July Term 1819

The written will was exhibited into Court by Bryan Kornegay the executor named therein and being Contested was submitted to the decision of the Jury who after hearing the witnesses to the said will examined and gave their verdict thereon that the said instrument is the will of Luke Kornegay and the Court ordered that the said will be recorded. And Henry Kornegay and others Claiming as heirs of Luke Kornegay being dissatisfied with said verdict prayed an Appeal to the Superior Court of Law which was granted.

Test. Wm. Dickson, C.C.

State of North Carolina
Duplin County

October Term 1819

Thomas Molton, Esquire, Clerk of the Superior Court of Court of Laws, etc. made report to this court in writing as follows to wit: State of North Carolina, Duplin County, Superior Court of Law the fourth Monday of Sept. 1819. Present - The Honorable John Paston, Esq. Be it remembered that at the term of our Superior Court of Law for the County of Duplin, an appeal was brought forward and was ready for trial wherein Bryan Kornegay was plaintiff and Henry Kornegay and others Defendants. The Jury Impannelled and sworn find the paper writing to be the last will and Testament of Luke Kornegay. Wherefore Bryan Kornegay the Executor named in said will came before the court and Qualified as an Executor thereto according to law. Ordered that letters issue accordingly.

Test. Wm. Dickson, C.C.

William Dickson

Colonel WILLIAM DICKSON, born in Chester Co., PA in the year 1739 moved with his parents to Duplin Co. when about five years of age. He was a surveyor, Colonial assemblyman, Revolutionary officer and Clerk of the County court for a period of 45 years. He died in Duplin Co. June 25, 1820. His wife was Mary Williams, daughter of Mary (Hicks) and Capt. Joseph Williams.

The following is a letter by William Dickson written in response to the Wilmington Star's request for him to write a History of Duplin County.

Sirs, when your letter of the 30th of March, last, came to hand, several persons were requested to undertake the business therein requested, I at first declined it, but when none else could be prevailed upon, I reluctantly undertook it, not thinking myself adequate to the task, but expected the assistance of some able pen. But those, whom I depended upon, declined it altogether.

I have run through this business in the best manner I was able. My composition and stile in writing will not bear public inspection. I have however, endeavored to be correct in stating facts.

Being an infant when this place was first settled, I became an early acquaintance of the first settlers and many occurrences which then happened. In early life I became a land surveyor in the county in which practice I continued till long after the Revolution. During the War, I was most continually in the Militia Service for the county, but never out of the state. At commencement of the Revolution, I was put in possession of the Records of the County Court, which office I yet hold. These circumstances have enabled me in some measure to state some facts with more precision perhaps than any others in the county at this time.

Perhaps I have been more minute in detailing some occurrences than necessary, and perhaps omitted some that ought to be noticed. You may however extract from the whole, what you may deem necessary for your purpose and correct the stile in which it is written.

I am Gentlemen, Your Most Obedient Servant.

Wm. Dickson Nov. 23, 1810

DUPLIN COUNTY HISTORY TO 1810

by William Dickson.

Published 1811 in the Wilmington Star and reprinted 1928 in The North Carolina Historical Review.

About the year 1736 this part of the country, (then the upper part of New Hanover County) was first settled by Emigrants from the North of Ireland and some Dutch from Switzerland. Henry McCulloh Esq. of London, having purchased a tract of land from the Crown, containing 71,160 Acres lying in the upper part of New Hanover County, between the N. E. Branch of the Cape Fear River and Black River, encouraged a number of Irish and Dutch to come over from Europe to settle his lands with the promise with certain conditions to give them titles to certain portions of it. Their first settlements were at Soracta on the N. East River, and at the lower end of Goshen, (then called Woodward's Chase), and on the Grove where Duplin Court House now stands. About this same time, and soon after, a number of families emigrated from the Roanoke, Meherrin, (Northampton Co.) and elsewhere, and settled on the Cohera, Six Runs, Goshen, and N. East Rivers, the county then being new. The range fresh and luxuriant, and the country abounding with wild game, their principal object then was raising stock and hunting. At the first forming of this county, which then included both Duplin and Sampson, it contained but about 360 white poll taxables, and very few Negroes. At the commencement of the Revolutionary War it contained about 900 or 1000 white poll taxables and very few of them were emigrants from Europe.

Previous to the Revolution, at the time when stamp duty was attempted to be enforced in North Carolina by Governor Tryon, most of the Respectability of the county turned out volunteers, marched down to Wilmington with Capt. James Kenan and joined Col. John Ashe to

oppose the enforcement of the Stamp Duty. Afterward when Governor Tryon marched through Duplin against the insurgents, commonly called Regulators, none of the inhabitants of Duplin County could be prevailed upon to accompany him, or to enlist in that service. Only five or six Light Horsemen followed afterwards and joined him at Alamance.

Governor Tryon had requested 50 troops from Duplin and on his return; he imputed the tardiness of Duplin County in this affair and the disaffection of the Kings Government. He authorized Col. John Ashe with his militia to tarry certain days in Duplin to cause the inhabitants to take an Oath of Allegiance to the King; he issued orders to the inhabitants to report to Col. Ashe for that purpose. The people of Duplin County generally resented this order as an indignity offered them, as it was not required in other counties. Very few of the people of Duplin reported to Col. Ashe. He tarried only one day and marched on homeward without carrying out the order of Governor Tryon.

At the commencement of the Revolution the people of Duplin were generally united. They formed committees, elected their officers, encouraged the recruitment service, trained the Militia in the exercise of Arms, held frequent meetings, and sent Delegates to the conventions at New Bern, Hillsborough, and Halifax. A number of young men enlisted in the Regular Army and marched northward under command of Captains Daniel Williams and Joseph T. Rhodes, both of Duplin County. No difficulty was experienced in raising our quota of Militiamen when called for.

At the time (Feb. 18, 1776) when General Donald McDonald embodied 1500 Scotch Highlanders and Tories in the vicinity of Fayetteville (then Campbellton), the Duplin Militia almost unanimously turned out, and was in motion and about 300 marched with Col. Kenan to Rockfish in the vicinity of Campbellton and there joined General Moore. At the same time two companies of Minutemen under Captains Richard Clinton and James Love marched from Duplin to Moore's Creek, and there joined Col. Lillington where they defeated and took General McDonald prisoner and dispersed the Scotch Highlanders on Feb. 27, 1776.

After this, Colonel Abraham Sheppard was sent to the aid of South Carolina. He was joined by Capt. James Gillespie with a company of volunteers from Duplin County who performed a tour of duty in South Carolina. (This was the 10th NC Regiment and part of the NC Line. Editor)

Another company of Duplin Volunteers and Drafts marched from this county under Capt. William Hubbard to South Carolina and were in the Battle of Stono on June 20, 1779.

Three Companies of Duplin Militia marched with Major John Tradwell to Camden, SC and were followed by a small company of Light Horse Volunteers under Capt. William Routledge and were with General Horatio Gates when defected near Camden on Aug. 16, 1780.

Col. James Kenan, with Captains Daniel Williams and Abraham Moulton marched two companies of Light Horse to the aid of South Carolina and did three months of duty at the Pee Dee River, joining the boundary line of this state.

Duplin County sent her quota of men to aid Georgia and they were there when General Ashe was defected at Brier Creek on March 3, 1779.

A company of Duplin Militia under Capt. Nicholas Bourden marched to the Uwharrie River, near the Yadkin, to suppress the Tories in that place (Jan. 1781, Randolph Co. NC)

While General Lillington was there, British Major Craig with a body of British troops took possession of and fortified Wilmington. Col. James Kenan marched down with about 350 of the Duplin Militia and encamped at the Long Bridge 10 miles above Wilmington. Militiamen from New Hanover, Onslow, and Jones County joined him. When Gen. Lillington returned from the Uwharrie River, he took command.

When Earl Cornwallis marched from Guilford Court House to (Campbellton and then to) Wilmington, General Lillington retreated up country and the Militiamen's three months being ended, the whole Militia was discharged at Kinston NC.

Cornwallis at that time (April 25, 1781) proceeded on his march from Wilmington to Virginia. He passed through Duplin unmolested, there being no troops embodied to impede his march or harass his rear. As he approached, the inhabitants of Duplin retreated to places of safety, removing their stock and such property as they could out of the enemy's way. It was now the first week of May 1781. (Major Craig and his men remained in Wilmington)

Cornwallis now by some was considered to be Victorious and pursuing his route unmolested, the Tories and the disaffected, (of which there were many in eastern and western parts of the county) began to take courage and bid defiance. They in the western part of the county formed a camp in the Cohera Swamp, in a secret place; they declared for the King of England, took some young men who had been in the service of the county and compelled them to take Paroles, (from them). Colonel Kenan being informed of their camp, collected immediately 12 or 15 men, went in search of their camp, thinking to disperse them before they became more formidable. He found their camp; some shots were exchanged, and at the beginning of the skirmish Owen Kenan, brother to Colonel James Kenan was killed and both parties retreated. The Tories finding that they had lost nothing, began to triumph and exult and increased their camp size to about 120 men. They formed their Camp on the west side of the Cohera at the bridge on the Fayetteville Road (Now HW 24). They chose Middleton Mobley and (his brother) Biggars Mobley as their leaders. Colonel Kenan being informed of their progress, sent out and was immediately joined by about 60 Light Horse. He encamped at Mr. Clinton's plantation which was about 3 miles from the Tory Camp. There he lay for two days to watch their motions. As soon as they found that Col. Kenan was in their way and their march obstructed, they filed off in the night and retreated through the woods down toward the Black River. Col. Kenan learned of this move from a person detained as a prisoner who had escaped from the Troy Camp during the night, not wanting to move with the camp. Col. Kenan immediately pursued with his small troop of cavalry and at day break, the next morning, came upon them at Portevent's Mill where the Tories had halted to supply themselves with Corn Meal. Skirmishing ensued, the Tories retreated into the low grounds of the Black River where the horses could not go with any probability of success. Col. Kenan determined to ambuscade them at a certain place about three miles ahead, but before he got to the intended place, discovered them already a head. They had quit the swamp and were running across the woods. The light horsemen rushed upon them at full speed. The Tories posted themselves behind trees and the horses were mixed amongst them and everyone was confused as firing commenced and the horsemen then retreated in order to reload their guns as nearly no one had a sword, this gave the Tories a chance again to hit the swamp and they escaped and made it down to Wilmington to join the British and Major Craig. Two men of the Whigs (Minute Men) and four of the Tories were slightly wounded. Three horses were killed and two were wounded. All of the Tory Baggage and baggage horses were captured. (This is May 1781)

At this time, the Tories began to be troublesome in the eastern part of Duplin and were joined by disaffected persons from Dobbs, Onslow, and Jones County. These were frequently

dispersed by Capt. James Gillespie and a volunteer Light Horse Cavalry. By Harassing them continually prevented them from making any successful incursions in the middle of the county.

About the latter end of July 1781, Col. Kenan embodied about 250 of the Duplin Militia at the Rockfish Bridge (Just south of present day Wallace) to prevent any British Parties from coming into the county to drive off stock etc. He was there joined by Major Griffin from Halifax and about 150 men.

On August 1, 1781, British Major Craig left Wilmington for New Bern to punish those who would not declare for the king. Major Craig had 250 regular British professional troops and 80 Tories. Early on August 2, Col. Kenan got notice of his approach and make such preparation for defense as he was able by hastily throwing up a slight breastwork, it was inadequate for the purpose intended.

At the very instant when Major Craig made the attack on our breastwork with his cannon, we were attacked in the rear by Capt. Gordon with about 60 horsemen, 10 of which were British Dragoons and two companies of infantry. They had made a circuitous march through the woods and were close upon our rear before being discovered. Confusion and dismay was the immediate consequence. The Militia broke and quit their post before one half of them had discharged their guns. Col. Kenan and some of his officers made every exertion they could to rally the men again, but to no purpose. Our ammunition, baggage, provisions etc. fell into the enemy's hands. Eight or ten of our men were wounded and made prisoners, none were killed. The British had one man killed there.

Two days afterwards Craig marched up to the Grove (Now Kenansville) and encamped at Col. Routledge's house, lay there about three days, collected some cattle, destroyed some crops of corn, burned Capt. James Gillespie's and Lieu. Henry Houston's Houses, and destroyed such of their property as they could not carry away. Then they marched on towards New Bern, committing depredations and enticing Negroes to desert their Masters and go with them. They were followed and harassed by some Militia from Duplin, Onslow, and Dobbs Counties. Capt. Gordon of the British Dragoons was killed on the way by some of the Onslow men. This happened the first week of August 1781.

Thus two British Armies marched through Duplin in the year 1781. After they were gone, their trace was scarcely perceivable, we on their approach retired out of the way and as soon as they had passed by, we returned to our houses, which we frequently found plundered and our stock driven off.

After this the Tories made frequent attempts to embody both in the western and eastern parts of the county, but by the execution of Col. Kenan, Col. Moore, Capt. Gillespie, and other officers, they were often dispersed with loss as they attempted to collect together.

About the latter end of September 1781, the Tories were collecting on the Cohera when Col. Moore with Captains Williams, David Dodd, and Stephen Miller went out in search of their camp, surprised and dispersed them without sustaining any loss in Col. Moore's party, four of the Tories were killed in that action. They never made any considerable head in Duplin afterwards.

The spirit of the Tories was now broke, they generally came in and surrendered themselves up to the Government and complied with the requisitions of the law by going into or finding a substitute for the Army of the United States. Middleton Mobley, their leader, being

abandoned by all his deluded followers was obliged to leave the county. He was afterwards taken in Martin County and brought back to Wilmington, tried, condemned, and executed.

At the Battle of Eutaw Springs (Sept. 8, 1781) in South Carolina Capt. Joseph Thomas Rhodes from Duplin, took a company of about 40 raw recruits (raised in Duplin) that behaved with as much personal bravery and intrepidity as any that were in that engagement, they had joined the army but a few days previous to the action.

When the line was formed for action, Capt. Rhodes had his post assigned to him on the main road leading down Santee, towards the Springs: General Greene in person observed to Rhodes, that he expected the enemy would endeavor to force our lines at that place, and if he could maintain his ground he might depend on being reinforced in a very short time. According to the general's expectation, the battle became violent in that part of the line, but the promised reinforcements never came till a very late stage of the action. The men under Capt. Rhodes' Command, behaved with the utmost order and bravery and sustained considerable loss; the reinforcements when they came, took the ground of the left, where at that time, the enemy began to retreat. Rhodes then with what men he had left and with the remains of Captains Goodman and Porterfield's companies (Both Captains being killed) advanced near the brick house and attacked the British Artillery and took possession of several field pieces, one of which they kept. The others were retaken by British reinforcements of a superior strength in number. During the whole of this action, which is said to be the hottest and most bloody for the number of men engaged, that occurred during the Revolutionary War, the men under Capt. Rhodes's Command, manifested such undaunted bravery as is seldom surpassed by old disciplined Veterans. During this Action, only Captain Rhodes and thirteen of his men, came out unhurt. The others being killed or wounded and of those that came out unhurt, only three of them had no marks of the ball or bayonet.

After the war terminated, in June of 1784, the County of Duplin was divided by a line running from the head of Rockfish Creek, where the road crossed Bull Tail Branch, nearly north, crossing Stewarts Creek at the bridge and Turkey near the old Court House, and Goshen at the Mouth of Young's Swamp. All west of said line was erected into a separate county named Sampson.

The produce raised for market in the lower parts of the county is Pitch, Tar, & Turpentine, Sawed Lumber, and Staves In the upper part of the county, particularly on Goshen and its branches, where the lands are most fertile and remote from Navigation, Pork, Bacon, Indian Corn, and Cotton are the articles most raised for market and conveyed in carts and wagons.

The County being remote from navigation there is no trade in it, the general and individual wealth in it rises from the production on their lands and labor of their Negroes, none are very rich.

Soon after the division of Duplin County a town was established by Act of the Assembly on the east side of the N. East River and about 20 miles above the Mouth of the Rockfish Creek by the name of Soracta, lots were laid off and sold, but it has never been improved, no buildings have ever been erected nor trade established in it.

The first inhabitants of Duplin and Sampson Counties, built and lived in log cabins and as they became wealthier, some of them built framed Clapboard Houses with Clay Chimneys. At present there are many good houses, well constructed, with brick chimneys and glass lights

(windows). There are no Stone or Brick Walled houses, nor any that can be called Edifices in the county. The greatest number of citizens yet build the old stile.

Agriculture has progressed slowly in Duplin. The citizens have not yet adapted any successful method of manureing their lands, the method heretofore has been by cowpening, but stocks of cattle are now small and very little is done that way. Some dig up and haul manure from about their barn and put a small quantity in each corn hole, others dig up swamp mud and lay it out in the same manner, but the greatest number of our citizens do not manure any of their lands, but when the land wears out and becomes poor, they cut down trees and open fresh lands.

There has not been any considerable improvement in the breed of useful domestic animals, except horses, which have been considerably improved since the Revolution. Some think they have improved their breed of hogs by introducing a larger kind, but they require more feeding and pasturage. Some have lately introduced Mules, but they are yet a few. Wild game of every species is now almost quite extinct.

No labor saving machines have yet been erected in Duplin County, except saw and gristmills and Cotton Picking Machines (Cotton Gins), these are common in every part of the county where they have been wanted. Some of the able farmers, who have orchards, keep a Still to make their apple and peach brandy, but very few in Duplin make any more of it than for their family consumption.

The first inhabitants of this place were generally rude and uncultivated in their manners, but sociality and civilization has progressed considerably in all classes since the Revolution.

Soon after the Revolution an Academy was established in Duplin by Act of the Assembly and Trustees appointed. It had no state funding. It has not been constantly attended to and presently is not in use. Some young men have made considerable progress in the Latin Language, but not being sufficiently supported, none have received a finished education. The last teacher there was the Rev. Samuel Stanford, who was well approved. He continued for three years and a half with 40 or 50 students, mostly children, and not being supported any longer, declined further teaching.

The only learned professional characters now in this county who have received a classical education are the Rev. Samuel Stanford, a preacher of the gospel and Doctors Levi Bowen and Stephen Graham, both Physicians and Surgeons, these are all natives of this country. I don't know that they or any of them have received any collegiate degrees.

Prior to the Revolution and during the War, schools of any kind had not been much attended as they are since. About 25 or 30 years ago, one fifth of the grown persons in Duplin County could not read a chapter in the Bible well and distinctly nor write his name legibly. At the present it is likely 10% but many of them being taught by illiterate teachers don't read and write very correctly, nor write legible. It is mostly those who have been taught at the Grove Academy that are best qualified to do business accurately.

As to Religion, it has not been Progressive in this county as in some other parts of the state. The first settlers here being emigrants from Northern Ireland were Presbyterians, they remained many years without a Resident Pastor until the Rev. Hugh McAden became their pastor in 1759 and remained about 10 years. During the Revolutionary War, they had none and it remained that way for several more years. Then (1793) Rev. John Robinson became their

pastor for about seven years. After him, the Rev. Samuel Stanford became their pastor and he now continues as their pastor.

Soon after the county was established and the inhabitants became more numerous, most of the people and the principal characters in the county professed themselves to be members of the Episcopal or the Established Church of England. Readers were appointed to read the Morning Service etc on every Sunday at different houses throughout the county and a tax laid by the Vestry to pay them. About the year 1760 or soon thereafter, the Rev. William Miller was invited by the Vestry to become the Pastor in Duplin County, which he accepted and was accordingly inducted. He was a man of some talent preaching extempore and was for a year or two very popular. His places for preaching were circuitous round the county at individual's houses, there being no chapels or meeting houses erected for worship. He soon became unpopular and charges on immorality and practices in life derogatory to the character of a Preacher of the Gospel were made against him. He would not or did not refute these charges. At length he had no friends in the county and upon paying him up his arrearages of salary; he consented to leave the Parish.

Not long after Mr. Miller left, the Rev. Hobart Briggs succeeded him and became the Parochial Minister. Mr. Briggs was an Englishman who had come over at the Patronage of Governor Tryon. Briggs was a very different character than his predecessor. He was sober, Grave, and not addicted to any vice. He occupied the same Circuitous appointed places of Preaching as his predecessor but was considered to be of weak Intellect, but was a good reader. He read all of his sermons, which he brought with him in Manuscript form from England. He continued in the Parish until the Revolution, when finding his annual salary was discontinued, he departed without dismissal or formally taking leave. No Preacher of the Regular Episcopal Church of England has visited Duplin since he left.

It was several years after the settlement of this place before any preacher of the Baptist Church visited this county. The first was of note was Philip Mulkey, a man of talents and then a popular preacher. After him came some Itinerant Baptist Preachers from various parts of the state. The first local Preacher was the Rev. William Goodman, who established a Church at Bear Marsh in 1763 on the Goshen Swamp. After him came Rev. Charles Hines and after him came Rev. Francis Oliver became the Pastor. He died in 1807.

The first Methodist Preacher who visited this county was the noted Beverly Allen; he visited this area immediately after the Revolutionary War. He was followed by other Itinerant and Circuit Methodist Preachers.

Prepared and Edited for the Web by Jerome Tew

