



THE BULLETIN OF THE KING WILLIAM COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

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“THE ENEMY”

From time to time in the name of academic objectivity I suppose every Southern historian feels the need to say a kind word or two about the “enemy” — that is, to give the Yankees their due in the name of national unity. In truth, some of my best friends are Yankees. If I had a sister, she would be welcome to marry a Yankee boy. And I can now testify that even the Yankee army is no longer as enthused about arbitrary urban renewal as it was when General William T. Sherman marched through Georgia. My testimony on the progress of sectional harmony involves two visits by the United States army to a Virginia farm site which, is my “homeplace.”

Located about twenty miles east of Richmond is “Chestnut Grove”, where six generations of my family have lived. The name is something of a misnomer because the chestnut trees died long ago in a blight, and most of the great old trees which surrounded the white frame house are ash. The house is old — built in the eighteenth century — but unpretentious. It is definitely a “homeplace” as opposed to an “ancestral seat.”

During the “Late Unpleasantness” Union cavalry frequently raided the countryside around Chestnut Grove — so much so that the family had a proscribed drill through which they went whenever the Yankees came near. My great-grandfather Andrew Macon Pollard, who was a boy then, had the task of driving the livestock away from the house and into a swamp so the Federals would not find them. After some false alarms, one day the Yankee raiders came in earnest, and when Andrew returned to the house from his errand, he learned that the enemy had broken into the smokehouse. The Yankees had taken as much meat as they could carry and more than they could eat. As they rode away, the bluecoated horsemen hacked off hunks of ham and bacon with the sabers and dropped the meat in the dusty road. No doubt they considered this tactic a legitimate act of war in that they were depriving their enemy of food.

My great, great grandmother had a very different opinion. Moreover she determined to salvage as much of the cured meat as possible. Accordingly she dispatched young Andrew to follow the raiders. The boy ran after the Yankee column, and as he ran he retrieved chunks of meat from the dirt. He returned them to the farm where his mother washed and returned them to the smokehouse.

Needless to say this incident has been told and retold in my family, and the Yankees involved seldom get much credit for their conduct. Since the Confederacy collapsed, Union troops have stayed away from this part of Virginia and subsequent residents of Chestnut Grove have not had to confront the Yankee army — at least not until about several years ago.

The second visit to Chestnut Grove by elements of the United States army occurred in mid-March of 1978 as part of a training exercise conducted by two battalions of the Third Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division. About 1,000 airborne troopers in maroon berets shouldering 60-pound packs trudged past the farm near the end of a 33-mile forced march. Led by a full colonel who wore his military

academy ring where some people wear a wedding band, the soldiers were intense and impressive. During the exercise they covered almost 100 miles in three days, a performance which ranks with that of “Stonewall” Jackson’s “foot cavalry.”

Although the comments of some troopers regarding the march may have offended a few genteel ears among those who stood on the roadside to watch the procession, these Yankees were quite well-behaved. Not only did they stay away from the smokehouse of Chestnut Grove; they even left some food, to replace that their predecessors had carried off more than a century ago. After the troops had passed, my father found by the side of the road a very small olive drab tin can. If the label is accurate, the can contains: “JAM comma APRICOT, Kern Foods, Inc., Los Angeles, Calif. 91749, Net. Wt. 1.5 OZ.”

During the 1860’s the Yankee army came to Chestnut Grove and rode away with sides of bacon and Virginia hams. Just over a hundred years later the Yankees came back and left 1.5 ounces of apricot jam. The Marshall Plan it was not; but I suppose the second visit represents progress. Still there is room for improvement. Maybe in another hundred years the Yankees will return with nylon stockings and chocolate bars.

Dr. Emory M. Thomas
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30606

EXCERPTS FROM TAX BOOK OF COL. HARDIN LITTLEPAGE 1815

(Continued from Number 7, October 1981
and Number 10, October 1983)

JOSEPH BOWLES

Tax on 115½ acres Land	1.87
3 Negroes 16 ys old	2.40
1 do 9 ys old	.50
2 horses .42 - 10 Cattle .30	.72
4 County & poor rates	2.48
	<u>7.97</u>
paid you by John Mattox	2.28
	<u>10.25</u>

MARGARET BUTLER

Tax on 250 acres Land	3.07
2 Negroes 16 ys. old	1.60
1 do 9 yrs. old	.50
1 Mahg. Secretary	.50
2 County & poor rates	1.24
	<u>6.91</u>
fee bills	3.17
	<u>10.08</u>

WILLIAM B. BROWNE
 Tax on 1015 acres Land 19.47
 14 Negroes 12 ys old 11.20
 5 horses 1.05 - 25 Cattle .75 1.80
 house 3500\$ 4.37½
 3 mahg. dining Tables .75
 1 Bookcase not mahg. .25
 2 Chests Drawers do .25
 4 Window Curtains Dimity .40
 13 portraits in Oil 3.25
 1 picture over 12 inch. wide .15
 2 do under 12 inch gift frames .20
 2 Lookg. Glasses under 3 feet 2.00
 1 do under 5 feet 3.00
 2 cut glass decanters .10
 14 County & por rates 8.68
55.87½

CARTER B. BERKELEY
 Tax on 1431 acres Land 24.53
 23 Negroes 12 ys old 18.40
 6 horses 1.26 - 4 Cattle 12 1.38
 Mill 1.33 - 1 Ice House 5.00 6.33
 18 County & poor rates 11.16
61.80

ROBERT CARTER est.
 Tax on 1574 acres Land 21.23
 45 Negroes 12 ys old 36.00
 2 do 9 ys old 1.00
 12 horses 2.52 - 48 Cattle 1.44 3.96
 31 County & poor rates 19.22
81.41

ANTHONY CROW est.
 Tax on 59 acres Land .58
 2 Negroes 16 ys old 1.60
 2 horses 42 - 7 Cattle .21 .63
 Gigg .67 - 1 chest Drawers not mahg. .12½ .79½
 2 County & poor rates 1.24
4.84½

WILLIAM P. CLAYBOURN
 Tax on 2 Negroes 16 ys old 1.60
 4 horses .84 - Gigg .67 1.51
 1 Silver Watch .50
 3 County & poor rates 1.86
 Phisicans tax 12.50
 fee bills 8.88
26.85

WILLIAM CLAYBOURN
 Tax on 7 Negroes 12 ys. old 5.60
 1 do 9 ys old .50
 6 horses 1.26 - 10 Cattle .30 1.56
 1 Silver Watch .50
 1 dining & 2 Tea Tables Mahg. .75
 1 Book case not mahg. .25
 2 Chests Drawers do .25
 6 County & poor rates 3.72
 fee bills 13.13
15.00

GEORGE W. P. CUSTIS
 Tax on 4821 acres Land 93.91
 27 Negroes 12 ys old 21.60
 4 do 9 ys old 2.00
 13 horses 2.73 - 49 Cattle 1.47 4.20

Mill 50\$ 1.33
 22 County & poor rates 13.64
136.68

WILLIAM COLLINS Jr. (free Negroe)
 Tax on 1 horse .21 - 2 Cattle .05 .27
 1 Pole Tax 2.50
 1 County & poor rate .62
3.39

THOMAS D. CHAMBERLAYNE
 Tax on 290 high 100 Marsh acres Land 5.08
 12 Negroes 16 ys old 9.60
 4 horses .84 - 15 Cattle .45 1.29
 Gigg 150\$ 1.17
 1 Silver Watch .50 - 1 Metal Clock 1.00 1.50
 1 Mahg. Tea table .25 - 1 do Bed stead .25 .50
 1 Mahg. Chest Drawers .25
 2 Cut glass Decanters .10
 13 County & poor rates 8.06
27.55
 305 acres Land chgd to Chamberlayne 3.90
31.45

EDWARD P. CHAMBERLAYNE est. Relict
 Tax on 219 acres Land 4.39
 19 Negroes 12 ys old 15.20
 2 horses .42 - 13 Cattle .39 .81
 Coach 5.33 - house + 500\$.62½ 5.95½
 1 mahg. Bedstead .25
 1 Mahg Chest Drawers .25
 6 pictures under 12 in. wide gilt frames .60
 2 Looking glasses under 3 feet 2.00
 17 County & poor rates 10.54
39.99
 fee bill 2.78
42.77½

HERBERT A. CLAYBOURN
 Tax on 25 acres Land .24
 12 Negroes 16 ys old 9.60
 2 do 9 ys old 1.00
 4 horses .84 - 8 Cattle .24 1.08
 Stage Waggon 3.33
 2 dining & 1 card Table Mahg. .75
 1 Mahg. Chest Drawers .25
 1 Chest Drawers not mahg. .12½
 12 mahg. chairs .75 - 1 portrait in Oil .25 1.00
 1 Looking glass under 5 feet 3.00
 13 County & poor rates 8.06
 Attorney tax 13.33
41.76½

WILLIAM D. CLAYBOURN est. (Relect)
 Tax on 939½ acres Land 14.63
 35 Negroes 16 ys old 25.60
 5 do 9 ys old 2.50
 8 horses 1.68 - 41 Cattle 1.23 2.91
 Gigg .67 - Coaches 5.33 6.00
 House + 500 .62½
 1 metal Clock in case 1.00
 1 Mahg. Secretary .50
 3 Mahg. dining Tables .75
 1 Bedstead Mahg. .25 - 1 Chest Drawers mahg. .25 .50
 1 bookcase not mahg. .25
 1 Chest Drawers do .12½
 12 Chairs gold leaf .36
 1 Silver Stand & 1 Waiter .20
 1 Silver Tea pot .30
 1 cut glass bowl .05
 27 County & poor rates 16.74
73.04

**OLD CEMETERIES
KING WILLIAM COUNTY***

BROADNECK

In
Memory of
James Croxton
Died
July 7, 1837
In the 54th year
of his age
Honored & loved in life,
Lamented in death.

* * * * *

My Aunt
Sophie Chapman Croxton
wife of
James Croxton
Original owner of
Broadneck estate
Erected by Her Niece
Margaret Chapman Slaughter
"Numbered with the saints
in glory everlasting"

* * * * *

In Memory of
Samuel Chapman
Son of
R. A. & Bernice
Hillyard
..... 1855
Age 5 months

SEVEN SPRING

Edward Carter Puller	1840-1881
Eleanor Randolph Turner Puller	1870
Andrew Broaddus Puller	1888
Ellet Edward Pollard	1895-1921
Edward Spotswood Pollard	1925
Joseph Dudley Atkinson	1929
Lula Puller Atkinson	1931
Franklin Carter Atkinson	1933
Josephene Atkinson Hayden	1954

The above list compiled by Puller Pollard

FAIRFIELD

The following was copied from the book, "Old King William Homes and Families", by Peyton Neale Clarke, published in 1897.

"Here lies interred the body of Martha Aylett, wife of Philip Aylett, and daughter of the Hon. Wm. Dandridge and Unity (West) Dandridge, who died the 25th April, 1747, in the 26th year of her age and left behind two daughters and two sons, Viz: Unity, William, Ann, and John Aylett."

"Alexander Spotswood Moore, born 1763, married 19th July, 1787, Elizabeth, born 1769, daughter of Col. William Aylett of Fairfield, King Wm. County (and his wife, Mary Macon) son of Philip Aylett and his wife Martha Dandridge, an Aunt of Mrs. George Washington of Mt. Vernon, and a daughter of Capt. William Dandridge Royal Navy and his wife Unity, a daughter of Thomas West, a descendant of Lord Delaware of Royal Lineage."

"Gen'l Philip Aylett of Montville, born 1787, died Sept. 10th, 1848. This stone is erected by his bereaved widow and children."

"Here lies the body of Patrick Henry Aylett, son of Philip Aylett, of King Wm. who died while a student at the University of Virginia on the 28th day of January 1829, aged 20 years and seven months."

"Here lies the body of Philip Aylett, son of Col. Wm. Aylett,

who died at Montville 11th September, 1835, in the 65th year of his age."

"In memory of Judith Page, wife of Gen. Philip Aylett, who died at Selma, Ala., May 7th, 1860, aged 56 years."

"Here lies the body of Wm. Aylett, son of Philip Aylett, who died at Montville on the 11th of February, 1829, age 22 years and one month."

BURLINGTON

Sacred to The
Memory of
EVELYN T
WILLS
Born
Feb 4, 1833
Died
Jan 27, 1904

* * * * *

Sacred to the memory
of
Mrs. Willie D.
Taylor
Born May 5, 1832
Died
Aug 25, 1881
asleep in Jesus

* * * * *

Fanny B. Todd
1820
Aged 36

* * * * *

Living with the Lord
John W. Garlick
Born
February 27, 1823
Died
April 18, 1866
A faithful friend, a
devoted husband & father
a guileless Christian

* * * * *

John W. Taylor
Died at WAKEFIELD
Oct 16, 1889

In the 61st year of his age.
If we believe that Jesus died and
rose again even so them also which
sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Thes. 4th Chap 14th verse

* * * * *

Walter
Infant son of
I. W. & Willie D.

* * * * *

Taylor
Born Nov 15, 1854
Died
April 3, 1855

* * * * *

Morris Taylor
aged
6m & 16DS

* * * * *

Mary Gwathmey
1856
aged 73

Joseph Gwathmey
1824
aged 66

Eleanor Taylor
Aged 67
Died 1858
She rests in him
Blessed in the ??

Lucy B. Taylor
daughter of
John Wm. &
Willie Taylor
Wife of
Owen O. Gwathmey
Sept 22, 1856
Feb 7, 1926
Blessed are the pure in heart.

In Memory of
Garnett Ellis
Wife of
William Gwathmey M.D.
Dec 2, 1884
Mar 8, 1954
Beloved Mother

Joseph Hardin Gwathmey
3rd Son of
Dr William & Elizabeth Burnley
Gwathmey
July 12, 1846 - Mar 17, 1918
Vir Nobilissimus
GWATHMEY

John H. Gwathmey
1839
aged 40

Martha A Talley
1849
aged 42

Owen Overton Gwathmey
Son of
Dr William & Elizabeth Burnley
Gwathmey
Aug 12, 1849 - Feb 19, 1922
A friend to all
A succourer of many
GWATHMEY

In Memory of
Dr William Gwathmey
son of
Joseph H. & Jeannette G.
Gwathmey
Oct 9, 1875

Jan 5, 1920
He saw Jesus

Jeannette Garnett
wife of
Jos. H. Gwathmey
daughter of
John N & Anna Garnett
Ryland
OCT 31, 1847
July 14, 1915
a devoted wife
an affectionate mother
a friend ever kind & true

Unless otherwise stipulated, the above material was compiled by Annie Page Russ with the assistance of George Meredith.

**For additional Old Cemeteries see Bulletin #9 — October 1982 and Bulletin #12 — October 1985.

GENEALOGY CORNER

"I am interested in information regarding one William Powers who died in K.W. Co., Va. 20 Sept. 1798. He had one son named John, but interested in knowing the names of the other children in this family as well as his wife."

Mrs. Carolyn Stanaford
Rural Route 1, Duff, Tenn. 37729

"Marriage of Harris or Harrison Burris to Nancy _____ after 1810."

Mrs. Lillian Kuhl
1920 J St., Springfield, Oregon 97477

"Any information on Major Thomas Payton Gwynn, USA, who died on Feb. 27, 1861. Mildred was his widow."

David M. Sullivan
84A Pleasantdale Road, Rutland, Mass. 01543

"Please check for birth records of my great-great-grandmother, Elizabeth Jane Davis born about 1832, and Pleasant Davis born about 1811."

Mrs. Yvonne D. Edelen Buerk
9540 Chester, St. Louis, MO 63114

"Please look in your records for marriage of Francis Kertley (Kirkley) to Margaret Roberts, 1721."

Jeanette Brooks
214 Hagerman, Houston, Texas 77011

"Any information on Richard Turner who lived in King & Queen Co. Richard died in 1741. I think his wife was a "Meadows". He had a son, James."

Ms. Jeanette O'Boyle
R.R. 6, Box 370, Murphysboro, IL 62966

"I need wills of William, William James, John, Moses and James Moses (b. 1749) all Wheelers. I understand there was a William Wheeler in King William in 1810."

Ms. Myrtle Wheeler Minix
P.O. Box 102, Paintsville, Kentucky 41240

KING WILLIAM COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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