

THE
PIEDMONT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
QUARTERLY

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The Piedmont Historical
Society quarterly.

Volume I, Number 1

January 1983

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THE PIEDMONT HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

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This Quarterly is a publication of The Piedmont Historical Society, P.O. Box 8096, Spartanburg, South Carolina 29303, an organization chartered under the laws of the State of South Carolina for the purpose of collecting, preserving and publishing historical and genealogical records of the Piedmont region and other areas of the state.

Materials for publication are welcomed from members as well as non-members. All materials submitted will be reviewed by the publication committee, and when published will carry the name and address of the contributor. Articles that are submitted should be documented. Articles are accepted on a donation basis only.

Queries are free and will be published on a first come basis. Unless absolutely necessary, please limit your queries to ten typed lines.

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Dear Members,

Please excuse the lateness of this edition of The Piedmont Historical Society Quarterly. Several factors, including illness and the recent snow, brought production to a standstill. It is hoped such a delay does not occur again.

The feature articles of this issue--the "History of Bethlehem [Baptist] Church" and the "Early History of Liberty United Methodist Church"--explore the spiritual heritage of the area. The former appeared anonymously in an 1872 edition of the Carolina Spartan and, to my knowledge, has not been reprinted since. The latter is a result of research which I conducted for Liberty Methodist Church in an effort to preserve its history on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. Liberty's minister, Rev. J.C. Duncan, and historian, Mrs. Janie Leonhardt, have been presented copies of the Liberty history for preservation.

Another item presented in this issue which I believe will be of interest to many deals with the poor. Although many of our ancestors were spiritually rich, some were not so fortunate when it came to material possessions. They were poor and, despite popular belief, often could not depend on their families or their neighbors for life's necessities. The government, just as it does today, saw them in their need and stepped in to fill the void. In South Carolina, the Commissioners of the Poor existed for this purpose. We have presented the annual report of the Spartanburg Commissioners for the 1848-1849 fiscal year. The individuals who appear here are often the most anonymous of our ancestors. This is why such records are great assets in preserving their heritage and memory.

The editor has endeavored to present a variety of information on the Piedmont region of South Carolina, especially Spartanburg County. Unfortunately, as in any project of this type, I have been unable to include all that I wished to. This is our first issue and we solicit not only articles from our readers but also suggestions. We welcome your input and know it will help to make this the best Quarterly it can be.

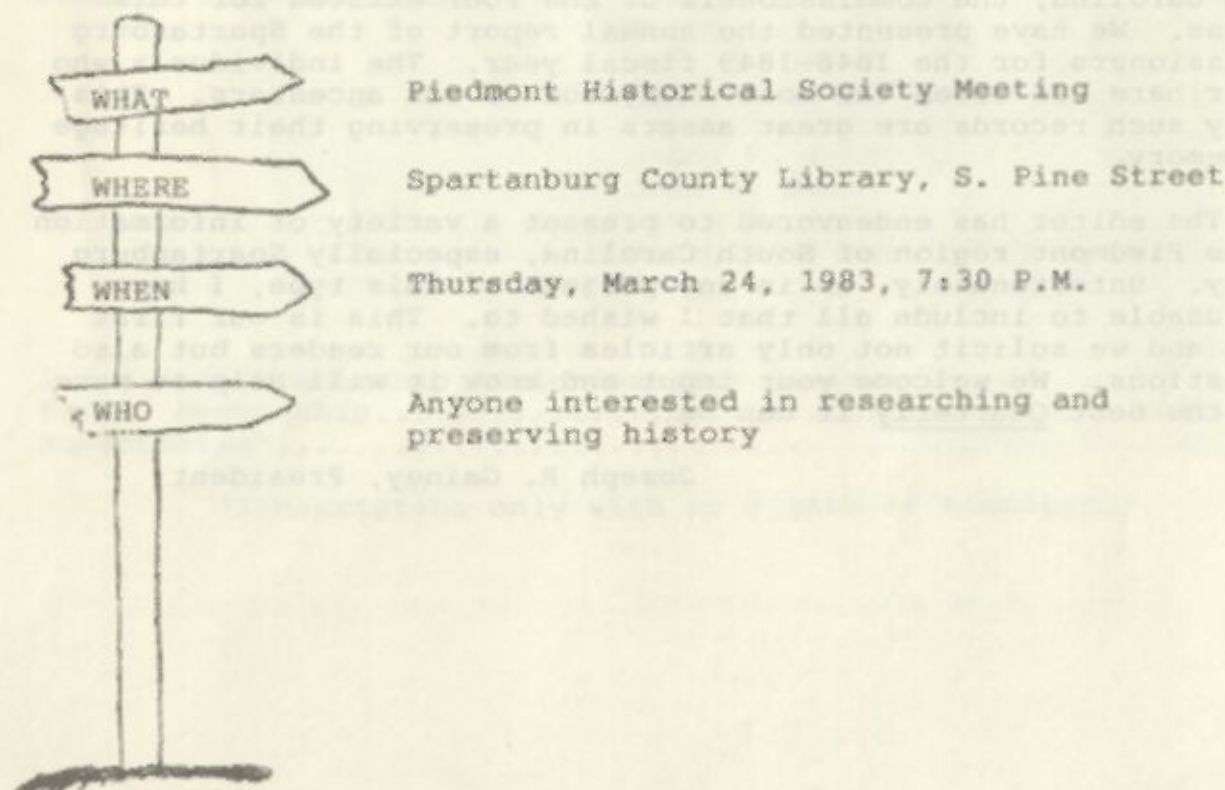
Joseph R. Gainey, President

MEDITATIONS

Presented by Marlene Taylor

Nothing is small or great in God's sight. Whatever He wills becomes great to us, however seemingly trifling, and if once our conscience tells us He requires anything of us, we have no right to measure its importance. On the other hand, whatever He would not have us do, however important we may think it, is as nought to us. How do you know what you may lose by neglecting this duty, which you think so trifling, or the blessing which its faithful performance may bring? Be sure that if you do your very best in that which is laid upon you daily, you will not be left without sufficient help when some weightier occasion arises. Give yourself to Him, trust Him, fix your eyes upon Him, listen to His voice, and then go bravely and cheerfully on.

* * *

HISTORY OF BETHLEHEM CHURCH
Spartanburg County, S.C.Source: Carolina Spartan
Thursday, August 15, 1872

MR. EDITOR: The Church of Christ, with its pulpit, its prayer meetings, its Sabbath Schools, its binding christian fellowship, its wholesome discipline, and its zealous fervor for the glory of its divine Master, is God's organized form of resistance to the evil of this world, and the only certain means of reformation and regeneration. It is the citadel of God's moral power on earth. It is the purchase of his own blood. Its foundation stone is laid for eternity. Its faith and its hope abideth, its light, the light of the world, and its salt, the salvation of man. It is the City of the living God, placed "on a hill that can not be hid," and its faithful laborers are never in vain. In order then to strengthen the confidence, and inspire the zeal of God's people, in future laborers, I propose to give a sketch of the history of what has been done through the instrumentality of one Church, in the last seventy-two years.

The Baptist Church of Christ at Bethlehem, located five miles South of the town of Spartanburg, was constituted in the year of our Lord 1800, by a Presbytery of Baptist Ministers consisting of Austin Cleyton, George Brewton, Joseph Camp, Royal and Barnett. The names enrolled in the Constitution were Robert Foster, Thomas Tinsley, Isaac Tinsley, Thomas Foster,, James Crook, Sr., John Gideons, James Ridings, and others. Nearly all of the above named were emigrants from Amelia County, Virginia, bringing with them at the close of the Revolutionary war, much of the type and character of the true Virginian. All honest and industrious men, of plain, practical common sense.

Under the pastoral care of Rev. A. Cleyton, who was its first Pastor. The Bethlehem Church was greatly prospered--"the word of the Lord grew and multiplied." In a few years this little colony of Virginia Baptist had increased so in numbers and influence, that its congregations [congregations?] were immensely large. The people gathered from distant neighborhoods to this spiritual "house of bread," were [where] they were fed with food which endureth unto eternal life. Then there were but few Baptist Churches located in the District of Spartanburg. These indications, given by Him who alone "giveth the increase," prompted the Church to put forth branches in other localities. The present large and flourishing Churches at Mt. Zion and Holly Springs, were the first offsprings of the pious zeal and energy of the Mother Church, at Bethlehem. Shortly after these, another branch was located on Gibbs mountain, (a small eminence four miles west of Glenn Springs) through the labors of Christopher Johnson, from which the Baptist Church at Philadelphia was constituted of members drawn from Bethlehem, Cedar Springs and Friendship Churches. The latter Church now one hundred and four years old, was probably the first Christian Church planted in the District of Spartanburg.

The Mt. Zion Church was fourteen years an arm, as it was then called of the Bethlehem, before she had attained sufficient

strength to be constituted a separate Church. It had its house of worship and regular preaching, and by permission received members, but reported all its proceedings to the mother Church. The Holly Spring branch remained for several years an arm, but was finally organized into a regular Baptist Church. She may be said to be the eldest daughter of Bethlehem. She has been for many years a growing Church, in numbers, intelligence and pious influence. Under the ministerial labors of Rev. T.J. Earle, she has been made to blossom as the rose.

The Mount Zion, from the period of her organization to the present, has been a flourishing Church, embodying in her membership, from time to time, many excellent and influential men; she too, in her maturity has put forth branches. The Spartanburg Baptist Church is a branch of Mt. Zion. The Oak Grove sprang from Bethlehem. The Mount Calvary from the Holly Spring Church. Thus it will be seen that the old Bethlehem, (house of bread) now hoary in the pious labors of more than three score and ten years, has fed her thousands with the bread of life--she has been truly a fruitful vine of the Lord's planting. She and her branches have preserved a faithful record of their proceedings. Their lists of members from first to last, when aggregated will amount to near four thousand names. Of the prominent men and workers in the Bethlehem Church and her branches, we can only briefly notice those who have died and gone to their reward, and those who have, from time to time, emigrated to other States, bearing with them the standard of the mother Church, to be planted in new and hitherto uncultivated fields of Christian labor. The amount of good accomplished by these pioneers in other lands, eternity alone will disclose. The year 1845, was marked by an unprecedented droughts, and failure of crops, to such a degree that the whole country was filled with distressing forebodings of suffering for bread. Many of the members of Bethlehem Church were driven to seek homes in the West. Forty or more members received letters of dismissal at the same time and for the same reason. They were captives fleeing from famine. On the day of their dismissal from their mother Church, they sat and wept on their seats, long after the congregation had dispersed. They, and many others found homes in the West, where they aided in building up other churches. We have already stated that Austin Cleyton was the first Pastor. After a few years, he too removed to the West, where he closed the labors of a useful life.

He was succeeded by Rev. THOMAS BOMAR, an emigrant from Halifax County, Virginia. He was a man of good education, eminent piety, excellent preaching talents, and in all respects, an influential man; filling the office of Tax Collector for several years, and when he died was the Ordinary of Spartanburg District. He was greatly beloved by his flock at Bethlehem, and continued to supply her some fifteen or twenty years, and was her pastor at the time of his death in the year 1830. His loss was felt by all who knew him, and mourned by those who loved him.

CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON was an emigrant from Virginia, an educated man and a good preacher; he was the father of the late Gov. David Johnson of South Carolina, and his elegant penmanship, and plain and simple diction, shows that he was a man of intelligence, far

above the most of men of his day and time, and worthy to be the father of the distinguished son, in whom all South Carolina reposed confidence, and on whom she bestowed her highest honors. The Constitution, and much of the business transactions of the Bethlehem Church for several years, is said to be recorded by him. He after some years, removed his membership to the Philadelphia Church where he finished his labors on earth. His remains lie beneath a dilapidated brick enclosure some half mile West of where Philadelphia Church now stands.

Rev. JAMES RAINWATER was for many years a member of the Bethlehem Church. He was a man much beloved and esteemed for his ministerial usefulness; with nothing more than a common school education, he ranked with the best, and most useful minister of his day. His zealous exertions in the Temperance reform from the year 1830, to the period of his removal to the State of Georgia in the year 1838, will be remembered by all who knew him. He was a zealous, fearless man, open and outspoken against the wrong, and a warm defender of the right. He removed his membership to the Philadelphia Church, where he continued until his removal as above stated. Very recently he closed the labors of his active and useful life, having been a minister of the Gospel fifty years.

JAMES CROOK was a man of strong mind, much energy and purity of life and character. He was for some years a member of the Legislature of South Carolina, and wielded much influence for good, both in his Church and community. He removed many years since to the State of Alabama, where he soon became a prominent citizen; he and his sons became wealthy and influential. He died a number of years since.

DOCTOR EBER SMITH, an eminent physician, a man of vigorous intellect, much influence and for several years a member of the Legislature of South Carolina, and a member of Bethlehem Church. The District of Spartanburg has seldom been represented by a stronger mind or purer patriot. He also represented his Church in religious associations. He became a member of the Church late in life, but was steadfast to the end.

RANSOM FOSTER, ESQ. was long the Clerk of the Church, and a man of excellent business capacity, and certainly no church could boast of a better man, truly pious and of unblemished character. He was universally beloved for his amiableness and sweetness of temper. Many years since he removed with his family to the State of Georgia, where he died of good old age, and was gathered to his fathers, a crown of life was his reward, sons and daughters survived him; one of whom still lives, Dr. IRA L. FOSTER, to shed luster upon the memory of an honored father.

WILLIAM FOSTER, (Mill Creek,) as he was called, a venerable Deacon of the Church, was an excellent man, of sound sense, honest, truthful, industrious and in a word, possessing all the attributes of a good old Virginia citizen. He was strickly a godly man, honoring his profession and the sacred office which he filled for many years. He lived to old age, when he too was gathered to his fathers. His remains sleep in the cemetery at Bethlehem. A large posterity mostly pious, live to illustrate his example and purity of spirit.

JOSEPH HURT, was also a deacon of the Bethlehem Church for many

years. He was a man of ready mind, a lover of all that is good, and an enemy to evil doing, indeed he was a terror to evil doers, and the praise of those that do well. He exercised a strong influence for good in his community and performed the duties of a Church member faithfully and promptly. He, too, died of old age, and his remains repose in the grave-yard of the Church he honored so well with a holy life and Godly conversation. His posterity, widow and surviving children after his death, sought a home in the West, where many of them still live respectable representatives of a much beloved father. JOEL HURT, elder brother of the above, or old Captain HURT, as he was called, was a man universally respected. He was a decided character, unaffected by the notions or opinions of men around him. He stood firm in the same high toned old Virginia style of man. In his dress, his manner of life, his religion, his patriotism, his punctual discharge of duty to his God and country, he knew no change or shadow of turning. His word was taken by all who knew him, for his bond. The same straight breasted long waisted coat, with waistcoat long and ample in proportion, and pants according to the same style common in revolutionary times, encircling his all singularly neat, and generally of the same piece of cloth constituted the out fit, in which he appeared at home and abroad, during his long and interesting life. He was polite and respectful in his intercourse with men, hospitable at his home, and kind and obliging to his neighbors. He was of ready mind, and intelligent above most men of his day. He venerated his Church, and highly esteemed his privileges in the house of God; above all he feasted his soul on the faithful ministration of the Gospel of Christ, responding to the words of his minister audibly, when something that pleased him well, fell from his lips. All Church demands for the poor for missions, or the Pastor of his Church, were promptly and liberally responded to, generally in specie, for he was one of those who thought nothing was really money but gold and silver. In his christian character, he was himself gold tried by fire. Capt. HURT was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, came from Virginia with Col. Morgan to recruit Gates' defeated army, then under the command of Gen. Green, fought in the battle of Cowpens, and at Guilford Courthouse, and to the close of the war, persistently refusing a pension from his government, declaring, that he got what he fought for was pay enough for him. This Godly man slept with his fathers when he had attained the age of more than four score years. Time would fail us were we to take extended notice of many other prominent men, who were members, and active workers in this Church in different periods of history, of James Yates, Rev. Abram Crow, Rev. Gabriel Philips, John Foster, William Foster, Josiah Hatchet, Dr. Robert McDaniel, Thomas Hurt, James Foster, Jr., and others, who have passed away, leaving behind them a name worthy of remembrance.

The venerable deacon, James Foster, at the great age of more than ninety years, still lives to go in and out before the flock, who ever looks upon the hoary head, of this holy man of God, may see in him an excellent specimen of the men of whom we have been speaking. It should be said in all justice and propriety, that the mothers of Bethlehem were worthy of the fathers; indeed, a more pious body of female members have seldom adorned a Christian

Church. Whoever writes the history of Mt. Zion Church, will find a long list of names of worthy men, and noble workers in the vinyard of Christ, who have also gone to their reward. Many of these delighted in the memory of the mother Church, and felt themselves honored in being her descendants, of those we would only mention John Chapman Sr., John Wood, Dr. John W. Lewis and Edward Bomar. We have been the more careful to record this history, because the fathers of the Church have nearly all passed away. The aged deacon, James Foster, of whom we have spoken, and Richard Moss, are the only male members who still live to tell the events of the Church, fifty years ago.

Seventy-two years have come and gone, since the good men of whom we have been speaking, united, under divine direction to plant the Church at Bethlehem. Its faithful record shows that its pathway has led them through seasons of prosperity and seasons of adversity and affliction. His discipline has been strict, yet tempered with Christian forbearance. Her forms of worship have been simple and plain, without ostentation or show. Her fellowship and unity of spirit, has been without parallel, in sweetness and undisturbed communion. No serious strife or contentions have weakened her strength, or distracted her counsels. Her members have dwelt together in love and unity. They have been careful "not to fall out by the way." Men of this world in times of their greatest trials, have had reason to exclaim, "See how these brethren love one another." But few of the members of Bethlehem Church have entered the race for wealth or worldly preferment. They have sought to be good livers, showing unbounded hospitality to friends and brethren, and even to strangers. They do not neglect the poor of the Church, and their Pastor always finds a sumptuous home in all their houses, and in all their hearts. The injunction of God's word "that he that preaches the Gospel shall live the Gospel" have been recognized and practiced by this Church from her Constitution. The contributions of her members voluntary, and generally according to their ability or "as the Lord hath prospered them." But no churches have ever loved or honored their Pastor more, and few Pastors have had greater reasons for loving their flock than the Pastor of Bethlehem Church.

Proof of this is seen in the fact, that the term of Rev. Thomas Bomar and that of the present Pastor, J.G. Landrum, when put together, amounts to more than fifty years. She has had her winters and summers, her seasons of coldness and declining, and her times refreshing. In the great revival of 1802-3, she was greatly renewed in spiritual strength, and numbers also, in the revival of 1832-3 she added largely to her membership. She returned one hundred additions by Baptism to the association in the year 1832.

It may be truly said that old Bethlehem Church is rich in history. Besides Bomar and Landrum, she has had but three others to supply the place of Pastor. Cleyton, about five years M.C. Barnett, ten years, and Richard Woodruff, two years. She may well talk of her departed worthies, of "sweet communions and solemn vows oft repeated," of the crowding of her gates with converts to the Lord and of the frequent visitations of the king of Zion.

She should take encouragement from her past history to renewed

zeal and energy in the future. Her field is yet white unto harvest. New laborers are preparing to enter the field. Her Sunday-School, over thirty years old, still flourishes. The stream of her influence widens and deepens, a bright future awaits her. Then brethren, let us "thank God and take courage."

L.

SPARTANBURG IN 1809

Twenty-four Lots and Nine Buildings Including Stables.

Source: Free Lance
December 19, 1902

An interesting historical map is in the hands of L.A. Phifer of this city showing Spartanburg as it existed in 1809. The map seen Saturday is a copy of an original in the possession of Henry Thomson, who is a great great grandson of Wm. Thomson, the owner of 355 acres of land.

In 1809 the city extended from the present opera house up to a point just east of the monument. All of the lots in the city then faced on Main street. Magnolia street was a country road, being known as the road that leads to the mountains. There were no buildings on Magnolia street. The corner where the National Bank of Spartanburg now stands was sold about 1809 for \$105.

The court house was an inconspicuous structure standing where the monument is now located. The jail stood in the street in front of what is now the opera house. Morgan Square at that time was a two-acre tract of public land, the boundaries of which were parallel and not tapering down towards the opera house as at present. Among the names appearing on the map are the following: A. Benson, Wm. Smith, Richard Thompson, Farrow's lot, Puckett's lot, Gabriel Benson, Allison's lot, McKee's lot, Todd's lot, Tolleson's lot and several others which are merely numbered. Magnolia street was a country road 33 feet in width running out to Magnolia Cemetery.

The tract of land where the Spartan Inn now stands was used in those days as a horse lot. The old map is an interesting relic and gives every detail of the town of Spartanburg at that date. The town was not incorporated until some 30 years later.

The deed for all the land including the present site of the city which was made by William Thompson to Richard Thompson about 1805 is as follows:

"Consideration \$5,000. All that tract of land lying on the branches of Fair Forest and Lawson's Fork, being the place whereon is located the Spartanburg court house containing 355 acres, more or less, which part of the 355 acres was granted to two different person, one part to William Wood by patent bearing the date 21 January, 1785, and the other part to Thomas Williamson by patent bearing the date of January 2, 1787, and by him the said Williamson conveyed to William Wells, forming the old tract which was granted to William Wood, being the east end of 440 acres granted to said Wood and from him conveyed to Thomas Williamson, etc., only seven acres was given to the public whereon is the said court house."

EARLY HISTORY OF LIBERTY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

by
Joseph R. Gainey

Driven by "the desire...to promote the cause of Christianity and to aid in providing a place for the permanent worship of God in our own settlement, "William Stewart and William Barnett deeded an acre of land on November 10, 1832 to Joseph Smith, William Stewart, Simon Lister, William H. Moon, and also William Barnett--"Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Liberty." Thus, Liberty Methodist Church was officially established. Earlier it had been organized and the old meeting house which stands behind the present church building had already been built on a "parcel of land...on the road leading from Rutherford North Carolina to Merrittsville, South Carolina." Nothing further is known of these founding fathers but one fact is clear--they were tolerant men who wanted the cause of Christ to spread, no matter which denomination was doing the missionary work. Naturally, they hoped the Methodist would take the lead in this task. But should they not, Stewart and Barnett made a provision in the deed which gave other denominations the right to use the land "when not occupied by the Methodists." A very advanced attitude when one considers the denominational biases then so common.¹

No one is certain what gave impetus to the founding of the Liberty Methodist Church. Perhaps it grew out of an especially successful camp meeting at Bird Mountain (located north of the town of Landrum, South Carolina).² Like so much of Liberty's early history, what led to its founding must be left to conjecture because local church records are missing and the records of the annual conference do not name local congregations until the late 1870s.

However, there is one record to the piety of the early members--the old meeting house which stands beyond the cemetery. It is typical of what a later writer described as being an average Methodist Church of the time--"not gay or splendid so as to be a hindrance on the one hand; nor sordid or dirty, so as to give distaste on the other, but plain as well as clean. They had no pews, and all the benches for rich and poor were of the same construction. From the beginning the men and women sat apart as they always did in the primitive church; and none were suffered to call any place their own, but the first comers sat down first. The congregations were not a gay and giddy crowd who came chiefly to see and be seen, nor a company of goodly, formal outside Christians, whose religion consisted of a dull round of formal duties, but a people most of whom did, and the rest earnestly sought to, worship God in spirit and in truth."³ Any church or denomination would envy such a record.

When copying the cemetery, I noticed the absence of markers to Confederate soldiers and became intrigued. Further research on this area shows it was mostly comprised of nonslaveholding, small farmers. The mass of material that has been written about the Civil War clearly shows that the Confederacy did not go to war as one united body. Throughout the conflict, considerable discord existed in the mountainous area of South Carolina, as well

as other such areas throughout the South. It should be noted that these nonslaveholding white yeoman farmers of the upper districts were opposed to the whole secession issue and most often totally unresponsive to the Confederacy's call and often downright hostile to the cause. When South Carolina issued a call for troops, the upper districts, particularly Greenville County's Dark Corner, were notably hesitant in their response. It was even said that approximately 600 men from the Dark Corner gathered in the city of Greenville with the intention of marching to the state capital in Columbia and compelling the state, by force if necessary, to re-enter the Union. This shows a distinct character of bravery. The men of this section were a very spiritous people, and a great majority of them decided they wanted no part of the war and would resist its encroachment upon them. This group became quite bold. Groups of 40 to 50 would set out as guards and work their farms in common, using threshing machines. They openly distilled their liquor, cut logs and mended fences. For their own protection, they organized and held meetings. They constructed a blockhouse, a heavy log building loopholed for defense. This blockhouse was within a mile of Liberty Methodist Church. Although conjecture on my part, it seems likely that some of the group's meetings were held in the church as no doubt some, if not all, of the men of the church were members of this group. From the record it can be said that most of the men of this area were neither linked to the Unionist nor supportive of the Confederacy. It should be noted however that the men of this area always provided protection for their families as they have continued to do until this day.⁴

On at least one occasion, Liberty Church has been the starting place of a long and fruitful ministry. On Saturday, June 9, 1888, George Clark Leonard, son of John P. and Martha J. Cathcart Leonard, was "licensed to preach at Liberty Church, Campobello Circuit, Spartanburg District, and since that hour all the energies of our brother have been devoted to the work of the Lord." It is probable that he was a member of Liberty because it was the custom of the day for a prospective minister to be licensed by his home church.⁵

At this time, Rev. James P. Attaway of Abbeville served as pastor. He is the first minister of the Campobello Circuit, of which Liberty was then a part, for which we have any biographical information. This was his first appointment after being received on trial. His ministry here must have been a success because he was ordained a Deacon in December 1889 and was assigned to the Cherokee Circuit in Spartanburg County. A vigorous student, he was remembered for his preaching which was as much an exercise in logic as a plain, fearless call to serve Christ.⁶

Rev. Attaway was replaced by Rev. Samuel T. Blackman. At thirty, this was his second charge. He was not educated at any college but made up for this deficiency with independent study and hard work. It was his policy "to carry up each year a better report than the charge sent before. In this he succeeded remarkably well."⁷ Unfortunately, one is unable to see how well he did at Liberty as only one Quarterly Conference Minutes, that of April 2, 1892, is preserved from his two year tenure at Liberty.

Although, with the exception of the deed for the land on

which the church still stands, it is the earliest local record directly related to Liberty Church. It tells one very little. It states that the pastor reported his work on the circuit, Matthias Brissack was elected secretary, nothing was being done for the poor, and church literature was not being circulated as it should be.⁸

From 1893 to 1896, Rev. D. Arthur Phillips served on the Campobello Circuit. His main achievement during this time was the erection of the building still used by the Campobello Methodist Church.⁹

Meanwhile at Liberty, Rev. Phillips had more pressing needs to be met. The Sunday School, which dated back to at least the 1879 pastorate of Rev. James F. Smith, was struggling for its very existence. One quarter the Sunday School Superintendent reported that the "members will not come and bring their children. Therefore we can not have a Sufficient amount to run the school."

Also, the 1890s were economically bad times for farmers. The nation was going through a depression and the farmers suffered the most by receiving even less than their normal low prices for crops. Therefore, church revenues fell off. This is shown by the minutes which state that during one quarter \$45.00 was assessed to be the pastor's salary. Only \$5.30 of this amount could be raised. Although the minutes do not state this fact, it is probable that an every member canvas had been held to raise money for the pastor's salary when a deficit occurred. If so, it was not any more of a success than its predecessor which had raised only \$6.75 "for the support of the ministry."

If all of these problems weren't bad enough, membership in three years dropped from 50 to 39 and once the church had to "let out" a contract in order to have the church repaired--in an age when the men of a community did all such work themselves. Under such adverse conditions, it is no wonder that Rev. Phillips in a report to the church stated that "I have done the best I could under the existing circumstances." No doubt, he left this charge in 1897 somewhat dismayed at his apparent failure. But was his tenure a failure? He led Liberty Church through some difficult times and the church survived and by 1899 once again had a larger membership than it had ever had. Such was the nature of Rev. Phillips' failure.¹⁰

Perhaps because of the dire condition of the church, the Methodist Conference sent one of its brightest stars to fill the pulpit--Rev. S.A. Nettles. He was an eclectic man, to say the least. Besides being a minister, he was an educator, a journalist, and a state legislator who was noted for a strong prohibitionist stand. Above all, he was noted for his "eminently successful" revivals.¹¹

Rev. Nettles started off on the wrong foot by not making visits to all the members. Once he started visiting, things began to happen at Liberty Church. A stove was bought and erected, subscription to the Southern Christian Advocate increased to a total of five, and, probably for the first time, the church building was painted. The average Sunday School attendance was reported at 35. By October 1898, the minister had been paid \$48.05.

Besides improving the physical aspects of Liberty Church,

Rev. Nettles labored over their spiritual well-being. Traditional discipline on non-attendance was enforced and action was taken against at least four members who failed to attend the church regularly. He also charged the members and stewards with maintaining emphasis on the church conference as a vehicle of spiritual growth and discipline. During his 20 sermons of 1898, the church received 10 new members bringing the total membership to 55. He also baptized three children during this year. In his last known report before leaving Liberty Church (November 28, 1898), Rev. Nettles reported with pride that the church was in fine condition both physically and spiritually. In fact, it was the only church on the circuit which held both a Children's Day and a Rally Day despite the urging of the South Carolina Annual Conference that all churches do so. He also observed that "I expect all things taken together it [Liberty Church] was never so prosperous." Given what few facts we know, his statement doesn't seem far from the truth.¹²

The strong, forceful leadership of Rev. Nettles was replaced in 1899 by that of a quiet, retiring pastor by the name of Albert H. Best. A native of Hartsville, South Carolina, he was serving in Sumter when his health broke. His doctor advised him to go to the up-country if he wanted to regain his health. Perhaps it was poor health as much as bad weather and poor roads which hindered his work here. Nonetheless, he filled all the "regular appointments" of the church and served faithfully until transferred elsewhere in 1902.¹³

Rev. James T. Fowler was sent to the Campobello Circuit in 1902. At that time, he was still on trial but was ordained a Deacon while still serving at Liberty.¹⁴

During this ministry, Mahala Stewart died. She was evidently a woman who loved her church very much because she left it a legacy of \$100.00 to be paid in annual installments of \$15.00. Her will, dated November 26, 1897, specified that \$10.00 be used to keep the church building repaired and \$5.00 to the pastor in charge. All of this was evidently done but neither her estate file nor church records give any more details.¹⁵ It should be noted that only the deaths of Mahala Stewart, died April 10, 1903, and Susan Balew, who died prior to June 26, 1904, are the only deaths of members mentioned in the early records.

Also, during this time, the church secretary, C.L. Verdin, made an assessment roll of the membership. This is the only one existing prior to the 1950s.¹⁶

By March 1908, (the next recorded conference) Ethan Z. James was pastor. Little is known of him or his service at Liberty, but he is remembered as being "active and zealous." This zeal is reflected in an article from The Spartanburg Herald of September 1908 which states: "The Maness brothers are holding a tent meeting at Liberty church just beyond the Greenville line. The meeting is a success. Many have been saved and 16 have united with the church. They will move their tent to Jackson Grove next Tuesday."

For some unknown reason, John Albert Bledsoe replaced Rev. James as a supply pastor on the Campobello Circuit. Nothing more is known of Bledsoe nor of Reuben Leon Keaton who followed him in this position.¹⁷

In 1912, Rev. J.R. Copeland was assigned to the Campobello Circuit. A biographer said that he was "never better satisfied than when leading souls to Christ." Under his leadership, the church purged its roll, dropping three names of whom the church had "lost sight of." Also at this time, there was a Missionary Committee of which Mrs. Lois Golightly was chairperson. Liberty Church had taken offerings for missions prior to this time, but this was the first organized effort.¹⁸

The next existing record is that of the January 18, 1920 Quarterly Conference. The minister, Rev. J.H. Montgomery, presided and F.P. Smith was lay leader.¹⁹

One of Liberty's oldest members, Mrs. Peg Strickland Stone, joined during this time. Her family moved to the community from Inman in Spartanburg County. One of early memories of Liberty is a 1926 tent meeting conducted beside the present sanctuary by a Rev. McDaniel. There she met her husband of over fifty years. Rev. J.F. Ford, Liberty's pastor, married them.

In 1927, the circuit was renamed Landrum. During the Great Depression, Liberty hit upon hard times and Rev. J.B. Connelly would sometimes have to call off services due to the insufficient congregations. His immediate successor, Rev. M.W. Lever, was ready to close the church's doors but Mrs. Peg S. Stone and the late Gene Verdin took \$3.00 which was budgeted for Sunday School literature which would not be needed if the church closed. Using these funds, they went door to door and were able to arouse enough interest to prevent Rev. Lever from carrying out his plan.²⁰

With such a heritage of faithfulness, Liberty United Methodist Church should and must strive for the goal set before it.

NOTES

1. Ms. Deed Book R, p.149. Register of Mesne Conveyances, Greenville County Court House, Greenville, South Carolina.
2. Dr. J.B.O. Landrum, History of Spartanburg County. (1900, rpt. Spartanburg, S.C.: Reprint Co., 1960), p.85.
3. Rev. Albert M. Shipp, D.D. History of Methodism in South Carolina. (1884, rpt. Spartanburg, S.C.; Reprint Co., 1972), pp.580-581.
4. James T. Otten. "Disloyalty in the Upper Districts of South Carolina during the Civil War." South Carolina Historical Magazine, 75, No.2, (April 1974), pp.95-110.
5. Rev. Watson B. Duncan, A.M. Twentieth Century Sketches of the South Carolina Conference M.E. Church, South. [Revised edition] (Columbia, S.C.: State Co., 1914), p.256.
6. Duncan, pp.19-20.
7. Duncan, pp.53-54.

8. Ms. Minute Book of Liberty Methodist Episcopal Church, South covering 2 April 1892-27 May 1934. (Hereafter cited as Minutes), p.1.

9. Duncan, pp.340-341.

10. Minutes, pp.1-2.

11. Duncan, pp.312-314.

12. Minutes, pp.3-5. Mr. John W. Weaver, Mrs. Mary E. Weaver, Miss Sallie R. Weaver, and Mr. Herman Weaver were restored to membership on October 22, 1898. With the exception of Sallie Weaver, they and Mrs. Laura Ann Fuller were stricken from the roll on June 26, 1904. Additions during Rev. Nettles' time included Mary Bulah and Avery L. Moon, children of John W. and Susan Moon, who were baptized on August 12, 1898. Also, Charles Wesley, son of James H. and Elizie J. Verdin, was baptized on June 27, 1898.

13. Duncan, pp.47-48; Minutes, p.6.

14. Duncan, pp.159-160.

15. Estate File of Mahala Stewart. Apartment 73, File 18. Probate Court, Greenville County Court House, Greenville, South Carolina.

16. Minutes, p.7.

17. Duncan, pp.226-227.

18. Duncan, pp.99-100; Minutes, p.12. Those removed from the roll were Mrs. Emma Barnett, Sallie Farmer, and Preston Gilbert.

19. Minutes, p.13.

20. Mrs. Peg Strickland Stone.

MARCH 27, 1904 ASSESSMENT ROLL

Mrs. Susana Balew
Mathias Brissack
Augusta Brissack
Sally Brissack
L.M. Brissack
Lula Brissack
A.L. Crain
Missouri Crain
A.L. Holtzclaw
Samuel Holtzclaw
J.A. Hermand
Anner Lister

Mary J. Lister
Sally A. Moon
Leiler Moon
W.J. Payne
W.H. Stokes
Clementine Stokes
Jas. Verdin
C.L. Verdin
Sarah Verdin
Mabel Verdin
Nell Verdin
Mr. and Mrs. Franks

UNDATED ASSESSMENT ROLL

Note: This roll was found in the back of the Liberty Church Minutes Book. It is a loose sheet of paper very faded and worn.

Barton, Addie
Barton, Eller
Brisack, M.
Brisack, Augusta
Brisack, Sallie
Brisack, L.M.
Barnette, Emma
Ballew, M.S.
Crain, A.C.
Crain, Masourie
Crain, Corah
Currey, Mary
Fuller, L.A.
Lister, Mary J.
Lister, Anner
Herman, J.A.
Holtzclaw, Sam
Moon, Agness
Moon, L.J.
Smith, Caroline

Smith, Lizzie
Smith, Malinda
Stokes, Clementine
Stewart, Mahala
Verden, Harriet
Verden, C.L.
Verden, Sallie
Verden, Mabel
Verden, Nellie
Welchel, J.L.
Welchel, Martha
Watson, G.W.
Watson, Kindness
Weaver, J.W.
Weaver, Mary E.
Weaver, Herman H.
Pruitt, Sallie
Hughes, Mary F.
Phillips, Minnie

The following appear on the roll without any assessment being given:

Holtzclaw, A.L.
Verden, James
Moon, J.W.

Moon, Susan
Stokes, Wm.
Stokes, (S?)

PASTORS OF LIBERTY METHODIST CHURCH

The list here is incomplete. Unfortunately, earlier minutes from the conference list only the circuit and its appointment. Sometimes, Liberty Church could have just as easily been in one of two or more circuits. In this case, I have chosen the circuit which seems to be the most likely to which Liberty belonged. Also, local church records have helped determine the circuit that seems most proper.

1876-1879
1880
1881
1882
1883-1886
1887-1888
1889-1891
1892-1895
1896-1897
1897-1901

James F. Smith
No record
Robert A. Brock
Josiah D. Frierson
Augustine Walker Washington
James Pierce Attaway
Samuel Townsend Blackman
David Arthur Phillips
Stephen Abraham Nettles
Albert Hartwell Best

1902-1905 James Thomas Fowler
 1906-1909 Ethan Zula James
 1909 James Albert Bledsoe
 1910 E.G. Kilgore
 1911 Reuben Leon Keaton
 1912-1914 James Rufus Copeland
 1914-1916 T.E. (or T.F.) Gibson
 1916-1918 R.C. Boulware
 1918-1919 M.K. Meadors
 1919-1923 J.H. Montgomery
 1923-1927 J.F. Ford
 1927-1931 W.P. Meadors
 1931-1935 J.B. Connelly
 1935-1939 M.W. Lever
 1939-1941 James G. Stroud
 1941-1943 George R. Cannon
 1943-1944 C.A. Brooks
 1944-1945 J.L. Jett
 1945-1947 Voigt O. Taylor
 1947-1948 N.M. Phillips
 1948-1949 J.W. Brown
 1949-1952 N.M. Phillips
 1953-1957 H. Jack Phillips
 1957-1958 W.E. McDaniel
 1958-1959 R.R. James
 1959-1961 Marion C. McClary
 1961-1963 James H. Freeman
 1963-1964 Quay Adams
 1964-1965 Robert Vehorne
 1965-1966 W.H. Abercrombie, Jr.
 1966- J.C. Duncan

LIBERTY METHODIST CHURCH CEMETERY

Copied by J.R. Gainey March 13, 1982, revised January 1983.

Row 1

Milton T. Henson July 12, 1889 - Jan. 21, 1964
 Claudie B. Henson June 28, 1891 - Mar. 5, 1982
 Daughters: Ruby, Clara

John I. Howard 1905 - 1965
 Lois O. Howard 1905 -

McKinley A. (Mack) Barton Nov. 22, 1902 - Dec. 3, 1977
 Flora Pauline (Polly) Barton March 4, 1908 -

Thomas A., S2/C, son of A.M. & Winnie Gowan, March 16, 1927 -
 Oct. 18, 1945
 Junior Earl, son of A.M. & Winnie Gowan, Oct 21, 1929 - May 8,
 1930

Margaret H. Pittman Sept. 13, 1853 - May 26, 1938

Gary E. Barton Jan. 18, 1904 - Aug. 29, 1982
 Hattie M. Henson Barton Sept. 2, 1910 -

Robert G. Colley July 9, 1941 -
 Martha K. Colley Aug. 3, 1941 - Sept. 23, 1980

Harry C. Vaughn Tec 5 US Army WW2 Mar. 19, 1918 - Feb. 5, 1981

Row 2

Children of Mr. & Mrs. C.C. King
 Larry W. Oct. 7, 1947 - Jan. 4, 1948
 Infant dau. Jan. 13, 1949

Janie Lucille, Daughter of Yancy & Marian Oliver May 28, 1945 -
 July 25, 1948
 Peggy Jean, Daughter of Yancy & Marian Oliver June 28, 1938

Thomas B. Oliver Oct. 12, 1870 - Dec. 6, 1941
 Emma Smith wife of T.B. Oliver, Jan. 16, 1874 - Feb. 16, 1958

Carl H. Bradley, Jr. June 20, 1936 -
 Mary Lou Herman Bradley Mar. 5, 1938 - June 30, 1967

William August Herman Mar. 3, 1912 - Apr. 27, 1978
 Queenie Lou Stone Herman Aug. 18, 1915 -

One Unmarked

Row 3

Criss Oliver Jan. 27, 1899 - Sept. 28, 1947 (Footmarker dates read
 1898 - 1947)
 Anna B. Oliver Apr. 11, 1889 - Jan. 19, 1956

James K., son of T.V. & Nell Oliver, July 11, 1948 - Sept. 27,
 1952

Sonja Elizabeth, daughter of Marion & Doris Smith, Nov. 8, 1963

Row 4

Thomas Lelan, son of R.H. & Rebecca King, Sept. 28, 1925 -
 Mar. 17, 1941

Lucinda King June 7, 1853 - Apr. 6, 1934

Fair P. Smith Mar. 14, 1858 - Mar. 11, 1943
 Lyda K. Smith Aug. 8, 1873 - Feb. 15, 1922

Robert H. King 1882 - 1952 (Mason)
 Rebecca H. King 1890 - 1955

M. Bruce Smith December 22, 1918 -
 Hattie Pearl Oliver, wife of M. Bruce Smith Dec. 23, 1919 -
 Jan. 14, 1963
 Married June 29, 1946

Their Children: Sharon Elaine, Steven Melton, Karen Jane, Jeffrey Bryson

Joseph D. Smith April 5, 1869 - July 21, 1962
Belle A. Smith November 22, 1888 -

James R. Smith Sept. 14, 1884 - April 29, 1929

Colie H. Smith May 19, 1909 - June 10, 1969

J.J.L.

Row 5

Ben Osborne South Carolina PFC 26 Field Arty Bn WW2 March 17, 1924 - May 7, 1950
William L. Watson July 13, 1933 - Aug. 5, 1933

J.A., Jr., son of J.A. & C.A. Hermann, Apr. 13, 1916 - Mar. 1, 1917
Cornelia S. Herman May 10, 1883 - Sept. 3, 1954
John A. Herman Dec. 25, 1866 - Apr. 27, 1962

C.L. Verdin May 16, 1861 - Nov. 14, 1945
Sara Pittman, wife of C.L. Verdin, Dec. 16, 1872 - Dec. 31, 1961

Allan Dee Lister Aug. 15, 1887 - Apr. 24, 1929
Beulah Williams Lister July 10, 1893 - Marker at foot reads:
Beulah W. Lister Cairnes July 10, 1893 - June 26, 1959

Ruthie Cole Mar. 9, 1875 - June 27, 1970

One Unmarked (Child)

Ann Cole 1943 (or 1948)

One Unmarked

James F. Cole South Carolina PFC 396 Mil Police Bn WW2
Feb. 27, 1914 - Aug. 20, 1951

William C. Peace Oct. 27, 1886 - Aug. 11, 1962
Irene M. Peace May 30, 1911 -
Married Sept. 29, 1961

Row 6

A.C. Crain Sept. 6, 1856 - Sept. 11, 1914

Margaret Reid Crain Jan. 28, 1856 - Dec. 18, 1943

Thomas B. Barton Nov. 11, 1859 - Apr. 21, 1931
His wife, Ella Whelchel Barton Oct. 27, 1867 - Sept. 9, 1936
Helen, dau. of T.B. & Ella Barton, July 20, 1906 - Oct. 3, 1915

Infant sons of D.B. & M.J. Williams Mar. 13, 1918 and Mar. 13, 1930

Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. D.B. Williams, Oct. 9, 1933

M. Brisack June 20, 1851 - Apr. 22, 1925
Augusta Ann, wife of M. Brisack, Nov. 29, 1854 - Apr. 1, 1933

A. Walker Brisock Mar. 2, 1885 - Feb. 2, 1955

Nina Utler Weaver July 29, 1876 - Aug. 28, 1962

One Unmarked

Ernest S. Brown 1901 - 1973

Row 7

Four Unmarked

Tommie D., son of T.B. & Emma Oliver May 5, 1912 - Oct. 27, 1921

One Unmarked (Child)

Sarah W., dau. of M.A. & Jessie Odam, Aug. 11, 1923 - Nov. 4, 1926

Allen V., son of W.S. & Nellie Henson, Mar. 29, 1914 - Feb. 8, 1916

William S. Henson June 1, 1886 - Oct. 1, 1933
Nell, wife of W.S. Henson, Aug. 29, 1889 - Aug. 2, 1945

Sons of W.S. & Jessie Mae Howard
Ramon C. May 1, 1939 - May 1, 1939
Joel M. June 10, 1940 - Sept. 18, 1940

Lula Brisack, wife of James A. Kemp, Feb. 9, 1886 -
James A. Kemp Sept. 28, 1884 - Feb. 26, 1948

Row 8

One Unmarked (Child)

J. Allen Verdin May 27, 1887 - Oct. 3, 1891

Lucy A., wife of C.L. Verdin, Oct. 3, 1864 - Jan. 25, 1892

Allen Verdin Oct. 20, 1820 - May 7, 1900
Harriett B., wife of Allen Verdin, May 19, 1830 - Feb. 12, 1923

John T. Verdin Feb. 12, 1857 - June 6, 1944
Frances A., wife of John T. Verdin, April 5, 1866 - April 1, 1950

Daughters of Eugene and Pearl Verdin
Jenala June 2, 1919 - Jan. 13, 1920
Mary Lou Feb. 5, 1930 - July 21, 1938
Eugene Verdin 1889 - 1970
Pearl Verdin 1896 - 1980

Homer L. Oliver 1922 - 1975
Doris P. Oliver 1922 - 1974

Two or More Unmarked

Richard W. Kemp Mar. 16, 1947 - Sept. 23, 1965

Row 9

James H. Verdin Jan. 25, 1856 - Aug. 14, 1922

J.H. Verdin Apr. 7, 1894 - Jan. 11, 1898

Several Unmarked

Jessie Gowan Dec. 16, 1873 - Aug. 8, 1950
Alice L. Gowan May 16, 1873 - Feb. 4, 1926

Sevella Noland, wife of George W. Atkins, Aug. 2, 1892 - Aug. 3, 1944

One Unmarked

LAWSON FORK HOME GUARDS

Source: Carolina Spartan
June 11, 1863

Regiment for Home Defence

The Lawson Fork Home Guards; the first Company for this Regiment was organized on the 5th instant. The following is a list of the officers and men of said Company:

Capt. R.B. Seay; 1st Leut. W.H. White; 2nd Leut. H.M. Gault; 3rd Leut. H. Bishop.

Bishop, G.B.	Kimbrell, Caleb
Bishop, G.W.	Mabry, J.G.
Blalock, John	Mabry, C.H.
Cantrell, W.N.	McKinny, John
Cantrell, J.F.	Pollard, B.M.
Cantrell, J.B.	Seay, W.
Cantrell, P.	Wall, W.M.
Cantrell, W.H.	Williams, W.F.
Cantrell, Enoch	Turner, A.P.
Demcy, L.D.	Royston, G.W.
Demcy, E.B.	Seay, A.B.
Davis, Wm.	Boss, Jno. H.
Finger, W.A.	McDowell, Hugh
Gault, J.G.	

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ROLL 1852

This is the earliest membership roll of Fairview #1 Baptist Church, located in Spartanburg County about two miles west of Landrum on State Hwy #14 near the Greenville County line. This church was organized on March 27, 1852. Its membership came from Friendship and Wolf's Creek (now Landrum First) Baptist Churches. This list is taken from a microfilm copy of the church's records between 1852 and 1872.

Names of Female Members

Miss Frances J. Tap Dism
Mrs Mary Tap Dism
Mrs Susan Beleue Dis by letter
Mrs Elizabeth Henderson Excluded Sept 22 1860
Mrs Nancy Henderson
Mrs Elizabeth Waldrop Dismd
Mrs Caroline Davis dismd by letter
Mrs Caroline Wafford
Jey Sutton returned her letter
Susanan Dill) Daughters of the Rv A Dill
Francesan Dill)
Miss Angiline Simmons By Letter dismd and dismissed 27th March 1869
Mis Mary an Williams
Mrs Caroline Williams
Mrs Sariah Griffin
Mrs Elisabeth Chastain
Mrs Mary Edward
Mrs Emily Francis Edward
Mrs Tekier Belue

Names of Male Members

Ananias Dill
Solomon W. West dismd Nov 26 1859
Elias Dill
David Osheals deceased
Wm. S. Morgan died May 1871
Wm Smith dismd
John Jackson dead
Levi T. Jackson dismd
Edward Peace dead
Wm Foster dismd
J.L. Morgan with drawed Excluded March 23 1856
Enoch Smith dismd
Robert Smith dismd
Jabez Serrat Excluded
James Shelton Excluded Nov 21st 1857
Young Oshields Dismissed 27 Mar 1869
David Osheals Jr Dismissed 22 May 1869
(Beggy?) ann Little Excluded
Stephen Beliew Excluded

Hezekiah Beliew Excluded Jany 22 1859
 Daniel Sims Dismissed Mar 27 1869
 James Moss Excluded Dec 25 1858
 James Dunlap Dismissed by letter (Ju 4th 1871?)
 Lemiel Dunlap
 James Tucker Dismied
 Francis Hawkins
 John Hawkins or Green Dead
 Enoch West Dismisd Nov 26 1859
 Miles Puckett Excl'd. May 25 1861
 Jackson Serrat Excluded 23 July 1859
 Mathias Pearce Dismisd 1861
 Peter Henderson
 Dock Dunlap Excluded 21st July 1866
 William Emry Dismd March 26 1859 by letter
 P.J. Davis dismiss by letter
 Mathew Bishop
 B.E. Chastain
 Wm. Edwards
 Cheley Davis

Names of Female Members

Mary Dill
 Massa West Dism. Nov 26 1859
 Nancy Waldrop dism April 27 1861
 Nancy Osheals Decd. 1861
 Nancy Jackson
 Elizabeth Smith, Dismisd
 Rebecca Dill
 Clarinda Osheals, Dismisd
 Susa A. Dill Dismissed, Mar 27 1869
 Frances A. Dill
 Millinda Foster
 Miss Jane Friddle
 Mary Peace Excluded
 Miss Sarry Peace
 Margaret Ann Morgan Dis by letter
 Rebecca Bridgeman
 Marry Foster Dis by letter
 Elizabeth Ward, Excommunicated
 Miss Mary Durham Dis by letter
 Miss Lucinda Gunter, Excluded Sept. 22 1860
 Miss Margaret Campbell Excluded 22
 Miss Rebecca ann Lively Excluded Nov 27 1860 [or 1867]
 Easter Sims Dismissed
 Clarisa Tucker Dismiss
 Letty E. Moss
 Miss Lany Beliew Dismisd
 Darkey Lockheart Decd. Nov 26th 1857
 Miss Rebekea Foster Excluded June 22nd 1861
 Miss Masinah Peace Dis by letter
 Miss Mary Revan
 Mrs Jey Sutton dism. April 27 1861

Miss Eliza Hawkins
 Miss Elizabeth Burchfield Excluded April 21 1860
 Miss Martha ann West Dism. Mov 26 1859
 Miss Sary Dunlap
 Mrs Rebecca Pearce Dis by letter
 Miss Harriett Revan Excluded Dec 26
 Mrs Elizabeth Henderson
 [One illegible name]
 Miss Nancy Henderson
 Miss Elizabeth Waldrop
 Susan Belew

Names of Black Members

Marier Dill Excluded Dec 25 1858
 Mary Dill
 Elizabeth Dill

GOFORTH FAMILY BIBLE RECORD

This Bible is in the possession of Mrs. Helen T. Henderson of Mayo, S.C., a neice of Mrs. Sallie Cannon Goforth. The Bible was printed in 1885. It was presented to Martha Goforth by H.P. Goforth in May 1896.

H.P. Goforth was married to S.E. Davis January the 18 1869

S.E. Goforth died October 29, 1873

L.T. Ligon & Florence Goforth married Dec. 2nd 1903

H.P. Goforth was born Nov. 10, 1840

S.E. Davis was born March the 31 1848

W.P. Goforth was born July 19 1871

Martha Florence Goforth was born Dec. 10, 1883

Marion Goforth Ligon was born Sept. 27th 1904

Ruth Elizabeth Ligon was born Nov. 24th 1907

L.T. Ligon was born Dec. 2nd 1882

S.E. Goforth died Oct. 29, 1873

Mrs. Sallie Cannon Goforth died May 11, 1935

W.P. Goforth died March 26, 1938

Contributed by Faye B. Emory

1860 SPARTANBURG DISTRICT MORTALITY CENSUS
Transcribed by Faye B. Emory

In the next few issues we will present an abstract of all persons who are listed in the 1860 Mortality Census for Spartanburg County. The name, age, sex, race and month of death will appear as on the microfilm. Other information such as place of birth, occupation, marital status and cause of death also are given in this census but have not been presented here. The third column below will give you the sex of each person other codes are: Mu-Mulatto, B-Black, ,others listed are white.

Northern Division

Amanda	3/12	F	Mu	Feb.
Isaac Gilbert	18	M		Jan.
James Thompson	45	M		May
Henry L. Hicks	11	M		Jan.
Infant	15 Minutes	M		Feb.
Amanda	10	F	B	Apr.
Elias	3	M	B	July
Henry	28	M	B	Oct.
Eliza L. Russel	1/12	F		Dec.
Jno. S. Hughey	2/12	M		Jan.
Infant	2/12	M		Sept.
Infant	1/12	F		Oct.
Robert Neal	1/12	M		June
Robt McAbee	12	M		Dec.
Pamelia Ridings	4	F		June
Vacey Owens	60	F		Sept.
Joseph W. Owens	1	M		June
Elizabeth Pierse	48	F		Nov.
Susan L. Haynes	1 6/12	F		May
Elizabeth Elders	64	F		Sept.
William Cowen	9/12	M		May
Wm. R. Jenkins	11/12	M		Mar.
Thos. J. Fowler	27	M		Oct.
John Brown	4 days			Apr.?
Poole	1	F	B	Feb.
Johnson Coggins	60	M		Nov.
Georgiana	9/12	F	B	June
John Bishop	14	M		Sept.
Real Seay	1/12	M		May
Isaac Crocker	59	M		May
Berry Stone	17	M		May
Frank Phillips	6	M		Dec.
Littleton L. Bagwell	2	M		July
Nancy Cooley	37	F		June
Harriet A. Whitt	14	F		Nov.
Lecil A. Couch	1 5/12	M		July
Fielden Morris	12	M		Oct.
B H M Rainwater	6	M		Sept.
James Cook	1	M		Oct.
Jane Wolf	41	F		Oct.

Coy	65	M	B	Sept.
Jane B. McDowell	54	F		Oct.
Charles	25	M	B	Aug.
George	11	M	B	Aug.
Lucinda Saunders	1	F		Sept.
Infant		M	B	Mar.
Jas.V.Griffin	3	M		Nov.
Sarah Waters	92	F		Mar.
Ellenor Jones	82	F		Aug.
Man	19	M	B	Jan.
Isham	4	M	B	Mar.
Polly	49	F	B	July
Mary E. Webster	5/12	F		July
Sarah Burges	47	F		July
Hester	7	F	B	Dec.
Nancy Garner	11/12	F		Jan.
Pamelia	1	F	Mu	Oct.
Alice	8/12	F	Mu	Oct.
Edward	8/12	M	B	Nov.
Robb Fleming	3	M		Apr.
Medora Fowler	3	F		Aug.
Thos. Hill	2/12	M		Jan.
Mary Lipscomb	6/12	F	Mu	Nov.
Mose	64	M	B	Mar.
Auaca	55	F	B	Apr.
Judy	40	F	B	Apr.
Wiley	24	M	B	Oct.
Felix W. Cantrell	2	M		May
William	1/12	M	B	June
Clara	10	F	B (Free)	Feb.
Peter	26	M	B	Aug.
Lewis	39	M	B	May
William B. Nott	16	M		June
Susan Blake	18	F		Aug.
Julia A. Lipscomb	1	F		Oct.
Mitchell	30	M	B	July
Susan Jackson	51	F		July
Polly	60	F	B	Aug.
Sally	9	F	B	Aug.
Inf.	2 days	M	B	July
Noah Garperson (?)	52	M		Sept.
Infant	3/12	F	B	May
Infant	4/12	M	B	Nov.
Polly Scruggs	70	F		June
D. Cash	1/12	M		May
L. Byars	1	M		Sept.
Parris	95	F		May
Fielden Morris	11	M		Sept.
D.D. Hicks	48	M		Sept.
Jane Cantrell	63	F		June
Rufus Morely	1	M		Mar.
Jas.Davidson	77	M		Jan.
Matilda L. Davidson	4	F		Sept.
Harriet Henderson	3	F		Aug.

Tempi Henderson	1	F	Aug.
Isaac Queen	1	M	June
Joseph Hollis	3	M	July
Holly Cash	45	F	Nov.
Smith	1	F B	Mar.
D.V. Turner	30	M	Feb.
Sarratt	13	M B	June
Bonner	14	F B	Dec.
Bonner	5	F B	Jan.
Melissa L. Lipscomb	2	F	Feb.
Lovenia Low	35	F	Aug.
Margaret Hope		F	Apr.
David Amos	1	M	Apr.
Dolly Petty	14	F B	Apr.
Carolina V. Sarratt	4	F	Dec.
Mary J. Daniel	1	F	Nov.
Jas. L. Little	4	M	Apr.
Nathan Petty	1	M Mu	June
Noah Moore	23	M B	Feb.
Elijah B. Logan	72	M	Feb.
Louisa J. Doggett	2	F B	Feb.

End of Northern Division

To be continued.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF POOR IN ACCOUNT
FROM FALL TERM 1848 TO FALL TERM 1849

Source: The Spartan
October 18, 1849

DR	
To amount of funds as per last annual Report,	\$ 233,34
To amount of Cash received of Tax Collector, being	
37 1-2% on General Tax,	1579,60
	1782,20
By amount paid out and Commissions,	1416,23
By balance on hand	\$ 365,97

CR

Supported at the Poor House 18 Paupers, to wit: Starling Stafford, Margaret Stubbs, Isham Spruce, Wm. Newman, Elizabeth Lucas, Elizabeth Elder, Nancy Elder, Julia Ann Elder, Polly Reynold, Narcissa Willis, Ony Wingo, Nancy Queen, Tena a black woman, Rebecca Finch, Hannah Hilbourn, C. Dempsey, Wm. Findley, and Elizabeth Wade, (Dead.)

Supported thirty five Paupers scattered through District with their friends,

paid Maria Campbel,	\$ 15,00
Edith Harper,	21,00
Elizabeth Sherbutt,	19,00
Emily, Infant of N. Dorman,	12,00
Edward Gillaspie,	10,97

Samuel Bridges,	5,00
Nancy Wyatt,	21,00
Malissa Wilson,	11,85
Richard Morris,	13,75
Priscilla Varner,	2,00
Wm. Rogers' 2 children,	36,00
Leah Land,	23,18
Mary Clark,	20,00
Jeremiah McBees,	12,00
Lucy Stars,	30,00
Ritty Smart,	18,00
Elizabeth Land,	9,00
John Reynold and wife (wife dead)	11,00
Nancy Tillosson,	7,00
Samuel Trollinger,	12,50
Infant (illegitimate) of M. Findley,	27,40
John Freeman,	13,00
John Clanton, (Dead)	5,00
Marsha Potter,	5,00
James Murry and mother,	17,50
Rebecca Pearson, nothing	00,00
William Wood,	5,00
Christopher Goul,	3,00
William Smith,	4,00
Luke Wigons, nothing,	00,00
Hannah Hiet, (dead)	6,75
Hannah Hilbourn, (part of the year)	6,00
Sarah Harper,	3,00
Rebecca Finch, (a part of the year)	10,00
Ellen Crittenden, (infant),	9,00
	\$ 424,86

General expenses at Poor House

paid James Ezell for wheat,	7,50
R.C. Poole for Kirkendol, 3060 lbs 3-1-2 cts,	107,10
R.C. Poole Int. on pork acct. for 1848	4,83
R.C. Poole for Conveying Glenn to Asylum,	25,00
Hats, Shoes and Socks for said Glenn,	2,82
Sheriffs Cost for services in Glenns case,	6,75
R.C. Poole, for Z.D. Cottrel, advertising notice	1,50
R.C. Poole, for B. Price, C. Logan and W.W. Webber,	
witnesses in the matter of F.L. Adams,	3,00
R.C. Poole for B. Price, hauling F.L. Adams to	
C.H.	2,00
Dr. Parker for J. Glenns admittance in Asylum,	50,00
Wm. Tuck for making Coffin,	2,50
D.F. Mayberre for Corn,	25,30
J. and J.B. Cleveland,	65,32
Poster and Judd,	16,41
Tolleson and Wilson,	10,60
Drs. Bivings and Cleveland,	3,50
Turner and Cantrell,	2,90
Bates and Lee	1,00
Campbell and Seay	44
Barney Bishop for Corn,	5,10

George Brem, for Cotton,	2,13	
Miles McCareley, do	20	
Clemuel Powel, do	3,33	
W.J. Tuck,	4,65	
Simpson Low, making coffin,	2,00	
Anderson Bishop for Corn,	7,50	
B.F. Montgomery for Flour,	18,00	
Isham Hurt for carrying chairs,	1,00	
Foster and Judd to the order of Z.D. Cottrell for		
printing from Dec. 1st 1845 to Oct. 31st. 1848,	67,18	3/4
Dr. Parker for F.L. Adams (died 12th June last,)	67,51	
Dr. Parker for Joseph Glenn,	50,00	
John Tuck, steward, for supplies and Salary from		
1st. Oct. 1848 to 1st. Oct. 1849,	351,25	
2 1/2 per ct. on cash received \$1579,60,	39,42	
2 1/2 per ct. on cash paid out 1343,18,	33,57	
	\$1416,23	

Respectfully submitted,
R.C. POOLE, Chairman

Jonas Brewton, Clerk.

NOTE:

In the 1850 census of Spartanburg County, John Tuck is listed as the "Parish Keeper" and the following persons are shown as living in his dwelling as paupers:

S. Stafford	85 M
Betsey (Westmore?)	88 F
E. Lucas	75 F
Betsey Edwards	60 F
Elisham Sprouts	60 M
Rebecca Finch	65 F
Sally Crossland	30 F
Ony Wingo	30 F
Narcissa Willis	30 F
Mary Reynolds	35 F
Thomas Demay	10 M
Hann Halburn	28 F
J. Elder	10 M
Mary Crosslin	7 F
Peggy Subbs	100 F

WAR OF 1812 PENSIONERS Submitted by Marlene Taylor

Source: Carolina Spartan
February 6, 1884

Honorable H.M. Teller, Sec. of the Dept. of the Interior sends us the following list of pensioners of the war of 1812 on the roll the first of January. We publish this as a matter of information. If any of these persons are dead or if they are not entitled to a pension, the Secretary would no doubt like to be informed of this fact. Nearly all pensioners are widows, there being but four survivors reported in the county. They are Woodson Burnnet, James E. Ballenger, Belton Ford and Conrad Starkley. The following widows are drawing \$8.00 a month.

Nelson, Martha L.	Glass, Sarah
Pettit, Lucinda	Foster, Ann
Powell, Nancy C.	Ezell, Martha
Ray, Oney	Blackwell, Rebecca
Reynolds, Phoebe	McDowell, Martha
Smith, Hannah	Kirby, Delpha
Moore, Martha	Montgomery, Margaret
Monk, Jane	Knight, Mary
Squires, Susan	Chapman, Rosa R.
Vinson, Nancy	Hull, Mary Ann
Wilson, Nicy	Dill, Carolina
Wakefield, Jeanette	Farman, Elizabeth
Wilson, Evaline	Ballenger, Margaret
Atkins, Elizabeth	

PENNINGTON FAMILY CEMETERY

This cemetery is located in Greenville County at the intersection of Few's Chapel Rd. (S-23-113) and Pennington Rd. Few's Chapel Road is north of Greer off Hwy 14.

In Memory of Mrs. Ellen Pennington Born 1784 Died Sept. 27th 1851
Her children rise up and call her blessed.

William C. Odam Born April 13, 1830 Died April 15, 1850

In memory of John Pennington Born Oct. 4th 1777 Died 22nd March 1838 Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. This tribute of respect placed here by his youngest son.

Adult marked with field rock

To the memory of Mrs. E.M. Scruges, wife of R. Scruges, and daughter of J. & E. Pennington, Born 25th March 1821 Died 13th June 1851. She was many years a member of the Baptist Church and died as she lived a devoted Christian. We mourn her not as lost but only gone before, to that celestial rest where all God's people go.

Copied by J.R. Gainey 29 August 1982.

MASONIC NOTICES

Source: Carolina Spartan
January 6, 1870

At the Annual Communication, the following officers were elected to serve during the Masonic year:

New Prospect Lodge, No. 143 A.F.M.

M.O. Rowland, W.M.
W.P. Compton, S.W.
P.B. Hall, J.W.
Henry Lyles, Treasurer
J.B.O. Landrum, Secretary
W.P. Bishop, S.D.
W.H. Foster, J.D.
Benj. F. Alverson, Tyler
R.H. Dodd & Jno. W. Younger, Stewards

Reidville Lodge, No. 102 A.F.M.

H.V. Westmoreland, W.M.
T.T. Westmoreland, S.W.
J.D. Leonard, J.W.
W.R. Gaston, Treasurer
M.D. Hadden, Secretary

Bethel Lodge, No. 112 A.F.M.

E.S. Allen, W.M.
S.P. Lanford, S.W.
T.S. Wright, J.W.
S.E. Mason, Treasurer
S.S. Robuck, Secretary
J.M. Gwin, S.D.
C.M. Wright, J.D.
J.P. Robuck and V.(or J.?) E. Garnett, Stewards
J.B. Page, Tyler

Calhoun Lodge, No. 81 A.F.M.

W.J.T. Glenn, W.M.
A.B. Layton, S.W.
Milton McWhorter, J.W.
C.S. Beard, Treasurer
E.S. Smith, Secretary
W.F. West, S.D.
E.E. Smith, J.D.
Z. Lancaster, G.C. James, Stewards
W.W. Lancaster, Tyler

* * *

Carolina Spartan, April 17, 1889

Uncle Johnny Fielder was buried at Nazareth last Saturday having died at his home in Laurens County. He would have been 110 years old in May. Four generations were present at his funeral. He was a soldier in the War of 1812.

HUMOROUS EPITAPHS

Copied from Alonzo C. Hall's Grave Humor with permission of McNally and Loftin/Publishers.

London, England

Ann Mann

Here lies Ann Mann,
Who lived an old maid
But died an old Mann
Dec. 8, 1767

Wetumpka, Ala.

Solomon Pease

Here lies the body of Solomon Pease
Under the daisies and the trees;
Pease not here, only the pod,
Pease shelled out and gone to God.

Hatfield, Mass.

Beneath this stone
A lump of clay
Lies Arabella Young
Who on the 21st of May
1771
Began to hold her tongue.

Sargentville, Maine

Sacred to the memory of
Elisha Philbrook and his wife Sarah

Beneath these stones do lie,
Back to back my wife and I!
When the last trumpet the air shall fill
If she gets up, I'll just lie still.

New Market, England

The two wives of Tom Sexton lie by the side of each other; but the epitaph for Sarah distinguishes between the two:

Sarah Sexton

Here lies the body of Sarah Sexton,
She was a good soul, and never vex'd one;
But I can't say as much for her at the next stone.

GLEANINGS

"Gleanings" is a collection of articles from various local newspapers which give a different perspective on the lives of our ancestors than is found in standard histories and genealogies. They are selected by the editors at random and are not intended to embarrass or defame any person, or group of persons, living or dead.

Spartanburg Herald
24 September 1884

Lee Smith nee Lee Bobo departed this life on last Saturday night at the age of twenty-four years, full of good deeds and better intentions.

Free Lance
1 August 1902

Well Merited Punishment

Dexter Floyd, a white boy of 17 years old, who lives at Cherokee, was charged before Magistrate Kirby Tuesday with using profane and obscene language in the presence of a lot of children at school house. The charge was made by his teacher, L.D. Bray. When brought to trial pleaded guilty and the magistrate sentenced him to pay a fine of \$10.00 or serve 5 days on the chaingang. The boy's father refused to pay the fine, so he was sent to the gang to serve out his sentence.

Spartanburg Herald
20 August 1884

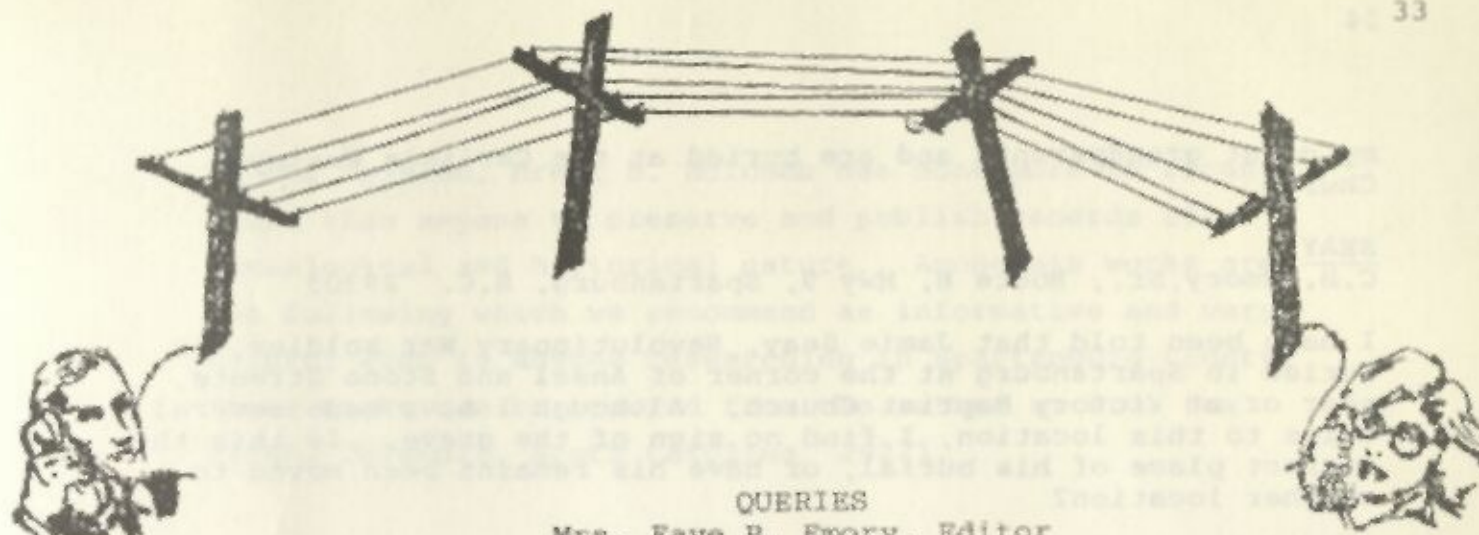
Miss Ruth Strickland a lady 52 years of age and living within thirty miles of Spartanburg, was never in any town or city before last Saturday. She expressed herself pleased with our city.

Carolina Spartan
20 January 1870

A colored woman, named Harriet Miller, died the other day in Philadelphia, leaving \$100,000 worth of property. She was originally a slave in South Carolina, and derived her fortune from a rich planter named Purvis, who married her out of gratitude, because she warned him of a conspiracy of his slaves against his life. After the death of Mr. Purvis, she became the wife of Robert Miller, a colored clergyman. She was eighty-five years of age.

Carolina Spartan
5 March 1879

Mr. S.B. Switzer, who went to Texas a few years ago, returned last month, fully satisfied with Western life. He thinks the old hills of Spartanburg good enough for him. . . .



QUERIES
Mrs. Faye B. Emory, Editor

HUCKABAY
Mrs. Perry Amos, 14000 Road 284, Porterville, Ca. 93257

Seeking parents and siblings of Arthur Huckabay who appears in the 1840 census of Spartanburg County. At that time, he had two children--Catherine and Robert Franklin. Later, his family moved to Benton in Polk County, Tenn. where Francis Marion was born in 1847. Both Arthur and his wife Mary give their birthplace as S.C. Also needed are Mary's parents and her siblings.

BERRY
Buddy M. Berry, Sr., 438 Old Boiling Springs Rd., Spartanburg, S.C. 29303

Information needed on Nancy _____, who wed Robert Berry of the Mountain View-Carlisle section of Spartanburg County. Robert was born between 1795 & 1800 in S.C. and died in 1864. Nancy was born about 1808 in S.C. per 1860 census, but the 1870 census shows her as being born in Va. She died after Nov. 1884 as she signed a deed then. Both are believed to be buried unmarked at the Buck Creek Baptist Church in Spartanburg Co. as they were members there.

PHILLIPS
Joyce P. Belue, Box 782, Pacolet, South Carolina 29372

Need parents of Marian Phillips and wife Annie Fowler. They lived in Cherokee County, S.C. and are buried there at the Corinth Bapt. Church. A son, William Robert Phillips, born April 25, 1879 in Cherokee Co., wed Carrie Crocker of Spartanburg Co., daughter of Roland Crocker and Ella Lee. Wm. R. and Carrie are buried at the Pacolet Memorial Gardens.

TURNER PHILLIPS
Marlene S. Taylor, Route 8, Alberta Drive, Spartanburg, S.C. 29303

Searching for burial place in Spartanburg County of Lietner Turner and his wife whose maiden name was Phillips. Also need her given name. This couple's daughter, Mary Etta Rebecca Turner, born Oct. 4, 1867, was the second wife of Dudley Seay. They are

my great grandparents and are buried at the Carlisle Wesleyan Church.

SEAY

C.B. Emory, Sr., Route 8, Hwy 9, Spartanburg, S.C. 29303

I have been told that Jamie Seay, Revolutionary War soldier, is buried in Spartanburg at the corner of Ansel and Stone Streets, near or at Victory Baptist Church. Although I have made several trips to this location, I find no sign of the grave. Is this the correct place of his burial, or have his remains been moved to another location?

CROOK

Ann S. Carlton, 420 Devon Dr., Birmingham, Al. 35209

Need parents of Jeremiah Crook, born in South Carolina about 1798-99 as he was 51 years of age in the 1850 census. According to death certificate, his wife was named Mary. Jeremiah was in Carroll County, Georgia in 1830; Randolph County, Alabama in 1840; Chambers County, Al. in 1850 & 1860. Was he a grandson of James and Mary Williams Crook of Spartanburg? James and Mary had a son James who married Amelia Owens & moved from S.C. to Benton Co., Al. where both died and are buried in Crook cemetery (now in Calhoun Co., Al.). I find no concrete connection between my Jeremiah and this couple, but James was born in 1777 and was old enough to have been Jeremiah's father. Any help with this problem will be appreciated.

* * *

Congratulations to our Advisory Director, Mr. Buddy M. Berry, Sr., and Mrs. Sybil P. Metcalf, who were married in Spartanburg on December 30, 1982. Sybil is our Recording Secretary. Best Wishes for a long, happy and prosperous life together.

Congratulations also to Mrs. Sallie Peake on her recent election to the Spartanburg County Council. Sallie is not only the first woman to serve but also the first black. Sallie is our Community Relations Director.

In our opinion, Brent H. Holcomb has done more in recent years than anyone to preserve and publish records of a genealogical and historical nature. Among his works are the following which we recommend as informative and very helpful aids to anyone researching in Spartanburg County. These books can be ordered from the author at P.O. Box 21766, Columbia, South Carolina 29221.

Spartanburg County, S.C., Minutes of the County Court,
1785-1799. (\$25.00)

Marriage and Death Notices from Upper S.C. Newspapers
1843-1865. (\$22.50)

Index to the 1850 Mortality Schedule of South Carolina.
(\$12.50)

North Carolina Land Grants in South Carolina 1741-1773.
(\$22.50)

When ordering, you must add \$1.50 mailing cost to the prices given above.

