

# *Olde Dobbs Trail*

Newsletter of the OLD DOBBS COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY

P. O. Box 617, Goldsboro, NC 27530

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August 1989

Vol. 5 No. 2

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members:

The summer nears September and our meeting. Our visit to Philadelphia was enjoyable and very rewarding. I found the name of my Fifth Great Grandfather and located where he is buried. Also uncovered a most fascinating story about his daughter, my Fourth Great Grandmother.

Each new discovery is more exciting. I heard a song the other day which really impressed me. It was called "Guardian Angel" and was sung by the Judds. The song tells of the the singers ancestors and one line states, "I may not know where I'm going, but I know where I came from".

See you September 24th.

Elizabeth G. Ellis, President

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SEPTEMBER 24th MEETING  
WESTERN SIZZLIN STEAK HOUSE  
100 N. Berkeley Blvd.  
11:30 AM



Napa, Calif

my personal thanks to Grace Turner, for finding some of the hidden Barfields. It is so hard to find anything in Dobbs Co; the Barfields are my ancestors, and some of the ones like you are finding are children of Richard Barfield of Dobbs Co; the Sr son of Richard Barfield & his wife Mary of Bertie Co; NC. Will) 1728 and of son John Grady who md. Mary Whitfield his Will in Duplin Co; 1773 and Term 1787 and Solomon is the son of Richard of Duplin Co; whose Will of 1754 I think now. Solomon (md) Margaret Whitfield. William Grady father of John md. Ann Barfield dau of old Richard of Bertie & William Grady their son and bro to John md) his cousin 1st cousin Ann Barfield of Duplin Co; NC. You they did get into trouble, how about John Barfield, got hung road Wayne Co; Heritage also kin, there was a lot going on in them days, Read the Will of Richard Williams the (Delia) Cornelia is sister to my father. Keep digging Grace you might find the key. I am sending you a bit of (fun sorry) don't have it all yet, but it seems one of the Shybridi md. a Barfield and boy a fight went on <sup>over property</sup> thank again.

Sincerely

Hazel G. Nicholson

"North Carolina Item from New England Newspapers, 1754-1806, page 120:

A fracas happened on the 13th Inst., 1788, Sunday between Col BENJAMIN SHEPPARD and WILLIAM BARFIELD. Col. SHEPPARD horsewhipped BARFIELD and his apprentice boy struck Col. SHEPPARD on the cheek and cut off the side of his (SHEPPARD's) face and broke his collarbone. Col. SHEPPARD's nephew (STEPHANUS SHEPPARD - Nola), took the ax from the youth, who shot the nephew in both arms, one since amputated, and Col. SHEPPARD is dead". (1788) From Norwich Packet 7-12-1788, pg. 2, Column 2).

26184 26 April 1788 Woodorf, Journal of a Trip

Left Barfields—breakfasted in the Woods—crossed Neuse River into Kingston(,) 24 Miles--Kingston is a small place of about 20 Houses situated upon an \_\_\_\_\_ (unclear) on the Banks of the Neuse River and 40 Miles from the Sea—it was settled early in the war, and was expected to become a thriving place, but has lately fallen to decay—almost half of the Houses already (built) being entirely deserted (.)

About three weeks before my Arrival here the Election for Members to the Convention for Dobbs County was held at this place, when the Federalists finding that the opposite party were likely to be returned raised a Mob--broke into the Court House where the Sheriff was casting up the poll--knocked down every Man that came in their Way and destroyed all the Tickets that had been given in the Election---a few Days after a Col. B. Shepherd the ringleader of the above riot had another (Fracas) with two Men of the Name of Barfield, who cut him down the Hand with an \_\_\_\_\_ (unclear), and fired upon his Nephew who came to his Assistance; and \_\_\_\_\_ (unclear) him in both Arms one of which has since been obliged to be amputated—the Shepherds soon after being reinforced fired upon the Barfields, one of whom was killed and the other dangerously wounded--

On my Arrival here I found that the Comptroller General with whom my Business chiefly lay, had moved from this place about two Months before to Hillsborough.

*—on the Dobbs County riot ....*

3. MARTIN GARDINER SHEPPARD md. Unknown if he was or wasn't killed his brother, Major JOHN SHEPPARD in a dispute over RICHARD BARFIELD's property. Fled to Georgia; nothing further known of him.
4. STEPHANUS SHEPPARD Unknown if he was or was not married. Last known possessor of RICHARD BARFIELD's property. The "nephew who tried to defend his "Uncle BENJAMIN SHEPPARD" and lost an arm.

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NEWS, LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS CONCERNING  
NORTH CAROLINA AND THE FEDERAL  
CONSTITUTION

WILLIAM K. BOYD  
*Professor History, Trinity College*

A. THE CONVENTION ELECTION RIOT AT KINSTON, 1788<sup>1</sup>

NEWBERN, April 16

Agreeable to the resolve of the General Assembly, the freemen of the county of Dobbs met at the Court House in Kinston, on the last Friday and Saturday in March, in order to elect persons to represent them in Convention at Hillsborough, on the third Monday in July next; accordingly Richard Caswell, James Glasgow, John Herritage, Bryan Whitefield and Ben Sheppard Esqrs. were candidates supposed to be in favor of the Federal Constitution; Jacob Johnston, Morris Westbrook; Isaac Groom, Abraham Baker, and Absalom Price, were supposed to be the opposers of the Federal Constitution;—The whole number of voters were three hundred and seventy-two; at sunset on Saturday the Poll was closed and the sheriff proceeded to call out the tickets; two hundred and eighty two tickets were called out, the hindmost in number on the Poll of the Antifederalists had one hundred and fifty-five votes, the foremost in number of the Federalists had only one hundred and twenty one, and the tickets coming out fast in favor of the Antifederalists, the other party seemed fully convinced they should lose their election and appeared to be much exasperated at the same, especially Col. *B. Sheppard*, who with sundry others cast out many aspersions and very degrading and abusive language to the other candidates, which was not returned by any of the candidates, or any person on their part with so much as one provoking word. At length Col. A. Sheppard went upon the bench where the sheriffs, inspectors, and clerks

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were attending their business, and swore he would beat one of the inspectors who had been peaceably and diligently attending to his business, and having a number of clubs ready prepared, the persons holding the candles were suddenly knocked or pulled down and all the candles in the Court House were instantly put out; many blows with clubs were heard to pass (but it being dark they did the most damage to the Federalists). The Antifederal candidates being unapprized of such a violent assault, and expecting better treatment, from men who would wish to wear the character of gentlemen, were in no posture of defense, and finding their lives in danger, thought it most advisable to retire privately in the dark, but one of them (to wit) Isaac Groom was overtaken in the street, by a party of their men consisting of twelve or fifteen—with clubs, who fell on him and much abused him, in so much that he was driven to the necessity of mounting his horse and riding for his life; the sheriff also related that in the time of the riot on the Court House he received a blow by a club and that the ticket box was violently taken away. [North-Carolina Gazette].

<sup>1</sup> The following account of the celebrated riot which occurred at Kinston over the election for delegates to the Hillsborough convention, called to consider the ratification of the Federal Constitution, is taken from the *Norfolk and Portsmouth Journal* of April 30, 1788, a copy of which is in the Library of Congress. It is copied from the *North Carolina Gazette*, which at that time was published at New Bern. Wm. K. Boyd.

B. A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER IN DOBBS COUNTY<sup>3</sup> p76

Wilmington (N. C.)

*Particulars of an unfortunate circumstance which happened in this State.*

Colonel B. Shepherd, a man of considerable property and great influence in Dobbs County, a few days past, made a visit to one of his neighbors, with whom he had lived in the greatest friendship and harmony. Late in the evening the new proposed constitution became the subject of conversation. Col. Shepherd, a declared federalist, gave his opinion with freedom, and declared his wish to see it adopted. His neighbor, an anti-federalist, opposed it with much warmth, but finding all his objections readily answered by the Colonel became very warm and abusive. After receiving several gross insults, Col. Shepherd with his hand open, touched him on the cheek, and expressed himself in the following words: "Your language is too abusive

<sup>3</sup> From the *State Gazette of South Carolina*, July 28, 1788.

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to be submitted to. Nothing but your age now protects you from that punishment which you should receive." The anti-federalist immediately ran out of the house, attended by some of his followers, who armed themselves with axes. The Colonel not knowing their design left the house to return home; it being dark, they waylaid him, and with an axe gave him a stroke on the head, which, from its violence, threw him upon the ground—the blow was immediately repeated on his breast. One of his friends who was in the house, hearing his voice, ran out when he found Col. Shepherd on the ground, almost void of speech, and insensible, the blood running from his nose, mouth and ears in considerable quantities. The alarm was immediately given to Col. Shepherd's neighboring friends, who collected to resent his injury. The antifederal party hearing them approach the house concealed themselves till they had near reached the door, when one of them fired a rifle and wounded Captain Stephanus Shepherd dangerously in the arm. The federalists being more numerous overpowered the other party, and with the rifle that had been fired broke the arm of the antifederalist who fired it, and wounded him seriously, in several other places. The wounded remained in this situation for many hours. At length a Dr. Leigh arrived; and by his attention has restored him to perfect health after amputating Captain Shepherd's arm. No reconciliation has yet taken place between the parties.

QUERIES

**PARKS:** Looking for the parents of William B. Parks b. 16 May 1856, Wayne Co., NC  
Mrs. N. Varner, C/o D. Varner, {address removed}

**WIGGS:** Henry, Joel & John believed to have served in the Rev. War

**WORRELL:**

## CREWS-REED-TAYLOR-WORRELL

\$100. Reward for 1st proof of parents of Bryant WORRELL b.1790 in NC. He had a son Rev. John Durant WORRELL Sr. (1817-1888) a Meth.preacher in Al mar.Jane CREWS in Al 1847. They came to Tx abt 1872 and some of their children (raised abt Camp San Saba in McCulloch Co.Tx) were: J.S.WORRELL;J.D.WORRELL; Francis WORRELL;Laura Worrell mar. TAYLOR & M.J.Worrell (fem) mar. REED. I am desc.of Kinchen T. WORRELL (1822-1902), a brother of the respected preacher. Now Peter WORRELL arrived with Wm Penn (PA) in 1682 but I need help to get beyond 1790. Maybe someone has that old WORRELL fam.bible.

Arthur A. Worrell

{address removed}

**BUNTIN:**

I can trace my Buntin line back to James Buntin (Bunton) in Wayne County. He died in 1805 and left a will naming his wife Lyda and four children: Sarah, Jeremiah, James, and Penninah. He was granted land in 1783 (640 acres) for serving in the Revolutionary War. (Probably in N.C. since he continued to live there till he died) His son, Jeremiah, was born in 1788 and I am descended from him. Jeremiah eventually moved to Georgia. In the 1790 census James was in Wayne County with wife, one son, one daughter. In 1792, James was given 130 acres of land by his father-in-law, Jesse Brown, on land that he already lived on. It was adjacent to Jesse Brown's. (North of Little River and south of Nahunta) His wife, Lyda, left a will and died in Wayne County in 1825.

My questions are:

1. Where was James born? And when?
2. Where exactly was he buried? In a cemetery? On his farm? I checked cemetery records in Wayne County with no luck.

R. M. Buntin,

{address removed}

Pate  
Cotton

MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER, WILLIAM J. PATE, MARRIED SMITHY COTTON IN WAYNE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA IN 1873. I HAVE A LOT OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE PATES, BUT VERY LITTLE ABOUT THE COTTONS.

SMITHY COTTON'S DAD WAS ISAAC COTTON (BORN ABOUT 1810 IN WAYNE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA). ISAAC'S DAD WAS PROBABLY ELIJAH COTTON (BORN ABOUT 1775) OR ONE OF HIS BROTHERS. ISAAC'S GRANDDAD WAS PROBABLY EPHRAIM COTTON WHO WAS MENTIONED IN A 1782 WAYNE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA DEED.

RONALD EDWIN BROWN

{address removed}

Ham  
Williams

Sarah HAM (1796-1853) of Wayne Co. N. C., md. Joseph PARKS, ca 1818. Sarah was the dau. of Zachariah HAM and Christian WILLIAMS Ham. I need to know the parents of Christian. (Father may have been William WILLIAMS who received a Land Grant in Dobbs Co. in 1759). Siblings of Sarah HAM PARKS were: Giles, Zachariah, Williams, William B., Christian (Kitsy), md. Thomas P. WATSON; Smithy, md. Michael WATSON; Penny; and Darius B., md. Jane \_\_\_\_\_, in Cumberland Co.

Contact James E. SMITH

{address removed}



OLD DOBBS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PURPOSE

To preserve the history of Old Dobbs County and its families.  
To promote friendship and exchange information.

ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP

Monthly issues of the newsletter "Olde Dobbs Trail"  
Free queries in the newsletter for members.  
Guest speakers and lecturers at meetings.

MEETINGS

Meetings: Second Saturday of September, December, March and June

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL  
(Annual Membership from 1 July to 30 June)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\$10.00 Single Member \_\_\_\_\_

\$15.00 Joint Members (same address) \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM  
OLD DOBBS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. BOX 617  
GOLDSBORO, NC 27530

**OLD DOBBS COUNTY RECORDS (530 pages)**

Contents: Ancestral Charts, Bible Records, Cemetery Information and inscriptions, Elections Records, Military Records, Old Waynesborough Residents, Tax Records, Will Index (1195 names).

**EARLY MARRIAGE RECORDS OF WAYNE AND JOHNSTON COUNTIES, NC**

**MARRIAGE RECORDS, WAYNE COUNTY, NC VOLUME II, 1900-1940**

OLD DOBBS COUNTY RECORDS - Cost \$45.00 postage included \_\_\_\_\_

EARLY MARRIAGE RECORDS OF WAYNE AND JOHNSTON COUNTIES, NC Cost - \$25.00  
(postage included) \_\_\_\_\_

MARRIAGE RECORDS, WAYNE COUNTY, NC VOLUME II 1900-1940 Cost \$45.00  
(postage included) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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