

Olde Dobbs Trail

Newsletter of the OLD DOBBS COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY

P. O. Box 617, Goldsboro, NC 27530

October 1989

Vol. 5 No. 4

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

On 23 September 1989 the Old Dobbs County Genealogical Society was called to order at 12:30pm by Elizabeth C. Ellis, President.

The invocation was given by Charles B. Ellis, Chaplain.

Georgia S. Futrelle, Treasurer reported a balance of \$1,049.18 in the checking account and \$3,000.00 in the CD account.

Mrs. Ellis urged the members to invite their friends to join the Society. Our present membership is 70.

Mary E. Spiron, Publication Chairman reported that she had mailed flyers announcing our new MARRIAGE BOOK. A motion was made to Yvonne C. Hatch and seconded by Mrs. George Jackson to print 10 more copies of the Marriage Book Volume 2. The motion was carried.

The Society voted to place an add in The Genealogical Helper.

Mrs. Roger Andrews announced a Home Tour in Mt. Olive 9 December 1989 for the benefit of the Wayne County Museum. The Society voted to hold its November Meeting in Mt. Olive on 9 December 1989 at the Southern Bell Restaurant at 11:30am. After the luncheon, we will go as a group on the Home Tour. Tickets for the tour are \$5.00 and may be purchased at the luncheon.

A motion was made by Mrs. Roger Andrews and seconded by Sadie Whitfield to contribute \$125.00 to the Wayne County Historical Association to co-sponsor the presentation of Dorothy Spruill Redford 28 January 1990. Mrs. Redford is a genealogist, lecturer and the Author of Somerset Homecoming, Recovering a Lost Heritage. She is also the Curator/Program Officer for Somerset Place State History site and is the Board Chairperson of the Somerset Place Foundation. The motion was carried to make the contribution.

Mrs. Ellis presented a letter from the North Carolina Genealogical Society requesting that we participate in the publication of a resource guide to North Carolina cemeteries. Mr. Jack Wharton will be contacted to do the typing for our Society. We need our members to send in the location (give highway and State Road numbers) of any family cemetery that is not listed in the Wayne County Gravestone Book.

Mrs. Delia T. Price, Assistant Librarian at Lenoir Community College presented an interesting program entitled "A March Through Dobbs County".

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.

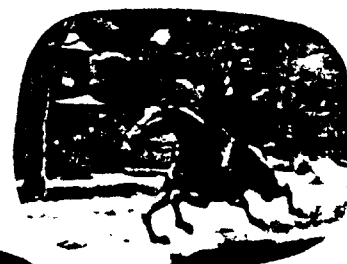
Mary E. Spiron, Acting Secretary

OUR THANKS TO AILINE MEWBORN FOR THE CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER!



Black crayon rubbing, on fabric, of plaque on gravestone of Henry Best, Bullhead Township, Greene County, North Carolina, near Button Branch, on county road number 1211, just off Bullhead road to Goldsboro, near Wayne County line. Subject: "Spirit of Seventy Six" by Archibald M. Willard. Rubbing made by Stacey Lynn Newborn, age 10 years, in 1985 - 5th. grade.

1. Stacey Lynn Newborn b. 16 July 1974 - Greenville, Pitt County, North Carolina.
daughter of: / CAR number 124076
 2. Dr. Quentin Alexander Newborn b. 18 March 1943 - Greene Co., N. C. - m. 12 June 1965 -
Greene County, N. C.
m. Judith Ann Moore b. 12 August 1947 - Wilson - Wilson Co., N. C.
(dau. of Johnnie James Moore & Jewell Frances Hill)
son of:
 3. Quentin Alexander Newborn b. 19 December 1919 - Greene Co., N. C. m. 13 Sept 1941 -
Dillon, South Carolina. (WWII)
 - ~~m. Ellen Mozingo b. 16 April 1923 - Pitt Co., N. C.
(dau. of Albert Mozingo & Mary Edna Smith)
(WWI)~~
 4. George Lemuel Newborn b. 10 August 1880 - Carteret Co., N. C. - m. 4 Oct. 1905 -
Greene Co., N. C. - d. 20 June 1959 - Greenville, Pitt Co., N.C.
m. Eula Virginia Newborn b. 11 Sept 1887 - Greene Co., N. C. - d. 11 Oct 1966
daughter of: / Wilson, Wilson Co., N.C.
 5. John Moses Newborn b. 25 July 1854 - Greene Co., N. C. - m. 21 Jan 1874 - Greene Co.,
N. C. - d. 28 Aug 1900 - Greene Co., N. C.
(son of Joshua Newborn (CSA) & Winifred Wooten)
m. Barbara Ann Fields b. 8 May 1854 - Lenoir Co., N. C. - d. 24 July 1938 - Greene Co.,
daughter of: / N. C.
 6. Alexander Fields b. 1823 m. 1853 d. 1864 - Lenoir Co., N. C. (son of Shadrach Fields
m. Mariah Mooring b. 1834 d. 1862 - Lenoir Co., N. C. / & Mary Farmer)
daughter of:
 7. James Mooring b. 1790 m. by 1818 d. 1845/50 - Greene Co., N. C. (Old home still standing)
(Brother of Henry Mooring & Sarah (Sally) Best) Sons of Burwell Mooring
m. Patience Best b. 1795 d. 1859 - Greene Co., N. C.
daughter of:
 8. Henry Best b. 11 April 1762 - Dobbs Co., N. C. - m. 1790 - d. 2 Dec 1839 - Greene Co., N.C.
m. Winifred Hardy b. 23 June 1765 m. 1790 - d. 12 Aug 1841 - Greene Co., N. C. / (Rev. War)
son of: (dau. of Lemuel Hardy Jr. (Rev. War) & Mary Sutton)
 9. Benjamin Best b. 1740 m. 1760 d. after 12 Feb 1805 (Rev. War) (Greene Co., N. C.)
m. Margaret Williams b. 1742 d. prior 1804 (Greene Co., N. C.)
(dau. of Robert Williams Sr & Sarah _____) (Dobbs Co., N. C.)
- Note: Number 4 is the son of (Drewry Aldridge Newborn (CSA) & Peninah Adeline Dixon.)



On The March Through Dobbs

In setting the time and places of this fragment of a Revolutionary soldier's letter, we should know a bit of the Whitfield Family who first came to Dobbs County. "William Whitfield was born in Virginia or North Carolina. He married on November 6, 1741, Rachel Bryan. Following the death of Rachel, William married Frauzan

Shortly after their marriage at Snowfield in North Carolina (Chowan River), William and Rachel Whitfield set their faces to the south in search of a new home. When they arrived at the place where South Washington, N. C., was later to be built they stopped in the home of John Wright, His Majesty's justice of the peace. Here the young couple were rudely disturbed, for we are told, the justice was so impressed with the beauty and youth of the bride that he concluded that William was running away with her and ordered his arrest. That evening the Wright home was the scene of a party. The fiddler became so drunk he could no longer play and dancing was halted while a substitute was sought. Perhaps Rachel told the guests of her husband's skill with the violin. They called for him and he was allowed to play. This he did so well that his dancing friends demanded his immediate release, for it seemed to them that "such a clever musician had no need to run away".

William and Rachel moved on to that portion of Johnston County later to become Dobbs and still later Lenoir County. Here they settled at Rich Lands, more recently called Rocky Ford. There they built the Rockford house where their first son was born, June 1, 1743.

After two years at Rockford, William took his family to White Hall, more recently Seven Springs, on the south bank of the Neuse River in Wayne County. Here they lived until 1776 when they moved three miles farther to Pleasant Plains.

In the militia returns for 1754-55 William Whitfield is listed as captain of 67 men. In 1761 Richard Caswell and William Whitfield were elected to represent Dobbs County in the assembly at Wilmington. In 1771 there is a mention of military equipment ferried over the Neuse by Col. Whitfield

June 8, 1776 the Council of Safety of North Carolina sitting at Wilmington resolved to meet at the home of William Whitfield on Neuse River in Dobbs County.

Shortly thereafter the Council ordered guns sent to Captain Whitfield's.
During early August three wagons then at Whitfield's Ferry on the Neuse River
were ordered to Captain Stephen Cobb.

William Whitfield seems to have supplied forage as well as ferriage for the
Continental cause. In the Revolutionary Army Accounts his name is repeatedly
found as creditor of the state for forage. It seems not impossible that his
plantation was used as a supply base." (1)

(4)
*In 1757 Samuel Peacock gave his son 400 acres of land on Toisnot at the mouth of
Great Contentnea. This puts him in position for the overnight encampment of troops
for the Contentnea crossing.

*
and Peacock's crossing
Thus we document Whitfield's Ferry/in the Revolutionary time and the Whitfield
family serving the cause as patriot and soldier. Now we will move on to a ^{fragment} of
a letter written by a tired young soldier in his few spare moments. Too bad it was
never received by the intended. Maybe it was saved for us.

Apparently the letter begins the 11th of April, year unknown. The men are encamped
south of the Neuse River near Whitfield's Ferry.

(1) Whitfield, Bryan. Smith

Book one Whitfield

By Emma Morehead Whitfield

(2) Fragment of Letter

The State Records of North Carolina

Volume XVL 1782-83

Pages 604-07

By Clark

(3) Map of march with notations adapted from

Mouzon 1775

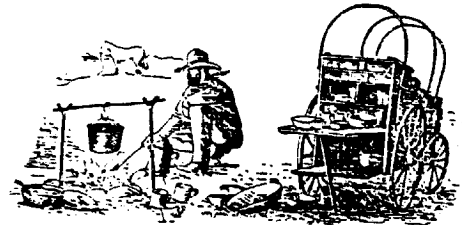
* (4) Edgecombe Precinct Edgecombe Co., N.C. 1732-1758. p. 243.
By Margaret M. Hofmann.

Ailine Newborn

The State Records of North Carolina
 — Clark
 Vol. - XLV 1782-83

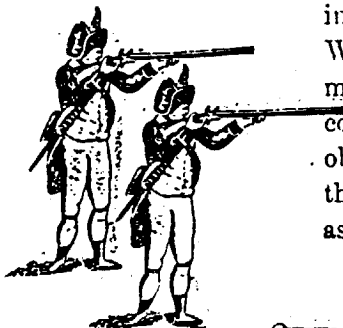
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STATE RECORDS.

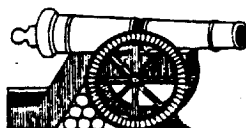


This A FRAGMENT.

* * * * * Day we passed by some exceeding pretty Apple and Peach Trees, all in bloom, which really gave me a pleasure in marching through the Country. At night, when we (began) to think of stopping, I found my good waggoner had taken his horses and left, together with the wagon and Load and my chest, my chocolate and sugar, that we entirely lived upon. After we had laid down, having eat some bacon fried, and fell entirely asleep, I was awakened about midnight with the noise of singing and dancing and playing the fiddle. I really was astonished at first, being so sudden awakened, and before I could recollect myself and open my eyes there were several officers hold of me insisting of me to get up and join the musical club; but as I was exceedingly tyred I could not really oblige them, who I found to be a parcel of officers who had been at Mr. Whitfield's and gotten rather drunken, had joined together and got Bagnell, the Fiddler, with them, rousing up every officer they could find, and in their rounds had come across us laying without any other covering than the Heavens and our blankets, which made us rather hard to be found, and would not even then had they not stumbled over the chests which we surrounded ourselves with to keep the wind off and the blankets together.



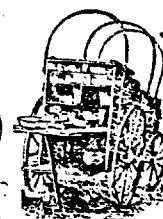
The 12th (April). Good weather but very warm. In the morning (Lieutenant) William Williams told me he was setting off for Wilmington, by whom I took the opportunity of writing to home to my sisters. Mr. Callender and I having got into a wagon for the conveniency of writing, had only wrote one apiece before we were obliged to get out, as the Waggon was drawn off to despatch over the River; we replaced our pen, ink and paper in our Chests again as we imagined we should not have time to do it unless on the





other side of the River. After most of the men were marched in, Callender and I walked together to the House, where we found the wagon halted and would be for some time, therefore we endeavored to get out our paper, pen and ink in order to finish the letters we had begun, in order to borrow some wafers or sealing wax, we walked to the old camp; we scarcely had got there, before the remainder of the men marched, which compelled us to write rapidly. We had time to seal them before the 5th Regiment passed, (we) pursued down to the House, where I was ashamed to go in because my clothes had not come up, & I was exceedingly dirty. Lieut. Callender, John Smith and myself went in to swim and washed off a great deal of dirt off of ourselves. After putting on our clothes the waggons crossing in the flat and the horses swimming over, I got my horse to swim over, which was of service to him in washing. After staying a small time, I led my Men to a swamp which was about half a mile from the River and wated until my mess came up, who in a little time arrived. I went in pursuit of a camping place, which really was difficult as the wagons had stopped in a very bad place exceeding thick with bushes. Callender having taken a walk up the road about a mile in pursuit of some fresh provisions, before I got the place thinned of bushes he returned, having got some eggs which Lieut. Blytten had bought before, which we intended to put to the excellent use of egg-drams. Before night the men gathered together and had some chocolate made up, which we partook with some friends, of whom we always had a sufficient quantity as long as our chocolate, coffee and tea lasted. In the evening Lieut. John _____ arrived (having got liberty to stay some time behiud) with his brother Joseph, with whom I soon got acquainted. Tying up my horse after the same manner and lending Capt. Bowman a bait for his horse, we retired to sleep. While we were crossing the River, an Ensign of the 4th Regiment was almost drowned in attempting to swim his horse across, but was happily saved by the help of a soldier, to whom he never returned even thanks.

The 13th. We marched again, the weather extream warm, about 11 miles and halted about 2 hours to refresh men and horses. We marched a second time about 6 miles and took up for the evening. My horse not being able to be rid, I suffered much in





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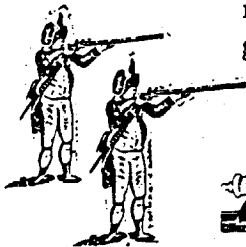
STATE RECORDS.

walking, and no one would offer a horse, and I was determined not to ask. We passed by large quantities of Women and Men beholding the strange sight of a number of people, which astonished the greater part of them. I imagine it would make the Devil laugh to see the pretended innocent behavior of the young Women, if perhaps you should take hold of one of them and offer to kiss them. It really made me laugh also to see them, how fond they were to be taken notice of and yet pretend to be angry, I dislike all Women that wish for what they pretend to hate.

(The 14th.) (Mutilated for two lines.) In marching we passed by several swamps by the names of (*Nahunta*), Peacock and Crosstop. Peacock divides Dobbs County from Edgecombe. As we advanced in the country the richer the inhabitants were; quantities of young women still gathering at the Houses on the Road to see the Glorious Life of a Soldier, ragged, dirty and fainting with thirst and Drinking water out of every puddle he comes by till at length he takes up, where he eats with as good a stomach as a dog whatever the Commissary allows them. The Road being very dusty, you must expect that we looked more like devils than Bishops before we took up.

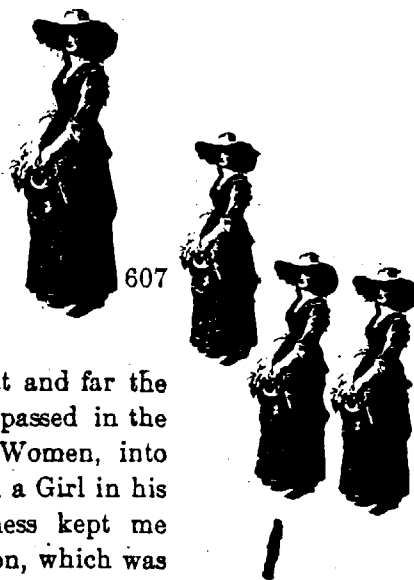
The 15th. An exceeding fine day, except the morning, which was rather cold. We marched about 16 miles, but halted in the middle of the day as usual. The Road still continuing exceeding good, the Girls still gathering upon the Road. We halted at a House where there were a number of Bells to be sold and every person holding and ringing it close to his ear as loud as possible to hear the tone of it. It really made such a noise it put me in mind of a *confusion* of Devils got together. We halted in about 8 miles of Tarboro, where, by the excessive fatigue of the march, I could not go to see a *parcel* of Girls about 500 yds. from the Camp. About 4 miles before we took up, *Small*, being in a wagon unwell, *coaxed* me to get in, which I did, and rode all the way to Camp in it. After getting some corn for my horse and spreading the blankets after clearing away the large chunks, we retired into our chamber.

The 16th. Very fine weather. We continued our march in the morning. After saddling my horse, determined his back should get sore as well as my feet, as no person ever offered me one. Jos-



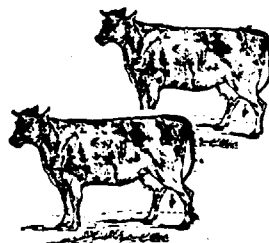
STATE RECORDS.

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eph *Small* (?) rode in the rear as the most convenient and far the best for riding, to any house along the Road. We passed in the morning by a house really Crowded with young Women, into which I went, where I found several officers with each a Girl in his arms. Willingly after I entered (which bashfulness kept me from at first) I took a Girl, also following their patron, which was rather homely and who, I thought, *began* to cry, so as soon as I could get off conveniently, I quit. I had left before the rear guard came up, which entirely cleared the House of officers and Soldiers (and disappointing many), leaving the Girls disconsolate. As soon as my horse had eat, I set off with Thomas McCarlton and Joseph Small. It was evening before we overtook the brigade who had stopped at a tavern and got some * * * * *

(Unfinished.)



Tarr River

Duncan Leonardo

Ailine Mewborn
502 East Church St.
Farmville, N.C. 27828

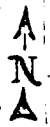
Mouzon Map 1775



WHERE THE SOUTH WON
THE REVOLUTION



Tarrburg



Yanooka Cr.

Town Cr.

Tarrot G.

P

T

T

Great Cotekney Cr.

Nahunta Cr.

Nahunta G.

Sandy Run

Little C.

Court House

Tower Hill

Cotekney R.

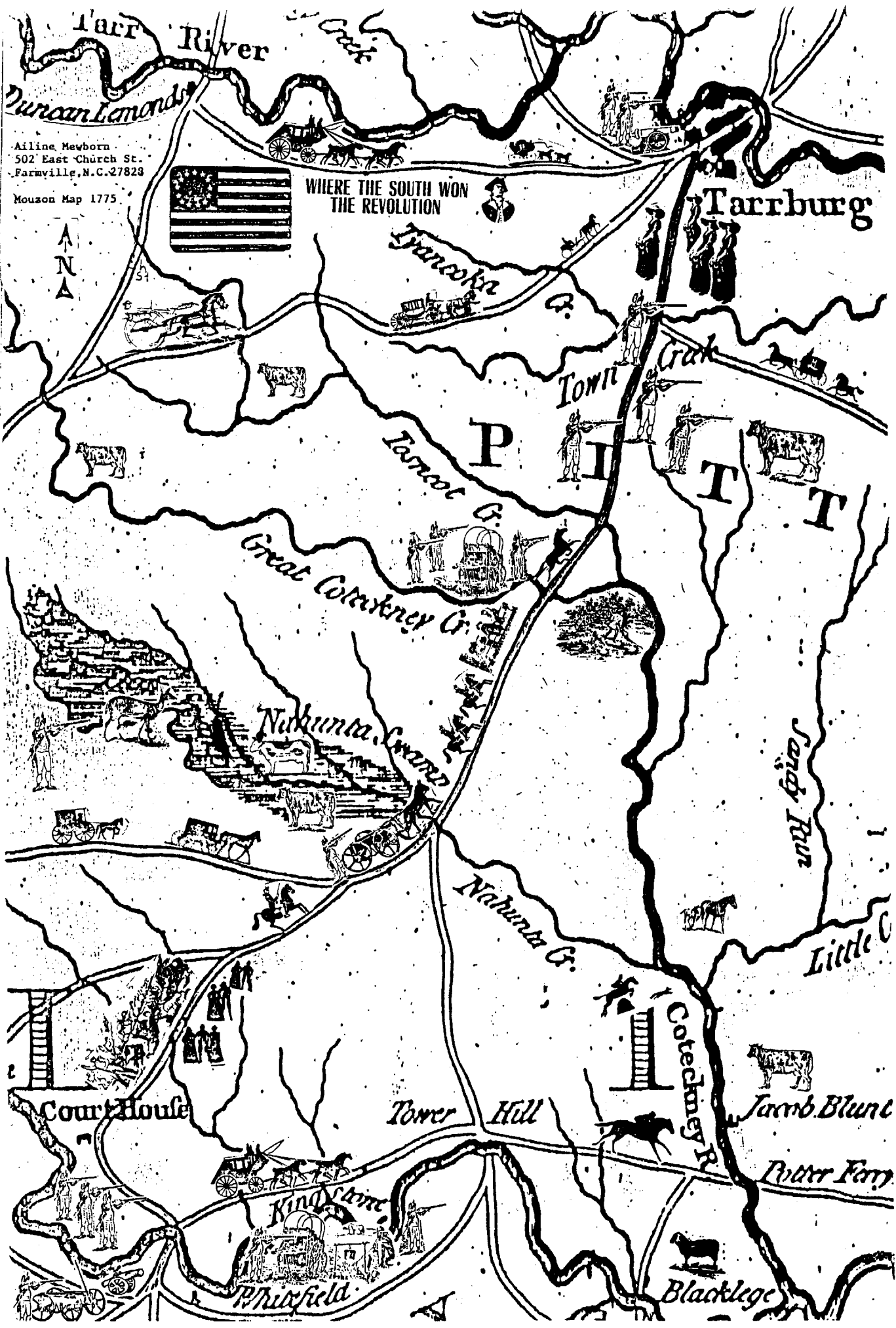
Jacob Blunt

River Ferry

Kingstone

Phisfield

Blackleg



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