

# Brunswick County Historical Society

February, 1992

NORTH CAROLINA ROOM  
New Hanover Co. Public Library  
201 Chestnut Street  
Wilmington, N. C. 28401  
NEXT MEETING

## 1991 - 1993 OFFICERS

President - Gwen Causey  
Vice-President - Rosa Lee Watters  
Secretary-Treasurer - David Bennett  
Directors - Lucille Blake  
              Johnsie Holden  
Newsletter Editor - Frank Galloway

The next meeting of the society will be held on February 10, 1992 at the Leland Town Hall on Village Road. It begins at 7:30 p.m. Bonita Brown of Currie, North Carolina will speak on Riverboats of the Lower Cape Fear.

## G E N E A L O G Y

Genealogy is a congenital disease. The causative factor has not yet been isolated.

Etiology: There is no study which explains the cause of the affliction.

Symptoms: A withdrawal from all other forms of study or recreation. An ever ready willingness to talk endlessly on the subject. A constant questioning of older members of the family and an overpowering compulsion to go to old cemeteries and court houses.

Prognosis: It is incurable. A recovery has never been known as indicated by the nature and symptoms of the case.

Treatment: Just let the person with this addiction alone. There is no way to stop him or her. Let them live, steeped in their books, papers, charts, and files, and asking for quiet so that they may concentrate. Only by the understanding and cooperation of the members of the family can they achieve their goals.

Genealogy is also a subject which never has an ending. There is much research which the future generations could do if someone is addicted sufficiently.

The Public Library  
Wilmington  
N.C.  
Jan 14, 1954,

Dear sir:

Some Jones men came to  
North Carolina in 1670.

What were their names?  
Please send me information.

In care of  
Mrs Lula  
Ward  
Box 294.

Yours truly,  
Fred Smithson  
Lauley Bridge  
W.Va.

The preceding reference question was recently un-  
earthed in a Local History Room file. The librarian in charge  
sa  
(v)

### CLARENDON IMPRINTS

During the 1950s and '60s, Cornelius M. D. Thomas issued a number of titles relating to the Cape Fear area. These titles were issued in small quantities, finely printed and well-designed; reflecting Mr. Thomas' excellent artistic and aesthetic sensibilities. These titles have long been out of print and are much sought-after by collectors. Recently, through the generosity of Mr. Thomas, the Friends of New Hanover County Library were able to acquire a limited number of two of these titles. They are *as new* and, when sold out, will not be available again.

*Cornelius M. D. Thomas, Editor*

#### TALES OF THE CAPE FEAR BLOCKADE 1862-1865

(Clarendon Imprint #4)

The story of Confederate naval officers and British adventurers who slipped in and out of the Cape Fear River with supplies for the Confederacy and cotton for England. The climax is James Sprunt's story as a member of the crew of the *Lillian*, which was finally captured and its crew imprisoned. Only a few copies left, as new, of this desirable title. 134 pages, 16 illustrations, index. 1960 Wilmington. \$20<sup>00</sup>

*Cornelius M. D. Thomas*

#### JAMES FORTE

(Clarendon Imprint #3)

A study of the 17th Century, possibly pre-1625 settlement, on the Cape Fear River, with reproductions of early documents and maps, printed on fine, deckle edge paper, accompanied by two large, folding maps which have been laid into the book. 59 pages, 3 illustrations, 2 maps. 1959 Wilmington. \$15<sup>00</sup>

[For more information call Beverly Tetterton — (919) 341-4394]

North Carolina Marriage Records: Brunswick County 1804-1867, by Frances T. Ingmire, soft cover, \$9.50



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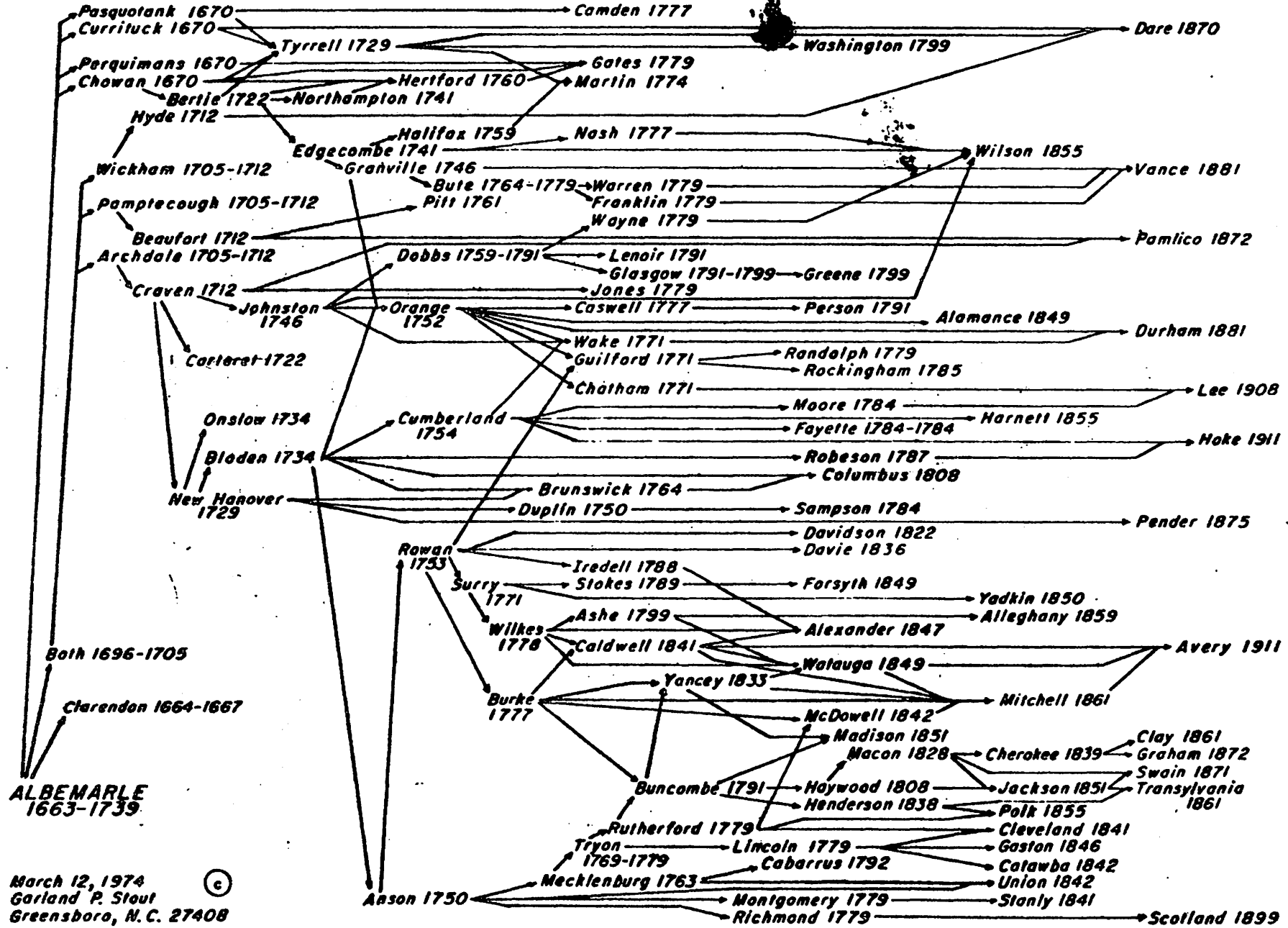
### QUERIES

Query 1: Seeking maiden name of Elizabeth wife of Henry Mitchell (son of Jeremiah Mitchell and Delaney Rouse) married c. 1820 in Brunswick County.

Query 2: Who is Alexander Campbell in 1820 census Brunswick Co.? Alexander Campbell Mitchell a relative? Great-grandson? (He was a grandson to Henry Mitchell and Elizabeth of Brunswick Co.)

Ann M. Horne  
657 West Main Road  
El Centro, California 92243

# NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES



March 12, 1974  
 Garland P. Stout  
 Greensboro, N.C. 27408



VALLEY OF THE SCOTS - MALCOLM FOWLER

UPPER CAPE FEAR RIVER (N.C.) SETTLERS - 1739

Some heads of families who came to the Upper Cape Fear region of Brunswicktown, N. C. in September 1739 from Argyle Scotland - Islay, Jura, and Kyntire.

Thomas Armstrong	Malcolm McNeill
Alexander Clark	Torquil McNeill
John Clark	Will Stevens
Alexander Colvin	Daniel McNeill
Alexander McAlster	John Cameron
Coll McAlester	Daniel McDuffie
Hector McAlester	John Cameron
James McAlester	Daniel McDuffie
John McAlester	Gilbert Patterson
Alexander McKay	Black Neill McNeill
Hugh McLaughlin	Dugal Stewart
James McLaughlin	Patrick Stewart
John McPherson	Malcolm Clark
Archibald Buie CFR	Miles Ward
Duncan Buie	Samuel McGaw
Daniel Buie	Daniel McDougald
Hugh McCranie	Archibald McGill
Murdock McCranie	Neill McGill
Duncan Campbell	John Smith
Archibald Campbell	Archibald Buie (Green Swamp)
Edward Connor	Neill McNeill (Little)
Neill McNeill	Dugald McNeill
Hector McNeill	Hugh Ward
Archibald McNiell	
Lachlan McNeill	
Hector McNeill (Carver)	
Neill McNeill (Long)	
Nathaniel Smylie	
Matthew Smylie	
James Campbell	

--Submitted by Amarette Pierce

# Graveyard demanded patience

Crawling over dried cornshucks and dodging briars has never been my favorite activity.

However, I did learn one thing while doing it: Researching your family tree in an old family cemetery is much harder than in a churchyard or city graveyard.

That idea hit me about fifteen years ago as my husband and I inched our way across an overgrown field on our hands and knees.

At that time, the "genealogy bug" had just bitten us, and I dare say there were few things we wouldn't have done for the sake of posterity. Most newcomers to the "family name game" feel the same way.

Once I read about a Pamlico County woman's experience while cemetery hunting.

She'd been warned that she couldn't get to a certain cemetery because of a 16-foot canal. However, with the help of a friend, she proceeded to the green slimy water.

For half an hour she straddled a slick log, pulling herself across, where she spotted the graveyard.

Last summer, my husband had an unnerving encounter. Despite

the extreme heat, he was champing at the bit to find a particular cemetery. Normally, it wouldn't have been a problem, but after reaching the turnoff, he discovered the old road was too muddy for his car to travel on.

Deciding to wait for a better day, he turned around and went home. Back at our house, he phoned the owner of the land, who offered him an alternate route, through his fields.

After returning to the area, my husband left the car behind. With a bushhook in his hand and paper and pen in his pocket, he circled a field in order to reach a path through the woods.

A bridge of logs stretched across a creek ahead. As he approached the bridge, my husband thought he saw a tree limb lying there.

Moving closer, he watched the "limb" slide into the water. Although my spouse has never lacked the spirit of adventure, when he found out there was "something out there" besides himself, it definitely dampened his determination.

When he crossed the creek, he came to an abandoned field. In the field was a thick, wooded area

where the cemetery was supposed to be located.

At first he didn't find it, but after spotting an overgrown path, he knew he was in the right place.

After cutting through vines and undergrowth, only two stones were visible, so he decided to end the search.

Later that day, he was lucky enough to get the tombstone inscriptions from someone who had copied them years before. Everything worked out for the best, I thought, since he had flatly declared he wasn't ever going back there again.

Now don't be misled by what I've been telling you. This magnificent obsession has its satisfying moments, like the time we found my great-grandmother's first husband's family cemetery, right in the middle of a mobile home park in Lenoir County.

With garbage cans sitting nearby, the two of us marveled at the beauty of the little grove of trees.

After digging some used sheets of paper out of the car, I took an old crayon and gently rubbed the antiquated stones for lasting keepsakes.

Ten years later, after researching at the nearby college, my husband stopped to visit the old graveyard.

After returning home, he revealed, "You won't believe this, but there's nothing on your great-grandfather's stone." "What do you mean?" I asked. His reply was startling: "All the engraving is gone from his tombstone. It's blank."

Although we've never found a logical explanation for what happened, it doesn't bother me that the epitaph is gone. At least I have the rubbing.

Perhaps a person has to be involved in genealogy work in order to fully understand the sweet misery of being dead tired at the end of a cemetery trek.

Exhaustion is easily forgotten by someone who has succeeded in finding family records.

You may ask, "Why do you persevere in such an endless search?" Well, as one gravestone in Onslow County reads: "Another link is broken in our household band, but a chain is forming in a better land." The answer to the question is **FAMILY.**

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*Discovering North Carolina*, an anthology of 100 pieces on North Carolina history, was edited by Jack Claiborne, former associate editor of the *Charlotte Observer*, and William S. Price, Jr., director of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. The 372-page volume is available for \$24.95, plus \$3 for postage and handling, from the University of North Carolina Press, P. O. Box 2288, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2288. Orders from individuals must be prepaid or charged to credit card accounts; North Carolina residents should add six percent sales tax. For toll-free orders, call 1-800-848-6224 (weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).