

*Genealogy of the Southern Lines of  
the Family of Howell.*

*Clark Howell*

*Atlanta, GA  
1930*



HOWELL

## INTRODUCTORY

I have received innumerable requests, covering a period of many years, for information on the genealogy of the Howell family, these inquiries coming from members of the family throughout the country.

Some years ago I undertook to trace the main stem of the Howell line back to the original ancestor locating in this country. I communicated with members of the family throughout the South and from them gathered much interesting information, some of which is presented in the letters accompanying this genealogical record.

I could obtain nothing authentic establishing the line direct until I took up the matter with the American Historical Society of New York City. Special investigators were assigned by it to study the records in North Carolina and in Virginia, and the result of that research is told herewith.

This line consists only of the main stem of my own ancestry, covering each generation from John Howell of Virginia, to my father.

From this record it will be comparatively easy for the descendants of John Howell through the various branches of the main stem to bring this record up to date as affecting each branch of the line.

John Howell, the American progenitor of this line, was born in either England or Wales before 1600. The exact date of his coming, from where he sailed, or where he landed, has not been verified, but 1637 is given as the unverified date of his arrival in Virginia, this being followed by the official record of his land grant dated January 10, 1639.

Possibly some member of the Howell family into whose hands this record may fall, may be able to inform me of the family history back of John Howell.

I will be glad to hear from anyone on this point, as I will be to receive any information that will add to the completeness of this record.

This work has been a pleasure to me and I am sure it will prove of interest to members of the Howell family who read it, —and to them I dedicate it.

CLARK HOWELL,

Editor *The Atlanta Constitution*.

Atlanta, Ga.  
September 21, 1930.

## HOWELL

### I

JOHN HOWELL, American progenitor of this line, was first recorded as follows:

"To all whom these presents shall come, I, Sir John Harvey, Knight Governor Esq. now know yee, that I, with the consent of the Council of State do give and grant unto John Howell One hundred and fifty acres of land by and for the transportation of three persons into the colony of Virginia, whose names are affixed. Dated January 10, 1639."

The grant was signed by John Fletcher, Thomas Gibson and Jane Price. A further grant, made to Lieutenant John Howell, evidently the same man to whom the above grant was made, reads as follows: "To all and whereas, now know yee, that I, Sir William Berkeley, Knight Governor Esq. give and grant unto Lieut. John Howell 212 acres of land lying on the south side of the Appomattox River in the Parish of Bristol, to have and to hold. Dated March 25, 1663." The two grants were of land lying in Henrico County.

There is also a land grant made to Hopkin Howell, recorded, which reads as follows: "To all whom it may concern. know yee, that I, Sir Culpeper, Knight Governor, grant unto Hopkin Howell, 110 acres of land on the branches of the Chuckatuck in the Isle of Wight Co., Va., for the transportation of three persons, as follows: Thomas Hayward, Elizabeth Conway, Mary, a negress. Dated May 29, 1683." Whether the above-mentioned Hopkin Howell was a brother of the emigrant, John Howell, or the latter's son, is difficult to decide. The facts that the two men were contemporary and close neighbors, and that John Howell had a grandson with the rather unusual name of Hopkin, make it seem evident that they were related. The following record, however, suggests that the first Hopkin Howell was a brother of John Howell. "Hopkin Howell and Mary

Howell, his wife, regranted the patent given to Hopkin Howell, deceased. Dated Isle of Wight Co., Va., April 23, 1688."

Children:

1. *John Jr.*, of whom further.
2. William, probably a son, had land patent in Isle of Wight Co., Va., granted in 1687.  
("Virginia Land Office," an abstract, Book I, pp. 661-2; Book V, p. 132; Book VII, pp. 298, 265, 607.)

## II

JOHN HOWELL JR., son of John Howell, died, evidently intestate, as no will has been recorded for him. He had land granted to him in 1694 as the following record shows: "To all know yce, I, Sir Edmund Andros, Lt. Gov., grant unto John Howell, son of John Howell, deceased, 100 acres of land in Isle of Wight Co., Va. This patent was a part of a grant to Peter Johnson in 1642, and escheated to Hopkin Howell and John Howell who made a division thereof during their lifetime, the said mentioned land falling to John Howell, to whom this patent is regranted. Dated April 20, 1694." This grant is a further indication that John Howell, Sr., and Hopkin Howell were brothers.

By 1722, according to the historians, Turner and Bridger, Bertie Precinct, which for a long time was politically connected with Edgecombe County, North Carolina, was formed, and the region settled by the highest type of Virginia manhood. The mouth of Town Creek marked the beginning of the settlement in 1720, but two years later the present vicinity of Tarboro was settled by a small party of Virginians. The land upon which Tarboro was built was formerly the property of Joseph Howell, Jr., of North Carolina, of this line. The dates of the grants of land in North Carolina, and especially Edgecombe County, do not represent the time of the arrival of the families, who, in many cases had been resident there for fifteen or twenty years previous. Settlers in North Carolina recorded their "Rights," which meant a grant of fifty acres for each person brought into the colony, but the recording, like the granting, took place long

after the actual settlement. John Howell, Jr., of Virginia, was designated as John Howell, Sr., in North Carolina. Of his rights we have the following record: "At a council in Edenton, (Colonial capitol) March 15, 1743, John Howell of Bertie County, was admitted to prove his rights in order to take up land. The number of his rights were seven whites and eight blacks." His petition and the originals of the grants are in the Land Office at Raleigh, and describe minutely the metes and bounds. Among the North Carolina State Papers is found the following interesting item: "Deposition of John Campbell, Merchant of Bertie County. This deponent saith he saw John Howell, Sr., have a blank warrant and a patent of land to be filled without any date to either." Governor Gale Johnson issued a large number of such warrants.

John Howell married, possibly, Elizabeth, who survived him, and whose estate was administered by her son, Thomas Howell. Children, (order of birth not known).

1. John, Jr., with his brothers, Joseph and Thomas, was appointed a juror for Edgecombe County, February 25, 1739-40; petitioned for land in Bertie County in 1742.
2. *Joseph*, of whom further.
3. Robert, petitioned for two hundred acres of land in Edgecombe County, November 27, 1744, and again for one hundred acres on April 6, 1745, in Bertie County, which is on the way from Isle of Wight County to Edgecombe County.
4. Hopkin, petitioned for land in Craven County in 1749.
5. Thomas, appointed with his brothers, juror for Edgecombe County, February 25, 1739-40; petitioned for land in Northampton County in 1743, and for two hundred acres of land November 27, 1744.
6. William, petitioned for land in Edgecombe County in 1739.

("Virginia Land Office," Book VIII, pp. 379-80. Turner and Bridger, "Edgecombe County History," p. 17. "North Carolina State Papers," Vol. IV, pp. 625, 1119, 619, 342, 703. "North Carolina Records," Vol. IV, pp. 522, 866, 710, 761.)

### III

JOSEPH HOWELL, son of John Howell, died in Edgecombe County, North Carolina, between January 10, 1749, when he made his will, and May, 1750, when it was proved in May Court. He, with his brothers, John, Jr., and Thomas Howell, was appointed a juror for Edgecombe County, February 25, 1739-40. He served as Justice of the Peace for Edgecombe in 1746 and in 1749. He petitioned for land in Edgecombe County in 1739 and again on March 21, 1743. On November 27, 1744, he petitioned for a warrant of three hundred acres of land in Edgecombe County, and on April 6, 1745, for two hundred acres of land in Bertie County, North Carolina. Joseph Howell was named as representative for Edgecombe County, North Carolina in 1746-7, and was promoted to assemblyman in North Carolina, for the year 1747-8. "Mr. Jos. Howell" was named among the speakers of the assembly held at New Bern, North Carolina, June 12, 1747. He was also mentioned in connection with the "act for better ascertaining the number of members to be chosen for the several counties, etc." His will reads as follows:

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Joseph Howell of Edgecombe County, being sick and weak of body, but of good sense and memory, this tenth day of January, 1749, do make this my last will and testament in the manner following: First, I bequeath my soul to God that gave it, and my body to the earth from whence it came, and as for my worldly goods I dispose of in the manner following, that is to say:

"Imprimis: I give and bequeath to my loving wife, Margaret, my negro woman called Mooland, and her increase forever, the labor of my negro girl, Jude, during her widowhood, the use of the old or home plantation during her life, with all appurtenances thereunto belonging, and also the still.

"Item: I give and bequeath to my son, Joseph, my negro man, Jack, and my negro girl, Judge, after his mother's death, and her increase forever, the plantation I now live on with two hundred acres of land and all appurtenances thereunto belonging to the old plantation, with three hundred acres of



land and appurtenances thereunto belonging after his mother's death, and desire he may be of age at eighteen and receive his estate.

"I give and bequeath to my son, Thomas, my negro man, Dick, my negro boy, James, the plantation that goes by the name of 'Raton's' with four hundred acres and all appurtenances thereunto belonging, and a tract of land lying and joining on Herricks Creek, containing three hundred acres, with a grist mill standing thereon and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, and desire he may be of age at eighteen and receive his estate.

"Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Mary, my negro girl, Hannah, and her increase forever.

"Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Murphrey, my negro girl, Mann, and her increase forever.

"Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Martha, my negro girl, Mool, and her increase forever. And after all my debts are paid and legacies herein, the remainder of my estate of what nature or kind soever, to be equally divided at the discretion of my executors, between my wife and five children, and I hereby make and appoint my loving wife and son, Joseph, Col. Dawson, Samuel Ruffin, Thomas Howell and Joseph Henderson, full and sole executors of this, my last will and testament, hereby revoking, disannulling and making void all former wills and bequests by me made, and declaring this only to be my last will and testament, in witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year written. Signed, sealed and acknowledged in the presence of witnesses—

Joseph Williamson,  
James Barron,  
Thomas Barron,

Jurat.  
Jurat.  
Jurat.

J. HOWELL.  
(Seal)

(Margaret Howell and Thomas  
Howell qualified as executors  
of Joseph Howell's estate.)  
(Clerk's note)

Edgecombe County, N. C., May court, 1750. The above written will was exhibited in court and Margaret Howell, relict of the deceased, and Thomas Howell, qualified for the office of executor and executrix.

Teste: BENJAMIN WYNNS.

Clerk.

In the inventory of his estate taken August 17, 1750, he was styled "Major" Jos. Howell, and was said to have possessed a large number of slaves, one hundred twenty-nine head of cattle, a large number of other farm animals, and a great variety of personal property.

Joseph Howell married Margaret, who outlived him and removed with her son, Joseph Howell, Jr., to Cabarrus County, North Carolina, where she died, aged about one hundred years, and was buried in the Hain's Churchyard.

Children:

1. *Joseph, Jr.*, of whom further.
2. Mary, mentioned in her father's will.
3. Murphrey, also mentioned in her father's will.
4. Thomas, inherited "Raton's Plantation" and land on Herrick's Creek from his father.
5. Martha, mentioned in her father's will.

("North Carolina Records," Vol. IV, pp. 522, 813, 866, 628, 710, 761; Grime—"Abstract of North Carolina Wills," p. 174; "Edgecombe County, Minute Book. (1748-1753)." "North Carolina State Papers," Vol. IV, p. 619. "North Carolina Records," Vol. IV, pp. 815, 1855, 984, 1176.)

#### IV

JOSEPH HOWELL, JR., son of Joseph and Margaret Howell, was born, apparently in Edgecombe County, North Carolina, in 1733, and died in DeKalb County, Georgia, (now Campbell County), aged 102 years. Died 1835. He was not quite eighteen years of age at the time of his father's death, but was appointed with his mother as executor of his father's will. Joseph Howell was named on a committee to examine and allow public claims in March or April, 1753. On April 13, 1762,

he was chosen to represent Edgecombe County in the Assembly and again in 1764, and for the last time in 1765. He apparently moved out of the county about 1765 as he did not represent Edgecombe County again. An act for establishing a town on the land of Joseph Howell on Tar River was passed and one hundred fifty acres of land were purchased by the government, "Captain Joseph Howell retaining only a grave yard plot when he passed title to the trustees named in the deed." A second act was passed to encourage Joseph Howell to build a bridge over the river at or near the place called Howell's Ferry at Tarborough in Edgecombe County, and he was given authority to collect tolls on men, horses, carriages and cattle passing over it. In the rooms of the North Carolina Historical Commission at Raleigh are the original minutes of the commission appointed to lay out the town of Tarboro. Joseph Howell's name appeared many times in those minutes in connection with the sale of town lots, up to 1764, but after that year his name ceased to appear. It seems evident that Joseph Howell removed westward with the general trend of migration to the newer and more fertile lands and settled in Mecklenburgh County in 1765-66. Mecklenburgh County was taken from Anson County and in turn became Cabarrus County. On August 16, 1768, Joseph Howell was one of the petitioners from Anson County to Governor William Tryon, saying: "We conceive that no people have a right to be taxed but by consent of themselves or their delegates." Again on October 9, 1769, he signed a paper requesting: "That Dr. Benjamin Franklin or some other known patriot be appointed agent to represent the unhappy state of this province to his Majesty and so solicit the several Boards in England, etc." Joseph Howell was among the signers of "the Petition of the Inhabitants of Anson County, being part of the Remonstrance of the Province of North Carolina to Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly". In the original Land Entry book of Anson County of 1778, we find that: "Fifty acres of land are entered in the name of Joseph Howell, including the vacant land between *his own old tract* and John Flower, and a tract that John Harman. (probably meant for John Garman) now lives on." "His own old tract" predicates several years previous residence in Anson County by Joseph Howell, the year of his

arrival apparently agreeing with the year his name ceases to appear upon the minutes of the Tarboro Commission.

We find many references to his name in the Deed Books of North Carolina and among them, the following:

October 9, 1783, State of North Carolina, to Joseph Howell, 160 acres on the west side of Rocky River, on both sides of David Heart's Creek.

January 7, 1784, Joseph Howell of Cabarrus Co., to John Reed, a tract of 100 acres on Rocky River for 100 pounds. Witnesses: James and Josiah Love.

June 8, 1785, Thos. Harris, Esq., late Sheriff of Mecklenburgh Co., to Joseph Howell, planter, 100 acres on east side of Rocky River.

August 7, 1787, State of North Carolina to Joseph Howell, 90 acres on Rocky River.

December 22, 1787, John Nelson to Joseph Howell, for 30 pounds 37 acres joining Hardy Warner. Witnesses: Hezekiah Bryant and Chas. Townsend.

July 13, 1788, Chas. and Mary Townsend to Joseph Howell, for 50 pounds, 126 acres on Muddy Creek. Witnesses Charles Alexander and Martin Money.

December 28, 1795, Joseph Howell and wife, Margaret sell land to Lewis Underwood.

Seventeen-ninety-eight, Joseph Howell, Sr., to James Love. Witnesses: John and Henry Howell.

September 10, 1803, John Howell of Cabarrus Co., to Eli Howell, for 450 dollars, 30 acres on west side of Rocky River, joining George Garman and Joseph Howell. Witnesses: William and Joseph Howell.

March 16, 1811, Joseph Howell, Sr., of Cabarrus Co., for love and affection to son, Isaac Howell, 90 acres.

Joseph Howell, who was 43 years old when Independence was declared, saw active service during the Revolution in the militia of Mecklenburgh County, North Carolina, as a foot soldier in Captain Adam Alexander's Company, having enlisted June 6, 1766, and fought in the battles at Guilford Court

House and King's Mountain. His service is recorded in the collection of the North Carolina Historical Commission. (Book C). He also furnished supplies and money to the Continental Army.

Joseph Howell married in Anson County, according to family records in 1768, Margaret Eleanor Garmon, who died after 1795. All marriage bonds for Anson County between 1760 and 1800 have been burned, but the above place and date are logical for this marriage.

Children, (order of birth not known).

1. John, died in Haywood County, North Carolina, aged eighty-nine years; married Essena Osborne.
2. Joseph, born in 1764; died in North Carolina, and was buried at Howell's Church Yard, near Concord, Cabarrus County, that state.

He married in 1789, Sylvia Robinson, who was born in 1773 and died in 1853.

3. Elizabeth, died in Jackson County, Alabama, aged ninety years; married (first) Eli Green and (second) Jacob Smith.
4. Henry, born in 1775, died in Haywood County; married in 1803, Mary Miller.
5. Eli, died in Randolph County, Alabama; married February 12, 1801, Nancy Love; John Howell, security.
6. Margaret, died in Gordon County, Alabama, aged ninety years; married Edmund Smith.
7. William, married Elizabeth Sides, February 12, 1801; John Howell, security.
8. Isaac, died in Cobb County, Georgia; married November 4, 1805, Margaret Tucker; Evan Howell, security.
9. *Evan*, of whom further.
10. Michael, died in Montgomery County, Arkansas; married Mary Freeman.
11. Eleanor, died in Campbell County, Georgia, aged fifty-four years; married John Kiser.

(D. A. R. Lineage Books: Vol. LXXIX, p. 219. Vol. XXXIII, p. 6. Vol. XXXIV, p. 248. Vol. LXXVIII, p. 231. North Carolina Records, Vol. V, pp. 54, 181. Vol. VI, pp. 801, 1098; Vol. IV, pp. 815, 855, 903, 984, 1176; Vol. VIII, p. 80. Vol. VII, p. 808; Vol. XXII, p. 395; Vol. XXIII, pp. 537, 594-5; Vol. XXIV, p. 176; Deed Books: Vol. II, pp. 333, 482; Vol. V, pp. 20, 26; Vol. VI, p. 77; Vol. VIII, pp. 157, 23; Vol. IX, pp. 90, 92; Vol. X, p. 30. White: "Historical Collection of Georgia," p. 292; "Tarboro Town Commission Minutes at the Historical Commission in Raleigh, Anson County, North Carolina." Land Entry Book, 1778.)

## V

EVAN HOWELL, son of Joseph, Jr., and Margaret Eleanor (Garman) Howell, was born in Cabarrus County, N. C., in 1781, and died in Gwinnett County, Georgia, in 1868, aged eighty-six years. In the Deed Books of North Carolina we find that on October 13, 1813, "Sheriff sold land to Evan Howell". Also that on January 23, 1824 "Evan Howell sold 109 acres of land". The latter transaction evidently took place after the departure of Evan Howell with his two sons, Clark, aged ten years and Archibald aged eight years, and daughter, Eleanor, to Georgia, 1821. Mr. Howell settled on the south side of the Chattahoochee River in Gwinnett County. In the Deed Books of North Carolina under date of January 2, 1837, we find that "Evan Howell of Gwinnett County, Georgia, sold to Archibald H. Howell of Cabarrus County for \$150.00, a tract of land on both sides of Rocky River, containing 244 acres. Witnesses: A. Howell, James M. Howell, Hampton and Singleton Howell."

Evan Howell married (first) in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, April 19, 1805, Martha Love; Eli Howell, security. He married (second) Mary Elliott; (third) Harriet Hines W. Owens; (fourth) Jane Brooks, and (fifth) Teziah Brombelow. (North Carolina Deed Books, Vol. IX, p. 134; Vol. X, p. 443; Vol. XXXIV, p. 248; "North Carolina Marriage Bonds; Family Records.")

Children, of the second marriage:

1. *Clark*, (named for William Clark, explorer of the Northwest), of whom further; married Miss Winn; then Effiah Park; then Mary D. Hook.
2. Archibald, born in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, in 1813; married Tosie Cleland; second wife Emily Cleland, sister.
3. Mary D., died young.
4. Eleanor, married Mattison McAfee.

Children, of the third marriage:

5. Julia, married Jackson Graham.
6. Hampton, married Cynthia Knox.
7. Singleton, married Agnes Ousley.
8. Savannah, married (first) Calvin Parsons; then T. Abbott.

## VI

CLARK HOWELL, son of Evan and Mary (Elliott) Howell, was born in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, on December 28, 1811, and died in Atlanta, Georgia, on May 14, 1882. At about nine years of age he moved with his father to Gwinnett County, Georgia. When 21, he married Miss Winn of Lawrenceville, Georgia, who died with baby, named Archibald, soon afterwards.

On December 4, 1838, Clark Howell married Miss Effiah Jane Park, who had moved to Lawrenceville, with her mother and family from Greensboro, Georgia, following the death of her father. Effiah Park was the daughter of James Park, who was a Revolutionary soldier from Virginia, who moved to Georgia and took up government lands in Greene County in about 1786 and reared 16 children. Her mother was Phoebe Hogue of Wilkes County, Ga., who was the daughter of Jonathan Hogue, who settled in Wilkes in 1781. They were a very happy couple. The Hogues were of French descent. Effiah Park Howell died at her husband's home in Warsaw (then in Forsyth, now Milton County) Georgia, on November 22, 1850. Soon after her death, Clark Howell moved to Atlanta, the name of which had been changed from Marthasville only two years before, and there married Miss Mary D. Hook of Augusta, Georgia, about 8 years later. At the time of his death he owned about 4,000 acres of land in Fulton County.

The following account of Clark Howell's life was taken from an editorial published in the Atlanta Constitution on May 16, 1882, following his death:

#### JUDGE HOWELL'S LIFE

Clark Howell was born in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, in 1811, and was, therefore, seventy years old at the time of his death. His father, Evan Howell, was a North Carolinian by birth, but of Welsh descent. He was a man of uncommon force of character and physical vigor, and lived to be eighty-five years of age. When Clark Howell was nine years old his father moved to Gwinnett County, where he lived until nearly 1840.

When Clark Howell was twenty-one years of age he was married to Miss Winn of the well-known Gwinnett family of that name. In this year he ran for the legislature on the Whig ticket, and while he was defeated, received the largest vote given to any member of his ticket. By his first wife he had one child, which died. His wife died in two or three years, and then he married Miss Park of Greene County. From this union was born Evan P., Albert, William, Clark and Charles Howell and two daughters. The sons are all living and only the eldest daughter is dead.

About 1838 he moved to Cobb County, where he built the Lebanon Mills, near the Roswell Mills. He remained here for about three or four years, and then moved to Forsyth County, now Milton. While living in Cobb County he represented that county in the legislature. From Forsyth County he went back to Gwinnett, his second wife having died in 1850. In 1852 he came to Atlanta, which was then a mere village. He bought the Sassee house now used by the Richmond and Daville Co. as headquarters (later the site of the Metropolitan Theatre, opposite Piedmont Hotel). It was then being built by Dr. Long of Athens. Judge Howell purchased it and finished it. It was noted as being the finest house anywhere in this part of Georgia, and people rode for twenty miles to see it. While building this house Judge Howell and his family lived in two little huts situated on a three-acre lot that stood just where the Butler and McMillan residences are on Marietta street.

Judge Howell engaged in the mercantile business in Atlanta about this time, having a store where Menko's store now stands, and had a partner by the name of Parr.

While in Atlanta he married his third wife, Miss Mary D. Hook, who survives him. There were two children from this marriage—Dr. Dan Howell and Mrs. Park Woodward. Judge Howell received his title from service at the head of the inferior court of Fulton County. It was under the supervision of this court that the county lines of Fulton were laid off and the new county created. The court was composed of Clark Howell, C. H. Strong, S. Terry, James Donahoo and Samuel Walker. This court laid off the county and organized the admirable system under which it has been so prosperous. He represented Fulton in the legislature, and was at the time of his death a county commissioner. He was always held in the highest esteem, and never ambitious to occupy any office except where he felt that he could do his country a service. It is safe to say that he could ask for nothing that his people would not have given him, and that he was stronger and more popular in those communities that knew him best.



His life was not an eventful one nor marked by brilliant episodes. He was a quiet, unobtrusive citizen, holding his own views from principle, and was contented rather to express them quietly than to seek distinction. He was always a farmer, though often engaged in other business also. At the beginning of the war he was worth about \$75,000, and after the war gave to his sons and daughters over \$50,000 worth of property. He made it a point to give each child a fair start in life. At his death he was in good circumstances, and leaves a fine property. His love for his family was strong and abiding. He kept his sons and daughters near him, and nothing so delighted his heart as reunions or social gatherings that brought them all together, and strengthened the ties that bound them one to another. He dies with each one of them living near him, and all of them will follow his remains to the grave today. He was always in easy circumstances, lived abundantly, was hospitable and generous, gave to each of his children a fair start in life and died without an enemy. He was for many years of his life a member of the Christian Church, and with the consciousness that death was coming fast upon him, and was most likely to seize him without warning, the last years of his life were peaceful and happy. Long ago he had squared his accounts with the world and said to his wife and children that he had lived seventy years without doing any man an injustice, and that he was not afraid to go to the judgment bar of God with the record he had made.

Few more blameless lives were ever lived than the one that closed when Judge Howell breathed his last. He was the central point of three generations of his family. His father said of him, that he was the best son that ever lived, his brothers and sisters testify that he was admirable in his fraternal relations—as a husband he was irreproachable and affectionate—and his sons and daughters sorrowing today over his coffin and mindful of the long years of his life and helpfulness, his sympathy and his strong love, shrewd advice, and his shining example rise up and call him blessed. As a master he was just, merciful and kind—of over sixty slaves that he owned more than two-thirds live on his plantation today and have no troubles or differences that they do not submit in the fullest faith in his decision and adjustment.

As a public official he was wise and incorruptible—a leader of opinion always, but rather by reason of his example than his appeals—conservative, devoted and firm.

## CHILDREN OF THE ORIGINAL CLARK HOWELL

The children of his marriage to Miss Winn were:

Archibald, died in infancy.

The children of his second marriage to Effiah Park were:

*Evan Park*, of whom further.

Albert, married Emily Hook.

William H., married Alverine Hoyle.

Charles A., married Mary Hopkins.

Martha, married Nathan Lyon.

Twins—Clark, married Elizabeth Gardner, and Archibald died in infancy.

Mary, died in infancy.

The children by the third marriage to Mary D. Hook were Katherine Hook, married Park Woodward.  
Daniel Hook.

## VII

EVAN PARK HOWELL, son of Clark and Effiah (Park) Howell of Greensboro, Georgia, was born at Warsaw, Milton County, Georgia, December 10, 1839, and died in Atlanta, August 6, 1905. He removed with his father to Atlanta when about nine years of age, and continued to live there the rest of his life. He attended a field school at Warsaw and later a private school in Atlanta until 1855, when he entered the Georgia Military Institute at Marietta. After two years at the latter institution he read law at Sandersville, Georgia, until 1859 when he entered the Georgia University Law School at Athens. The following year Mr. Howell graduated from the law school and began the practice of law in the office of James S. Hook, a prominent lawyer at Sandersville, but his legal career was interrupted by the outbreak of hostilities between the South and North. Evan P. Howell enlisted at once with the Washington Rifles which were organized at Sandersville, and was elected Orderly Sergeant. During the first year of the War he saw service in the army of Northern Virginia, under Jackson, and upon the expiration of his term of enlistment, returned to Sandersville. There, with Captain Robert Martin of Augusta, he organized a Light Battery of Artillery which became known as Howell's Battery. Evan P. Howell served as first lieutenant of the battery and later as captain in command. Howell's Battery engaged in the battles of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge and later served under General Joseph Eggleston Johnston and took part in every fight between Chattanooga and Atlanta. The battery occupied particularly conspicuous positions in the Battle of Peachtree Creek, July 19, 1864, and the Battle of Atlanta. Following the fall of Atlanta Captain Howell and the remainder of his battery were ordered to Macon to recruit and to reorganize. Subsequently they retired to Fort Hawkins and were there when Lee's surrender terminated the War Between the States.

After the war, Evan P. Howell returned to his father's home on "Howell Mill Road," near Atlanta, and for two years engaged in saw milling on his father's lands between Peachtree Creek and the Chattahoochee River. Lumber at that time was in great demand for the reconstruction of Atlanta, which had been sorely ravaged by the battles that had been fought there.

In 1867 Captain Howell accepted a position as sole reporter on the daily *Intelligencer* in Atlanta, and located there with his wife and two small sons, soon becoming the city editor. Atlanta at that time had begun to prosper again, and Captain Howell, realizing the opportunities which lay before him resumed his practice of law. Cincinnatus Peeples, a prominent lawyer of Forsyth, Georgia, having moved to Atlanta, entered the law partnership of Peeples and Howell with Captain Howell. He later became Solicitor-General of the Atlanta Circuit, and was elected state senator from the Atlanta District for three terms from 1878 until 1882. Between 1878 and 1892 he was a delegate to most of the national conventions of the democratic party. In 1887 he bought the majority interest in the Atlanta Constitution, giving up the practice of law to become the editor-in-chief of that paper which he conducted with great ability and success until he retired in 1897. He was the leading force in the Atlanta Constitution; in the location of the capital at Atlanta; in the establishment of the first cotton exposition, president of the company that built the New Kimball Hotel in Atlanta in 1883, and in numerous other enterprises of a varied nature. He was a member of the state capitol commission, which with a legislative appropriation of \$1,000,000 in 1884, completed Georgia's present Capitol building within the appropriation. His foresight, his stalwart integrity, his versatile ability and enduring courage won for him a respected place in the business world and the high esteem and devotion of many friends and acquaintances throughout the South.

Captain Evan P. Howell married Julia Erwin June 5, 1861. She was born at Erwinton, Barnwell County, South Carolina. Died January 29, 1906.

Children:

1. *Clark*, married (1) Harriet Barrett, (2) Annie Comer, and (3) Margaret Cannon Carr.

2. Albert, married Elizabeth Martin.
3. Effie, married Robert L. Foreman.
4. Ida, married (1) Robert B. Cramer, and (2) Dr. Robert George McAlily.
5. Rosalie.
6. Adelaide, married (1) Byron Bower, and (2) Allen Heidenreich.
7. Evan P., Jr., married (1) Georgia Gaston Dickinson, and (2) Ruth Cox.  
(L. L. Knight: "A Standard History of Georgia and Georgians, " Vol. V, p. 2414; Vol. IV, p. 1898; Vol. III, p. 1421; W. P. Reed: "History of Atlanta, Georgia," (1889) pp. 409-10, 71. Family Records.)

## LETTERS

Cisco, Murray County, Georgia  
March 17, 1889

To Wm. H. Howell  
Dallas, Texas  
My dear Nephew:

Yours of March 2nd is to hand, and I am glad to hear from you once more, and in this letter I will give you the desired information as far as I am able. I got the following statement from my grandfather, Joseph Howell, during his life time.

During the persecutions of the Protestants by the Catholics in Wales, the Howells, being Baptists and therefore Protestants, they with many others were forced from their homes, and were compelled to hide in caves and secret places for safety from their enemies. John Howell, the father of my grandfather, Joseph Howell, immigrated to America and settled in Virginia, where he finally died.

Of the sons of John Howell, one moved to South Carolina, two to Tennessee, two to Kentucky, one (Henry) remained in Virginia, and Joseph, my grandfather, moved to Cabarrus County, North Carolina, previous to the Revolutionary War. He brought his mother with him and she lived to be about a hundred years old. I saw her buried from the Hains Meeting House in Cabarrus when a boy.

Joseph Howell, my grandfather, married Margaret Eleanor Garmon, a German woman. John Howell, the eldest son of Joseph, married Escena Osborn of Irish descent who died in Haywood County, North Carolina, age 89. The next son, Joseph, Jr., married Silva Robbins. He died in Cabarrus, age 123 years. The next was a girl, Elizabeth. Her first husband was Eli Green, and her second husband was Jacob Smith. She died in Jackson County, Alabama, age 95. Henry Howell, my father, married Mary Miller of German descent. Father died in Haywood County, North Carolina, age 91. The next son, Eli Howell, married Nancy Love of Irish descent. He died in Randolph County, Alabama, over 90 years of age. Next a daughter, Margaret, married Edmond Smith. She died in Gordon County, Georgia, age 95. The next son, Wm. Howell, married Elizabeth Sides. He died age 35 or 40. The next son, Isaac Howell, married Margaret Tucker of German descent. He died in Cobb County, Ga., age 76. The next son, Evan Howell, was married five times; first Mary Elliott. She died. Then Jane Brooks. She died. Then Harriett Owens. He died in Gwinnett County, Ga., age 89. The next son, Michael Howell, married Mary Freeman. He died in Montgomery County, Arkansas, age 75. Eleanor Howell married John Kiser. She died in Campbell County, Ga., age 70. My grandfather, Joseph Howell, was 102 years of age when he died in DeKalb County, Ga. I was born February 19, 1803.

Now, I have given you the desired information according to my best recollection. I would be glad if I could give you more information about our family, but I have no record to refresh my memory. This leaves me and all my family in this county well.

Hoping to hear from you again soon.

Your Uncle, etc.,

(Signed) EVAN SHELBY HOWELL.

(From Cicero Howell of Murray County, Georgia)

Laughbridge, Georgia  
January 9, 1892

Letter from C. C. Howell  
to Wm. Harrison Howell  
Dallas, Texas

Dear Cousin William:

Some time in October I received a letter from you and for my negligence in answering I beg you pardon.

Well, I have been talking to father about our family, and he says he can't give any further information about the members of our family. He says he used to hear his grandfather, Joseph Howell, speak of Wales, and how his father was persecuted, and lay out in caves to avoid his persecutors, and that his father finally left Wales and immigrated to Virginia, and that he left his landed estate and other property, which he supposed was confiscated. Joseph, it seems, was 12 years old when he left Wales. Father says he can't recollect the names of the sons of his grandfather, John Howell, who came from Wales and settled in Virginia nor the place of settlement.

Truly yours,

(Signed) C. C. HOWELL.

(From Archibald Howell, Marietta, Ga.)

Marietta, Georgia  
April 8, 1895

Mr. Wm. H. Howell  
Dallas, Texas

My dear Sir:

Your letter dated March 6th and mailed on the 31st was received April 2nd, and read with pleasure. You desire to know something about our ancestors. I am sorry to inform you that my knowledge of our forefathers is about equal to your statement in your letter. Joseph Howell, my grandfather, lived in Cabarrus County, N. C. Don't know what year he came there. He reared a family of seven sons, viz: John, Henry, Joseph, Eli, Isaac, Evan and Michael. Also Margaret, who married Smith, and Eleanor who married Kiser. All removed to Georgia about 1820, except John, Henry and Joseph, who remained in North Carolina and died there. Eli and Michael moved to Alabama, and died there. My father Evan, and Isaac died in Georgia. Smith and Kiser also died in Georgia. You are correct about my father living on the Chattahoochee River in Gwinnett County, about 20 miles from Atlanta, and was 86 when he died. Your father I have never had the pleasure of seeing, but his brother you alluded to, who lives in Murray County, this state, is named Evan for my father. I have seen him often before he was married, and liked him very much. I was in Chattanooga about a month since, and saw a young man who lives a neighbor to him and said he was 92 years old, and could ride horse back to Spring Place County site equal to a young man. I will be 81 if I should live to see the 5th day of next June. My grandfather, Joseph Howell, was 101 years old when he died and his wife 99. Evan Howell, my nephew, who is principal proprietor of the Atlanta Constitution, a leading newspaper of this state, got information from some source that my grandfather and two brothers came over from England and located somewhere in Virginia in the

early part of the 17th Century, and when they left Virginia Joseph came to North Carolina. The two other brothers located in some of the Northern states, and since then cannot trace the two other brothers any further. I recollect distinctly hearing my grandfather say that he was an Englishman and grandmother was a Welsh lady. I recollect them both very distinctly, but was too young to ask questions that I would now be glad to know and could impart to you. I recollect also that he was a man of astonishing memory and could recite whole chapters in the Bible and Testament. He removed to, and died in Georgia, near my father. The Howells are a very numerous family now in Georgia. I have been married twice. My wives were sisters. The first had four; the second eleven children, all living when last heard from except one, a son. There are now living eight sons and six daughters.

If my recollection is correct both you and your wife have been married twice, and at your last marriage you were a widowed Methodist minister, and your wife widow of a Methodist minister. I remember meeting you and your wife, and also your brother Robert and wife in Waynesville, N. C., and formed an excellent opinion of all. I have been there once since, and spent a night at the hotel, and took dinner the next day with your brother, Alden, and was pleased with both himself and family.

With much love to yourself and wife.

Affectionately,

(Signed) A. HOWELL.

(This letter was written by Archibald Howell, the son of Evan Howell, to his cousin.)

