THE PRATT FAMILY OF NORTH CAROLINA AND ALABAMA

Includes Sketches of

Allied Families

BEAVERS * VERNON * HAMPTON

1966

by

Margaret U. Lofquist

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PRATT FAMILIES

In loving devotion this genealogical record is presented to all Pratt families. The compilation of this lineage represents twenty-five years of inquiry, the major portion of which at the hands of a superb professional genealogist. Even so, these tracings of your lineage are far from complete and with certainty some errors exist. We can face all that without too much distress since old courthouse entries notoriously are inaccurate. We are fortunate to have found so much.

Your ancestry is notable. Not only are you from one of the older families in America, you are from one of the oldest families in England, Then before that you are from one of the oldest French families. In France your name was "de Pratellis."

By design this account chiefly comes to an end with the Captain Richard Hopkins Pratt and the Leonard C. Pratt generation. Taking up there every Pratt family is called upon to extend its record to this

This booklet has been prepared as a tribute to all those generations of Pratts that preceded us, the members of which lived such lives that to this day we are proud of them and take pride in ourselves that we are their decendants.

Affectionately,

University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Michigan June 8, 1966

The name Pratt occurs among the earliest English surnames. Some of its forms were Prat, Prate, Pratt, Pratte, and still others found in ancient writings were Du Pre, De Preux and de Pratellis. All are supposed to have been derived from the Latin word "pratum" meaning meadow, or the French "preux" meaning prairie. There are nine distinct armorial bearings now extant among the different families of Pratt. The motto on one of the more prevalent of them reads "Rident Florentia Prata" which translated means "Flowering Meadows Smile".

The family, in many of its branches, held stations of influence and power in the British Empire. The first references to the name there appear prior to the year 1200 of the Christian Era, and show that they probably came to England from Normandy.

In 1066 Le Sire De Preux is found to have accompanied William the Conqueror to England and to have fought in the Battle of Hastings. He was in possession of the Barony of Pratella near Rowan in Normandy. Later he became interested in the Crusades to the Holy Land and became an active Warrior for the Cross.

Four brothers, John, William, Engelraw and Peter de Pratellis all figured largely in the reigns of Richard and John. In 1191 William de Pratellis accompanied Richard the Lionhearted to the Holy Land and saved him from captivity and so was knighted. A few years later, in 1201, John de Pratellis was a favorite minister of Richard Coeur de Lion and his brother, Peter, was al hereditary standard bearer for the Crusader King.

In 1201 Peter de Pratellis married Mary, daughter of William de Vernon, Earl of Devon and Isle of Wight. One of the original homes of the Vernons, the Chateau de Vernon, was located about thirty miles from Prris. Some of that mame also came to England with William the Conqueror and fought there in the Battle of Hastings.

The marriage of Peter de Pratellis and Mary de Vernon is of particular interest for in the genealogical account which follows it will be found that the Pratts of North Carolina were closely associated with the Vernon family. They migrated together from Cub Creek in Virginia to Rockingham County in North Carolina, thence to Abbeville County, South Carolina and even to Eibb County, Alabama, where, at the time of the formation of that county, the names of both Pratt and Vernon appear.

The first persons of the name Pratt to settle on American shores came from England. Some of them settled in New England, and others settled in Norfolk, Gloucester, Henrico and Northumberland counties in Virginia.

Not long after the arrival of the Pilgrims on the Mayflower and the establishment of Plymouth Colony, Thomas Weston and others organized a new enterprise. In January, 1622 a small company of men sailed from England on the ship "Sparrow" arriving at Damarins Cove Islands off the coast of Maine in May, 1622. From this ship lying at anchor were sent out in a little vessel, ten men to select a site for a new plantation. Fhinehas Pratt was one of these men. An account was written by him of this journey from the ship *(another account states there were seven men)

Sparrow at anchor to the new colony at Plymouth, and of the subsequent attempt to establish a settlement. This narration, written in the ancient style of that time, can be found in one of the volumes of the Massachusetts Historical Society Collections.

This settlement was located in what is now the town of Weymouth, Massachusetts. The venture was of short duration due mainly to trouble with the Indians, and to the many hardships that the men were forced to endure in their primitive environment. Eventually Phinehas Pratt retired to Plymouth and married there. Later he moved to Charlestown, Massachusetts where he died in 1680 aged ninety years.

Joshua Pratt, believed to have been a brother of Phinehas, came to the Colonies on the ship "Ann" in 1623, and soon others of the name settled in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Less than two hundred years later numerous descendants of these emigrants had moved on and settled in parts of New York, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, having followed the trend of migration westward from New England.

VIRGINIA PRATT FAMILIES

The Pratts of Rockingham County, North Carolina could have been descended from any one of the early emigrants, or from somewhat later travelers to our American shores. However, it is regrettable to state that, after a great amount of time spent in searching for records in areas of Virginia, Maryland and North and South Carolina, no definite information has been found pertaining to the ancestry of the Rockingham families.

It is known with certainty that Richard Pratt, born in 1764, married in Rockingham County about 1789, Rebecca, daughter of William and Abigail Beavers, and that from them the Pratt families of Bibb County, Alabama descend.

William Pratt who lived in Rockingham County at the time of the Kevolution was said to have been a brother or possibly a cousin of Richard Pratt. Several years ago, in the beginnings of this exploration, contact was made with descendants of William living in Rockingham County. One of these descendants, living in Madison, North Carolina, recalled that her father had told her that the Pratts had come from Massachusetts to Baltimore, Maryland, thence to southern Virginia and finally to what is now Rockingham County, North Carolina.

In his history of the Bibb County, Alabama family, L. C. Pratt gives the birthplace of Richard Pratt as "probably Maryland" which would give credence to the Madison (North Carolina) family story. However, others who have devoted time to research on these lines feel that the Rockingham families must have stemmed from one of the name who settled early on the Eastern Shores of Virginia.

According to the inscription on Richard Pratt's tombstone, he was born in Stokes County, S.C. (S.C. probably an engraver's error) and though this is possible it would seem more likely that, at the time of Richard's death, the engraver, or his informant, assumed that he had been born in Stokes County, North Carolina because he had moved to Alabama from there.

Explorations in Eastern Virginia have brought to light several items regarding Fratts who lived in that region shortly after 1700, and who are, at

this writing, under study as possible forefathers of the family.

In Westmoreland County, John Pratt, a wealthy tobacco planter, left a will dated September 20, 1714, proved November 24, 1714. He left property and extensive holdings mainly to three persons, his son John Pratt, his grandson John Lovell "all to be delivered to him at the age of 21 years", and to his granddaughter Margaret Pratt. His daughter-in-law, Mrs. Mary Pease, was also remembered and was to receive 2000 pounds of tobacco. (this name possibly could be "Price" as one Evan Price appears to be somehow connected with this family).

The surnames Pratt and Lovell could be designated as uncommon names as they are not often found in the old records of Virginia. However, some thirty years after the death of John of Mestmoreland, the names John Pratt and George Lovell appear either together, or very near to each other, on the list of tithables of Old Lunenburg County, Virginia for the years 1748 through 1752.

In those years, because they often moved in groups from one location to another, the proximity of families usually indicated relationship by blood or marriage, so it would seem more than co-incidental that forty years still later, these names again appear near each other in the 1790 census of Rocingham County, North Carolina.

Northunberland County, Virginia adjoins Westmoreland County and both are located across from Maryland separated from that state by Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River. In one of Fleet's volumes of Early Virginia Records there is found the following birth records:

James Prett son to James born 16 March, 1712

William Prett son to James born 5 March, 1737

Fra's Ann Prett Daughter to do born 17 March, 1739

James Prett son to Jems born 4 April, 1741

The memes which appear above could allude to:

James Pratt who appears on the old receipt dated August the 19 1729 and signed by Frederick Jrion.

James Fratt who lived in Rockingham County, N.C. at the time of the Revolution.

William Pratt who settled in Abbeville County, S.C. before the Revolutionary Mar.

Fanny (Frances) Pratt who married John Hopkins in Virginia.(new data found indicates that this was Elizabeth Pratt who married "John Hipkins"},

While in these "Prett" birth records there are first names and dates of birth which, to some degree, fit into the ancestral pattern that we are attempting to establish, still there is no John Pratt found here and somehow and somewhere he must fit into the family lineage.

The search of the records of Virginia and Maryland uncovered many pertaining to persons of the name Pratt in both Virginia and Maryland. However, this record pertaining to James and his children of Northumberland County, and the ones pertaining to John of Westmoreland, are the only ones found dated before 1750 which would point to a possible connection with the Rockingham County family.

FAMILY PAPERS AND TRADITIONS

Tradition in the Alabama branch of the family concerning the first generations in America agrees, in general, with dates and names contained in three old papers saved by Rebecca, wife of Richard Pratt, and carefully preserved down through the years by succeeding generations.

These papers, which consist of two receipts and one note, are as follows:

1. August the 19 1729. Received of James Pratt Sen. 17 Shillingsof his account with me (signed) Frederick Iron (or Jrion)

2. Mr. John Prat Sr. please pay to old Mr. P. Vernon six shillings for Louis Hoberts Ballance which is one shilling. Pay to George Taylor and this me note shall be your discharge from same Ir Friend Mary Smith February 9 day 1750

3. Reserved of John Prat one Levey and tax for the yeare 1757 also the yeare 1758. Also quit rents of 150 acres of Land for the yeare 1757 and the yeare 1758. Saye meserved by me John McNelly i.d.

It is fortunate that the Alabama family has considerable knowledge of their ancestry, and that several of them have preserved it in manuscript form. Without this information it would have been considerably more difficult to compile this family record. The following extracts are taken from the L. C. Pratt, Jr. manuscript dated July, 1898.

> "Early in the eighteenth century, tradition says that a Mr. James Pratt (or Prat) came with his family from the western part of England to seek a home and fortune, or health, in the wilds of America. In this family there was a son, James Pratt, who is the first of the family whose name has been preserved, and who assisted in establishing their home in Virginia. - - James Pratt (once promounced Jeemz) was probably born about 1679 and it seems most probable that he was grown when he came to America. - - James Pratt probably died about 1737 and was buried in Virginia.

Another tradition says that James Pratt came to America with his six brothers all of whom were grown; that he remained in Virginia for a time, while his brothers settled in other parts of the country; some going north and some to New England. However, it is certain that

James arrived in America during the first twenty-five years after 1700 and his descendants have multiplied and settled in many of the states and territories of the United States.

John Pratt (or James Jr?) was probably born about 1720 in the Virginia Colony and very likely followed the trade of his father, a pioneer farmer. He died about 1785 a few years before his grandson, Absalom was born. It is said that while he was yet a young man, he moved to Maryland and that his son Richard Pratt was born there, but we cannot ascertain this, nor can we say with certainty whom he married, although it is probable that he married a Miss Hampton, for we find the names of John Hampton and H. Hampton on a deed given to his son Richard before the year 1799. No doubt these two Hamptons were cousins of Richard Pratt. The kinship that existed between the Pratts and the Hamptons was well known among the older members of the family---"

The history as given by Rev. James M. McCord in a manuscript written in 1912 agrees in the most part with that of L. C. Pratt, Jr. He also states that there is uncertainty as to the name of the father of Richard Pratt, but it will be noted that he then goes on to use the name "James" rather than "John" in his further references to him. Excerpts from the McCord manuscript follow:

> "Sometime between the years 1700 and 1725 a Pratt family came from Western England to America. In the family was one James Pratt, Sr. who was born in Western England about 1679, and died in Virginia U.S.A. in 1737.... Fire, time and careless hands have swept away almost every vestige of history of James (or John) Pratt, Jr. son of James, Sr.

This James Pratt, Jr. was born in Virginia in 1720. ... It seems that James, Jr. had a double or middle name, James John or John James, we don't know which."

In pages following records pertaining to James Pratt and John Pratt are given, and we quote the above to pinpoint the importance of trying to determine which of the two Pratts, i.e. James or John, was the father of Richard.

After a study of all data at hand, it would seem to this writer that there may be a generation missing in the lineage as given by the first family historians, and that the confusion regarding John and James was due to the fact that there were two men, rather than one, James Pratt, Sr. and John Pratt, Sr., *father and son, who lived in the same household, or near each other, on the Mayo Mountain in North Carolina, * (son and father)

It is possible that the lineage was as follows:

----- Pratt Came to America before 1700
 James Pratt Named in the receipt dated August 19, 1729
 John Pratt, Sr. Lived Cub Creek, Va; thence to Rockingham Co. NC.
 James Pratt, Sr./Father of James, John, Wm, Thos., & Richard
 Richard Pratt Married 1789 in Rockingham Co., Rebecca Beavers

THE PRATTS AND VERNONS OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Old Lunenburg County during the middle 1700's consisted of a large section of south central Virginia, and later other counties were formed from it. The lists of tithables for Lunenburg County, for the years 1748 through 1752, included the name of John Pratt (in one list called "Sr.") and also the names of several of the Vernon family. The proximity of the families will be noted in the list following, and the order of the names varies only slightly on the other lists. George Lovell named here may be of the Westmoreland family of the name who intermarried with the Pratt family there.

> List of Tithables in William Caldwell's Territory for 1750 (the name "Vernor" is spelled "Vernon" on the other lists)

John Vernor

(John is separated from the others but the names below follow each other)

Thomas Vernor Senr

James Vernor----2 Thomas Vernor Junr-----1 John Pratt-----1 George Lovell------1

(slightly further down the list)

Jonathan Vernor Isaac Vernor

The names above appear in William Caldwell's Territory which was composed of all that area bounded on the east by Cub Creek, on the west by Falling River and on the south by the Roancke River. This area now lies partly in Campbell County and partly in Charlotte County.

Of the Vernons listed here, several of them we know settled in Hockingham County, North Carolina, and all indications are that the John Pratt of the list is the one who later appeared with the Vernons in North Carolina. If the words "Old Mr. P. Jernon" on the old receipt of 1750 could be interpreted to read "Old Mr. T. Vernon" it would definitely establish John Pratt of Rockingham County as making formerly lived in Old Lunenburg County, Virginia. The handwriting of that time, with its loops and flourishes used especially in making the capital letters, is most difficult to read, and possibly further study of the receipt can be made at some later time. Themas Vernon, Senior named here is thought to have been the father of the others of the name, with perhaps the exception of Jonathan who was said to have been a more distant relative.

The first settlers who came to this area in Virginia were led by John Caldwell, grandfather of John C. Calhoun the noted statesman. There is a deed dated 1751 in which William Caldwell conveyed to John Caldwell, William Calhoun and Isaac Vernon, one acre of ground including a graveyard. Later these names (and also that of William Pratt) are found in Abbeville County, South Carolina. William Calhoun of the deed, we believe, was the one who later lost several members of his family/which occured in 1760 at Long Canes Creek in South Carolina. in the Cherokee Massacre

(for further data on the Vernon Family see following pages)

THE ROCKINGHAM COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA FAMILY

The first mention we find of the name Pratt in the Rockingham County area is in the Records of the Moravians of North Carolina. In his diary Rev. George Soelle, who, in May and October 1772, made two trips into Virginia from Salem, North Carolina, wrote about the men living along the road. The following is a brief resume of his references to these men:

"- - On the Town Fork lived James Hampton at whose house meetings were held by Soelle - - Passing on to the Mayo on the May trip, Soelle spent the night at a tavern. On the October trip he crossed the Mayo and went to the home of Mr. Vernon. Two miles from there was a meeting house where he preached, in accordance with a promise made to Vernon in Salem 8 days before. He spent the night with a Mr. Pratt who had a house by the side of the road. He was a quiet, respectable man, with a large family; his wife was sick. Next day he crossed Smith's River - - Returning (on his return trip from Pennsylvania) - - Soelle set out for home spending a night with Mr. Pratt etc. - - "

The location described here was thought by the family of William Pratt to have been in North Carolina, but near the town of Ridgeway which lies just over the line in Virginia. The Mayo, the Smith and the Dan Rivers all rise in Virginia and flow down into North Carolina, and the Mayo River flows into the Dan River at a little town in Rockingham County called Mayodan.

In the Colonial Records of North Carolina (Volume 10) there is reference to a John Pratt. Guilford County (parent county of Rockingham) was formed in 1770 from Rowan and Orange Counties, and in 1773 its first courthouse was built. John Pratt is listed with others who signed a petition for the erection of this courthouse. The petition does not bear a date but it is enclosed with the other 1773 records.

The name John Pratt is also found on a payroll of men who served in an expedition against the Indians in 1776 under Captain William Shepherd. It is believed that this Captain Shepherd was from Surry County, North Carolina which at that time adjoined Guilford County on the west. According to another source, John Pratt, later of North Carolina, served under John Loson^{*} in the Virginia Continental Line. Perhaps in the early part of the Revolution he did live over the line in Virginia, but in the latter part of the Revolution he did live other the line in the service in Guilford County, North Carolina. In this connection it is interesting to note that in 1785, and about the time of the formation of Rockingham County, John Gibson^{*} sold land there to James Pratt. Unfortunately nothing further has been found pertaining to John Gibson here, and perhaps he returned to Virginia. *(Col. John Gibson)

The Pratts acquired land by grant or deed in Guilford County at just about the time of the formation of Rockingham in 1785. These grants were to John, James and William Pratt, all the land being situated on the Mayo Moutain located in the northwestern part of Rockingham County and near the present town of Leaksville, North Carolina. Leaksville is only a few miles from from the division line between Rockingham County, North Carolina and Henry County, Virginia. The original grant to William Pratt is still in the hands of his descendants now living in the town of Madison County, North Carolina.

There are probably deeds recorded in Guilford County for John and William Pratt dated just prior to 1785, or perhaps that year, but unfortunately they were not copied for us. The other deeds pertaining to the Pratts are as follows:

Guilford County, N. C. May 1785 Deed from John Gibson to James Pratt for 200 acres of land proved by Joseph Gibson a subscribing witness and on motion ordered to be registered. Rockingham County, N.C. December 27, 1786 Deed Book A - p. 308 Deed from James Pratt to William Pratt for 50 acres of land on the Waters of Sharpe's Creek on May Mountain. Witness: *(Mayo) Richard Pratt Rockingham County, N.C. February 23, 1788 Deed Book B - p. 28 Deed from James Pratt, son of John Pratt deceased, to Elizabeth Strong, 50 acres in Rockingham County. Rockingham County, N.C. May 1786 Deed from William Brown and wife to Richard Marr proved by Banjarin Pratt Rockingham County, N.C. November 15, 1792 Deed Book C - p. 219 Deed from John Pratt of Rockingham County to Richard Pratt of same county, 27 acres on Sharpe's Creek the consideration being 16 pounds. Rockingham County, N.C. November 15, 1792 Deed Book D - p. 19 Deed from Richard Pratt to Charles Calloway for 177 acres "on Sharpe's Creek & mostly on South side of Mayo Mountain",

the consideration being 100 pounds.

The following are the only records pertaining to the Pratts that could be found in the Court Minutes of Rockingham County, North Carolina:

November 1787 On Petition of sundry inhabitants praying a road be opened from Mayo Ford to the lone Island ford on Dan River ordered that the following persons be appointed as a jury to view and report on same, to wit- William Pratt

Richard Vernon Richard Pratt Thomas Pratt John Pratt et al

November 1787

On Petition of sundry inhabitants that a ferry be established on Dan River above the Point of lone Island in said river ordered that the following persons be a jury to view and lay off said road the best way out of the old road to a place where the aforesaid ferry is to be established, viz-

William Pratt Thomas Pratt John Pratt et al

November 1787

Ordered that the following persons be summoned to view a road from Joyce's ford on Mayo River to the dead timber ford on Dan River and then to the Courthouse, viz-

Thomas Pratt

Richard Pratt

et al

November 1787

James Pratt, Senr, is appointed overseer of the road in room of William McClellan.

November 1788

Richard Pratt & Richard Vernon

On Jury to view two roads with Allens Road & the Road crossing Dan River at Irons Ferry and report to next court.

Further references to these deeds and to the Court Minutes will be made in the "Pratt Sketches" found on following pages.

NOTES ON HAMPTON HOPKINS AND VERNON

There are several opinions in this family regarding the maiden name of Richard Pratt's mother. One is that she may have been a Vernon before her marriage; another is that her name may have been Hampton because it was known that there existed a relationship between Richard's family and the Hamptons. And there are those who believe that her name may have been Hopkins as Richard and Rebecca Pratt gave that name to their first born child.

We know that there existed a kinship between the children of Richard Pratt and those of Henry Hampton. They were first cousins. Henry Hampton and Richard Pratt married sisters, the daughters of William and Abigail Beavers. If we can judge by their listing in the census of 1800, the families lived side by side in Stokes County and the children must have grown up together.

In a letter written some years ago there was included this item:-*(no reference was given) "Widow Pratt 1785 to 1796 married Thomas Hampton". Thomas Hampton (1728-1796) was the father of Henry who married Sarah Beavers. This could be possible as John Pratt of Rockingham County died about 1785 and his widow could have been married to Thomas Hampton until his death in late 1796 (or early 1797). If we are correct in believing that Henry Hampton and Richard Pratt lived near each other in Stokes County, then it would not be unusual for the widowed mother of one, to marry the father, also a widower, of the other. * (may have been taken from a Hopkins Genealogy but not located by this writer) To further indicate a Hampton-Fratt marriage, there is at hand data taken from a history of the Allen-Hampton family wherein it is stated that Thomas Hampton (father of Henry) married Sarah Fratt. The author, Captain Herry Allen, started his collection of material before 1900. He had much correspondence with his kinfolk, some of them well up in years at that time, so he must have had good authority for stating that his ancestor Thomas Hampton married Sarah Fratt. However, there is recorded in Stafford County, Virginia the marriage of "Thomas Hampton to Sarah Pattison alias Congers January 1, 1749", and this marriage record is accepted as the authentic one for Thomas Hampton by most family historians, So it may be that Thomas did marry Sarah Pratt, but as his second wife.

Another item pertains to Elizabeth Beavers of Louisa County, Virginia, widow of Joseph Hopkins. If there is a connection here it must be through Elizabeth Beavers, sister of Rebecca (Beavers) Pratt, about whom we have but little information. Perhaps she married first Joseph Hopkins, and second a Hutchinson as she is called Elizabeth Hutchinson^{*} in the wills of both of her parents. * (or Hutchison)

We know that there was a close relationship between the Vernons and the Pratts, and more detail regarding this will be given later. Though the possibility that Richard Pratt's mother was a Vernon is not ruled out, it appears more likely that either his father's sister married a Vernon, or that Richard's own sister was married to Richard Vernon, the captain in the Revolution under whom the Pratt brothers served.

It may be that Richard's mother's first name was Elizabeth, as Elizabeth Pratt, in the 1800 and 1810 census, appears as the head of the household which formerly, in 1790, had been headed by Elichard, and the other woman living with Elizabeth may have been his sister. More about Elizabeth Pratt will be given under Pratt Sketches on succeeding pages.

PRATT SKETCHES

Not enough data has been found on the Pratts of Rockingham County to properly identify them and their relationship to each other, nor do we know positively if there were two or three generations of Pratts living in that county at the time of the Revolution. It seems, from the information available now, that John Pratt, Sr., of Charlotte Couty, Virginia, was the first of the name in Rockingham County and that either he, or possibly his son James (or John), was the father of the brothers, John, Jr., William, Thomas, James and Richard Pratt. Because they cannot be placed in a family grouping, separate sketches have been written on these men and other persons connected to them.

It may be well to note here that in those days the terms junior and senior were often used to separate two adults (usually close relatives) of the same name and living in the same area. Therefore a younger man with junior added to his name, could be a son, a nephew or perhaps a grandson of a man bearing the same name. In these sketches, too, the patriotism of these Pratt men will be noted. At least four of them served in the Revolutionary War and we have no way of knowing what additional aid they may have given by way of provisions and supplies.

JOHN PRATT, SR.

References on preceding pages regarding John Pratt of Lunenburg County, Virginia, the "Mr. Pratt who lived by the side of the road" in Rev. Soelle's diary, and the John Pratt who signed the petition for the courthouse must have pertained to him. He may have served in the Revolutionary War under Col. Gibson in Virginia, or under Capt. Shepherd in his expedition against the Indians. His place in the lineage back from the Alabama family is not definitely established. He is considered by some to be the father, and by others to be the grandfather, of the younger Pratt men, John Jr., William, Thomas, James and Richard. We know from a deed recorded in Rockingham County that he was the father of a James Pratt. He died in Rockingham County prior to 1785 but he must have died intestate as no will was ever found. After his death his widow may have married Thomas Hampton of Cascade, Pittsylvania County, Virginia.

JOHN PRATT, JR.

John Pratt, Jr. lived on the Mayo Mountain in Rockingham County and acquired

land there at about the time of that county's formation from Guilford County. He appears as a road viewer in 1785 with his brothers, and in 1792 he deeded 27 acres of land to Richard Pratt. In 1805, according to Georgia records, an interrogatory was to be presented to John Pratt, and others, pertaining to their knowledge of the James Holderness family formerly of North Carolina.

John Pratt, Jr. served in the Revolution during the latter part of the war. He appears with the rank of private on a payroll for part of "Captain Richard C. Vernon's Company Troope Horse". He entered service November 10th, 1781, and was discharged December 7th, 1781 and his service was given as 27 days.

We are fortunate in having been able to obtain a photostatic copy of an original receipt signed by John Pratt, Jr. When Capt. Richard Vernon, many years after the war, applied for pension, he enclosed several additional papers to aid in establishing proof for his service.

One of these papers was the receipt as follows:

"November 27th 1782 then received of Rich'd Vernon one Specie Sortify Cate of Nine pounds six shilinge for Atower of Duty Served with him in the Militia the yeare 1780" (signed) John Pratt jner

From the above receipt it would seem that John Pratt, Jr. served more than one tour of duty under Richard Vernon, serving under him in 1780 as well as in 1781.

JOHN PRATT III

In 1800 there were two John Pratt families living on the Mayo Mountain, Perhaps they were John Pratt (Revolutionary Soldier) and his son John who by 1800 was married and had a family of his own. The name of the younger one appears frequently on the deed books up until 1817. The following deed shows that he was deceased before March 7, 1817. (Reference Deed Book B - page 391)

March 7, 1817

Deed from Anny Pratt, Samuel Pratt, Mary Pratt, Elisha Pratt & Peggy Pratt heirs and representatives of John Pratt, deceased, to Robert Calloway the consideration being 176 pounds of Virginia money for land on both sides of May Mountain, containing 33 acres in Rockingham County.

*(Mayo) *(133 acres)

JAMES PRATT, SR

We do not know if the James Pratts appearing on the early records refer to one or to two persons. From an early deed we know that James Pratt was the son of John. It may be that James was the second of three generations living on, or near, the May@Mountain at the time of the Revolution, and that he was the father of the younger men, John, Jr., William, Thomas, Richard and perhaps James. *(Mayo)

It will be noted in the early Court Minutes that four of the younger men served as road viewers, while, at the same time, James Pratt, Sr. was appointed an overseer. The use of senior here would likely indicate that he was the oldest of two adults of the name, and it would be doubtful if the duties of overseer would be given to a very young man. The character of his assignment in the service was also somewhat different than that of William and John, Jr. James Pratt's duties was to collect delinquents and deserters while William and John, Jr., apparently, were members of the regular Horse Troops.

In 1785 James Pratt bought 200 acres located on the Mayo Mountain from John Gibson, but in 1786 he sold 50 acres to William Pratt, and in 1788,50 more acres to Elizabeth Strong. Perhaps he died before 1800 and his widow was the Elizabeth Pratt who appears on both the 1800 and the 1810 census for Rockingham County, N.C.

James Pratt served several tours of duty in the Revolution. In October, 1781, he appears with the rank of private on a list of men that served " after Fanning under Colonel Paceley". He served as "Lighte Horse", owned his own horse, and his service was given as ten days.

In another tour of duty he appears on a Pay Roll of Capt. Vernon's Company of "Melitia Lighte Horse Ordered by Colo. James Martin to colect Delinquents, Disarters &cc., August 20th, 1781. Revolutionary War." Served fifteen days.

James Pratt also appears on a return of delinquents, deserters, etc., by Captain Vernon's Company. The return is dated August 13, 1781, the name was "Joel Thomas", his crime was "delinquent", his"forfiture"was "crop" and the witnesses. were James Pratt and William Wright. The delinquent was to appear at Guilford Courthouse on the "21st inst".

JAMES PRATT(Jr?)

The James Pratt listed in the 1790 census appears to be a young man with a family of growing children. After this date the name disappears from the Rockingham County records.

WILLIAM PRATT

William Pratt acquired land in Rockingham County at about that time the County was formed from Guilford. In 1786 he bought 50 acres of land on the Mayo Mountain from James Pratt. His children continued to live in Rockingham County, and the original land grant to William is still in the possession of descendants presently living im Madison, North Carolina.

The Revolutionary service that we have on William Pratt is identical to that of his brother John, Jr., indicating that they both served together in Capt. Vernon's "Troope Horse" in 1781. Both entered service November 10th, were discharged December 7th and served 27 days.

THOMAS PRATT

Two men by the name of Thomas Pratt, both with growing families, are listed in the 1790 census of Rockingham County. One of them appears listed next to John Pratt and it is assumed that he was the Thomas Pratt who appeared as a road viewer in 1787, The pension applicant referred to in the following paragraph may be the Thomas Pratt of the Mayo Mountain Family.

Thomas Pratt of Hawkins County, Tennessee, on the 30th day of August, 1820, applied for pension stating that he had entered service in Rockingham County, North Carolina, and served under the command of Capt. John Brevert in a regiment commanded by Abraham Shepherd in the North Carolina Line, in Rev. War.

At the time of his application, Thomas had one daughter aged seventeen, one daughter aged fourteen, and a son aged eleven living at home. He died September 14, 1837," and his widow, Sally Garrison Pratt, whom he had married November 13, 1789, applied for a widow's pension in 1843. In an affidavit enclosed with her papers, John Garrison, Sr. of Lee County, Virginia, stated that he remembered Thomas Pratt, a Revolutionary soldier, and his wife Sally, and recalled that in the year 1789 they left her father's home with a company of others in the morning for the purpose of getting married and returned in the evening the same day stating they were married. *(another date given September 27, 1838) Sally Carrison Pratt died October 18, 1852. According to estate papers dated May 21, 1856, Polly Pratt of Sneedville, Tennessee, was her only heir.

BANJAMIN PRATT

Banjamin Pratt was a witness to a deed in Rockingham County in May 1786. We have found no further mention of him, and we would have no idea as to where his place would be in the Rockingham County family.

ELIZABETH PRATT

Elizabeth Pratt must have had an important place in the family, and she may have been the widow of James/ and the mother of Richard. There are only land grants and census records available to assist in determining her place in the family.

In May, 1785, James Pratt bought 200 acres of land from John Gibson. In 1786 James deeded 50 acres of land to William Pratt, and in 1788 he deeded 50 acres to Elizabeth Strong. This land apparantly was on Sharpe's Creek located on the Mayo Mountain. Richard Pratt also acquired 150 acres here, evidently by inheritance.

In the census of 1790 Richard Pratt is listed next to William Wright (who appeared with James Pratt as a witness on the delinquent return in 1761), and, besides Rebecca his wife, there is an older woman living with him - also one slave. After 1790 Richard moved over into Stokes County, and in 1800 the family listed next to William Wright was headed by Elizabeth Pratt, aged over 45 years. Another woman was living with her aged 26 to 45 and there were also several growing or almost grown children. By 1810 the women were both over 45 and some of the children had left the home.

(the second woman) Elizabeth Strong of the deed may have a place here. Perhaps she/was a widowed daughter of Elizabeth, or a widowed daughter-in-law. But of course she could be related in others ways, or there could be other reasons for her having lived there.

RICHARD VERNON

Richard Vernon was born in Charlotte, County, Virginia October 18, 1758, and moved with his parents to Rockingham County, North Carolina sometime before the Revolutionary War. Several years after the war his parents and his brothers and sisters all moved to Abbeville County, South Carolina. He remained in North Carolina and lived very near Elizabeth Pratt on the Mayo Mountain. It will be noted in the Court Minutes that he was closely associated with the Pratt brothers, and he may have been their brother-in-law, or possibly he was a cousin to them.

Richard Vernon's service in the Revolution was varied and notable, and beginning with his entry into service on the 15th of February 1776, and until 1782, when the conflict ended, he gave almost continuous service in the war, serving first as a lieutenant and later as a captain.

On the 13th of August 1781 he received his captain's commission to raise a company of light horsemen, and served a three months tour of duty taking a apprehending delinquents, deserters and Tories. In the fall of that year he was called out with his company, under Col. Martin, in an expedition against the British, under Major Grey, who lay near Wilmington, and later his company was ordered back to Guilford to keep the Tories down. It was during this later period of Capt. Vernon's service that the three Pratt men, James, William and John, Jr, served under him.

Richard Vernon lived for many years on the Mayo Mountain, but in his later years he joined other members of his family in Williamson County, Tennessee. He died either in Williamson or Davidson County, Tennessee sometime between 1840 and 1850. More about Richard Vernon's relationship to the Pratts will be given in sketches following. For his place in the Vernon family, see sepate pages on Vernon.

AUSTIN SMITH

Austin Smith was only a connection and was not a blood relative of the Pratts. We mention him here only because in this exploration he has served as a connecting link between the Pratts and Vernons of Rockingham County, North Carolina and those of the name in Abbeville County, South Carolina.

Austin Smith was born in Chatham County, North Carolina March 4,1763, and was living in Guilford County at the time of the Revolutionary War. He served in that war under Captain Vernon, and after the war he moved to Abbeville County, South Carolina. Later his daughter married in Abbeville County, David Pratt, son of William Pratt who was the progenitor of the Pratt family there.

In 1832, Richard Vernon, then living in Tennessee, applied for a pension for his service in the Revolution. With his application he enclosed a testimonial paper obtained from Austin Smith of South Carolina. That Richard Vernon, after alomst fifty years, would turn to Austin Smith for corroboration of his service, would surely indicate kinship to him or a connection by marriage. They were separated by distance and in those days not even members of families kept in touch with each other.

It was the discovery of this testimonial by Austin Smith which led us to the conclusion that the Pratts of North Carolina were related closely to those of South Carolina. It led us, too, to the further conclusion that Richard Vernon, to be related to the families of both states, would have been married to a person of the name, or would have had a mother whose maiden name was Pratt.

The certificate of Austin Smith was signed by James Elack, Justice of the Quorum of Abbeville County, and James Black added a personal note to the testimonial certificate and thereby gave us proof that Isaac Vernon of Abbeville County, was the brother of Richard Vernon of North Carolina and Tennessee. The personal note is as follows:

> "Richard Vernon Dear Sir I am well acquainted with Isaac Vernon your Brother himself and his family are well yours J. A. Black"

OE DIAH VERNON

Obediah Vernon was a first cousin of Absalom Pratt of Bibb County, Alabama, and we believe that Obediah may have been a son of Richard Vernon. It is not known where he lived after he left Rockingham County. He is listed in the 1810 census in Rockingham County, North Carolina, but may have moved to Tennessee shortly thereafter, as there was one of the name living in Williamson County where Capt. Richard Vernon lived in his later years.

The name of Obediah's first wife is not known, but he married as his second wife a second cousin whose name was Pratt. By his first wife, Obediah was the father of Nehemiah Vernon who lived in Bibb County, Alabama, and was also the father, by his first wife, of Frances Vernon, who married Joab, son of Absalom Pratt.

HICHARD PRATT

A separate section will be devoted to Richard Pratt and his descendants. See following pages.

RICHARD AND REBECCA (BEAVERS) PRATT

Richard Pratt, the first in this lineage about whom we have definite information, was born in 1764 probably in Virginia. He married in Rockingham County about 1789, Rebecca, youngest daughter of William and Abigail Beavers. The Beavers had moved about 1783 from Loudoun County, Virginia to the Mayo Mountain region of North Carolina.

Richard Pratt appears only once as a grantee in the Rockingham County deeds. On November 15, 1792 he received 27 acres by deed from John Pratt, but at some previous time he must have acquired land by inheritance, for on the same day he sold 177 acres "on Sharpe's Creek and mostly on the South side of Mayo Mountain" to Charles Galloway. He was evidently selling his property preparatory to moving to the adjoining county of Stokes.

According to the 1800 census of Stokes County, Henry Hampton, Richard Pratt and Abigail Beavers lived near each other. There is a question as to why Henry Hampton, brother-in-law of Richard, was living in Stokes County at that time, for according to information we have on Hampton Families, Henry lived most of his life in that part of Surry County that later became Yadkin County, North Carolina. Abigail Beavers, mother-in-law of both Henry Hampton and Richard Pratt, wrote her will in 1801, and it was filed November, 1803 in Surry County. Evidently Richard Pratt and his mother-in-law Abigail, after the death of William Beavers, moved over into Stokes County to locate near Henry Hampton. Here, too, lived William James, whom we believe was married to one of Abigail Beavers' younger daughter⁵, also named Abigail.

The following was taken from a List of Taxables for Stokes County, N.C.

1797 - Stokes County, North Carolina. Captain Shouse's District Richard Pratt $76\frac{1}{4}$ acres of land ---2 while polls

The following deed and note were copied from the Pratt family papers:

State of North Carolina - Stokes County Deed to Richard Pratt, Planter of One Hundred seventysix and a quarteracres for and in consideration of 121 pounds to be paid Sept. 29, 1799 to Frederick William Marshall. Sealed and delivered in Presence of John Hampton H. Hampton June 13, 1796 - Stokes County, N.C. Note of John Dearing to Richard Pratt for 500 pounds good and lawful money of the state aforesaid Witness by Richard Bennett *William Jean

*(William Jean is probably William James-a brother-in-law)

It was said that Rebecca Beavers Pratt was of Royal blood, and that the Beavers had come from Scotland many years before her birth. They had been advised by their physician to leave that country because the humid climate there caused their children to have phthisic (asthma) which was almost always fatal, and this move saved the lives of all the children who had not already contacted*the disease.*(contracted) In a letter to her kinfolk in 1931, a great granddaughter of Rebecca Pratt, wrote of her great grandmother whom she could recall to memory, having known her as a very small child. She also told in her letter of the first meeting of Richard Pratt and Rebecca Beavers:

"She (Rebecca) was out riding for pleasure and he (Richard) was hunting. Her horse became frightened and ran away, There was a deep chasm close by and Richard caught her horse and held it at great danger to himself, and saved her life....She told my mother he was the handsomest man she ever saw in his hunting clothes. After that they met often and when her father would not consent to his visiting her they ran away and were married."

Richard Pratt died soon after his removal to Alabama but Rebecca lived long enough to be well remembered by her grandchildren, and by some of her great grandchildren. It was said that Rebecca was frail physically, and that she possessed a thoughful, reserved and Christian character. She was well educated for her day and opportunities, could read and write with facility, and taught her children at home. She was a devoted member of the Baptist Church and spent many hours in later years with her Bible and and Hymn books.

It is said that Richard Pratt was a carpenter, but his father and grandfather were farmers. He was average in height, could read and write and kept his own accounts. The collection of old records and accounts indicate that he was a man of thrift, and that he had accumulated much property before his death in 1822.

It was about 1818 when Richard and Rebecca moved from Stokes County, North Carolina, to Bibb County, Alabama. Two of their sons had settled in Alabama a year or so before, and it appears that the remainder of their children either moved there with their parents, or eventually settled near their folks in Bibb County.

Richard Pratt died in the summer of 1822, and was the first to be buried in the Pratt Cemetery in River Bend. His wife, Rebecca, outlived him many years, and died at the home of her daughter, Theodosia Blake, in June, 1847. Their stones are still standing in the old Pratt Cemetery and the inscriptions on them are as follows: *(S.C. probably an engraver's error)

RICHARD PRATT Born Stokes County, S.C.* in 1765. Died July 10, 1822 He came to Ala. in 1818 settled on Pratt Creek in Bibb County REBECCA PRATT wife of Richard Pratt Born 1770 Died June 16, 1847

For children of Richard and Rebecca Pratt see following page.

CHILDREN OF RICHARD AND REBECCA PRATT

•

| 1. | Hopkins Pratt | Born Dec. 17, 1791 in Rockingham County, N. C. Married March 7, 1816 in Tenn., Sarah Dickerson Died Feb. 11 (or Feb. 22), 1841 in Bibb County, Ala. Nine Heirs |
|----|--------------------|---|
| 2. | Absalom Pratt | Born June 22, 1793 in Stokes County, N.C. Married March 7, 1822 in Ala., Mary Dickerson Died July 9, 1845 in Bibb County, Ala. Twelve Heirs |
| 3. | Maria Pratt | Born 1795 in Stokes County, N.C. Married (William?) Fletcher Died probably in Bibb County, Ala. before 1850 No Heirs |
| 4. | Joab Pratt | Born ca 1797 in Stokes County, N.C. Married probably in Bibb County, Ala, Frances Vernon Died probably in Texas Probably left heirs |
| 5. | *Abigail Pratt | Born Stokes County, N.C. Nov. 10, 1800 Died July 15, 1845 in Bibb County, Alabama Married Joel Lowrey Eleven Heirs |
| 6. | John Pratt | Born in Stokes County, N. C. MarriedPumphrey Died probably in Arkansas Left Heirs |
| 7. | Theodosia Pratt | Born Dec. 11, 1805 in Stokes County, N.C. Married in Tuscaloosa, Ala., Archibald Henry Blake Died in Alabama Oct. 20, 1877 Eight Heirs |

More detail on each of the above children will be given on pages following. *(Mary Abigail Pratt - called Abigail)

HOPKINS PRATT

Hopkins Pratt came to Alabama in 1816. His brother, Absalom, came about a year later, and within a few years his parents and his brothers and sisters were all settled here. They first bought land along Pratt's Creek at the fork of the Cahaba River, but later, Absalom Pratt, finding a need for more land, purchased a tract situated on a high bluff overlooking the river. This tract "at the bend of the river" was located near Centreville, in Bibb County and the community soon became known as River Bend.

The early settlers who came to River Bend found here a choice section of ground to make their home. The land, which consisted of a red clay base and virgin black topsoil, was elevated and gently rolling, and was covered with great oaks and hickory timber trees. The homes, before the turn of the century, stood near each other along the road having the semblance of a village. In the Pratt Cemetery here are buried Richard and Rebecca Pratt, most of their children and the families of their children.

Hopkins Pratt, son of Richard and Rebecca, was born December 18, 1791 probably in Rockingham County, North Carolina just prior to his parents removal to Stokes County in that same state. When he was about twenty-four years old he left Stokes County to settle in the Alabama Territory, but enroute there he stopped over for a time in Warren County, Tennessee. There he met Sarah Dickerson and they were married March 7, 1816, later moving to Alabama. Sarah (called Sally) was born in Edgefield District, South Carolina and as a child had moved with her father to Tennessee. At the time of her marriage her mother had died and her father had remarried.

Hopkins Pratt spent the remainder of his life in River Bend. He was active in civic affairs and was a member of the Alabama State Legislature. He died aged forty-nine years February 11 (or Feb. 22nd), 1841, and is buried in the Pratt Cemetery in River Bend. Several of his children continued to live in Bibb County, but others moved to Texas and many of his descendants may be found in that state. The widow Sarah Pratt m. (2) John Duncan Johnson father of Joshua West Johnson who married Maria Blake.

Children of Hopkins and Sarah Pratt

1. Rebecca Caroline Pratt b. April 8, 1817; died July 19, 1825

b. December 28, 1818; m. William Burkhalter; 2. Griselda Pratt migrated to Texas.

Clarissa Pratt 3.

Durana Pratt 4.

> Children: a. Thaddeus C. Wallace

b. Eugenia S. Wallace c. Monroe J. Wallace CSA

d. Leonidas Polk Wallace e. Matthew P. Wallace

b. December 8, 1820; d. July 23, 1845; m. Ike Burkhalter. Moved to Texas.

b. February 16, 1823; m. October 21, 1841 Pulaski Wallace; d. July 17, 1899. Lived River Bend, Ala. * (or 1828)

b. August 29, 1842; m. Margaret J. Lightsey Served in War between States.

b. July 22, 1844; m. W. H. Logan C.S.A.

b. ca 1846; m. Eliza Williams (he was also called Julius M. Wallace)

b. 1849; m. Georgia Ann Pratt

b. June 19, 1853; m. Julia Logan; d. May 20, 1910. Children of Hopkins and Sarah Pratt - continued Hampton Pratt b. September 2, 1825; m. Incinda Potts; Moved to Texas 5. (Bible record: married Jan. 1, 1846, Mary L. Lotts) Children: a. Emily Pratt b. Drayton Pratt (b. Feb. 18, 1849; m. Nov. 10, 1867 Benenna J.Loewe?) c. Edward Pratt (twin) d. Gennie Pratt 1 b. June 20, 1828; m. Harvey P. Cottingham 6. Zilpha Pratt Children: a. Florence Cottingham b. Mary Jenny Cottingham c. Sarah Cottingham d. Early Cottingham e. Edgar Cottingham f. Willis Cottingham g. Harvey Cottingham 11. 7. Marshall Pratt b. October 13, 1830; m. Eliza Cochran (moved to Texas) Children: a. Georgia Pratt

- b. William Hopkins Pratt 111
- c. Ada Pratt
- d. Lula Pratt
- e. Maude Pratt
- f. Hampton Pratt 11
- g. Reece Pratt
- h. Nathan W. Pratt

8. Andrew J. Pratt b. September 10, 1834; m. Missouri Easley; moved to Texas He enlisted in the Confederate Army and died about 1863. One child:

a. Erastus Pratt

- 9. Mary Elizabeth Pratt b. January 29, 1837; m. John L. Wallace (probably widower of her cousin Frances Myra Pratt)
 - a. (Ninnie) Sarah Eugenia Wallace
 - b. Matthew Duncan Wallace
 - c. Nannie Wallace

 - d. Marshall Wallace
 - e. Joseph Wallace
 - f. John Hopkins Wallace
 - g. Florence Wallace

10. Absalom Pratt 11 b. September 11, 1839; m. Sarah Ann Crews; Killed in Civil War at Battle of Resacea. Left no heirs.

ABSALOM PRATT

Absalom Pratt, second son of Richard and Rebecca (Beavers) Pratt, was born June 22, 1793 in Stokes County, North Carolina. While yet unmarried he bought a farm of 80 acres, but desiring to explore new territory he disposed of his property and in 1817 he followed his brother Hopkins to the Alabama Territory.

His original home was, a few years ago (and probably at the present time), still occupied by his descendants. The one story house, built of hand hewn timber in 1821 (or about that time), stood in a grove of cedar trees, and it was located but a short distance from the limestone bluff that drops in a steep incline to the Cahaba River.

Absalom Pratt was about five feet seven or eight inches in height; his hair and complexion were dark. But his eyes were the same vivid blue that charachterized all Pratts for generations. He was not handsome but had a great charm, and, as was said of him, he had "a winning way". His educational advantages were very limited, but he was very embitious to gain knowledge, and with the help of his mother he learned to read and write. He could calculate any mathematical problem in his head with great accuracy, and seeing the need for an education took an active part in the education of his own children.

In politics, Absalom, in Jackson's day, was a Democrat, but about 1840 became a Whig. He joined the Baptist Church and was baptised by his brother, Rev. Joab Pratt, in 1839.

In 1825, three years after his marriage, Absalom became interested in military tactics and attended military school. He was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the 23rd Regiment, 15th Brigade, 3rd Division, Alabama Militia and was commissioned on June 3rd, 1835. In 1839 he was elected to a colonelcy, and in 1841 he received his commission from the Governor as Colonel Commandant of the County. His uniform consisted of a three cornered blue hat, knee pantaloons, silk stockings and slippers. His sword is still in the possession of his descendants. Just before his death Absalom Pratt was spoken of as a suitable candidate for General of the State Militia, but death intervened. After a short illness he died of typhoid fever at his home in River Bend on July 9, 1845.

Absalom Pratt married Mary Dickerson in March, 1821. She was born in Edgefield County, South Carolina, in December, 1800, but when she was a child her father moved to Warren County, Tennessee. In 1817 she went to River Bend in Alabama to live with her sister Sarah who was married to Hopkins Pratt. Her mother had died when she was sixteen and her father had married again. Being unhappy at home, her father gave her a spirited horse and put her in the care of some people who were passing through Alabama on their way out west. They saw her safely to her sisters home in River Bend and she continued to make her home there until her marriage.*(another date given - March 7, 1822)

It is told that one day fun loving Mary Dickerson, on finishing her dinner, placed a wish bone over the door, telling her sister that she wanted to see if a lover would walk in under it. A short time later, Absalom Pratt, unexpected in Alabama and a stranger to Mary, did walk in and they fell in love and were married in 1821. They had twelve children - six boys and six girls. *(or 1822)

Shortly after her marriage, Mary Dickerman Pratt was baptised in the fellowship of the Enon Baptist Church (later known as Rockey Church) and she later became one of the Charter Members of Schultz Creek Church in River Bend. Mary Pratt was tall and slender with black hair and blue eyes and a fair complexion. She had an unusually strong character, and was a fearless horsewoman who could mount her horse with ease and grace from the ground. She liked and enjoyed jokes on herself, loved all children and called her own "little lambs".

In the typhoid epidemic of 1845, during the months of June and July, Mary made four sad pilgrimages to the lonely Pratt Cemetery on top of the knoll, a few miles from her home in River Bend. The inscriptions on the grey limestone, hand hewn slabs, still standing in the old cemetery, tell their own story. Martha Amanda, the youngest child, died June 9, 1845, less than a month later the son Joab passed away. He was a twin of John and aged almost twenty years. A few days later Absalom, the husband and father, followed his children in death and finally little Mary aged six was laid to rest her inscription reading: Mary A. Pratt May 12, 1839 - July 15, 1845.

Absalom Pratt left his family with ample means, and after the death of her husband Mary Pratt assumed the responsibilities of rearing her large family and running the plantation. She rode over the fields on horseback to supervise the planting of crops. She ran the grist mill and operated the Ferry which crossed the river. She sent all of her sons to college, and hen the war came on she owned fifteen or twenty slaves and her property was not mortgaged in any way, So proverbial were her fire and energy that through the years when a child descendant showed these traits they were referred to as Dickerson traits or "the Dickerman in them".

(Mary Pratt)

During the War between the States she/continued to manage the plantation despite all the trials and hardships that she was subjected to during those trying years. When her oldest sons left for war their families came to live in her home for protection. When her last son had gone to aid in the conflict she carried on alone with the help of a few faithful slaves, and somehow managed to save her lands from destruction at the hands of the Union soldiers. There was one occasion when she prevented the soldiers from crossing the river by having the cables cut and the ferry boat set adrift. This resulted in a loss of much of her income for while the boat was later found in Mobile it could not be brought back, nor could it be repleed in those times.*(replaced)

During those war years, and shortly after it's close, Mary Pratt lost several more of her children. Her daughter Fanny, who had married John L. Wallace, died in 1862, and both Sally Mirah and Billy died in 1866. Billy, (Lt. William F. Pratt) had managed to survive the war years but atthe close succumbed to a congestive chill while at home in River Bend on furlough. When her son John died in Mississippi or Tennessee in 1869 leaving a four year old son, the child was brought back to River Bend and raised as one of the family in the home of his uncle Leonard C. Pratt.

During the last years of her life a stroke of paralysis left Mary Pratt very infirm. She died in the home of her oldest son, Harvey Pratt, June 4, 1882, and is buried beside her husband in the Pratt Cemetery in River Bend.

(For children of Absalom and Mary Pratt see next page)



CHILDREN OF ABSALOM AND MARY DICKERSON PRATT

| 1. | James | E Ha | <u>rvey</u> Pratt | Born Dec. 26, 1822 in River Bend, Ala. Married (1) Dec. 21, 1854 Eliza Incinda Braswell Married (2) Nov. 28, 1872 Azalea C. Miller Died Aug. 27, 1908 in River Bend, Alabama. Eliza Incinda Braswell (3-22-1840 1-2-1865) Left Heirs - had a son Allen Pratt. |
|--------|--|------------|---|--|
| 2. | Rebec | | Known Children | |
| | • | a. | MOLLIE GLASS | Born Jan. 8, 1845 mDew Lived in Nimrod, Texas, was living July 29, 1931 |
| | | C . | Eugenia Glass Absalom Glass Ebb Glass | No information |
| 14 J.1 | | u. | LOU CLASS | |
| 3. | Joab | | rion Pratt win) | Born Nov. 28, 1825 in River Bend, Alabama Died of typhoid fever July 5, 1845 aged 19 years |
| 4. | John Washington Pratt Born Nov. 28, 1825 in River Bend, Alabama (twin) Married (1) Martha Allison before 1850 Married (2) Emma Weatheréd McLeod who d. ca 14 Married (3) ca. 1869 John Washington Pratt studied law and became a Judge of Probate Memphis, Texnessee. His first wife Soon after their son Allison was born. The child lived with his grandmother Mary Pratt, but of as a child. John W. Pratt's second wife was a widow, Emma Weather McLeod, who died ca 1868 leaving a two year old son, John Weather Pratt. John Washington Pratt married a third time but died soon after - about 1869-70. His four year old son was taken back to River Bend and raised in the family of Leonard C. Pratt, his un Children of John Washington Pratt: a. Allison Pratt b. John Weatheréd Pratt Born Ca 1851 - d. as a child. b. John Weatheréd Pratt Born Memphis, Tenn. April 12, 1866 Married Nov. 1898 Lillian Garland Aldrich daughter of Congressman and Mrs. Wm. F. Aldrid About 1889-90 graduated from Vanderbilt Univer | | | |

and practised medicine and owned a drug store in Montevallo, Alabama. He was lost to the world for eight years in the Klondike and died about July, 1918 in Mobile, Alabama. He had one child raised by grandparents and called Josephine Pratt Aldrich, /who married F.W. Harris.

5. Richard Hopkins Pratt Born Dec. 17, 1827 in River Bend, Ala. Married in June 1856 Amanda Suttle daughter of John and Mary Ann (Goodwin) Suttle Married (2) Arvezena Peters in 1872.

Died September 14th (or 17th) 1908, at Six Mile Ala. In his youth Richard Hopkins Pratt attended Jonesborough Academy, later at the University of Alabama he received his B.A. degree (June, 1855) In about 1856-57 he took charge of Six Mile Academy in Bibb County, Ala. With the exception of the four war years, he taught here for thirty-one continous years educating hundreds of young men and women. In the War between the States, he was Captain of Company D, 20th Alabama Regiment, and was captured at Port Gibson, Mississippi May 1st, 1863. After almost two years spent as a prisoner on Johnson's Island, and just before the surrender, he was finally exchanged.

In 1896 Richard H. Pratt was elected Superintendent of Education for Bibb County and held this office until his death in September, 1908. After the death of his first wife Amanda in 1871 he married Arvezena Peters. There were no children of this second marriage.

Children of Richard H. and Amanda Pratt: a. Mary Cora Pratt 1858-1936 m. 1882 Thomas F. Bondurant b. Florence Davis Pratt 1860-1936 m. Rev. James McCord c. Estelle Pratt -1918 m. 1893 James E. Maperson d. Nettie Pratt 1865-1939 m. William Wyatt Arnold(no Children)

6. Leonard Callaway Pratt Born May 21, 1829 in River Bend, Alabama Married Oct. 23, 1861 Mary Jane Clements Died in 1918 in River Bend.

> From a newspaper article (name of paper and date not known) describing River Bend and its citizens we learn that Leonard Pratt's home was on the left side of the road in a grove of trees and on a hilltop, and, also, that he was a great citizen and reared a splendid family. He had twelve children and also raised his nephew John Weathered Pratt. His son, L. C. Pratt, Jr. wrote the Pratt Family History with the help of Josephine Pratt Aldrich, daughter of John Weathered Pratt. We are also indebted to Lillie Pratt logan, daughter of L.C. Pratt, Sr, who later collected much data on this family. Of the twelve children we have the names of only five of them: a. Leonard Callaway Pratt, Jr.

- b. Walton Pratt m. Molean ----. Lived near his father in River Bend.
- c. Lillie Pratt m. J. Phelan Logan and resided in Montevallo, Ala.
- d. Theodosia Pratt m. -----Greene and lived in Alabama
- e. Linnie Pratt m. Frank Farrington (she m. (1) --- Crowe

7. William Fletcher Pratt Born Dec. 20, 1830 in River Bend, Alabama Apparently never married

Died April 17, 1866 in River Bend, Alabama

Mollie Glass Dew, niece of William F. Pratt, wrote in later years that "Uncle Hop" and "Uncle Billy" were favorite uncles as she went to school to them and knew them best, and that like his brother John, Billy was ready-witted, handsome and popular. He was a lieutenant in the War between the states and died aged thirty-five of a "conjective Chill" while at home on furlough at the close of the war.

8. Theodosia Pratt
8. Theodosia Pratt
8. Born September 2nd, 1832 at River Bend, Alabama
Married (1) -----Hass (2) -----Weaver
Died Jan. 19, 1893 at old home in River Bend.
(Lela N. Weaver (1873-1900) buried in Pratt Cemetery
May be a daughter)
- Visited his relatives in Texas with cousin Walton Pratt
when he was a young man - the only ones to visit there.

9. Sarah Myrah Pratt

Born May 17, 1834 in River Bend, Alabama Never married

Died July 20, 1866

Mollie Glass Dew in a letter written in 1923 remembered visiting her grandmother Mary Dickerson Pratt: "I often stayed with grandma for two weeks at a time and we sat up at night and talked till late, Aunt Sally Mira and Aunt Fannie, and they were always good and kind to me - never had one of them to find fault with me." Sarah Myrah died aged 32 years / at the close of the war.

10. Frances Myrah Fratt Born Dec. 3, 1835 in River Bend, Ala.

Married John L. Wallace and resided east side of Cahaba Died March 10, 1862 aged only 27 years. /River. Buried in Pratt Cemetery in River Bend If/children we have no record of them. A there were

11. Mary Abigail Pratt

Born May 12, 1839 in River Bend, Ala. Died July 15, 1845 - buried in Pratt Cemetery

The last of the four to die during the epidemic. The story is told of little Mary, that sick so long and emaciated from suffering and weakness, she seemed to sense that her mother was almost exhausted from the care and nursing of all, and that she looked into her mother's eyes and said "Lay me down mother and let me die". Mary Pratt said that she laid her baby in the little bed and that the child "closed her eyes and went where God reigns and suffering is unknown".

(this story refers to one of the two youngest daughters - Mary or Martha - from the dates on the stones we believe it refers to Mary)

12. Martha Amanda Pratt Born July27, 1841 in River Bend, Alabama Died June 9, 1845 aged not quite four years The youngest child in the family and the first to die in the epidemic.

MARIA PRATT FIETCHER

Maria Pratt, oldest daughter of Richard and Rebecca Beavers Pratt, was born probably in Stokes County, North Carolina in 1795. She married a Mr. Fletcher and we believe his firstname was William as her nephew, son of Absalom Pratt, was named William Fletcher Pratt. William Fletcher, aged 60, is listed in the 1850 census as living in the home of Pulaski and Durana Wallace. Durana was a daughter of Hopkins Pratt and if we are correct in assuming that William Fletcher listed here was the husband of Maria Pratt Fletcher, then this would indicate that they had lived in the River Bend area and that she had no doubt died before 1850. *(William Fletcher is Correct)

JOAB AND FRANCES PRATT

Joab Pratt, son of Richard and Rebecca Beavers Pratt, was born about 1797 in Stokes County, North Carolina. He settled in Hayapple Creek in Bibb County, Alabama and became a respected Baptist preacher. After some years of residence in Alabama he moved to Texas (another account states that he moved to Arkansas). He married Frances, daughter of Obediah Vernon, whom we believe may have been a son of Capt. Richard Vernon. His wife's brother Nehemiah Vernon came to Alabama and also lived in Bibb County. From old letters kept in the family we would gather that Joab had a daughter who married a Millfer, and that he may have had a son Jesse who married (1) Fannie Fox and (2) Elisabeth Gibson, Jesse Pratt had children who lived in Pochantas, Arkansas and Ironton, Missouri.*(doubtful if a son but should be investigatedfurther) Mary Abigail Pratt, daughter of Richard and Rebecca (Beavers) Pratt, was born in Stokes County, North Carolina November 10, 1800. She married Joel Lowrey and they lived near the Pratt homes in River Bend. In the War between the States six of their sons gave service to their country. Joel, husband of Mary Abigail, was born November 8, 1790 and died January 8, 1881. Mary Abigail died in middle life and perhaps of the fever - August 4, 1845. Both she and her husband are buried in the Pratt Cemetery in River Bend. Their children were:

| 1. John Lourey h | b. ca 1822 | n. Jane Goodson | |
|---------------------|------------|--|--------|
| 2. Harvey Lowrey h | b. ca 1824 | n. Elizabeth Riley (his name may been James H | - • |
| 3. Perry Lowrey k | b . | n. – – – – Smith | |
| 4. Fletcher Lowrey | | m. Alice Thomas | |
| 5. Barton Lowrey | | m. Elizabeth Thomas- lived River | • Bend |
| 6. Charles C. Lowre | еу | no family | |
| 7. Newton Lowrey | | no family | |
| 8. Adaline Lowrey | • | m. Azar Hayes | |
| 9. Rebecca Lowrey | | m. Henry Hall | |
| 10. Maria Lowrey | | m. Thomas Jordan | |
| 11. Polly Lowrey | | m. – – – Hood | |

JCHN PRATT

John Pratt, one of the youngest of the children of Richard and Rebecca (Beavers) Pratt, was born in Stokes County, North Carolina shortly after 1800. He married about 1830 a Miss Fumphrey who may have been a sister of Araminta Pumphrey who married Nehemiah Vernon and who also lived in River Bend, or near

/there.

In the 1830 census of Bibb County, Alabama John Pratt was aged 20 to 30 and his wife was aged 15 to 20, and there were no children so it is assumed that they were married at about that time. It is said that he moved to Saline, Arkansas and that his family survived the War between the States and that his descendants still live in Missouri.

(see next page for data on Theodosia Pratt Blake)

THEODOSIA PRATT BLAKE

Theodosia Pratt, youngest child of Richard and Rebecca (Beavers) Pratt, was born December 11, 1805 in Stokes County, North Carolina. She married in Tuscaloosa, Alabama about 1819, Archibald Henry Blake who was born December 8, 1795. Archibald was born in Georgia but he came to Alabama from Tennessee. It was with her that Rebecca (Beavers) Pratt made her last home. She died October 20, 1877 and her husband died June 9, 1874* and both are buried in the Pratt Cemetery in River Bend. *(or January 9, 1874)

| Children: (order | of birth not known) |
|------------------|--|
| 1. John Blake | <pre>*or 11/13/1820 (7-13-1820*- 10-13-1883) m. Dicy Griffin (4-7-1826 -</pre> |
| | Both are buried in Pratt Cemetery 7-13-1902) |
| • | Two known Children: |
| · • | a. Richard H. Blake b. 1845 |
| | b. Marion A. Blake b. 1848 |
| 2. Archibald Her | ry Blake, Jr. (4-22-1824 - 8-9-1892) m. Jane Revis (12-10- |
| : • • • • • • | 1834 - 2-28-1905). They were married April 13, 1856 and |
| | both are buried in the Fratt Cemetery in River Bend. |

3. Mariah Blake She was born Feb. 23, 1826 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and died in Banner, Mississippi July Sty 1910. She married Dec. 11, 1845 Wesley Johnson in Centreville, Alabama. They moved to Mississippi in 1867. He was also called Joshua West Johnson. They had several children - only one known to us: 1. Walter Mack Johnson Born Dec. 28, 1866; Died Dec. 29, 1935 in Fort Worth, Texas. Married July 16, Mary Myrtle Ballard. /1893;

4, Asa Blake Born about 1827 - married -----Pierce

5. Richard Blake Born about 1832 - married (1) Elizabeth Fulton (2) Nancy Carlisle - they had at least a son Isaac T. born ca 1849.

6. Rebecca Blake Born about 1834 - never married

7. Rachel Blake Born about 1835 - married (1) ----Kello (2) John Inrasher No Children.

8. Mary Blake Eorn about 1836 - married Thomas Carlisle

WILLIAM PRATT OF ABBEVILLE COUNTY SOUTH CAROLENA

The descendants of William Pratt of Abbeville, County, South Carolina have never been able to trace him beyond South Carolina. As has been explained heretofore, there may have been a relationship between the Rockingham family and those of Abbeville County. William would be about the age of Hichard Pratt's father as he was said to be born about 17%, and it could be that he, too, stemmed from the Cub Creek family of Virginia.

One of the Pratt traditions in the South Carolina family is that three Pratt brothers "came over" or "came south" and that one of them was killed by Indians. However, William is the only, one of the name found in the Abbeville area at the time of the Revolution, and those found there later were descended from him. He was apparently in South Carolina as early as 1756 as in the census of 1850 Sarah Pratt Cantt (name given as Grant in the census) gave her age as 94 and the place of her birth as South Carolina.

William Pratt married (1) Enma Haze (Hays) and (2) perhaps Mary Drennen, as there is recorded in Abbeville the marriage of William Pratt and Mary Drennen, Spinster January 28, 1783. Mary Drennen may have been the mother of his younger sons James and David.

He settled sometime before the Revolution in the north central part of Abbeville County between Due West and Level Land. He owned land on Hogskin Creek and his mill(Pratt's Mill) was located on Little River. A few years ago the old mill was still plainly in evidence.

William Pratt served in the Revolution, as a private, after the fall of Charleston, and several documents testify as to his service and also that the war must have come/to his very doorstep on the Little River. almost

"At sundry times in the year 1781 received of William Pratt, for the use of General Pickett's (Pickens?) Brigade, then on duty by me, six hogs of one hundred weight each also two beeves one four years old and the outers three, one hundred bushels of corn and one hundred fifty weight flower by me John Norwood Captain"

"Personally appeared William Fratt and made oath that on night of third of October 1781 being in the company of Capt. John Norwood of General (Pickens) Brigade at Pratt's Mill, when a large company of Indians and Tory, commanded by Cunninghamdefeated that company, and lost one bay mare his own right and property in the public service and never got the said mare nor received and value for same signed and sworn before me William Luckie July 18, 1783

William Pratt died in old Minety Six District now Abbeville County, South Carolina in 1797. His estate was administered March 28, 1797 and the inventory was made May 3, 1797. His second wife Mary survived him. Children:

1. Sarah Pratt Born in South Carolina in 1756; died 1858 aged 102; marriad Cador Gartt who was born Apr. 15, 1771, died Dec. 2, 1848 There wells no children. Both are buried Little River Baptist Church Cemetery in Abbeville County.

2. Mary (Molly) Pratt Married Josiah Burton who was born ca 1763. Both died in Abbeville County in 1829. Mary Burton's will was written August 6, 1829, proven November 27, 1829. Josiah Burton's estate was administered Sept. 5, 1829. Children: a. Robert Burton Born 1783; married Sarah Hall Born 1786; died 1838; married Winston Hall b. Sarah Burton Born 1790; died 1857; married Elizabeth ---c. William Burton Born 1792; died 1860; married Dicey Smith d. Caleb Burton e. John Burton Born 1796; married Elizabeth Pruitt f. Elizabeth Burton Married Samuel Black She was b. 1797-Res. Walker Co., g. Peter S. Burton Born 1801; married Harriet Martha McGee /Ala. Born 1810; died 1886; married Joshua Ashley h. Mary Burton Married Sally Osborn -May have died in Mexican War. i. Josiah Burton Born January 1, 1768; died April 7, 1826; married 3. Joseph Pratt April 15, 1793, Elizabeth Jones. Most of their children continued to live in Abbeville County, S.C. Children: Born 1794; died 1869; married 1812 Samuel Young a. Emma (Amy)Pratt b. Sarah Pratt Born 1796; died 1866; married 1815 William Young c. William Pratt Born 1798; died 1863; married 1823 Martha Murdock Born 1800; died 1826 d. Thomas Pratt e. Joseph Pratt Born 1803; died 1826 f. Mary Pratt Born 1809; died 1816 g. John Pratt Born 1812; died 1849; married 1832 Nancy Harkness h. Nancy Pratt Born 1820; died 1826 i. Elizabeth Pratt Born 1806; married 1826 John McConnell (she was 6th Adopted niece; married Thomas Grawford /child) - *Caroline Pratt *(born 1809; died 1867) 4. William Pratt, Jr. Said to have married and to have had nine children. He moved to Kentucky 5. Susannah Fratt Married Tyre Cantt, brother of Cador Gantt. In 1815 they

were living in Franklin Co., Indiana where other members of the Gantt family had settled. (It has also been said that Susannah was a daughter of Wm Jr.-this very doubtful).

6. James Pratt Born March 31, 1788; died Sept. 14, 1828; married Sarah-who was born Nov. 26, 1790; died April 25, 1840.

Children: a. John Pratt b. William Pratt c. Robert fratt

Born 1808; died 1888; married Mary Kay (Key)

d. (daughter) e. (daughter)

- f. (daughter)

h. Sarah A. Pratt

Born ca 1811; died 1842; married Louisa Robertson, who was a niece of Elizabeth (Robertson) McCord of the McCord family of Abbeville County, S.C. Born 1817; married Louisa ----Married Timothy Thomas Married William L. Cunningham Married James B. Key (Kay) g. Elizabeth Pratt Married Lewis C. Clinkscales

Married John T. Miller

7. David Pratt

Probably the youngest child of William Fratt. It is believed that he married a daughter of Austin Smith, and they had at least one daughter Almina Fratt. David rratt appears on Little River Church records as late as 1839.

WILLIAM AND ABIGAIL BEAVERS

William Beavers and his wife Abigail came from Loudoun County, Virginia to Rockingham County, North Carolina shortly after the Revolution. He died in Rockingham County about 1790 and his widow, Abigail, moved to Stokes County, North Carolina. Abigail Beavers died in 1803 probably in the home of her son-in-law, Henry Hampton of Hamptonville, North Carolina. The children of William and Abigail Beavers were:

| 1. Hannah Beavers | ms | William McClellan |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2. Sarah Beavers | m. | Henry Hampton |
| 3. Anne Beavers | m. | James |
| 4. Mary Beavers | m. | Robert McClellan |
| 5. Elizabeth Beaver | s ^H | Hutchinson |
| 6. Abigail Beavers | m. | William James |
| 7. Rebecca Beavers | m. | Richard Pratt |
| 8. William Beavers | | |

A great amount of research has been done on the first Beavers families of New Jersey and Virginia not only in America but also in England and Ireland in an attempt to trace their origins there. The researches have been conducted mainly through the effort^S of the late Harold A. Sonn who was the editor of the "New Jersey Genesis" a publication which was composed of genealogical and historical data of early New Jersey. Prior to the publication of the Genesis, Mr. Sonn edited "The Beaver Log" the issues being entirely devoted to Beavers and allied families.

It is almost certain that the Beavers family came from North Ireland. It is estimated that they came from there to New Jersey during the period 1737-1740. Sometime after 1757 several members of the original emigrant family (or families), namely Thomas and William, moved over to Loudoun County located in northeast Virginia.

There are several reasons why the family is believed to have come from North Ireland, one of them being that many families with whom they intermarried, or with whom they were closely associated, came from there. Perhaps the most conclusive evidence came from the discovery of a deposition made in 1822 by one William Beavers aged 86 years, wherein he stated that he came to Virginia from New Jersey, but that his birthplace was Ireland. Still another source of information gives credence to this theory as in his "Memoirs" published over one hundred years ago, Casper Schaeffer stated that the Beavers of

New Jersey were "Hibernians".

From researchers in Ireland a report brought word of one Thomas Beavers who had lived there and whose children had the identical names (with the exception of James) of the earliest New Jersey and Loudoun County, Virginia Beavers. i.e. Thomas, William, John, Samuel, Joseph and Robert etc. A further search was being conducted there by the Ulster-Scott Historical Society, but unfortunately Mr. Sonn's death intervened and we do not know the results of these later explorations.

The Beavers in New Jersey

John Beavers He was the first of the name found in New Jersey his cattle mark being recorded there in 1741. (or 1743) Col. Joseph Beavers He was born in 1728; died in 1816. Tradition is that he married first Mary White and second Ann Clifford. In the Revolutionary War, was Commissioned Officer 2nd Regiment of Hunterdon County, N.J. He was Judge of Common Pleas and Judge of Orphans Court. His family consisted of twelve daughters and one son George (1757-1820) who married Sarah Lanning.

Judge Robert Beavers He was definitely known to be a brother of Col. Joseph Beavers. One of his sons, Robert Beavers, was a First Lieutenant in Revoltyionary War and participated in the battles of White Plains and Long Island.

Found early in New Jersey and appears later in Loudoun Alexander Beavers County - had sons Abraham and Moses. (further data below)

Elizabeth Beavers Disappears from the New Jersey records about 1757

Thomas Beavers Name disappears from New Jersey records about 1757 and appears later in Loudoun County, Va. (see below)

Name disappears from New Jersey records about 1757 and William Beavers later appears in Loudoun Co., Virginia. William and Thomas Beavers believed by Mr. Sonn to be older brothers of Col Joseph and Judge Robert Beavers. This is the William Beavers whom we believe later moved to Rockingham County, N.C. and who was the father of Rebecca Beavers Pratt. (further data follows)

Alexander, Thomas and William Beavers - Loudoun County, Virginia

The earliest Beavers in New Jersey all lived within an area of 25 miles or so in what was Hunterdon County. In Snell's History William and Thomas Beavers, in 1757, are recorded as living in Bethlehem Township, Hunterdon County, N.J., as tenants of the West Jersey Proprietor's Tract. This is the last record found concerning them in New Jersey. In 1763 land was conveyed to Thomas Beaver by John Cargil and his wife Catherine in Loudoun County, Virginia, and it must have been about this time that Alexander, Thomas and William moved to this new location.

Alexander Beavers The record below is from Deed Book L - page 155:

July 20, 1776

John Augustine Washington leased for life to Alexander Beavers, Loudoun County and Colony farmer, 150 acres in tenure and occupation of Alexander Beavers - - - also lives of sons, Abraham and Moses Beavers to pay rent 7 pounds 13/9 yearly at new dwelling house of John Augustine Washington on or before 20th of November each year - Witnessed: John Hutchinson, John West, William Moore, E. Snickers, Thomas Lewelling, Richard Grubbs & Jeremiah Sanford.

John Augustine Washington made the same arrangement for William Hutchinson and for Joseph Hutchinson, also for William and wife Sarah Moore and son William Moore, Jr. for all their lives.

(note - Elizabeth Beavers, daughter of William and Abigai) married a Hutchinson).

Thomas Beavers He apparently moved from New Jersey to Loudoun County about 1763 the date of the land conveyance heretofore mentioned. His will was written in 1770 and in it he names his wife Martha and seven sons.* William Beavers was one of the Executors.*(William Beavers, Sr.)

Sons named in the will were:

a. William Beavers John Beavers sold land to William Beavers in Loudoun County in 1788. Another William of Loudoun died there in 1781*as the Inventory for his estate was made that year. So apparently there were several of the name in Loudoun County at thattime. *(or 1782)

b. Robert Beavers No data

c. Thomas Beavers No data

d. Joseph Beavers

e. Samuel Beavers

f. James Beavers

He was a minor in 1770 the date of his father's /will.

A Samuel Beavers died in Loudoun County in 1838 leaving wife Sarah, children Thomas, Washington, John A., Elizabeth Garrett, Harriet Palmer and /Julia Ann Beavers

He was probably the James Beavers who was commissioned an Ensign in Loudoun County in 1777 and who served under Capt. William McClellan who was the husband of Hannah, daughter of William and Abigail Beavers. He was living in Henry County, Virginia when he sold land to John Beavers of Loudoun County, and the property had been devised to him by his father Thomas . The deed is dated June 4, 1785. We would like to investigate further a James Beavers of Limestone, Alabama, who applied for Revolutionary War pension there stating that he was born in 1753, and who had a son Majors Clack Beavers who married Malvina, youngest daughter of Spencer and Mary (Beavers) Clack.

Believed by some to have been the John Beavers who married Mary, daughter of William McClellan, Sr. Mary was the sister of William and Robert McClellan, son-in-laws of William and Abigail Beavers. By deed dated March 10, 1788, John and wife Mary sold land in Loudoun County to William Beavers, the land having been given to John in the last will and testament of his father, Thomas Beavers bearing date of August 28, 1770.

g. John Beavers

h. Mary Beavers This may not be a daughter of Thomas but she was closely related. She was born N. Jersey Jan. 12, 1745 married Spencer Clack Nov. 2, 1766 in Loudoun Co,Va. Spencer was a witness of Thomas Beavers will in 1770. They moved to Henry Co., Va., but Mary Clack died in Sevier Co., Tenn in July 1832.(see Jas. Beavers above) William Beavers (see next page)

WILLIAM AND ABIGATL BEAVERS

We have already stated that William Beavers and Thomas Beavers of of Loudoun County, Virginia were believed to be the same persons of the names who lived earlier in Bethlehem Twp, Hunterdon Co., New Jersey. They both settled on land in Virginia at about the same time - 1762 and 1763.

In 1770 William Beavers, Sr. was named as an Executor in the Will of Thomas Beavers. We must proceed cautiously here as there appears to be several William Beavers in Loudoun County in the years 1770-1780, but it is believed that the William named as Executor was the one who moved to Rockingham County, North Carolina. It is also assumed, but not proven, that William and Thomas Beavers were brothers, and, certainly, the records prove that there was a close kinship between these two men.

William Beavers must have married Abigail in New Jersey and the oldest of his daughters must have been born in that state. The first record we find in Loudoun County pertaining to William was when he bought land there in 1762 as follows:

Deed Book C. - page 466 - Loudoun County, Virginia Lease made by William Elzey and wife Alice of Prince William County to William Beavers for 5 shillings December 20, 1762 on 406 acres of land - 400 acres of the Mary Bollan Patent and 6 acres of Louis Ellzey patent including old houses and buildings. Witnesses: William Hancock, William Allen, John Davis, Abraham Warford

Deed Book C. - page 467 - Loudoun County, Virginia December 21, 1762 - William Ellzey and wife Alice the above 406 acres of land were released for 76 pounds to William Beavers (Wittnesses as above)

William Beavers and his wife Abigail lived on this location in Loudoun County for about twenty one years and then in 1783 sold their land there and moved to Rockingham County, North Carolina. The land value of their property had apparently increased greatly in those twenty one years:

Deed Book N. - page 450 Ioudoun County, Virginia May 9, 1783 - William Beavers and wife Abigail to William Adams of Fairfax County on lease 406 acres of land - 400 acres part of Mary Bollen's patent and 6 acres of Iouis Ellzey for 5 shillings. Witnesses: John Moss, William Walters, Thomas Graffort, Edward Adams and Sarah Walters

Deed Book N - page 452 Loudoun County May 10, 1783 - William Beavers and wife Abigail gave a release for 300 pounds to William Adams of Fairfax County for 406 acres (the above land) (Signed) William Beavers, Abigail Beavers (witnesses as above)

In Rockingham County William Beavers and his son-in-law, William Mc-Clellan, lived on the May Mountain in the same vicinity as the Pratt family. There is reference in the records of James Pratt being appointed overseer of roads "in the room of William McClellan". In 1787 William Beavers and his son-in-law petitioned to build a grist mill: *(Mayo)

November, 1787 The petition of William Beaver and William McClellan for leave to build a Grist Mill in Mayo River ordered that the same ly over untill next court 33 William Beavers did not live long in Rockingham County. His will was written July 26, 1788 he then being "in a low declining state of health". His will was not recorded in the record of wills but he died in February, 1790 or just prior to that time, as in that month an inventory of the estate of William Beavers, dec'd, was returned by the Executrix. In his will he named, besides his wife Abigail, his seven daughters and his son William, and the latter was to inherit at his wife Abigail's death "the whole of my land and mills, also Vincent Manly a servant lad to serve the remainder of his time to my son William Beavers when he arrives at twenty one years of age.".

The youngest daughters, Abigail and Rebecca, the only ones unmarried in 1788 when William Beaver's will was written, must have married just prior to his death in 1790. Unfortunately we do not have further data on the son William, Jr., but according to a deed in Rockingham County, Abigail Beavers and William (her son) were living in Stokes County, North Carolina in 1796.

In Stokes County, according to the 1800 census, she lived near her son-in-laws, Henry Hampton and Richard Pratt, and living with her was a woman aged 26 to 45 years. This second woman may have been the granddaughter*"Rosy" Hampton mentioned in her will. We do not find the name^{*}"Rosy" among Henry Hampton's children but she must have been one of his daughters to have been called "granddaughter" by Abigail Beavers. *(Rosey)

The will of Abigail Beavers was written March 17, 1801 and was recorded in Surry County, N.C. in November 1803. She was evidently living with her son-in-law Henry Hampton at the time of her death. In her will she left her only son, William, only "one pare andirons" but he no doubt had been given the lands, or was to be given the lands, that he was to inherit from his father. Rosy"Hampton was to inherit her personal things and the rest of her goods was to be sold and the proceeds from the sale to be divided among her seven daughters. Henry Hampton was named Executor. In his will dated November 21, 1831, Henry Hampton mentions legacy due Ann James, Abigail James and Elizabeth Hutchirson"(probably from the estate of William Beavers). *(Estate of William *(Rosey)

The children of William and Abigail Beavers were:

1. Hannah Beavers Born 1746; died 1803; married ca 1774 William McClellan who was born 1743; died 1795. They lived in Rockingham County and both died in middle age. William McClellan served as a Captain in the Revolution in Virginia and James Beavers of Loudoun County served as a consign under There were five known children. nim. a. William McClellan (1775-1852) m. Matilda C. Joyce -Res. Mincoln Co. b. George McClellan Lived in Williamson Co., Tenn. /Tennessee c. John McClellan Lived in West Tennessee d. Mary (Polly) McClellan No data e. Abigail McClellan (Abby) No data

2. Anne Beavers No information except that she married a ----- James. Several James families lived in Loudoun County, Virginia.

3. Sarah Beavers

Married Henry Hampton of Hamptonville, Yadkin County, N.C. For more detailed data see Hampton family on last pages of this manuscript - children list on next page.

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Children of Henry and Sarah Hampton

| 2. | Thomas Hampton | No data |
|----|----------------------|---|
| b. | Henry Hampton | no data |
| C. | Col. William Hampton | Married Mancy Bryan - Lived Swan's Pond, N.C. |
| đ. | Sarah Hampton | Married Richard Allen |
| e, | Margaret Hampton | Married Richard Allen as his second wife. |
| f. | Hannah Hampton | Married Jesse Allen (1771-1857) & res. Memphis |
| g. | Abigail Hampton | Married Matthew Benthal /Tenn. |
| h. | John Hampton | No data |
| i. | Susannah Hampton | MarriedWhitehead |
| j. | Theodosia Hampton | MarriedLadd She died 1796 in Stokes Co. |
| k. | Rosey Hampton | (uncertain as to the identity of / N.C. Rosey Hampton mentioned in Abigail |
| | | Beavers will as a granddaughter) |

Mary Beavers 4.

Married about 1786 Robert McClellan who was a half-brother of William McClellan. He was born 1767 and died in 1850. In 1789 Robert McClellan and wife Mary sold land in Loudoun County, Virginia to Nate Smith of that county. In the 1790 census of Rockingham County (N.C.) he is listed next to Gov. Alexander Martin (and Gov. Martin had 47 slaves, more than any other person listed in the county). In 1804-5 Robert McClellan and family moved to Tennessee, and lived in Kelso, near Fayetteville, in Lincoln County,.

Children:

a. Jenine McClellan Born 1788; died 1823; married Absalom Davis b. Nancy McClellan (twin)Born 1790; married James McKnight (McNite) c. Sally McClellan Born 1790; married James Wilson 11 d. Samuel McClellan Born 1792; died 1795 /Anthony. e. William Beavers Born 1795; died 1824; married Mary Mhitaker McClellan f. Wilson McClellan Born ca 1795 or 1797; died 1839; (1) married 1820 Elizabeth Dean (or Deare) (2) married 1829 Sara M. Thompson

5. Elizabeth Beavers No data except that she married -----Hutchinson and we know that there were Hutchinsons living in Loudoun County. *(or Hutchison)

6.

- Abigail Beavers Married a James whose first name we believe was William. mey apparently were living in Stokes County, N.C. in 1796 near other members of her family as a note of John Dearing to Richard Pratt was witnessed by Richard Bennett and William Jean (probably should be William James)
- Born ca 1767; died 1847; married ca 1789 Richard Pratt 7. Rebecca Beavers They were married in Rockingham County, N.C; moved to Stokes County after 1790 and about 1817-20 moved to Bibb County, Ala. (for more detail see Pratt Family)

(for their children see following page)

Children of Richard and Rebecca Pratt

| a. Hopkins Pratt | Born 1791 in Rockingham Co., N.C; died 1841 in Bibb County, Ala. Married 1816 Sarah Dickerson |
|--------------------|--|
| b. Absalom Pratt | Born 1793 in Stokes Co., N.C.; died 1845 in Bibb Co., Ala: married in 1822 Mary Dickerson. |
| c. Maria Pratt | Eorn 1795 in Stokes Co., N.C; married (william?) Fletcher. Probably lived in Bibb Co., Ala. |
| d. Joab Pratt | Born ca 1797 in Stokes Co., N.C; died probably in Texas; married probably in Bibb Co., Ala, Frances Vernon a daughter of Ubedian Vernon. |
| e. Abigail Pratt | Born in Stokes Co., N.C. in 1000; died 1845 in Bibb Co., Ala; married Joel Lowrey |
| f. John Pratt | Born in Stokes Co., N.C; married a Miss Pumphrey; died probably in Arkansas |
| g. Theodosia Pratt | Born 1805 in Stokes Co., N.C; died in Alabama in 1877; married in Alabama Archibald Henry Blake |

Very little is known concerning the only son of William William Beavers Ď. and Abigail Beavers. He was living in 1801 when his mother's will was written. In his father's will of 1788 he was to inherit (after his mother's death) all of the lands and mills of his father. We have found no record of him after 1801.

FAMILY OF WILLIAM MCCLELLAN, SR.

William McClellan, Sr. was the father of William and Robert McClellan who married daughters of william and Abigail Beavers. He came from Northern Ireland in the 1740's and settled in Loudoun County, Virginia. His first wife died and he returned to Ireland, and probably there, in Ulster Flantation, married his second wife Sarah (her last name may have been Wilson) william's son Robert was born of this second marriage. William McClellan's will was written June 1, 1775 and recorded August 15, 1775 in Loudoun Co., Virginia. In his will he named his wife Sarah and four children:

- Born in 1743; died 1795; married Hannah Beavers a. William McClellan
- b. Robert McClellan Born 1767; died 1850; married Mary Beavers

c. Martha McClellan

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Married -----Murphy

d. Mary McClellan

Believed to have married John, son of Thomas and Martna Beavers of Loudoun County.

WILL OF WILLIAM BEAVERS

Copy of original Will is filed with wills and other old records in basement of Rockingham County Courthouse, but not recorded in Record of Wills there. (July 26, 1788)

In the Name of God, Amen this twenty-sixth day of July one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

I, William Beavers of the County of Rockingham, State of North Carolina, finding myself in a low declining state of health but of perfect sence and memory, thanks be to Almighty God for the same calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First and principally I recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God who gave it me and my body to the earth whence it was taken to be buried in such like manner as my Executors (hereafter mentioned) shall think proper - and as touching the worldly estate, wherewith it has pleased God to bless me, I dispose of as followeth: (viz)

Item: My will and desire is that my just debts and funeral charges be first paid and discharged.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Abigail Beavers fifty-five pounds current money and one bed and furniture.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Rebeccah Beavers fifty-five pounds current money and one bed and furniture.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary McClellan Twenty pounds current money.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth Hutchison ten pounds current money.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Anne Jones ten pounds current money.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Hampton ten pounds current money.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter Hannah McClellan ten pounds current money.

Item: My will and desire is that the aforesaid legacies except the beds and furniture be paid out of the proffits arising from the saw and grist mill.

Item: I give and bequeath to my loving wife the whole of my estate - real and personal except as hereafter excepted during her natural life.

Item: I give and bequeath to my son William Beavers when he arrives at age of twenty-one years the parcell of land lying on the Northwest side of the branch running from a Big Spring in James Galloways land down to the Mayo River, and at my Wife's death the whole of my land and mills, also Vincent Manley a servant lad to serve the remainder of his time to my son William Beavers when he arrives at twenty-one years of age.

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Item: My will and desire is that should Negro Sue have any issue my daughter Abigail Beavers shall have the first live born child and my daughter Rebeccah Beavers the second and at my Wife's death the said negro and the rest of her increase if any be sold (except the third live born child which I bequeath to my son William Beavers when it is two years old) and the money arising to be equally divided among all my children.

Item: My will and desire is that my loving wife Abigail Beavers and Thomas Henderson be Executors of this my last Will and Testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year within written.

William Beavers (Seal)

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in presence of William McClellan Pink Overton Thomas Scales Jurat

WILL OF ABIGAIL BEAVERS

Dated March 17,1801 - Recorded Nov. 1803 in Surry County, North Carolina.

In the name of God Amen, I Abigail Beavers, being very sick and weak in body and of perfect mind and memory thanks be given unto God; Calling unto mind the mortality of my body and Knowing that it is appointed for all men to die, do make this my last will and testament

That is to say principally and first of all, I give and Recommend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it; and my body I Recommend to the Earth, to be buried in decent Christian burial, at the discretion of my Executors Nothing doubting but at the general Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the almity power of God.

And as touching such Worldly Estate wherewith it has Pleased God to Bless me (with) in this life, I give demise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form

First I give and bequeath to William Beavers one pare andirons

secondly I give to my well beloved granddaughter Rosey Hampton the price of one gray mare (which is thirty dollars) to be paid by Henry Hampton together with one Bed & furniture one Chest & drawers one heffer with calf one black heffer yearling One iron potrack with a nob one Dutch oven one smothing iron one Linning wheal all my pewter ware also my knives and forks and one Looking glass. *(spinning wheel?)

thirdly all the Rest of my goods I leave to be sold and my just debts to be paid and the ballance to be divided amongst my seven Children (Equally) viz Hannah McClellan Sarah Hampton Anne James Mary McClelland Elizabeth Hutchinsons Abigail James Rebeckah Pratt

lastly I leave Henry Hampton Executor to this my last will and I do hereby uttarly disallow revoke disannual all and every other former Testaments wills legaces bequeaths and Executors by me in any wise before name willed and bequeathed, satifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whareof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this seventeenth day of March in this year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & one signed in presence of (etc) Abigail Beavers ______ seal _____new (name partially obliterated) Hannah Hampton 38

Generation 1.

William Hampton Born 1586 in England; married Joan ----; from London, England to Virginia ca 1621; will dated September 5, 1652. He was a planter and established Hampfield in Gloucester Co., Virginia.

Generation 2.

Rev. Thomas Hampton, son of William and Joan Hampton, was an Episcopal minister in James City, County, Virginia. He was born ca 1623; died in 1690.

Generation 3.

Capt. John Hampton, son of Rev. Thomas Hampton, was born 1650; died 1718; married 1677 Mary Mann. He resided in King William County, Virginia.

Generation, 4.

John Hampton, son of John and Mary (Mann) Hampton, was born in 1683, died in 1748. He married in 1712 Margaret Wade and lived in Fairfax County, Virginia. They were the grandparents of Col. Wade Hampton of Revolutionary War fame and great grand parents of General Wade Hampton of Civil War fame.

Children:

*(Later Major General Wade Hampton)

Born 1715; died 1776; married (1) Elizabeth Preston; 1. Anthony Hampton (2) Ann Bissell. About 1760-65 Anthony Hampton came from Halifax Co., Va. and settled near Germantown, Stokes Co., N.C. In about 1772 he sold his land in North Carolina and the family moved to near Paceola, S. Carolina. Here in 1776 Anthony, his wife Ann and his son Preston were killed by Indians believed to have been led by Tories because of his sympathies toward independence of the colonies. John Bynam, his six year old grandson was carried off by the Indians but was later ransomed by his uncle, Gen. Wade Hampton. His sons were all officers in the American Revolution except Preston who was killed by Indians Waged 22. Children: Not in order of age Major John Hampton (1745-1830) Preston Hampton - Killed by Indians aged 22 years Margaret Hampton - married Gray Bynum She was b. 1756 Capt. Edward Hampton (1749-1781) Col. Henry Hapton Born ca 1743

Major Gen, Wade Hampton (ca 1752-1835) Lt. Col. Richard Hampton (1747-1792) - born Virginia ca 1758; married Elizabeth Hampton James Harrison; died S.C. 1799. 2. John Hampton Born 1718 3. Henry Hampton Born ca 1720; died 1778 Born 1723; died 1801 - moved with brother Anthony to N.C. 4. James Hampton 5. (Mary?) Hampton Born ca 1725 * 6. Thomas Hampton Born 1728; died 1796; married Sarah Pattison alias Congers, possibly married (2) Sarah Pratt (see further) 7. Margaret Hampton Born 1730 - may have never married 8. Lizabeth Hamoton Born 1732; said to have married Capt. Thomas Triplett 9. Rosamond Hampton Born 1734; married Col. William Winn and moved to S.C.

Generation 5. /1728 Thomas Hampton, son of John and Margaret (Wade) Hampton, was born October 17, in New Kent County, Virginia. He married (1) in Stafford County, Virginia, January 1, 1749, Sarah Pattison alias Congers (as recorded in Crozier's Early Marriages and Parish Records). According to family records compiled by Capt. Harry Allen about the turn of the century, he married Sarah Pratt. Possibly he married (2) Sarah Pratt, a widow, between 1785 and the time of his death in Thomas Hampton was the uncle of Gen Wade Hampton of Revolutionary War 1796. fame. Thomas moved from Halifax County, Virginia to what is now the village of Hamptonville, Yadkin County, N.C. (Yadkin taken from Surry County in 1850) He later returned Virginia and lived in Cascade, Halifax County, which is just over the border from Rockingham County, North Carolina. His son Henry remained in Hamptonville. His will is dated July 28, 1790, proved January 16, 1797. In his will he left his son Henry (who married Sarah Beavers) 646 acres in Surry County, N.C. (later was in Yadkin County). (Yadkin formed from Surry 1850) Children: a. Henry Hampton Married Sarah Beavers; died 1831 (see further) b. James Hampton May have settled Frankfort, Kentucky c. Preston Hampton Said to have lived in Grant Co., Kentucky d. John Hampton Lived in Pittsylvania Co., Virginia e. Margaret Hampton Married Apr. 5, 1785 In Pittsylvania Co., Va. James Colcuit. Married Feb. 12, 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., Va. 1. Nancy Hampton George Young, Jr.

Generation 6.

Henry Hampton, son of Thomas and Sarah Hampton, was born in Virginia; he married Sarah, daughter of William and Abigail Beavers of Rockingham County, N.C. We are puzzled as to why he was living in Stokes County, N.C. according to the 1800 census, as, so far as we know, he lived most of his life, after his marriage in Hamptonville, Yadkin County, North Carolina. In his will of 1790 his father Thomas left him 646 acres in Surry County "whereon he now lives". Henry Hanpton's will is dated Nov. 21, 1831. Henry Hampton was a brother-in-law of Richard Pratt.

Children:

a, Thomas Hampton

- b. Henry Hampton
- c. Col. William Hampton Married Nancy Bryan and settled at Swan Pond on the Yadkin River.
- Married Richard Allen as his first wife. d. Sarah Hampton
- e. Margaret Hampton Married Richard Allen as his second wife.

f. Hannah Hampton

g. Abigail Hampton

h. John Hampton

i. Susannah Hampton j. *Theodosia Hampton * (or was she a dau. of James, brother of Henry Hampton)(?)

k. (Rosey?) Hampton

Married Jesse Allen who was born 1771; died 1857; lived in Memphis, Tennessee. Married Matthew Benthal

Married -----Whitehead Married -----Ladd "Danbury Courthouse, Stokes County, N.C. Aug. 11, 1796 - Last will of Theodosia ladd - property to daughter, if she dies to go to her brother and sister Thomas Hampton and Hannah Hampton - Henry & Sarah Hampton made oath." We have not been able to identify Rosey Hampton but her grandmother, Abigail Beavers, left her most of her personal property in her Will dated 1801. And she was evidently living with Abigail Beavers at that time, but she is not included in the list we have of Henry Hampton's children.

The Vernons were an old Cheshire family of Norman descent. Randel Vernon of Marsden, Cheshire, England, weaver, and Sarah Bradshaw of Sandthorn in the same county, were married November 14, 1670. Randel and his brothers Thomas and Robert came over about 1682 and settled in Pennsylvania locating on 625 acres there.

Randel and Thomas settled on adjacent tracts of land and for some time occupied the same dwelling at which Monthy Meetings of Friends were held. It might be said the Meetings were held circular at the houses of John Sincock in Ridley, Robert, Thomas and Randel Vernon and John Edge in Nether Provine, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Robert Vernon is reported not to have been as active a member of Friends as were his brothers Thomas and Randel.

Data on the three emigrant brothers follows:

Lived in Nether Provine, Chester County, Pennsylvania after Thomas Vernon his arrival in America from England. He died Dec. 25, 1698 and is buried in Chester, Penasylvania. His wife Elizabeth died March 24, 1714.

Born in Cheshire, England about 1640. Came to America in 1682. Randel Vernon Married Sarah Bradshaw. He died in 1725 aged 85 years and his wife died Dec. 18, 1718. They had a son Jacob who married Ann /Tearsley.

From Stokes in Cheshire, England to America in 1682. Lived in Robert Vernon Chester County, Pennsylvania. One source states that his parents were James and Hester Vernon. He married about 1664, Eleanor Minshall, daughter of John Minshall. He died before 1720. His wife Eleanor died July 20, 1720. Children were:

> Alice Vernon Baptised June 31, 1664 Acton Cheshire, England 1682 in England; married Sarah Pyle 1702 John Vernon Nov. 8, 1680 in Acton, Cheshire, England; Jacob Vernon . 5 married May 4; 1712 Eleanor Owen Isaac Vernon Born in Chester Co., Pa; married (1) 1710 Hannah William; married (2) 1730 Mary Marshall. He d. cal790 Rebecca Vernon Married Thomas Garrett in 1704; married (2) Sept. 20, 1718 Richard Jones. She d. 12-23-1748

* Thomas Vernon Probably the Thomas Vernon who settled in Cub Creek, Charlotte County, Virginia.

* Thomas Vernon, Sr. of Cub Creek, Virginia

The records on the Virginia Voltons are very sketchy as the Friends! Records of Cub Creek Meeting were destroyed by fire. However, it is believed by some Vernon researchers that Thomas Vernon of Sub Creek was a son of Robert Vernon (one of the three emigrant brothers) of Pennsylvania, as all of the other Thomas Vernons of that time were accounted for. Robert Vernon's son Thomas was disconed by Chester Monthly Meeting in 1709 and his name does not appear in any further records of that colony.

Thomas Vernon, Sr. of Cub Creek may have been the father of several or all of the other tithables of the name appearing on the list of tithes for Old Lunenburg County, Virginia. They lived in that part of Lunenburg County which later became Charlotte County.

The following is taken from a list of tithables for the year 1749, William Caldwell's Territory. (Later some of these persons are found in Rockingham County, North Carolina and in Abbeville County, South Carolina) Names follow each other on the original list.

> Thomas Vernon, Sr. ________ Isaac Vernon _______ James Vernon _______ Thomas Vernon, Jr._______ Jonathan Vernon_______ John Pratt_______ (several names down) John Vernor______

James and John Vernon are also on a list of Colonial Soldier, including Rangers and Militia.

Though we have no proof the following men appear to be brothers and may all have been sons of Thomas, Sr. of Cub.Creek, Charlotte County, Va.

- Thomas Vernon Wife believed to have been Sarah Gaines; they had at least one son, Thomas Gaines Vernon, who was born May 23, 1752 in Charlotte Co., Va. Thomas Gaines Vernon married ca 1784 Nancy Hicks. He was a Revolutionary War soldier and died 1841 in Monroe Co., Tenn. His wife died in Bledsoe Co., Tenn. in 1824.
- Richard Vernon He was born about 1746 and would seem to be much younger than the others. He lived in Madison Co., Va. (formerly Culpeper) and was a Revolutionary soldier. Apparently he lived for a time in Rockingham Co., N.C. but returned to Virginia. In Deed Book 1 page 14, Madison County, Virginia under date of Sept. 26, 1793, Richard Vernon of Madison Co., Virginia names his trusted friend and nephew Richard Vernon of Guilford County, N.Barolina as his lawful attorney to sell two tracts of land in Guilford County containing 400 acres. Richard Vernon married Martha Tinsley.

James Vernon, Sr. Married Eleanor and it is possible that she was a Pratt and that this was the carly Pratt-Vernon connection. We assume that James of Cub Creek was the same as the one of the name who lived in Rockingham County, North Carolina. In about 1786 he sold his land in North Carolina and moved to Abbeville County, S.Carolina.

Apparently all of his children except Capt. Richard moved there with him. He died in Abbeville Co., S.C. in 1802 and his wife, Eleanor, died there in 1813. As near as can be ascertained from the will and other records their children were:
a. James Vernon, Jr. Died 1787 in Abbeville Co., S.C. probably unmarried.
b. Thomas Vernon Believed to be the Thomas who died in Rockingham Co., N.C. in 1786 leaving wife Mary son John and perhaps other children.

c. Capt.Richard Vernon Born Oct. 18, 1758 in Charlotte Co., Va. He may have married a sister of Richard Pratt, and he may have been the father of Obediah Vernon and the grandfather (through Obediah) of Nehemiah Vernon of Bibb Co., Ala. In his Will James Sr. refers to his son Richard in North Carolina. Richard lived most of his life in Rockingham Co., N.C. Then moved in later life to Williamson County, Tenn. He was a captain in the Revolutionary war. d. Isaac Vernon Born January 7, 1758 in Charlotte Co., Va. In 1833 he applied for pension for his services in the Rev. War. At that time his wife was deceased and he was living byturns with his children and grandchildren In Abbeville Co., S.C. and in Elbert Co., Ca.
e. Nehemiah Vernon Named in Will of his father and in Will of his brother, James Jr.
f. Joseph Vernon Named in Will of father and in Will of brother James, Jr.
g. Robert Vernon Sold land in Rockingham Co., N.C. in 1786.

- h. Hannah Vernon Married John Hazlett -resided in Abbeville Co., S.C.
- i. Sarah Vernon Married William Lewis who died in Rockingham Co., N.C.
 - ca 1788; married (2) James Tinsley and lived Abbeville Co.

Isaac Vernon According to a family researcher Isaac first went from Cub Creek (Charlotte Co.) Virginia to Abbeville County, S.C. and then in later life moved to Rockingham County, N.Carolina. We have no other information which would indicate that he lived in Abbeville County, but he evidently is the father or grandfather of several of those Vernons unaccounted for in the records of Abbeville County. He left a will dated August 12, 1787 and named the following: Wife, Jane; sister Rebecca; Executors son Nehemiah & Benjamin Cates Witnesses Richard Vernon; Robert Means and Elizabeth Means.

Children:

| Nehemiah | g . Jane | * m. James | |
|-----------|-----------------|---|--|
| Jonathan | h. Mary | | see further on him) |
| Richard | i. Mizab | eth | |
| Isaac | j. Sarah | | |
| Frederick | k. Sukey | | |
| George | 1. Hannah | | |
| | | Jonathanh. MaryRichardi. MlizabIsaacj. SarahFrederickk. Sukey | Jonathanh. MaryRichardi. MlizabethIsaacj. SarahFrederickk. Sukey |

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James Vernon son of Isaac and Jane Vernon above, may have been the James Vernon of Rockingham or Stokes County, N.C. who was the father of (1) Richard Vernon b. 1789, married (1) Elizabeth David (2) Nancy Joyce and moved to Jefferson Co., Ind; (2) Nehemiah Vernon born ca 1780, married Martha (probably Martha Means), and moved to Jefferson County, Ind; (3) John Vernon who went to Tennessee and (4) Isaac, a hatter. James Vernon, father, said to have moved to Indiana with his sons. There is much data on the descendants of this family. *(he married Nancy Joyce inhis later years inInd.)

Obediah Vernon of Rockingham County may have been a son of Capt. Richard - he was a cousin of Hopkins and Absalom Fratt of Bibb County, Alabama. He married as his second wife ----Pratt, who was a second cousin. By his first wife he had at least (1) Frances Vernon who married Joab Pratt and lived Bibb Co., Ala, and (2) Nehemiah Vernon b. 1809 in hockingham Co., N.C; married Araminta Pumphrey; moved from Tennessee to Bibb County, ala. Known children: Obediah, born ca 1837; Jesse, born ca 1839; Thomas J. born ca 1841; Margaret, born ca 1844; Sarah, born ca 1848; Theresa Ann, born ca 1849; Oh ca, born after 1850 and perbaps others.

George McHugh Vernon was apparently of the Abbeville-Rockingham family. He was born 1785 in North Carolina; died ca 1883 in Chambers, Ala; married 1809 in Abbeville, S.C. Sarah ----; married second in Alabama, Rebecca Tever about 1840.

Meherich V non a gunsmith by trade may have been of the Rockingham family. He lived in the messee when he entered service in Mar of 1812. He was in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815- died of fever on route home; married Mary King and had Jeremiah, Ecenezer, Polly, Leah & George W. Vernon. His widow married (2) John Mulkey and the family settled in Geles Jounty(now Miller), Missouri.

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The compiler is grateful to the many descendants of the Pratt, Vernon, Beavers and Hampton families who have supplied Bible records, cenetery records, family charts, old letters and other helpful data. Also, credit is due to the several family historians of other early Rockingham County, North Carolina families who have furnished additional pertinent information.

> Margaret U. Lofquist Arlington Heights, Illinois June 1966

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