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Clarence Griffin

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P.O. Box 533,
Forest City, N.C.
Sept. 18, 1935

Mrs. O. Max Gardner,
Shelby, N.C

Dear Mrs. Gardner:

I have your letter of Sept. 16th, requesting certain information relative to Andrews, Blanton, Webb, Watson and Young families.

Due to an unprecedented seasonal business in our newspaper office, my time is very limited, at the present, for genealogical research work.

While the Rutherford County Historical Association has definitely decided to publish my history of Rutherford and Tryon counties, nothing will be done along that line until after our Sesqui-centennial at Rutherfordton is out of the way. Incidentally, I have a sister in Danville, Va., who is re-typing and partially editing my history; and she has about half of the manuscript at her home there. Some of the material which I had decided to send you is in Danville.

I am sending you, with this mail, the result of a short research for material. Included in this envelope ^{are} is abstracts of Tryon and Rutherford wills to 1840; index of Virginia wills; and a mass of material from my "grab box"; material which has been used either in my history or the newspaper and the copy discarded. Under separate cover I am also sending you a pamphlet carrying a brief history of Tryon county. Strictly speaking, this is not a history, and is a bare outline of Tryon history which will eventually appear in permanent form. I am also sending you a pamphlet on the Walker family. I recall that Felix Walker mentions the Watson family, and his connection with them. I do not have the time to cite you to the exact page.

We are planning a great celebration in Rutherfordton on October 11th on occasion of the 150th anniversary of the founding of that town. Hope you can be present.

Yours very truly

Clarence Griffin
(Clarence Griffin)

Do not return Material =

TRYON COUNTY WILLS

(Originals filed with Clerk Superior Court, Lincolnton, N.C., unless N.C. Historical Commission has assumed charge of them within the last year)

WATSON, JAMES. Ex. Jan. 19, 1771. Son William; dau. Susannah, Elee, Elizabeth; grandsons, James Walker and Thomas Skoot.

WATSON, WILLIAM. Ex. 1778 (original missing; reference on Index only)
Names Anna and Molly Watson.

TRYON

The cross index to/wills show no wills executed by Youngs, Webb, Blanton or Andrews.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY WILLS.

ANDREWS, SAMUEL. (Revolutionary soldier). Ex. June 9, 1803; probated Oct. 1805. wife, Sarah; sons, James, John, Hugh, Benjamin; dau. Christian

ms O May 2nd son's great great grand father
BLANTON, GEORGE. Ex. Jan. 22, 1796; probated Oct. 1802. Wife, Susannah; *Harrick* sons, Burwell, William John, Richard; dau. Ann Bridges, Catherine Bridges; Betsy Bridges, Fannie, Mary, Peggy

ms O May 2nd son's great grand father
BLANTON, GEORGE. ex. 12 June 1833; prob. Apr. 1835. Wife Priscilla; sons, William Beaty, James Hill, Guilford Eaves; dau. Easter, Margaret. Bro. Charles Blanton; bro-in-law Housen Harrill

WATSON, JOHN. Mch. 2, 1802; Jan. 1803. wife, Ann; children, Jenny, Delphay, Sawney (son), Obediah, John, Matthew, Joseph, William David

X WATSON, JOHN, May 11, 1812; prob. July 1813; wife, Jean; sons, William, Hughey, George, James, dau. Elizabeth C., Isabella, Mary; bro. George Watson

WATSON, PATRICK (Revolutionary soldier. Bur. at Brittain. See Draper's Kings Mountain). ex. 20 Nov. 1809. Prob. Jan. 1810. Wife, Ann; sons, Daniel, Hugh; dau. Elizabeth, Ann, Sarah

WATSON, GEORGE. ex. 17 Aug. 1830; prob. Jan. 1831. Bro. William, Hugh and James Watson; sisters Elizabeth Gettys, Isabella Sims, Mary Watson; mother, Jane Watson. (This Geo. Watson a son of John, above, who died in 1813)

WATSON, MARY. ex. 1 July 1838, prob. July 1840. dau/ Nancy M. Jefferson, (w. of Thomas Jefferson, State Senator, Rep. in House of Commons from Rutherford for many years); grandsons, Adolphus Patton, George W. Jefferson; Gr. dau. Mary, Margaret, Harriet N., Rachael C., Chairty E. Patton; also left bequest for Little Britain Presbyterian church.

WATSON, DANIEL. ex. 7 June 1836, prob. Apr. 1837. Wife Jincey, and "other lawful legatees".

WEBB, WILLIAM, ex. 23 Jan. 1806, Prob. Apr. 1806. Wife Ursula Carolina; sons, Isaac, Jonathan, Elias; dau. Nancy Earle, Sarah Scoggin, Polly, *(ant)* Sucky, Sally.

WEBB, ELIAS, ex. 23 May. 1811, prob. Jan. 1814. Illegitimate son Coleman Buchanan, son of Nancy Buchanan, deceased; bros. Isaac, Jonathan Webb; sisters, Nancy Earle, Sally and Polly Scoggins, Susannah Webb

WEBB, DAVID. ex. 15 Sept. 1829. Prob. Oct. 1829; wife Mary; sons John, George, Andrew, Richmond, Noah, Chambers; dau. Mary Lyles, Spicey Weathers,

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS FROM Rutherford Co
From: "Chapter 7, Participants in the Revolution", (MMH.) proposed his-
tory of old Tryon and Rutherford Cos.

Andrews, Samuel *per ancestor*

Blanton, Burwell

Watson, Private James, N.C. Militia

Watson, Capt. John. Died July 19, 1812, aged 59

Watson, Major Patrick, N.C. Militia

Watson, Private William' Sr. N.C. Militia, Pensioner. Died Jan. 9, 1854
per ancestor at age of 95

Webb, Private Jacob. N.C. Militia

Young, Private Joseph, N. C. Militia

TRYON COUNTY MARRIAGE BONDS

do not show any Blanton marriages in Tryon (1769-1779)
nor any Andrews (but Anders, Andros); no Watsons, Webbs or Youngs.

LINCOLN marriage bonds do show some Webbs and Youngs.

I have abstracts of RUTHERFORD COUNTY MARRIAGE BONDS which show all
these families.

North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives
Raleigh



Daisy Walker, Rachael Randall, Margaret Cochran; one unborn child

YOUNG, SAMUEL; (Deed Gift recorded in Will Registry) admitted to probate as part of nuncupative will. ex. ~~Apr 1801~~ Nov. 1, 1800; prob. Apr. 1801. Gifts to son Francis Young; also under date of Oct. 1, 1800, deed of gift to son John Young.

YOUNG, GIFFIN, no date of execution. Prob. Oct. 1827. Mentions wife and child but does not name them

YOUNG, ANDREW (Suicide note admitted to probate as will; executed on 8 Jan. 1833, day of death) probated April 1835. wife, Polly; son Stanford.

VIRGINIA WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS.

(Note: The foregoing information is taken from Torrence's "Virginia Wills and Administrations, 1632-1800, An Index", Richmond, 1930. This volume shows wills and administrations for all Virginia counties; but is an index only. Suggest you ascertain the county seat of any of the following counties in which you are interested, and write the circuit court clerk of that county for further information:

Blanton

~~Amelia xxxxxxxx Va.~~
~~John xxxxxxxx Va.~~

Essex County:

Thomas Blanton, will, 1697

Spotsylvania County:

Richard Blanton, will, 1734

ANDREWS

No Andrews wills or administrations filed in Virginia, There is

ANDROS:

Surry county:

Thomas, will, 1695

WATSON:

Accomack co.:

Richard, 1688, will
Robert, 1703, will
David, 1709, will
John, 1709, will
Elizabeth, 1720, will
Benjamin, 1735, will
Benjamin, 1737 will
Sarah, 1742, Inventory
David, 1751, inventory
John, 1751, Inventory

Moses, 1751, Inventory

Robert, 1751, Inventory

Solomon, 1755, will

Peter, 1758, will

Moses, 1760, will

Arthur, 1761, inventory

Benjamin, 1762, will

Sarah, 1764, will

Abel. 1766, will

Moses, 1767, will

Bartho. 1768, will

Benjamin, 1772, will

Mitchel, 1774 will

Zorobabel, 1775, will

Peter, 1776, will

Edmund, 1777, will

Levi, 1778, will

Peter, 1782, inventory

Benjamin, 1784, nuncupative will

Robt. 1786, will

America, 1790, will

Zorobabel, 1795 will

Albemarle Co:

William, 1783, will

Amelia Co.

William, 1752, will

Berkeley Co:

Thomas, 1778, will

John, Sr., 1785 will

Brunswick co

John, 1796, will (OVER)

Charlotte:

Matthew, 1778, will
Matthew, 1794. will

Northumberland Co:

Hugh 1767 will
Margaret 1772 will

Greensville Co

Alexander 1782 will
Gershom 1794, will

Prince Edward Co:

Thornton, 1794, inventory

Henrico Co:

John Sr 1706 will
Benjamin, 1714, will
John, 1750 will
Joseph, 1752, will

Rappahannock Co

John, 1684, will

Washington Co:

Patrick, 1788, will

Henry Co

John 1784 will
Isle of Wight Co:
Robt. 1651, nuncupative will
Sarah 1672, will
Elizabeth 1676 will
William 1688, nuncupative will
James, 1774 will

WEBB FAMILY

(There are 128 Webb wills and inventories in 26 Virginia counties and Hustings Courts. I can furnish you a list, if desired)

YOUNGE AND YOUNG FAMILIES

There are 97 Young and Youngs Wills and administrations filed in about 35 Virginia Counties. An index of these can also be furnished.)

Loudoun Co:

Robert, 1768, inventory

Louisa co:

James 1776, will
David, 1777 will
Barbary. 1778 will
Nehemiah, 1789 will

Lunenburg Co:

John, 1763, will

Mecklenburg Co:

James 1772 will
Isaac, 1783 will
Burwell, 1792, inventory
Henry, 1795, inventory

Norfolk Co:

Robert 1791 will

Northampton Co:

John 1733 will
Edmund, 1795 will

North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives
 Raleigh



1780-1872

Several Brothers of The Andrews
name came over from Ireland about
1770 + 1772 and settled in Penn.
near Gettysburg. Samuel Andrews
one of the brothers came direct to
Berthford County and settled.
He had seven sons. Benjamin one
of the sons was the father of
J. M. Andrews, H. P. Andrews.

Samuel Andrews wife was a
Barr.

Benjamin's wife was Elizabeth Hobson and the
father and mother of H. P., J. M., Kate, and
G. K. Andrews.

^{Private in the Revolutionary War}
William Watson father of Elizabeth Watson
^{was the}
~~the~~ mother of W. P. Andrews. ^{not a Revolutionary War soldier}
Patrick Watson & John Watson were
brothers of William Watson, Patrick
Watson was Major in the Revolutionary
^{under Washington}
War & John was Captain.
Rebekah Watson, wife of William Watson
and sister of the three Robinson boys
in the Revolutionary War namely, Thomas
James & William. Thomas Robinson was
Major in the Battle of Kings Mountain
William was shot at the Battle of Kings Mt.
and was carried to Rutherford County, his
home, on a cowhide, which is now
in the possession of James M. Andrews
son of Benjamin ^{at} ~~Watson~~ Elizabeth Watson -
in Rutherford County
Signed - Mrs. J. F. Webb
(mother of Mrs. O. May Gardner)

Our great great grandfather William Watson's
brother /

MAJOR PATRICK WATSON.

Major Patrick Watson was a hero of the Revolution, and is buried in Brittain cemetery. Draper, in his "Kings Mountain and Its Heroes", says: Major Patrick Watson commanded the Rutherford county footmen in the rear, and thus failed to participate in the Kings Mountain battle. A native of Pennsylvania, he settled in Rutherford county in 1764, and died in 1809 in his fifty-eighth year.

Watson was very active in the cause of American Independence, and participated in a number of engagements from 1775 to 1783, and held various commands.

The inscription on his tombstone in Brittain cemetery reads: "In Memory of Patrikk Watson, Soldier of the Revolution, who Died September 16, 1809, aged 57 years, 9 months and 16 days."

C

LIEUT. THOMAS McCulloch

mortally wounded
Lieut. Thomas McCulloch was ~~killed~~ at Kings Mountain and is buried in Brittain cemetery. McCulloch was a lieutenant under Gen. William Campbell, of Virginia, at the battle of Kings Mountain. He had long been prominent among the border men of Holston, in Virginia. Though only a lieutenant, he commanded a company at Kings Mountain, and was mortally wounded in the battle. He died while the army was at Col. John Walker's plantation, near present Logan Station, on October 12, 1780, five days after the battle. Due to poor transportation ~~xxxxx~~ methods his body was interred in Brittain cemetery, nearby. A few years later William (Uncle Billy) Watson, who had participated in the battle at Kings Mountain, secured a small soapstone rock and carved thereon in crude letters the following:

"Here lies the body of
Lieut. Thomas McCulloch,
Belonging to Col. ~~Cumple's~~ *campbell's*
Regt., Va., who lost this
life in and for the honourable
just and riteous cause of
liberty at the defeating
of Col. Fargerson's
infamous company of
bandits at Kings mountain
in October, 1780."

Although "Uncle Billy" Watson's spelling was not so good, his intentions were, and thanks to his unselfish service to a fellow soldier, the identity of McCulloch's grave has been preserved to posterity. The writer recently made application to the War Department for a government headstone to replace the present inadequate soapstone marker at the head of his grave.

The name of McCulloch also appears on the new monument erected by the United States Government on the Kings Mountain Battle ground.

gent gent grandfather William Watsons
brother
JOHN WATSON

John Watson was a captain in the Revolutionary War. He resided near Brittain church, and is buried in the Brittain cemetery. The inscription on his tombstone is as follows: "In Memory of John Watson, who Died July 19, ~~18~~¹⁸ 1812; aged 59 years. He was A Captain in The Revolution".

gent gent grandfather William Watsons
brother
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