



# ***Greenwood County Historical Society***

P.O. Box 49653, Greenwood, SC 29649

November, 2016

## **President's Message - November 2016**

We hope you attended and enjoyed our last meeting at the Greenwood Library in September on. Dr. Michael McKenzie, former educator and superintendent schools, led a discussion of local schools and the history of local education. This presentation was full of great information. A great crowd was there and we were presented a new perspective of the amount of influence the local school institution had in our area. If you were not in attendance, you missed a great event!

**In November we will meet at Cokesbury College** for a presentation of the history of the Masonic Institute and School. **This meeting will be a week early, on November 20.**

**Rob Jones** will present. Please join us one week early as we enjoy this presentation.



*Old Cokesbury College*

### **Rob Jones**

Rob Jones lives in Greenwood, is a member of Main Street United Methodist Church, and has a 20 year old daughter. He often speaks on benefit issues at Insurance and Human Resource conferences and is a featured speaker on Cokesbury to civic groups in the area as a member of and Chairman of the Cokesbury College Commission. He is also a member of the Greenwood County Historical Society Board, Piedmont Technical College Board of Business Advisors, and Healthplan Services Advisory Board in Tampa. He attended the University of South Carolina and is a graduate of Greenwood High School. He is an avid reader, traveler, and Gamecock fan.

Our January meeting will be to reward our property owners for our 8th annual ARPA Awards on January 29 at 3:00 at the Greenwood Library. We look forward to seeing you then.

### **Dates for 2017 meetings:**

January 29-, March 26-, June 25-, September 24-, November 19-

We appreciate your continued support! End of the year means your renewal to our society. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings next year! Please send any ideas or suggestions for meetings for next year to me @ [ctinsley63@yahoo.com](mailto:ctinsley63@yahoo.com) Also, if you would like to serve on our board, please let me know!!

*Yours in History! What is your Story?*

Chip <http://greenwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com/>

# GREENWOOD HISTORY: OUR OLD ROADS

By Harry Legare Watson

These sketches about the early travel routes in the area that is now Greenwood County and early families who lived along the old roads were written by the editor of *The Index-Journal* of Greenwood, and were published weekly in this newspaper from August 18, 1940 (with an occasional break) until February 1950, numbered 1-428. They include considerable family history information as well as local and area history. They will be reprinted here in following issues with the permission of the editor of *The Index-Journal*.

No. 82

Saturday, March 14, 1942

Amelia Dozier, one of the four children of Abraham Dozier, lawyer of Cambridge, as previously mentioned, married James E. Broome and they removed to Florida. Mr. Broome became a citizen of prominence in that State and in 1853 became governor of Florida and served four years as governor. After the death of his first wife, Amelia Dozier Broome, he married the widow of John Harris, son of William Harris of the Harris place (now the Tolbert Rock House) in what is now this county. The second Mrs. Broome was a native of Savannah.

Albert Dozier was the only son of Abraham Giles Dozier.

Dr. R. C. Griffin says that Albert Dozier, Madison Coleman and James Patterson were the practical jokers of the village of Cambridge when he was a student there about 1820, before and after that year. The first two were young sons of parents who lived in the village and Patterson was the tailor, and one of those persons who could not get through the day without "playing a Joke" on some one. Dr. E. R. Calhoun says his name was Charles Patterson while Dr. Griffin says it was James Patterson. Anyway they were both talking about the same man.

A great part of the business of Cambridge was derived from the sections along the foot of the mountains and far back in the mountains themselves. These people would drive their wagons down loaded with produce and various other things which they would sell to merchants in Cambridge and even in Hamburg and then, they would buy things they needed and could not produce themselves to take back home with them. It was a once-a-year business.

From 1816, the year of "the plague" and for several years thereafter there was much sickness in and around Cambridge and rumors of this condition spread, doing harm to the business of the place.

The three young men named above worked up what they thought was a brilliant joke to play on the innocent mountaineers who came to Cambridge to trade and camped out nearby. Some of them had become so afraid of the place that they sought a new route to Hamburg and Augusta, which would not take them even within sight of Cambridge. The joke which Messrs. Dozier, Coleman and Patterson worked up was to visit the camps of the mountain campers and tell them that if they would put a dab of tar (all these wagons had to have tar and frequent use of it in some ways gave rise to

the nickname "Tar Heels" for North Carolinians) on the tip of their noses that they would be in no danger whatever of "catching" any sickness which might be "going around" in or near Cambridge or anywhere else.

Tradition goes that the innocent mountain residents, from both the Carolinas did this and never suspected they were being "joked" and made ridiculous until some of them going on as far as Hamburg found out they were victims of the practical jokers, and their wrath was hot.

It was said also that they vowed to do all they could to hurt the trade of Cambridge merchants and the few merchants at Cambridge became also quite hot with the three young men who had perpetrated the joke. One of these firms mentioned as being quite disturbed by the affair was Creswell and Pinchbeck - a firm composed of James Creswell (who later removed to Greenwood and built where A. S. Hartzog now lives) and Wm. Pinchbeck who removed to Abbeville and was a merchant there. "Pinchbeck", by the way, was the name of the London jeweler, Charles Pinchbeck, who invented the alloy of copper and zinc which was long used as "imitation gold" and used to make inexpensive jewelry. If Wm. Pinchbeck was a descendant it is not known. He, family tradition goes, or a son, was a suitor of Jane Elizabeth Creswell, a half sister of James Creswell. She did not accept him and later married Albert Waller, prominent citizen and first postmaster of Greenwood. It was said that once while William Pinchbeck was a caller, or had a date, as the modern phrase goes, the little brother, Henry H. Creswell of Jane Elizabeth Creswell was playing around in the room where the couple were seated, but they paid no attention to him, thinking he was "too little" to understand what was being said. He did not understand, but he remembered the words, which were all new to him, and presently he was running all over the house shouting out the newly discovered words. The suitor, Wm. Pinchbeck, was either so discomfited by the experience of by the lack of interest of Jane Elizabeth Creswell that he did not continue the courtship.

The other mercantile firm at Cambridge which felt the ill effects of the prank of the young men, Albert Dozier, Madison Coleman and Charles Patterson, in advising the mountaineers camping around Cambridge to put tar on the end of their noses as an antidote against "the sickness" was Payne and Hamilton. The senior member of the firm was either

Thomas Payne or his brother, William, sons of Jesse Payne, of Payne's Cross Roads. The junior member was Robert Hamilton, an uncle of Mrs. Freeman Martin, and a portrait of him, referred to by Dr. R. C. Griffin as the likeness of a handsome and distinguished looking man was, in 1878, owned by Mrs. Martin. Robert Hamilton was a son of Col. John Hamilton, a large landowner of the section around the present Fellowship church.

Continuing with the lawyers who lived and practiced at Cambridge, the name of John Dunlap belongs in the list of older lawyers. Dunlap was admitted to the Bar in Charleston on January 26, 1795. He married Anne Geddes of Charleston, a sister of Robert Geddes, a wealthy merchant of Charleston and she was also a sister of Governor John Geddes. After marriage they removed to Cambridge (Old Ninety Six) and soon Dunlap had built up an extensive practice and he had a great reputation in the Upper Part of the State as an advocate. He lived in Cambridge but had a law practice in Abbeville, Edgefield, Newberry and Laurens. Dunlap did not live very long; his death was about 1810. After a few years his widow married the Rev. B. R. Montgomery, D. D., already mentioned as a prominent Presbyterian minister of this section who later became a member of the faculty of the South Carolina College. He was afterwards pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Columbia.

John Dunlap, the lawyer, was a brother of Major William Dunlap, who was one of the party of patriots captured by "Bloody Bill" Cunningham at "Edgehills" (for Col. Edgehill) or Hay's Station in October 1781. Major Dunlap was one of the four patriots who were spared for some reason never disclosed. Maj. Dunlap used to tell of his harrowing experience, seated in the ring, as ordered by the Tories, a "circle of blood and death" – when his companion on the right hand and his companion on the left hand were cut down, killed and then hacked to bits, much of this last brutality being done by the notorious Matthew Love whose hanging at Old Ninety Six has been described. Major Wm. Dunlap and his three companions who had been spared from the massacre at Hay's Station were released the following day at Odell's Mill on Beaver Dam Creek in Laurens county, covered with the blood of their slain companions.

John Dunlap, the lawyer at Cambridge, left no children. He practically adopted James McKibben, who became a prominent lawyer of Newberry and Union. McKibben was a native of what is now Union county. What connection he had with John Dunlap of Ninety Six, either as kinsman or otherwise, is not known. Dunlap took him into his home and sent him to school to the famous Dr. Abner Pyles of Laurens, whose reputation as a teacher in the Piedmont section was almost equal to that of Dr. Moses Waddel at Willington. After leaving this school McKibben returned to Cambridge and read law under his patron, John Dunlap. McKibben

practiced in his new location in Newberry until 1810, when he decided to return to his native community near Union, and some years later he was elected State Senator from that county. He died in 1828. As proof of the excellence of the school of Dr. Abner Pyles in Laurens county at the beginning of the nineteenth century, O'Neill says McKibben was a "well-informed man. He spoke French and Spanish and had a well-selected library and read a great deal." He served a short time in the War of 1812, though there was no combat service in this State. When Samuel Farrow, who also read law in Cambridge (Old Ninety Six), and in Charleston under Robert Goodloe Harper, who was a graduate of the College of Cambridge in Old Ninety Six, decided to retire from Congress – he was a member from 1813-1815 – McKibben ran for the place but was defeated by Major Wm. Nesbit of Spartanburg.

Samuel Farrow and two of his six brothers, John and Landon Farrow, were in Revolutionary service. Samuel received a deep sword cut on his face, featured in a portrait of him owned by a descendant in Alabama. The three brothers Farrow were captured by the British and lodged in the jail at Old Ninety Six. Their mother secured their release by swapping six British prisoners which she and others had captured. Mrs. Farrow told the British officer at Old Ninety Six after the swap that it was "the best trade I ever made, for now I can whip you four to one." Samuel Farrow served as Lieutenant Governor and after being in Congress was a member of the State Legislature from Spartanburg. To him and William Craft belong credit for the establishment of the State Hospital in Columbia and the School for Deaf and Blind at Cedar Springs. Samuel Farrow married Elizabeth Herndon, daughter of Col. Benjamin Herndon of Newberry county. He was an uncle of Patillo Farrow, also a lawyer of distinction at Laurens. *(To be continued.)*



## Has anybody seen “*Sherman or George Washington had to sleep somewhere?*” From Roots and Recalls-

While performing historical assessments on old houses, I’ve discovered many owners have deeply cherished beliefs that eventually come out as questions. One of the most common for me since I work primarily in the South is “*Was my house around during the Civil War?*” I think this is due in part to how the Civil War is such a defining event in the lives of many Southerners. All personal feelings and politics aside, no one can deny the continuing emotional pull this period in history holds for those of Southern extraction.

The most recent generations of families who own an old house want to know if the house was around during the Civil War; and what was the proximity of the house to Sherman's army during this great conflagration? I'm not sure of the statistics, or even if there are statistics for that matter, on how many houses General Sherman actually burned. But many a proud owner has told me how it's a miracle their house avoided a fiery demise because one of Sherman's armies passed within ten miles of said property. And who am I to say otherwise?

This is indicative of one of the potential hazards inherent in performing historic evaluations on houses: Trying to convince the owner of a historic home that stories told for generations may not be true, based on the evidence.

Every region of the country has events that define its character. The mere possibility that one of these events may have involved a house owned by generations of your family is too much to resist. I like to tell people that the very survival of a house for 50 or more years is in itself a miracle.

In addition, the real pride of ownership is the day-to-day history that has transpired within. Every ghost of an old wall or handrail worn smooth by generations of hands allows us to connect with the countless events that happened daily in our homes. Whether you have physical evidence of the past in your old home, or just stories handed down through the generations, it’s left to us, the present caretakers of history, to interpret and maintain.

In closing, I will say George Washington may not have slept in your house but somebody did. What did they leave behind?

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**TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE GREENWOOD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Membership renewal occurs in January of each year. Don't let your membership lapse and miss information about upcoming programs or not receive a copy of “Our Old Roads”. A return envelope has been provided for your convenience.

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**Return Service Requested**

