



Greenwood County Historical Society

P.O. Box 49653, Greenwood, SC 29649

November 2018

President's Message November 2018

Finally some cool weather and all that Fall brings. We appreciate those that attended our last meeting in September. Warren Patterson, Wayne Cameron, and Jim Ravencraft introduced us to the vast amount of information the library holds in the Genealogical room at YOUR disposal, both online and on reserve. Thanks to the Greenwood Library, Dana Ellis and all for their assistance.

The Tabernacle Cemetery subcommittee of the GCHS has begun work on its future. Missy Lowery is the chair and Ernest Prewett, Carol Scales, Joe Camp, Rob Jones, Mac Calhoun, and I are members.

We decided to postpone our annual GCHS Architectural Preservation and Restoration Awards due to lack of nominations. Thanks for your help and participation in the past and we expect to pick it up again next year.

Our next meeting will be at the Public Library on **SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4th**. This is earlier due to Thanksgiving at the end of the month. Dr. Joe Camp will talk about the Greenwood men listed on the War Memorial monument who fought in WW I. ALL are welcome to attend.

Ernest Prewett has decided to retire from active service on the board. We offer sincere appreciation to Ernest for his energy, enthusiasm and knowledgeable leadership. Also Stefan Wiecki and Joe Camp have also decided to take time away from the board and active service. We appreciate their efforts and offer sincere gratitude for their time and work.

If you or anyone you know is interested in getting involved with the GCHS please let me know-either as a board member or as a part of a committee within our organization. We have opportunities...please get involved. We thank you for your continued support of the GCHS! Financially, we appreciate your renewals, attendance of our meetings and support of our mission. Please join and bring a friend if you have not done so.

Yours in History! ctinsley63@yahoo.com Chip
<http://greenwoodcountyhistoricalsociety.com/>

Greenwood County Historical Society Meeting, Sunday Nov. 4

Dr. Joe Camp

Greenwood's WWI Monument Men



Please join us for our earlier than usual GCHS Meeting on Sunday, November 4 at 3:00 pm at the Greenwood County Public Library. Dr. Joe Camp will discuss the men who are memorialized on the War Monument. Learn about their stories, their connections and Greenwood's contribution to the Great War—that lasted from 28 July 1914 to 11 November 1918. Contemporaneously described as the “War to end all wars”, more than 70 million personnel, including 60 million Europeans, were mobilized in one of the largest wars in history. And Greenwood was a part of it.

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. 92

Saturday, June 27, 1942

In addition to their son, Martin Hackett Coleman, Thomas L. Coleman and his wife Almena Hackett Coleman had a daughter, Emma Coleman, who married Cadmus Garlington Waller of Greenwood.

The other son of James Coleman and his second wife, Mrs. Nancy White, first wife of George White, was Milton W. Coleman. Milton W. Coleman was married first to Jane Roseanna Marshall, daughter of Capt. George and Mrs. Jane Marshall. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman had two children, Jane Roseanna and James Milton Coleman, who died in infancy. Mrs. Coleman died in 1845 and Milton W. Coleman married second, Elmira Elizabeth Reynolds, daughter of Larkin Reynolds. They had two children, Mary Elizabeth and Larkin Reynolds Coleman both of whom died in infancy. After the death of his second wife, Milton W. Coleman on July 24, 1860 married third Mary Brooks, daughter of Stanmore Brooks. They had four children, two daughters, Octavia and Marie, who died just at maturity, an infant son, and Thomas Brooks Coleman. Mrs. Milton W. Coleman was born Dec. 25, 1833 and died on Thanksgiving Day in 1923. Milton W. Coleman was born at Old Cambridge in May 1818. He lived as a young man at White Hall and at the beginning of the War Between the States he was engaged in farming at the "Harris Place" (the Tolbert Stone House place). He enlisted in Confederate service and was Captain of Co. B First S. C. Militia in 1864. He died at the age of 67 in 1885 at his home in Greenwood; the house stood about where Clyde Keller's home now is.

James Coleman, father of Milton W. and Thos. L. Coleman, married first Nancy Waller who was a daughter of James Leonard Waller, a brother of Rev. John Waller. She was one of several children. She and James Coleman had several children, only one, Madison Coleman, is noted in the record. He removed to Florida.

After her death, as just mentioned, James Coleman married Mrs. Nancy White, widow of George White who lived below Old Cambridge. Following is a list of the children of Mr. and Mrs. George White, these children being step-children of James Coleman: William White, Agnes White, Richard Moore White, Leonard White, and John White.

William White removed to Mississippi as a young man, returned to this section and married Lavinie Brooks, daughter of Stanmore Brooks. They had two daughters, Julia and Mary T.; the former became Mrs. Frank Townes of North Augusta, and the latter became Mrs. G. M. Anderson of Ninety Six. After the death of Mr. White, his widow married A. S. Townes of Greenville, and they had one son to reach manhood, S. Brooks Townes.

Agnes White married first William Bullock, as already noted in references to the Bullock family, and second Vincent Griffin Sr.

Richard (Dick) Moore White married first Ann America Griffin, daughter of Larkin Griffin and his wife, Jemima Coleman – possibly a sister of James – and after her death he married Mrs. Frances Eveline Moseley. Richard Moore White, born Nov. 27, 1812, located in Greenwood. His house, described by old residents who recall it, was a two-story frame house painted white, which stood slightly northeast of what is now Brewer Normal School. There was a lane from the main public road down to it. The house was burned a long time ago, but the well is still in use. Richard (Dick) White had ten children. One of them, the late Maj. James L. White, was the first County Superintendent of Education of Greenwood county. Another son, Thomas Coleman White, had just opened a drug store here when the War Between the States began. He closed up and went to the war as did his brother Maj. J. L. White. Following is a list of the children of Richard (Dick) White: George Larkin White, Richard Moore White, James Leonard White, William Lowndes White, Milton Griffin White, Waller Reynolds White, Anna Jemima White, Mary Eliza White and Agnes Tabitha White. Dr. John Logan in his diary, under date of Tuesday, March 12, 1887 – he was living then at the farm now owned by Ed. A. Reynolds about a mile and a half northeast of town – had this entry on the death of Mrs. Richard (Dick) White here: "Attended funeral services at nine o'clock this morning for Mrs. Richard White – the Rev. James M. Chiles preached the sermon – a great many persons present - Her remains were then carried to a place near Old Cambridge for interment – Mrs. White was a daughter of Col. Larkin Griffin."

(continued on next page)

The “place near Old Cambridge” which Dr. Logan mentions was the Griffin-White family burying ground on what is now the grounds of Kinard School house. A large number of persons are buried there.

Leonard White married Miss Douglas of Abbeville county and after his death she married James Cochran of Cokesbury.

John White married Lucy Smith, daughter of William and Lucy Smith of Stony Point.

Returning to the section on both sides of the road from the Dixie Highway to Epworth, by the home first settled by William Hackett and long the home of his son Augustus Hackett, the lands here out to and beyond the present Epworth were owned by Moores and Hacketts before the War Between the States and much of it for some time afterwards. Gus Hackett owned lands beyond the present “Big Zion” colored Baptist church and gave this congregation the land on which the church stands, after the congregation had withdrawn its membership from Fellowship church and set up its own organization .

Just beyond this church and not far from the route of the Old Martin Town road was the home of Freeman Martin and not far from it and nearer the present paved highway is the home of Mrs. G. F. Martin. The Martins have been referred to before. A late discovery of the will of William Martin at Edgefield dated Nov. 30, 1775, indicates that William Martin was the father of Reeves Martin who was the father of Freeman Martin. William Martin left his property to his three children – Reeves Martin, Usley Martin and Tilithy (?) Martin and his wife Frances. He names his wife Frances, Mackerness Good Sr, and James Moore as executors of his will. The will was recorded Oct. 11, 1787.

Across the road from the Martin place is, as before mentioned, the home of Will N. Henderson and before he bought it, long known as the Tompkins place, though, as explained before, it was first settled by William Andrews.

Col. Daniel Holland Tompkins bought this place in the early Seventies. He was a native of Edgefield county and began farming on a place given to him by his father. He used to say that it was very rocky and he decided that if he had to farm for the rest of his life that he would find some farming land that was not rocky and that was how he happened to select this place and buy it.

Col. Tompkins was a son of Maj. Samuel S. Tompkins and Amelia Holland Tompkins. Maj. Samuel S. Tompkins was a son of Col. James Tompkins and Hulda Hill Tompkins. Maj. Samuel S. Tompkins was the oldest of eight brothers. The grandfather of these was Stephen Tompkins, a Revolutionary soldier. Maj.

Samuel S. Tompkins married first Amelia Holland and they had three children: Daniel Holland Tompkins, James B. Tompkins and Mrs. Henrietta Tompkins Carter (her husband, Capt. Jonathan H. Carter, was a graduate of the first class of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, served in the U. S. Navy and then in Confederate Navy). Maj. Samuel S. Tompkins married second Miss Dora Shecutt and they had five children: L. S., T. W., Miss Julia Tompkins, Mrs. W. H. Wallace, and Mrs. Minnie McIntyre.

After attending the Cokesbury Conference School, Col. D. H. Tompkins was one of a small group, including two Vances from Cokesbury, George Johnstone of Newberry, and possibly one or two others from this State who went to the University of Edinburgh “After the War” along with some others from different Southern States. Their experiences in part are described by Peter Wilson, one of the contingent from North Carolina, in his charming book, “A Southern Exposure.”

In 1894, Col. Tompkins was elected Secretary of State and served until 1898. He was always interested in politics but for the rest of his life he refrained from active participation. He died at his home Jan. 15, 1919. He was in Confederate service as a member of Co. B., Holcombe Legion, and later a scout under Gen. Martin H. Gary. He married Louise Rook, daughter of Dr. W. J. and Elizabeth (Gary) Rook of Newberry county. They had five children.

(To be continued)



Greenwood County Historical Society

Tabernacle Cemetery Board Report - Oct. 21

Carol Scales and I spent an hour on Saturday walking the Tabernacle Cemetery, removing a few downed limbs and planning for landscaping and refurbishment of the headstones. Tabernacle is on the National Register of Historic Places and I had prepared the application for it.

Carol and Ernest Prewett had done so much to improve the site since my last visit. The fence still looks beautiful and the trees that Carol planted have all thrived—with the double cherry blossom near our National Register marker in bloom. I had the opportunity to see how we will be able to clean the markers. We sprayed a very black Canaday marble marker with D/2 Biological spray, scrubbed it with a brush and then Carol poured water on it. What a surprise! It is beautiful pink marble and the front was beautifully inscribed.

We are planning to host an open house in November—just a few hours one Saturday where we would invite the public to tour the grounds and visit the last remnant of a post-Revolutionary War community and see the final resting place of two Civil War Generals. It will be a great opportunity for descendants of Connor, Klugh, Herndon or Canaday families to have a homecoming. Stay tuned for more to come about our plans to refurbish.

Missy Babb Lowery, Chair of the Tabernacle Cemetery Board



DON'T FORGET OUR MEETING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4th

Get a jump on your 2019 Dues!

Individual \$20. Couple \$30. Make check payable to the Greenwood County Historical Society and send to PO Box 49653, Greenwood, SC 29649. A self-addressed envelope is included for your convenience. We appreciate your continued support as we plan and offer programs of historical information about our community, our state and our nation!



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Return Service Requested

