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THE
GENEALOGY
OF THE
Mell Family
in the Southern States.

BY

Dr. and Mrs. P. H. Mell.

ARMS: OR, A FRET GULES.

CREST: ON A CHAPEAU AZURE TURNED UP OR, A
MARTLET WITH WINGS ENDORSED SABLE.

MOTTO: NE CEDE MALIS SED CONTRA.

Auburn, Alabama,
1897.

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ASTOR LENOX
TILDEN

PREFACE.

“Tell your children of it and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.” Joel, I. 3.

There is a saying that one who has no reverence for his ancestors probably never had a grandfather. It is certainly true that a proper degree of family pride will cause a man to live worthily himself and to teach his children by precept and example not to fall below the record of their ancestors. “Noblesse oblige” is a motto which instills regard not so much for the noble birth of the family as for noble deeds and good and worthy Christian lives. This kind of family pride is admirable and elevating in its influence. The Bible strongly commands this reverence for our forefathers and promises length of days to those who honor father and mother.

Our line begins with a First Settler; a pioneer of Christian civilization in a new country. History reveals to us the trials and hardships that inevitably beset his way; but the prosperity of his children indicates the success of his struggles. His name, John, has been repeated generation after generation in all branches of the family and we trust that it will continue to be honored and remembered.

From study of the family history we must conclude that the striking traits are strong family affections, great love of hospitality, free-handed generosity and all the virtues and faults that spring from social, genial, fun-loving temperaments. We must then train the young people of our Mell family so that these fine qualities of a warm, true heart may be so directed as to make life full of sunshine and happiness; guarding carefully against the temptations that spring from unrestrained social pleasures and which have wrecked many lives.

INTRODUCTION.

The traditions of this Family History came principally from Mr. Thomas James Mell of Savannah; the oldest living Mell at the time these investigations were started in 1880. He received them from the lips of his father, Thomas Sumner Mell, who liked to talk about the family, and knew many things that have come down to us imperfectly.

The facts in this History have been obtained from family Bibles and old deeds, wills, etc., and are thoroughly authentic. So far as we have been able to ascertain facts and traditions seem to agree; and it is therefore probable that all the traditions are true.

The ancestor of the Mell Family, John Mell, came to South Carolina at a very early date in the history of the Colony, and settled near Charleston in Berkeley county in 1677. Family tradition states that he

was an Episcopalian of English Cavalier stock. The late venerable Dr. John Jones of Atlanta, an eminent Presbyterian minister formerly of Liberty county, Georgia, states that he always heard this was the origin of the Mell family. As his statement agrees with our tradition, and his family and ours have been friends for years, in fact for generations, the tradition is probably true.

John Mell had three sons, so the story goes. One became the head of the Mell family of Georgia; another is supposed to have gone to North Carolina or Virginia and lost connection with his family; probably the ancestor of Professor A. W. Mell who is a teacher of prominence in one of the Western States. The third son died leaving two children of whose descendants we have no record.

An attempt has been made to search the South Carolina records for traces of this family and with a moderate amount of success. Copies of the original Land Grants from the English Crown to John Mell have been obtained from the Department of Public Lands Columbia, South Carolina. These grants are dated June, 15th., 1677 and October, 1685. The latter is given him in right of his wife Elizabeth, so he probably married between those dates.

December, 20th. 1679, William Mell was living in the parish of St. James, Barbadoes.* A curious tradition connects the family with kindred in the West Indies, and it is very probable that William Mell was the father of John, and that the latter came to South Carolina with Sir John Yeamans from Barbadoes.

The list of deeds in Charleston begins in 1719 and there are no copies of private business papers before this date. The late Mr. W. G. Whilden of Greenville, South Carolina, who kindly searched the records for us, says there are about ten deeds and legal papers relating to the name of Mell between the dates 1719 and 1745, a space of 26 years. Nearly all of these are lost or badly defaced so as to be almost illegible. And after that date several important papers are missing from the records although they are mentioned in the Index. We have been able to obtain many interesting facts from the copies and abstracts of some of these papers. Marriage records were not kept by the Courts of South Carolina as they were in Virginia; and the Episcopal Church at St. James Goose Creek where the family first settled, had all its records destroyed long ago; so that these Colonial deeds contain all the facts we can possibly procure.

* See Hatten's Lists of Emigrants.

By examining these records from 1719 to 1736 we find three different persons named Mell; viz. Thomas, Joseph and John, corresponding to the three brothers of tradition. They were all gentlemen of property and could read and write, a rare accomplishment in those days, and it can be inferred from this that they had as much education as was possible at that time; for the Colony was very deficient in schools in its early history and ignorance was the common lot even among men of good birth and breeding.

Thomas and John were undoubtedly brothers as John's will, dated 1736, proves conclusively, and it is probable that Joseph was also a brother. He is mentioned only once, in 1722 when he was appointed one of the appraisers of Peter Guerin's estate. This was a valuable property for those days and Governor Nicholson always selected as appraisers, men of good sense, sound business judgment and practical experience in the value of property. Nothing more is ever heard of Joseph; he either died soon after or emigrated to North Carolina, as the story goes.

It is certainly true that a person named Mell did settle in North Carolina or Vir-

ginia for the story is repeated to us from other sources. Professor A. W. Mell, a prominent educator now residing in Missouri, informs us that his grand-father, George Mell, was born in Virginia and married Mary Ellinger about 1790, at the Ellinger home, four miles from Stanton in Augusta county, Virginia. His grand-father used to relate that his ancestor was born on the ocean of parents on their way to this country; he also declared that the family were of English origin. The father of George Mell lived to be eighty years old and his mother eighty-five years; George died at the age of forty-eight and his wife Mary died at the age of forty-four. The descendants are few in number and reside generally in Pennsylvania. The name is so uncommon that we have both probably a common origin. It is possible that Joseph was the grand-father of George, and was the ancestor born on the ocean.

The history of Thomas Mell is very clearly traced in the Colonial deeds; he was the ancestor of our family. We will give his history in the Genealogical Record.

The third brother, John, died in 1736 leaving a plantation, negroes, cattle, etc.,

and personal property to his two children John and Mary. Both were under age and he appointed his brother Thomas as Executor and their Guardian. The inventory of his estate is lost and there is therefore no valuation of his property known to us. John Mell's signature is affixed to his Will but it is noticeable that all three of the witnesses made their "marks." His daughter, Mary, married a Cockfield and was living in 1794, for she is remembered substantially with terms of affection by her cousin, Thomas Mell, in his will of that date. There is no mention of John Mell, Jr. outside of his father's will. There is another John mentioned in the will, the son of Thomas, and John Mell, Sr. leaves this third John all of his property in case of the death of his two children; Thomas Mell had other sons at this date but John was selected on account of his name. This third John is never mentioned afterwards.

The West Indian tradition is interesting and well authenticated. The relation in the West Indies was always spoken of in the family as "our old Uncle." We feel inclined to advance the theory that he was the brother of the first settler John, and that he

was named Thomas, from his partiality to this name. The "old Uncle" became very wealthy; he owned three sugar plantations, each with seventy slaves. He died a bachelor. He sent over to this country by a safe hand a silver plate with the Family Coat of Arms and an inscription engraved upon it, leaving all of his property to Thomas Mell; and, in order for the said Thomas to take possession of the estate, he must bring the silver Coat of Arms to prove his identity. He had so deeded his property that it could be claimed by the oldest Thomas Mell in each generation, who might lawfully take possession of it by right of the silver plate, until fifty years had passed when it would revert to the English Crown. The plate he supposed would be indestructible and would be carefully preserved by the family until the property could be claimed. But no one made the effort to obtain the property and the Coat of Arms passed from one Thomas Mell to another until it finally came to Thomas Sumner Mell of Savannah. It was frequently seen by his children and they heard the story attached to it. At last, in 1839, Thomas James Mell, son of Thomas Sumner, came of age and being endowed with a spirit of adventure as well as the lucky name

of Thomas, went to his father and asked permission to take the Coat of Arms and go in quest of this fortune. But he was informed, to his great disappointment and astonishment, that the limit, fifty years, had long since expired, and that his mother, months ago, had taken the old plate together with her other old family silver and exchanged the lot at the jeweller's for new silver. This was much to be regretted, for the old Coat of Arms now would be invaluable in our family history. Other children of Thomas Sumner Mell saw the silver plate and heard its history and have spoken of it to their descendants, so that the story is undoubtedly authentic.

We made an attempt to discover something about this Estate in the West Indies and wrote to the Bermuda Islands. We received a reply from the Colonial Secretary saying there was no record of the name of Mell in their Archives. We also wrote to the Barbadoes Islands and received the reply that a fee of \$18.00 would be charged for searching the Records and an extra fee charged for copying anything that might be found therein. Possibly some of the rich members of the family may be interested in this search at some future day.

Mr. Alexander S. Salley of Orangeburg, South Carolina, gave us the following note:

“Orangeburg, S. C., was settled in 1730 by German subjects of the Prince of Orange. Their church was called the Giessendanner Church. On their records are found the following entries:

Tuesday, August 6th., 1754, Henry Mell witness of wedding. Sunday, August 31st. Mary Catherine Mell, wife of Henry Mell, was sponsor for a child. Sunday, October 23rd., 1757, Mary Catherine Mell was sponsor for a child.

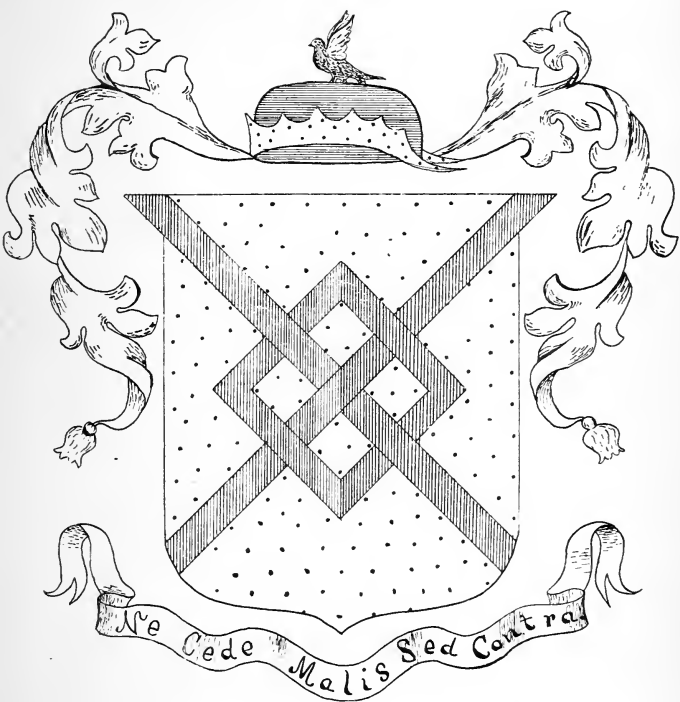
The Mells had settled in South Carolina long before 1730 so they could not have belonged to the German colony mentioned above. These Mells were either of German birth with Anglicised name, or descendants of Joseph Mell. They did not belong to the immediate family of Thomas or John.

We will close this chapter with a brief summary of what we have learned from records and traditions.

The Mells belonged to a family of good birth in England, as proved by the silver plate with Coat of Arms, seen by many witnesses and which now is lost; it is proved also by the Family Seal Ring mentioned in the will of Thomas Mell the second; this also is lost.

The Mell Family had been in South Carolina since 1677 and were well established in 1719, as Thomas Mell was married and held property at that date; Joseph Mell was a man of such experience and position in the community as to be selected by the Governor as an Appraiser of a large and valuable Estate; and John, the youngest, soon afterwards married and settled upon a plantation of his own. We have not been able to trace positively the lines of Joseph and John. Whether they died or removed from the State is unknown but Thomas remained in South Carolina and accumulated much property and became the head of the Mell Family of Georgia.

The Coat of Arms so unfortunately lost in our family has been replaced from England. Authorities, in response to enquiries, have sent us the original Coat of Arms that has been used by the Mell family from a very early date. Different lines have added slight variations, but, as we have not yet determined the exact branch in England from which we are descended, we have adopted the original insignia upon the advise of English scholars in heraldry.



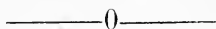
Arms of Mell.

ARMS: OR, A FRET GULES.

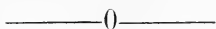
CREST: ON A CHAPEAU AZURE TURNED UP OR, A MARTLET WITH WINGS ENDORSED SABLE.

MOTTO: NE CEDE MALIS SED CONTRA.

MELL GENEALOGY.



JOHN MELL - THE FIRST SOUTHERN SETTLER.
BERKELEY COUNTY, S. C., 1677.



The lives of our ancestors, pioneers in settling this country now so flourishing and populous, must always be full of especial interest to us. We are peculiarly concerned in their struggles; imagination dwells upon their trials in contending with the burning climate, the virgin forest and the unfriendly savages.

Early French and Spanish explorers give the most charming descriptions of the land of South Carolina. Settlements were made upon the coast as early as 1562; but conflicts between the French and Spaniards destroyed these early colonies and the country was abandoned by all European nations for nearly a century.

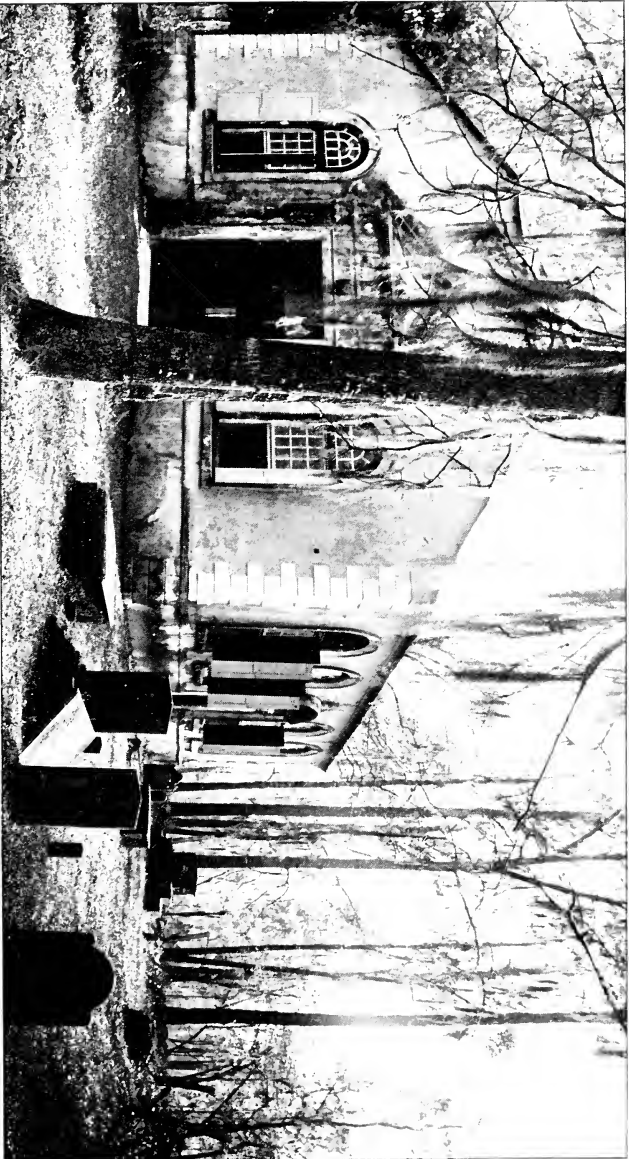
In 1663, Charles II of England claimed a right to this province and his title was sustained by the Pope of Rome. The impoverished monarch desiring to reward his good friends who had restored to him his kingdom, eagerly seized the opportunity to give them large landed interests in the New World. The first English settlement was made in April 1670, when three vessels with a considerable number of able men landed on the banks of the Ashley River. This little colony was made up of adventurers, fed and clothed at the government's expense, an unpromising beginning. John Mell's name is not mentioned among their number. Hotten's Lists of Emigrants does not give his name. These first settlers were each given 150 acres of land and John Mell's name is not found on the list. A few months later Sir John Yeamans became governor. He had been living in Barbadoes and was popular there and he soon induced colonists to come from that island, industrious and useful, who brought money and negroes and took up grants of land. In the Introduction we have mentioned that William Mell was a landowner in St. James Parish, Barbadoes, about this time, and we may sup-

pose that John Mell was a son of William, and that he came over from Barbadoes to try his fortunes in South Carolina. This supposition is based upon the tradition that our family formerly had kinsmen and extensive estates in Barbadoes. John Mell was certainly an Englishman, because foreigners were almost unknown at that early date. He was a Cavalier of Episcopal belief, for he selected St. James, Goose Creek, for his home which was peopled at first entirely by followers of the Church of England. The affinities of those early settlements were very strongly marked and people of similar beliefs were drawn together for protection and social intercourse. The Episcopal colony of St. James, Goose Creek, the New England Independent Congregationalists of Dorchester and the French Huguenots of the Orange Quarter and of the Santee River are well known.

On the 15th of June, 1677, John Mell, Planter, was granted a tract of land upon Goose Creek, "now in the possession of the said John Mell;" this proves that he had already held it for a longer or shorter period of time. The condition of paying one penny annual rent for each acre to the Proprie-

tors was a very common method of obtaining land in South Carolina. He was not a man of means for he was only able to take up a grant of seventy acres. He was given very easy terms; twelve years might elapse before he paid his first rent. He was an unmarried man and probably a young man for it was not until 1685, in October, that he applied for another grant of land of one hundred acres lying on the north side of Ashley River "in right of Elizabeth, his wife."

John and Elizabeth Mell of Charleston District, South Carolina, were the parents of our family. Their plantation home on St. James, Goose Creek, was held by the family for over one hundred and twenty-five years and upon it was situated the family burying ground now forgotten and lost forever. John Mell settled here before the foundations of the present city of Charleston were laid. He witnessed and shared in the struggles of the earliest colonists. Trees were felled, cabins were built and lands cleared by their own hands, for there were no negroes at first and few hired laborers. Their first exports were tar, pitch, turpentine, timber and deer skins. They



ST. JAMES CHURCH.

GOOSE CREEK NEAR CHARLESTON, S. C. ERECTED IN 1714.

suffered from severe sickness and plagues; from bad government and internal divisions; from terrible droughts and storms; from pirates and Spanish and Indian wars. And yet such was the fertility of the soil and the demand for the produce of the colony that history says that all of those early settlers became rich, except those who spent their substance in dissipation.

In the first twenty years of the history of South Carolina we find no mention of clergymen. The lack of religion was painfully felt in the colony and many good men deplored and tried to restrain the licence and immorality of the times. In 1696 the first celebration of the Lord's Supper ever held in South Carolina was administered by the Congregationalists of Dorchester; some of the descendants of this colony married into the Mell family one hundred years later.

Goose Creek Parish was eagerly sought after by the early colonists; its rich lands offering many inducements, while its proximity to Charleston protected it from hostile Indians. Although one of the largest and most populous districts, and settled by families of the better class, and entirely well

affected to the Church of England," they were without a minister until 1700.

In 1710 a schoolmaster was appointed, Mr. Dennis, who taught the children of Goose Creek Parish. John Mell's children probably went to him, as we will find that they were men of good education for those days. This school continued until 1715 when the Indian War devastated the country. When the enemy approached Goose Creek the entire parish fled except two fortified plantations. But the Goose Creek Company met and attacked them, and, after a long engagement, defeated them and secured the province on that side from further ravages.

Amidst all these hardships, excitements and adventures John Mell lived with his family and shared in the prosperity and adversity of the province. The date of his death is not known; the records of Goose Creek Church are hopelessly lost and most of the events of his life are buried in darkness and oblivion.

1. I. Children of John Mell.

2. Joseph, living in South Carolina in 1722, probably removed to North Carolina or Virginia. Possibly the father of Henry Mell of Orangeburg.

3. Thomas married Mary Boswood about 1719; died about 1759.

4. John, died about 1736 and left two children, John and Mary. The latter married a Mr Cockfield and was living in 1794. Nothing more is known of them.

SECOND GENERATION.

3. II. Thomas Mell, of Berkeley Co., Parish of St. James Goose Creek, South Carolina, Planter, married Mary Boswood, daughter of James Boswood, probably of the same county and parish, sometime before December, 1719. Besides the land which he inherited from his father, James Boswood gave him first a plantation of 117 acres of land in Berkeley county, part of a tract granted to Rev. William Livingstone, and the next year, September, 28th, 1720, he gave him 550 acres of land in Berkeley county "for five shillings and love." He bought more land afterwards from Josiah Cantey, and in 1752, 50 acres more, adjoining his own plantation, from James Boswood, his wife's brother or cousin. Other deeds of land are indexed but are illegible. He was, therefore, quite a large land owner.

In 1736 his brother John died, leaving two orphan children, minors, John and Mary

Thomas and William Fuller were appointed Executors in the will. Thomas Mell's son John was named as heir of the property if the two children should die. But Mary lived and married a Cockfield. The fate of the two Johns is unknown.

Thomas Mell (3) must have been a man of fine business talents and strong character from his successful management of his property and clear and explicit will. He was a man of education and owned books and a writing desk. He lived well for those days and was hospitable as his store of beds would show; he had eight beds with furniture, some of them very costly, this meant quite a capacity for entertaining. China and a china cupboard, and plenty of pewter and other table ware, are mentioned with everything necessary in those days for a comfortable home. He owned a handsome silver watch and a gold ring, the adornments of a gentleman of Colonial days. His personal property was valued at £7814, nearly \$40,000, besides his plantations.

He was a man of strong and decided prejudices. His oldest daughter married Thomas Hudson or Hodson. She was dead at the time the will was written; her only

child Mary was of age, for her name is signed as a witness to one of the family deeds. This family offended in some way, Thomas Mell ³, and he began his will, before making any other provision, by very positively stating that he left his son-in-law, Thomas Hudson and grand-daughter Mary, £5 each in lieu of any claim or right in his estate.

He left his wife, Mary, the home plantation consisting of 277 acres with dwelling house, etc. during her life. After her death or marriage it was to go to his oldest son Thomas ⁷. He gave Thomas six valuable negroes; William⁸, who was married, received seven negroes and the plantation where he was then living, consisting of 200 acres and a dwelling. His three daughters were minors. He gave Mary ⁹ five negroes; to Martha ¹⁰ four negroes; and Margaret¹¹ received three negroes. One negro was left to his grand-son William Mell ¹², the son of William ⁸. He gave each child a feather bed and furniture. He left six negroes and his household furniture, cattle and horses, to be divided between his Executrix and Executors and appointed his wife and two sons to these offices. The remainder of his property he ordered divided between his two sons Thomas ⁷ and William ⁸.

It was evidently expected that Thomas⁷ who was a bachelor, should remain at home and take charge of the plantation and his mother and sisters.

This will was written October 11th, 1757; and proved December 28th, 1759.* William Mell⁸ qualified Executor. Thomas³ therefore died in December 1759 after a married life of more than forty years. His will does not seem to have been entirely satisfactory to his family, for immediately, even before the inventory was taken, Thomas⁷ and William Mell⁸ transfer of their "own free will and accord and without any manner of consideration" except "love, goodwill and affection" a valuable negro man, Mingo, to their "well beloved sister Martha¹⁰." This negro had been left to William.

William Fuller, who was Co-Executor with Thomas Mell³ for the estate of John Mell⁴ and his children, was one of the appraisers of the estate of Thomas Mell³. He was probably an intimate friend and neighbor. Perhaps he was the ancestor of the celebrated Fullers, who were such distinguished Baptist preachers in this century.

The unfortunate Hudsons are never referred to again in any of the family papers.

* See the Appendix.

No effort is made by the brothers to give them any share of the property.

Children of Thomas Mell:

5. Daughter, who married Thomas Hudson or Hodson and had one daughter, Mary. Died before 1757.

6. John, mentioned in the will of his uncle John Mell 4, 1736.

7. Thomas. Died 1794.

8. William, married before 1757, died before 1784.

9. Mary, married Mr. Willingham and had two children, Mary and Thomas, mentioned in the will of Thomas Mell 7, 1794.

10. Martha, never married; moved to Liberty county Georgia with her nephews, William,¹² Thomas¹³ and John¹⁵; joined the Midway Church in 1805; date of death unknown.

11. Margaret, married Mr. Roach and had one child, John Roach, mentioned in the will of Thomas Mell⁷, 1794.

THIRD GENERATION.

7. III. Thomas Mell of St. Andrew's Parish, South Carolina, Planter, lived and died a bachelor. He inherited his father's business talents and accumulated a handsome fortune. He kept up affectionate and pleasant relations with all his kinsmen and was kind, thoughtful and considerate, as is shown by his just and generous will. His inventory was indexed but the volume con-

taining it was lost, so we have no account of the value of his property. Numerous articles are mentioned in his will as special donations, and some deeds of his property have been found. His father left him the Home Place located in the Parish of St. James, Goose Creek, but he did not come into possession of it until the death of his mother. In March, 1761, he bought from William Cartwright a plantation joining that of his brother William Mell^s, containing 127 acres and lying in the St. James Parish Goose Creek.

At the time of his death he owned and lived upon a large plantation, consisting of 940 acres, lying in the three Parishes of St. James Goose Creek, St. Andrews and St. George at the spot where the three Parishes meet. This plantation was afterwards sold to the Rev. Thomas Frost for £800. It must have been a very choice location, for he was surrounded by such neighbors as Dr. David Ramsey, the historian of South Carolina; William Moultrie, Esq., Governor of South Carolina and Major General in the Revolution; Col. William Fishburne also of Revolutionary fame; James Simons, Esq. and others, the very first and best people

in South Carolina. According to the old proverb "a man is known by the company he keeps."

He was still in possession of his father's home place in St. James Goose Creek consisting of 287 acres, which he left to his nephew John Mell ¹⁵ and his heirs for one hundred generations. He did not leave it to his namesake, Thomas ¹³, because the latter had moved to Georgia. He evidently wanted some one to have it who would live upon it and take pride in it as an ancestral place. It had been owned by the family for more than a century and he did not wish it to go into the hands of strangers. But John sold it in a short time and removed to Georgia with his brothers.

He also gave careful direction that the burying grounds on both places should be strictly preserved, and commanded that they be at once ditched and paled in before any division of the estate was made. It is sad to think that no one now knows the location of those burying grounds. In spite of all his care the property soon passed out of the hands of the family.

The kindness of his nature is shown by a special order that a favorite negro man

servant, Isaac, should receive his freedom. There was a boy Isaac belonging to his father, perhaps this was the same one. Isaac received his freedom and three horses; this is the first bequest in the will and the last injunction is that the Executors shall defend his freedom forever.

His cousin, Mary Cockfield, now an old lady, received for her comfort £100 sterling, also a riding chair, harness and horse to drive with it, and he considerably ordered that the chair and harness should first be put in good repair.

To each of his three nephews he left a gold ring, (the family seal ring to Thomas especially) a gun, bed and furniture and silver buckles to each; and divided his gold buttons, studs, silver watch, silver spurs, silver tea and table spoons between them.

He divided his property into twelve equal shares and distributed them impartially among his nephews and nieces and their children. The entire will shows him to have been a man of just character and kind heart.

He evidently paid careful attention to personal appearance and must have looked very elegant in his silver spurs, silver shoe

buckles, gold sleeve buttons and gold studs, silver stock buckles, displaying with pride his family seal ring and wearing his big silver watch. No doubt his apparel was of a quality to accompany so much personal adornment and he looked, as he was, a true colonial gentleman.

From the number of beds which he owned, although a bachelor, we may judge that he, like the Mell Family generally, was fond of company and exercised much hospitality, receiving and entertaining his relatives and friends in good style.

The will was written March 19th. 1794, and approved December 22nd., 1794. William Mell¹², his nephew, qualified as Executor.

Peace to his ashes! We feel sure that he was a noble old gentleman and did his best to sustain the honor of his name and teach his kinsmen family affection and loyalty.

8. III. William Mell, Planter of St. Paul's Parish, Beach Hill, South Carolina, was married and had one child, William¹² when his father's will was written in 1757. The name of his wife is not known. His father gave him a well stocked plantation

and furnished dwelling in St. James Goose Creek, with seven negroes. In 1764 he bought from Joseph Baker for £500 a plantation containing 520 acres of land lying at Beach Hill, St. Paul's, Parish. He also owned lands in the Charleston District on the east of Edisto, according to land grants of 1786, which refer to the estate of William Mell. In the South Carolina Gazette of September 26th., 1768, William Mell is published as one of the Executors of Jacob Weston. In the Statutes of South Carolina, number 1159, March 12th. 1783, while John Lloyd was President of the Senate and Hugh Rutledge was Speaker of the House of Representatives, the continental legislature appointed William with Melchior Garner, a noted patriot, Inquirer and Collector of taxes needful for the support of the state government in Beach Hill and Horse Savannah, St. Paul's Parish. He died before 1784. (see deed of Thomas Mell¹³ to Isaac Perry in which the estate of William is mentioned February, 4th., 1784*). His will and inventory are both indexed but the Record containing them is lost. He left a fine property for his sons all started in life with good plantations.

* See Appendix.

Children of William Mell:

12. William, born near Charleston, S.C., before 1757; married before 1784; died July 25, 1805.

13. Thomas, born near Charleston, S. C., October 24, 1761; married before 1784; died April 17, 1815.

14. James, born near Charleston, S. C. 166-; married.....; died 1784.

15. John, born near Charleston, S, C. 166-; married 179-; died April 11, 1805.

FOURTH GENERATION.

12. IV. William Mell, Planter of St. Paul's Parish, Beach Hill, S. C. (afterwards of Liberty county, Georgia), was born before 1757. His grandfather gave him in his will of that date a negro boy, London. He was married sometime before 1784, and lived on his plantation at Beach Hill, next to the estate of his father William⁸; his brother Thomas¹³ had an adjoining plantation. His wife was a daughter of Patrick Hues, an Irish gentleman of fortune, exiled because of political troubles. Midway, Georgia records mention a Mrs. Mary Mell after the emigration of the family to Georgia, and she may have been the wife of William.

On the 19th of November, 1772, Patrick Hues was granted 500 acres in Berke-

ley county, St. Matthew's Parish on the north side of Four Hole Swamp on a brook running into Dean Swamp and joining Keenan's land. On the 25th of February, 1773, he was granted 350 acres in Granville county on the Watch Gall. He was living in 1784, for his name was attached as a witness to will of James¹⁴ Mell. His name and his massive silver watch have descended to the present generation.

William Mell was one of the Executors of the will of his brother James¹⁴ in 1784. On the 10th of March, 1786, he was granted 316 acres of land in the District of Charleston, east side of Edisto, adjoining the lands of the Estate of William⁸ Mell and of Paul Smiser. He was the sole Executor of the will of his rich uncle Thomas⁷ in 1794. In 1799, he sold his uncle's plantation to the Rev. Thomas Frost; he soon after moved to Liberty county, Georgia. In February, 1802, his daughter Sarah¹⁷ was married at "Laurel Hill" the home of her Uncle Thomas Mell¹³ at Midway, Georgia. In October, 1801 his little daughter Martha¹⁹ died and was buried in Midway Church yard. He joined the Midway Church in 1805, but his wife probably remained an Episcopali-



MIDWAY CHURCH.
LIBERTY COUNTY, GA. ERECTED IN 1792.

an, as her name is not found in the list of members; he died July 25th, 1805, and lies buried in Midway Churchyard. If his wife was "Mrs Mary Mell"* she died January 8th 1818 and was buried in Midway Churchyard.

For more than a century members of the Mell family lived in the Parish of St. James Goose Creek, S. C., and attended the Episcopal Church there. This church building was greatly damaged by the war of the Revolution and all the records were burned. Members of the family lived at Beach Hill near Dorchester, S. C., for about forty years; they bought some of the lands that were formerly owned by the early colonists to Midway, Georgia; the old Dorchester Church is still standing but all its records are hopelessly lost, and not a trace is left of the once flourishing village. The records of the Midway Church, Georgia, are the first church records that give any data in our family history.

Children of William Mell:

16. Benjamin, born near Charleston, S. C., about 1782; married February 19th 1807; died in 1828.

17. Sarah or Sally, born near Charleston, S. C. about 1784; was left a share of her great-uncle's property,

* Midway Records.

(Thomas 7) by his will dated 1794; married February 11th 1802, William Baker of Midway, Georgia. She was married at 'Laurel Hill', the home of her uncle Thomas³; she afterwards moved to Columbus, Mississippi, and died there November 29th, 1855. She had fourteen children. Some of them are still living in Columbus.

18. William Henry, born near Charleston, S. C. October 1st, 1794; married January 1818; died September 1872.

19. Martha born . . . ; died in Liberty county, Ga. October 8th, 1801, and lies buried in Midway Churchyard

13. IV. Thomas Mell, Planter of St. Paul's Parish, Beach Hill; S. C., afterwards of Midway, Liberty county, Ga., was born October 24th, 1761, and is the third Thomas in our record. He owned a plantation of 228 acres at Beach Hill which he sold in 1799 to Isaac Perry; this plantation joined those of his father and brother William¹². He was married before 1784 and had one child, William²⁰, who is mentioned in the will of his brother James¹⁴; he was one of the executors of this will. His wife was Mrs. Sally Sumner Bacon; she was born March 18th, 1754, and was the daughter of Edward Sumner, one of the colonists from South Carolina to Liberty county, Georgia. She had married William Bacon, May 7th, 1770; he died in 1779, during the war, leaving three children, John, William and Joseph Bacon. Liberty county was completely devastated by the British and the set-

tlers sent their families back to South Carolina to their old friends and relatives for safety. Here she met Thomas Mell and they were married; through her influence he removed to Midway, Georgia, in 1794, for he is mentioned in the Midway records of that date. A plantation which he purchased one mile from Midway Church he called "Laurel Hill"; it joined the estate of his wife's brother, Thomas Sumner, and also that of her sister, Mrs. Peter Winn, as is proved by an old deed in the possession of Rev. T. S. Winn of Hale county, Alabama. Thomas Sumner's orphan children were then living on their place and "Aunt Mell" is mentioned in an old diary. He was 2nd Sergeant of the 'Liberty Troop' from 1794 to 1798*.

Thomas Mell was appointed one of the executors of the will of his uncle Thomas ⁷ in 1794 but did not serve. His sons, James, Edward and Thomas are mentioned therein. The family Seal Ring was left to him, and he also inherited the Silver Coat of Arms. He joined the Midway Church in 1799; in 1801 he was elected one of the board of Select men of the Church. His

* C. C. Jones' "History of Liberty Troop."

wife died, April 16th, 1813. He died April 17th, 1815: he was greatly beloved and respected, a man of wealth and influence, kind and generous to all his friends and relatives, exercising much hospitality. He and his wife were buried in Midway Churchyard.

Children of Thomas Mell:

20. William, born at Beach Hill S. C. before 1784; died young, before 1794.

21. James born in South Carolina, drowned when nearly of age.

22. Edward Sumner, born in S. C., died May 16, 1801.

23. Thomas Sumner, born in South Carolina January 4th, 1792; married December 16th, 1813, and married again April 16th, 1837; died November 24th, 1848.

24. Ann Jemima, born 1794; died July 9th, 1798.

25. John, born 1797; died September 10th, 1798.

26. Benjamin, twin-brother to John, born 1797; married May 27th, 1818; died December 24th, 1827

14. IV. James Mell, merchant of St. Bartholemew's Parish, S. C., and planter at Black (or Beach?) Hill S. C., was born near Charleston in 176-. He married Mary—and had one daughter, Mary Ann; he purchased a plantation at Black (or Beach) Hill of Benjamin Cudworth. Although he could not have been more than 23 or 24 at the time of his death, he owned quite a fine property in a plantation stocked with slaves, horses and cattle and plantation implements;

besides his mercantile stock. The inventory is lost but he mentions in his will various articles of value, such as feather-beds, silver-plate and jewelry. William¹² and Thomas¹³, his brothers, and his two worthy friends, John Crosskeys and Melchior Garner, were appointed executors. Charleston history tells us that Garner was a justice of the peace and a man highly respected. James died in June, 1784.

Children of James Mell:

27. Mary Ann born near Charleston S. C. before 1784; married Joel DuBose, and after his death married Wm. Greene DuBose. She died in Georgetown S. C. in 183-. She had only one child, William Pinckney B.

William Pinckney B DuBose had such a sad, romantic and thrilling history it will be of interest to members of his family.

An article printed in the Charleston Courier August 18th, 1897 gives the following story which has been condensed for this volume :

Young DuBose was the only son of Joel DuBose of Charleston, his mother being Mary Ann Mell, the daughter of one of the wealthiest planters in the State. He came to manhood with brilliant prospects, with plantations in Georgia and South Carolina, large gold mining properties in North Georgia and was regarded as one of the richest men in South Carolina when he reached his majority. His kindred were among some of the most influential citizens of both states. An unfortunate love affair ruined his life. The names and details will not be given. He was deceived by a faithless and fickle girl, a noted belle and beauty. His own conduct was thoroughly generous and unselfish. He left her without a reproach, hurriedly arranged his affairs, left his home and was never seen again by any of his friends

and kinsmen. He joined Colonel Fannin's command and was massacred at Goliad, Texas, in March, 1836, when 357 prisoners were killed by the orders of Santa Anna. In 1859 the Texas Legislature granted a bounty of several thousand acres of lands to the heirs of W. P. B. DuBose for his gallant services in the Texan war for independence. The Land Office at Austin records these lands as follows: 1476 acres of land lie in Fort Bend, Marion and Wichita counties, 640 acres are situated in Hansford county and there are 1920 acres in Grayson county.

15. IV. John Mell, Planter of the Parish of St. James Goose Creek, afterwards of Midway Georgia, was born near Charleston South Carolina in 176-; he seems to have been extravagant or unfortunate in his early life. for in 1793 he was obliged to mortgage a plantation of 300 acres he owned on Bohicket Creek in Colleton county. This plantation formerly belonged to the Stangame family and contained their family burying ground which is carefully reserved and protected in the bond and mortgage. The debt was paid and the mortgage raised in 1795. Thomas^r left to him the family place in St. James Goose Creek which belonged to the first settler John and had been in the possession of the family since 1677, for more than a century. The plantation consisted of about 287 acres and was left to John and his heirs "for one hun-

dred generations"; it is not known when he sold the place as the deed has not been found. On the 16th of February, 1795, he was granted 53 acres of land in St. James Goose Creek Parish adjoining his own plantation and the lands of Whitein and Fuller and also those belonging to his nephews Benjamin¹⁶ and William Henry¹⁸. He moved to Midway, Georgia, and in 1798 joined the church at that place; he married Patience Saunders in 179-, but whether in Georgia or in South Carolina is unknown; she joined the Midway Church in 1802. John must have had a good voice and been fond of music for he was appointed precentor of the church in 1802 and held that office until his death, April 11th, 1805; his wife died September 20th, 1811.

From the preceding records we note that the Mell family lived in South Carolina from 1677 to 1800 when they all moved to Liberty county, Georgia. At this time the three brothers possessed a great deal of property in South Carolina; they owned several plantations in St. James Goose Creek Parish, three plantations in Beach Hill, St. Paul's Parish, two plantations on the Edisto River and one on Bohicket Creek, Colle-

ton county; they also owned property in St. Andrews Parish. After moving to Georgia these three brothers bought plantations in Liberty county, joined the famous Midway Church and became active and public spirited citizens.

Children of John Mell:

28. John, born 179-, died a bachelor; he was a man of genial nature, much beloved by his young relations; fond of hunting and fishing and an excellent companion; he owned a plantation in Liberty county, Georgia.

29. William Thomas born May 2nd, 1800; married in 182-; died in 1827.

30. Elizabeth Sallie, born April 9th, 1802; died unmarried.

FIFTH GENERATION.

16. V. Major Benjamin Mell was born near Charleston, South Carolina about 1782; he is mentioned in the will of James¹⁴ in 1784 and in that of Thomas⁷ in 1794. On the 16th of February, 1795, a land grant of 81 acres in St. James Goose Creek Parish was given to him and his brother William Henry; this land adjoined the property belonging to John¹⁵, and the estates of Thomas⁷, William Woods and Dr. David Ramsay. He moved to Georgia with his father and

married Cynthia Sumner, February 19th, 1807; she was the daughter of Captain Thomas Sumner of the Revolutionary army and the grand-daughter of Edward Sumner, one of the founders of the Midway Colony of Liberty county, Georgia.

He was a fine looking man, tall and well proportioned, with pleasant and affable manners and loveable character; extremely hospitable and very popular; his wife was a woman of great piety and intelligence. They were wealthy, owning plantations in Liberty county, and on Colonel's Island; besides this property he was a merchant in Walthourville. When he was about forty years of age he was induced out of the kindness of his nature to endorse the notes of a friend to the extent of his whole estate. In consequence of the treachery of this trusted friend, his whole property was forfeited and he saw his wife and children reduced to poverty by his inconsiderate act. His health gave way under the strain of his grief and regret and he died in 1828; his wife, who was most tenderly attached to him, lived only a few months after his death.

Children of Benjamin Mell:

31. Mary Ann, born in Liberty county, Georgia, October 11th, 1807; died unmarried at Penfield in 1852.

32. Son, born in Liberty county August, 26th, 1809; died in 1810.

33. William Joseph, born in Liberty county August 1811; died in 1818.

34. Patrick Hues, born in Walthourville, Georgia, July 19th, 1814; married June 29th, 1840; married second wife December 24th, 1861; died January 26th, 1888.

35. James Benjamin, born in Liberty county in 1816; married in 1848; died in 1879.

36. Edward Sumner, born in Liberty county August 3rd, 1820; married in 1852; died November 19th, 1877.

37. Emma Holmes, born in Liberty county in 1824; died unmarried in Penfield in 1842.

38. Sarah Elizabeth born in 1826; married in 1850 to Rev. Hilman Williams, a Baptist minister, and died in Memphis, Tennessee, during the war between the States, leaving three children: Edward, Sallie and Ann who are residing in Texas.

39. Cynthia, born in 1828; died the same year and is buried beside her parents in Midway Churchyard.

18. V. William Henry Mell was born near Charleston, South Carolina, October 1st, 1794; married Elizabeth Stewart, January 1818, in Liberty county Ga.; he lived many years in Oxford and was a prominent citizen of that place, interested in all good works; he died in Atlanta, September, 1872.

Children of William Henry Mell:

40. Infant, born died February 6th, 1819.

41. Virginia F., born near Washington, Georgia, in 1820; married P. G. Bessant in; died She had two children.

42. John P., born in Wilkes county, Georgia, in 1823; married in 1851.

43. Benjamin, born in Wilkes county in 1830; married in 1853; died in 1872.

44. Martha Ann, born, ; died in 1872.

45. Fannie J., born in Wilkes county in 1832; married Rev. James R. Mayson in 1853; he is a Methodist minister and was for some time President of the Methodist Female College at La Grange, Georgia. She had four children.

46. Valeria E., born in Covington, Georgia, in 1837; married James E. McFail in 1853; he left her a widow with four children.

23. V. Thomas Sumner Mell was born near Charleston, South Carolina, January 4th, 1792. He moved with his parents to Georgia when only two years of age; he was brought up in Liberty county, Georgia, on his father's plantation, "Laurel Hill", one mile from Midway Church; he married Mary Ann Bunkley, December 16th, 1813; in 183- he removed to Savannah and engaged in business; his wife died February 6th, 1836. On April 16th, 1837, he married his second wife, Mrs. Berrie, formerly Alicia G. Jordan. He died in Savannah, November 24th, 1848. She died November 13th, 1858. His home in Savannah was open to all his kinsmen and friends, and he was especially kind to the many young orphans among his relatives, and was a wise friend

and counsellor to them.

This was the last Thomas Mell to own the Silver Plate with the engraved Coat of Arms. His wife exchanged it and all her other old silver with the silver-smith for new goods.

Children of Thomas Sumner Mell:

47. Edward Sumner, born November 2nd, 1814; died November 2nd, 1820.

48. William Benjamin, born July 20th, 1815; married March 24th, 1841.

49. Thomas James, born October 8th, 1818; married February 16th, 1842; died in 188—

50. Sarah Sumner Winn, born January 31st, 1822; died August 16th, 1822,

51. Luther Judson, born August 10th, 1823; married May 30th, 1846.

52. Mary Ann DuBose, born April 3rd, 1826; married James E. Lambright August, 9th, 1843. She lives in Brunswick, Georgia, and had eight children.

53. Joseph Oliver, born May 11th, 1830; married May 12th, 1853; died October 5th, 188—.

26. V. Benjamin Mell, (called "Junior" or "Little Ben" to distinguish him from his cousin), was born at Midway, Liberty county, Georgia, in 1797; baptized September 10th, 1797, in the Midway Church; he married Susanna Rebecca Stevens, May 27th, 1888; she was the daughter of Dr. Thomas Stevens. He lived on his plantation in Liberty county, three miles from Midway

Church; and is described as fully sustaining the family reputation for hospitality and social qualities, being remarkably genial, witty and fond of young people, making his home especially attractive to them. He died at the early age of thirty in Riceboro, Georgia, December 14th, 1827, greatly mourned by all who knew him. His wife died July 10th, 1830.

Children of Benjamin Mell:

- 54. Infant, born dead August 9th, 1819.
- 55. Decatur Wilcox, born at Sunbury, June 25th, 1821; died November 18th, 1822.
- 56. Sarah Stewart, born March 9th, 1823; married in Walthourville, John Lazarus Mallard, February 12th, 1845; she had nine children and resides in Dorchester, Georgia.
- 57. Thomas Samuel, born in 1825; died in infancy.
- 58. Mary Stevens, born December 3rd, 1827; not married and resides with her sister in Dorchester.

29. V. William Thomas Mell was born in Liberty county, Georgia, May 2nd, 1800; married Mary A. Jordan, 182-; died in 1827.

Children of William Thomas Mell:

- 59. Martha Saunders born February 22nd, 1825; married her cousin Thomas James Mell, February 16th, 1842. she had only one child, and the line of John became blended with that of Thomas by this marriage; she died November 17th, 1844.

SIXTH GENERATION.

31. VI. Patrick Hues Mell. D. D. LL. D., was born in Walthourville, Liberty county, Georgia, July 19th, 1814. He lost his parents when fourteen years of age. His father had been a man of property but lost it all by suretyship two years before. He started the world then at fourteen with nothing but a scanty wardrobe, but with a determination to obtain an education and to recover the social status lost by poverty. At seventeen he taught for a time a primary school in a log hut with a dirt floor. At Walthourville he studied for a time in the Academy paying for his instruction by teaching some of the primary classes. Receiving a better offer from Col. Bradwell he joined himself to the Academy taught by that gentleman at the Ridge, near Darien, paying for his instruction and board by acting as an assistant. Assisted by Hon. G. W. Walthour, he spent two years in Amherst College, Mass. He was induced to select this Institution simply because the expenses were less there than at other colleges then known to him. While there he

would teach during the vacation and six weeks in the term and thus make money enough to take him through the year. During his absence from the college he would study the topics his class was going over and stand an examination on his return. At the end of the Sophomore year he accepted an offer from the Academy at West Point, Springfield, Mass., where he taught one year and then yielded to solicitations to become Associate Principal of the High School at East Hartford, Conn. There he continued also one year. Declining an offer from the leading public school in Hartford, he returned home in 1837. For several years he taught in Montgomery and Tattnall counties, and at Emory College, Georgia.

He was baptized in the summer of 1832 at North Newport Baptist church, Liberty county, by Rev. Samuel Law. He began preaching at Oxford, Ga. in the spring of 1840, and was ordained by order of the Penfield church at the request of the church at Greensboro. This ordination occurred at Penfield, November 19th, 1842. Doctor Mell was for a long period of years pastor of the churches at Greensboro, Bairdstown and Antioch, and was so much beloved by

the people of this section that it was called "Mell's Kingdom."

He was elected to the professorship of ancient languages in Mercer University in 1842; his connection with the University was dissolved in 1855. In August 1856 he was elected to the chair of ancient languages in the University of Georgia. When President Church resigned Professor Mell accepted the chair of metaphysics and ethics then vacated. In August 1878 he was elected Chancellor of the University. This election took him entirely by surprise, and he at first declined the office but finally yielded to the pressure brought to bear upon him by all classes of parties interested. He was elected President of the Georgia Association in October 1855; President of the Georgia Baptist State Convention, April 1857; and of the Southern Baptist Convention, May 1863. He was the President of these deliberative bodies until the time of his death, and was called the "Prince of Parliamentarians."

Dr. Mell published works on:
Baptism.
Corrective Church Discipline.
Slavery.

Predestination.

Calvinism.

Philosophy of Prayer.

Church Polity.

Parliamentary Practice.

The last has been adopted by various deliberative bodies in the United States.

On the 29th of June, 1840, Dr. Mell was married to Lurene Howard Cooper of Montgomery county, Ga. She died July 6th, 1861.

In 1861 he was elected Captain of the Mell Volunteers, but the death of his wife, just before the company left for the Army of Virginia, caused him to resign the position and remain at home to provide for his young children. December 24th, 1861, he married Eliza Elizabeth Cooper of Scriven county, Ga. He was then elected Colonel of a six months troop regiment, in which were most of the professors and students of the University. This regiment was a part of General Bragg's army; a portion of the time it was located at Rome and the remainder of its service it was encamped near Savannah, Ga.

During his lifetime he declined many flattering offers to accept important pastor-

ates in Georgia and other states, and also the presidency of several prominent Colleges and Universities. He died January 26th, 1888. He had been a teacher for nearly sixty years, and a preacher for nearly fifty, and no man ever did more for the state of Georgia. His loss was deplored throughout the whole South.

Children of Patrick Hues Mell:

60 Benjamin, born at Oxford, Ga., August 27th, 1841. He graduated at the University of Georgia in 1861 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, taking the first honor in a class of twenty-two students.

Immediately upon the declaration of war between the States, he enlisted as a private in the second company raised in Athens, Ga., called "The Mell Volunteers," and was shortly afterwards ordered with his company to join the Army of Northern Virginia, and his company became a part of Cobb's Legion. He soon rose to the office of First Sergeant of his company. On the 14th of September, 1862, during the raging of the battle at Crampton Pass, Md., Sergeant Benjamin Mell was severely wounded by a minie ball through the right arm and breast. After remaining on the battlefield without attention for many hours, he was taken prisoner and carried to Burkettsville, Md. An old church there had been made a temporary hospital, but it was overcrowded and the young man was laid in the churchyard by the gate. Mr. T. S. Lee, a Southern sympathizer and kind, hospitable man, saw Benjamin in this comfortless, neglected condition, and obtained permission to carry the wounded soldier to his house, where the family of this philanthropic man administered to the wants of the Confederate until his death, which occurred October 21st, 1862, from the combined effects of his wound and pneumonia contracted from long exposure on the battlefield. He lies



SERGEANT BENJAMIN MELL, C. S. A.

buried in St. Mark's Churchyard, Petersville, Md. A substantial tombstone of granite marks his grave. He was a young man of consistent Christian character, refined, dignified and courteous manners, noble, loveable disposition and talents of the first order.

61. George Sumner, born in Scriven county, Ga. 23rd of March, 1844; died in Athens, Ga., September 19th, 1858.

62. Emma Virginia, born in Scriven county November 23rd, 1845. died July, 6th 1898.

63. Ellen Lurene, born in Penfield, Ga. June 24th, 1848.

64. Patrick Hues, born in Penfield May 24th, 1850; married Annie R. White of Athens, Ga. on June 15th 1875.

65. William Henry, born in Penfield November 15th 1852; died in Athens January 30th, 1870, while a member of the Junior class of the University

66. Mary Ann, born in Penfield June 7th, 1855; married Professor A. D. Smith of Howard College, Ala., January 5th, 1882. They have four sons: Mell Durand, Albert Lea, Patrick Hues, Theodore Franklin.

67. Thomas Sumner, born in Athens Ga., February 1st, 1859.

68. Infant, born July 6th, 1861: the child died at the time of its birth.

69. Lurene Howard, born in Athens September 30th 1862; married her cousin, George A. Mell⁷⁶, February 6th, 1896: died August 6th, 1898.

70. John Dagg, born in Athens February 25th, 1864.

71. Charles Irwin, born in Athens February 3rd, 1867; married Mary Bones Dougherty of Augusta, Ga. April 6th, 1893.

72. James Cooper, born in Athens April 17th, 1867.

73. Eliza Elizabeth, born in Athens August 29th, 1871: died December 24th, 1871.

74. Edward Baker, born in Athens February 27th, 1873: married Belle Witcher, December 23rd, 1896.

35. VI James Benjamin Mell, born in Liberty county, Ga., May 3rd, 1817; married Mrs. Albert Bacon, formerly Anna Mariah McIntosh, in 1847; died in Burke county June, 29th, 1879. She died April 1st, 1881.

Children of James Benjamin Mell:

75. Ruth Hampden, born August 27th, 1848; married Captain Champion Falligant of Savannah, Ga.; was left a widow with four children; married the second time to J. Cornelius Cauty of Charleston, S. C.

76. George Anderson, born in Liberty county, November 11th, 1852; married September 4th, 1884; married second wife February 6th 1896.

36. VI. Edward Sumner Mell, born in Liberty county August 3rd, 1820; married Laura Matilda Barthelmess, November 6th, 1850; died in Marietta, Ga., November 19th, 1877. She died July 8th, 1875.

Children of Edward Sumner Mell:

77. James Edward born in Chatham county January 11th, 1853; June 15th, 1891.

78. Sarah Elizabeth, born in LaFayette, Ala., July 8th, 1854; married P. C. LaMoyne October 5th, 1882; they have three children.

79. Catharine Ashton, born in Atlanta July 23rd, 1856; married C. W. Shugart October 3rd, 1880; they have two children

80. Sumner, born in Fulton county, December 17th, 1858; married January 30th, 1883

81. Charles Newton, born in Atlanta May 9th, 1861; married January 29th, 1884.

82. John Bartholmess, born in Marietta March 28th, 1863; married November 8th, 1892.

83. Benjamin, born in Marietta April 12th 1866; married Sallie Simons March 1st, 1885,

84. Laura Emma, born in Marietta May 25th. 1868; married W. O. Foote October 16th, 1888; they have four children.

85. Patrick Hues, born in Marietta March 9th, 1870; married Blanche McCallum September 1st, 1898.

42. VI. John P. Mell was born in Wilkes county, Ga., January 15th, 1823; married Mary J. Hines in Oxford, May 8th, 1851. He is a practising physician and resides in Reidsville, Ga.

Children of John P. Mell:

86. Annie, born in Oxford March 5th, 1853.

87. Lewis born in Cobb county September 1 th, 1854.

88. Benjamin, born in Liberty county April 6th-1857.

89. Stewart, born in Atlanta August 18th, 1861.

43: VI. Benjamin Mell was born in Wilkes county, Ga., February 18th, 1830; married ——— Mayson August, 1853. He died in 1860.

Children of Benjamin Mell:

90. John L., born in Atlanta November 1854.

91. James Robert, born in Atlanta, October 1856; married Lula Florence Brooks August 3rd, 1887.

92. Benjamin, born in Atlanta, 1858.

48. VI. William Benjamin Mell was born in Liberty county, July 20th, 1816; married Sarah Laura Bartholmess March 24th, 1841. He is a merchant in Savannah, Ga.

Children of William Benjamin Mell:

- 93. William Benjamin Jr. born May 22nd, 1842; married to Annie E. George October 8th 1868.
- 94. Thomas Bartholmess. born August 4th, 1844; married to Amelia King, November 24th, 1869.
- 95. George Faries, born June 8th, 1846.
- 96. Mary Catherine. born August 20th, 1848; died April 8th, 1870.
- 97. Edward Bird, born November 30th, 1850.
- 98. Robert Sumner. born November 14th, 1852.
- 99. John Barnard, born September 13th, 1857.
- 100. Sarah Louisa, born May 24th, 1861

49. VI. Thomas James Mell was born in Liberty county October 8th, 1818. He married his cousin, Martha Saunders Mell⁵⁹, daughter of William T. Mell²⁹, February 16th, 1842. She lived two years and died November 17th, 1844. leaving one child; he then married Mrs. Margaret D. Cope of Macon, Ga., October 11th, 1855. She died April 17th, 1857. He then married Mary P. Hunter. He died in 188-. He was the last Thomas to see the Silver Coat of Arms; and when he came of age he asked his father to give it to him and then learned that it had been destroyed (see page 11).

Children of Thomas James Mell:

101. Martha Josephine, born September 23rd, 1844; married C. W. Newton and is now living in Macon, Ga. She has four sons.

51. VI. Luther Judson was born in Liberty county, Ga. August 10th, 1823. He was married in New York City to Mrs. Jemima Vaughan May 30th, 1846.

Children of Luther Judson Mell:

- 102. Emma.
- 103. Son.
- 104. Son.
- 105. Son.

53. VI. Joseph Oliver Mell was born in Liberty county, Ga., May 13th, 1830; he married Agnes Louisa Strobbart, May 12th, 1853; she died July 4th, 1870. He married again in 1871 Mrs. S. E. Crank; she died in August, 1872. He married a third time Mrs. E. A. Humphries on December 6th, 1874; she died in 188-; he died the same year.

Children of Joseph Oliver Mell:

- 106. Joseph A., born April 10th, 1854; died May 6th, 1854.
- 107. Mary Mallard, born November 28th, 1855; died April 16th, 1875.
- 108. Infant, born and died December 17th, 1857.
- 109. Charles Henry, born December 28th, 1860.

- 110. William Sumner, born May 24th, 1863.
- 111. Walter James, born May 2nd, 1866.
- 112. Joseph Benjamin, born November 20th, 1867.

SEVENTH GENERATION.

71. VII. Charles Irwin Mell was born in Athens, Ga., February 3rd, 1867; he married Mary Bones Dougherty of Augusta, Ga. April 5th, 1893. He graduated at the University of Georgia in 1886, took a post-graduate course in the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, graduating with the degree of master of science. He is engaged in the insurance business.

Children of Charles Irwin Mell:

- 113. Sarah, born May 7th, 1894.
- 114. Patrick Hues, born May 1st, 1896.
- 115. Charle. I., born December 24th, 1898.

76. VII. George Anderson Mell was born in Liberty county, Ga., November 11th, 1852, married Bessie Rutherford in Athens, Ga., September 4th, 1884; she died October 5th, 1894: he married again his cousin Lurene Howard Mell⁶⁹ February 6th, 1896. She died August 6th, 1898. He is a prominent banker and successful business man in Athens, Ga.

Children of George A. Mell:

- 116. Annie Laura, born June 3rd, 1885.
- 117. Rutherford, born November 18th, 1887: died March 15th, 1889.
- 118. Mildred, born December 5th, 1889.
- 119. Mary Ann, born February 15th, 1892: died July 19th 1893.

80. VII. Sumner Mell was born in Fulton county, Ga., December 17th. 1858; he married Mary Gilbert, January 30th, 1883.

Children of Sumner Mell:

- 120. George Edward; born January 10th, 1884.
- 121. Sumner James. born March 21st, 1886; died June 21st, 1888
- 122. Clara Power; born July 25th, 1888.
- 123. Florine Mansfield; born July 1st, 1891.
- 124. Patrick Hues; born August 27th, 1884,

81. VII. Charles Newton Mell was born in Atlanta Ga. May 9th, 1861; he married Laura Keeter, January 29th, 1884.

Children of Charles Newton Mell:

- 125. Ethel May: born December 29th, 1884
- 126. Nora Kathleen; born August 16th, 1886.
- 127. Pearl; born May 13th, 1889.
- 128. Alma Kate; born February 9th. 1891.
- 129. Charles Newton, Jr; born February 1st, 1892.
- 130. Ralph Ernest; born December 2nd, 1894.
- 131. James Edward; born June 1st, 1898.

82. VII. John Bartholmess Mell was born in Marietta Ga. March 28th, 1863; he married Lillie Roberson, November 8th, 1892.

Children of John Bartholmess Mell:

132 Louise; born December 10th, 1893.

Other descendants of the seventh generation should be inserted here; namely the children of Dr. John P. Mell of Reidsville Ga; of Benjamin Mell of Atlanta Ga; of William Benjamin Mell and Joseph Oliver Mell of Savannah Ga; of Luther Judson Mell of New York. Every effort was put forth, with little success, to secure full data concerning these families. The documents in the possession of the authors are meagre, although many letters were written seeking for information; some of these letters were treated with silence. When the complete records of these families are secured they will add many names to this genealogy.

Let us hope that the future history of this family may be as honorable as the past and that the children of the eighth generation now growing up around us may make

good and loyal citizens. Their forefathers in colonial days spent strength and energy in conquering and civilizing this country; afterwards they defended her liberties in the War of the Revolution; still later their sons shed their blood and left their bones upon the soil of Texas and of Maryland, in the Mexican and Civil Wars; and in the late War with Spain, men of this family from Savannah and from Marietta were among the first to volunteer their services after war was declared.

This record extends from 1677 to 1899. It describes many lives of simplicity, integrity and usefulness; their "lot was the common lot of all;" happiness and sorrow, prosperity and misfortune fell equally upon them. No claims are made for great wealth or distinction. This family shunned notoriety and display, but from these simple lives lessons can be learned of patriotism, devotion to duty and right living, which may prove an inspiration to coming generations bearing the name.











A P P E N D I X .

The work of tracing the history of the Mell Family in South Carolina has been quite difficult, because so many valuable papers have been lost. There are about two thousand Record Books in Charleston with Indexes. The record of wills goes back to the year 1700; deeds go no farther back than 1719. The early colonial records were carried off by the British in the Revolution and are in the Tower of London. We are indebted to the kindness of the late W. G. Whilden, Esq. of Greenville, S. C. and to his grandson, E. W. McIver of Charleston, for many of the following abstracts of deeds, wills and inventories.

Numbers of interesting papers are mentioned in the Indexes but the books containing them have been lost. The records of Dorchester Church, S. C., and also those of the Episcopal Church of St. James, Goose Creek, have been hopelessly lost. Copies of the land grants were obtained from the office of the Secretary of State at Columbia.

Office of Secretary of State, Columbia S. C.

Volume N C, page 89.

John Lord Berkeley Palatine and the rest of the Lords and absolute Proprietors of the Province of Carolina do hereby grant unto John Mell, Planter, a plantation containing seventy acres of land English measure, now in the possession of the said John Mell, situate, lying and being upon a certain creek commonly called by the name of Goose Creek, and butting and bounding as appears by a plat thereof hereunto annexed, to Have and Hold the said Plantation to the said John Mell, his heirs and assigns forever yielding and paying yearly to the said Palatine and the rest of the Lords Proprietors aforesaid their heirs and assigns every nine and twentieth day of September which shall be after the nine and twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and eighty nine, one penny of lawfull money of England or the value thereof for every of the said acres to holden for free and common soccage. Given under the Great Seal appointed for that purpose at Charles Towne in the Province of Carolina aforesaid this 15th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and seventy and seven.

JOSEPH WEST.

MAU. MATHEW

RICHARD CONANT.

WM. OWEN.

ANDREW BREMARE.

Registered at Charlestowne this 14th day of January 1695.

JONATHAN ARMORY
DEPUTY REGISTER

Office of Secretary of State, Columbia, S. C.

Volume N C, page 231.

CAROLINA:

By virtue of a warrant under the hands of the Hon. Joseph West, Governor and Landgrave, and the Lord Proprietor Deputies, to Maurice Mathews, Esq. the Surveyor General directed, bearing date the 29th day of March 1681.

By virtue of which said warrant I have admeasured and laid out unto John Mell in right of Elizabeth his wife, one hundred acres of land situate and being on the north side of Ashley River, and butting on the southwest upon Ashley River, to the northeast upon land not laid out, and bounding to the northwest upon land of Thomas Holton, and to the southeast upon land of John Donoho, which this plat doth represent the form and shape thereof together with the buttings and the boundings and the marks as are thereon represented this—day of October 1685 and certified by me.

STE. BULL,
SURVEYOR GENERAL.

*From Register of Mesue Conveyance Office, Charleston, S. C.
Book 1, page 184.*

Transfer of property from James Boswood to Thomas Mell, December 4th, 1719. One hundred and seventeen acres of land part of a tract formerly laid out unto the Rev. Wm. Livingston, containing five hundred and fifty acres situated in Berkley county, bounded on the east by Capt. Grant's land; on the south by the Boswood and John Stock's lands; on the west and north by the remainder of the five hundred and fifty eight acres of land will appear more fully. Bearing date December 4th, 1719. Giving the power to Thomas and his wife Mary to sell or dispose of as they see proper.

About the same date, (almost illegible), there is a conveyance of five hundred and fifty acres of land in Berkley county from James Boswood to his son-in-law——Mell and Mary his wife, five shillings and love

Mr. Whilden wrote: "There are on the list of deeds about ten deeds relating to the Mell family the first twenty-five years succeeding 1719, but some are lost."

In Book KK, page 546, there is a reference to Boswood; and in Book KK, page 242, there is a deed from Josiah Cautey to Thomas Mell. (Mr. Melver says "the above were so completely destroyed that I could only get references from the Index"). These deeds were also of early date.

Book DD, No. 7; March 22nd, 1722. Joseph Mell, Benjamin Marion, Gideon Fancher and John Bulline returned an inventory and appraisement of the goods of Peter Guerin, deceased, having been appointed by the Governor.

Will Book from 1700 to 1757, page 393 - Charleston, S. C.

In the name of God, Amen. November the twenty-fourth day, in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Thirty-six, I, John Mell, Being very sick and Weak in Body but of a sound and Disposing Mind and Memory, thanks be to God for the same, therefore knowing that it is ordained for all men once to die, doe make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament. Principally and first of all, I give and recommend my Soul into the hands of God that gave it, and for my body, I recommend it to the earth to be buried in a Christian Like and Decent manner at the Discretion of my Executors and as for my worldly Estate, which God hath been pleased to bless me with, I give, devise and dispose of the same in the manner following after my debts and funeral charges have been paid.

ITEM:- I do leave to be sold my whole Estate, Reale and Personale only except four Cows and Calves which I do Give Between my son John and Mary my daughter.

ITEM:- I give one mare to my son John and one to my daughter Mary, so only my son to have his choice of the mares.

ITEM:- I give to my Son John and my daughter Mary, Two negro Girls, Hannah and Flora, only my son John to have his choice of the two negroes, when he arrives to the age of twenty years, and when she shall arrive to the age of twenty years, but if it so happen that my son John and Mary my daughter should Die without Ares Lawfully to be gotten of them, I give and bequeath unto my Nephew, John Mell, my whole Estate,

ITEM:- I Give and Bequeath to my son John, Two Thirds of the money that shall be out of the sale of my Estate and one third to my daughter Mary. I do likewise constitute make and ordain my brother, Thomas Mell and William Fuller to be my Executors,

JOHN MELL (Seal).

Sealed and Delivered in Presence of us ;

	His	
JOHN	X	COCKFIELD.
	Mark	
	His	
JOHN	X	COCKFIELD, JR.
	Mark	
	His	
GEORGE	X	ALLEN.
	Mark	

The Inventory of John Mell's Estate was recorded in Book 3 L 22, but this book is lost,

Book PP page 424: James Boswood and wife to Thomas Mell. Bill of sale, February 14th 1752.

In consideration of the sum of fifty pounds current money that tract of land containing fifty acres, in Berkeley county, situate, lying and being upon the east on lands now or lately belonging to John Grant; on the west by lands belonging to Benjamin Godin*; on the south by lands

* This man was a Huguenot who gave sixteen acres for a churchyard.

belonging to Thomas Mell, together with all and singular Edifices, Water and water courses, Paths and all that appertains whatsoever on the said lands, standing, growing or being on that which hath been taken or reputed to be part, parcel or number thereof.

Will Book, 1757 to 1760, page 239.

Will proceed, December 28th, 1759. William Mell qualified as Executor.

In the name of God Amen, I, Thomas Mell, Sr. of Berkeley county in the Province of S. C. and Parish of St. James Goose Creek, Planter. Do therefore in and by these presents make and publish my last Will and Testament, herein and hereby revoking and disannulling all and every other Will and Testament.

And as to my worldly Estate Goods, Chattles, Lands and Tenements after my just Debts and Funeral Expenses are paid which I Will and Desire may be first paid; I Give, Bequeath, Devise and Dispose of the same and every part thereof in manner and form hereinafter respectively mentioned, that is to say, :

FIRST:- I give and bequeath unto my son-in-law Thomas Hudson (or Hodson, the writing is not clear) the Sum of Five pounds current money of the province, in lieu of any Claim or Right he may have unto my Estate.

ITEM:- I give and bequeath unto my grand-daughter Mary Hudson the like sum of five pounds of current money of this Province in lieu of any Claim or Right she may have unto my Estate.

I leave, give, bequeath and devise unto my Executrix and Executors hereinafter named and their successors, Executors of this my last Will and Testament, forever the six following negroes by name; Judea; Dinah; London with her child London; Abraham and Jenny, with all my stock of Horses and Cattle together with all my Household Furniture, excepting what shall be hereafter given and devised upon the special Trust and confidence, Nevertheless and to and for the several Uses, Intents and Purposes, hereinafter severally and respectively mentioned, limited and declared of for and concerning the same:³

ITEM :- I Will, Devise and Bequeath unto said wife Mary Mell the plantation whereon I now live with the dwelling and other outhouses thereon with full liberty to cut or clear any part of the said land and to plant during her Widowhood and no longer,

ITEM :- I give and bequeath to my well and beloved son Thomas Mell six negroes by name, Dick, Paul, Haiger, Lucy, Robert and Rose with all their increase, with one Feather Bed and Furniture to him and his heirs forever.

ITEM :- I give and bequeath unto my well and beloved son William Mell the House and Plantation whereon he now lives, containing two hundred acres or thereabouts together with the seven following negroes by name, Mingo, Bob, Prince, Guy, Chance, Dafney and her child Isaac with all their increase to him and his heirs forever together with one feather bed and furniture.

ITEM :- I give and bequeath unto my Executors and Executrix the following five negroes by name, Bristol, Cato, Celia, Maria and Plenty in trust for my well beloved daughter Mary Mell; provided nevertheless that my said Executrix and Executors do suffer and permit my said daughter Mary Mell whether she shall happen to be sole or married, to hold use occupy and receive and take the profits of the said five negroes and dispose of such profits to her own proper use and behalf, and that without the control or interfering of any husband she shall have or may have from time to time during the term of her natural life, and after the decease of my daughter Mary the said five negroes herein given to my Executrix and Executors in trust for my said daughter Mary with all their increase, shall go unto such persons and to such uses as she, my said daughter Mary shall by her last Will and Testament or other writing purporting to be her last will and Testament to be by her in her life time.

ITEM :- I give and bequeath unto my said Executrix and Executors the four following negroes by name, July, Doll, Scipio and Belle in trust for my well beloved daughter Marthe Mell; provided*

* Here follows verbiage exactly like that given in the last item.

ITEM:- I give and bequeath unto my Executrix and Executors the three following negroes by name Harry, Nanny and Smart, in trust for my well beloved daughter Margaret Mell, provided.*

ITEM:- I give and bequeath unto each of my three daughters here before mentioned one feather bed and furniture to them and their heirs forever.

ITEM:- I give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Mell, immediately after the marriage of my said wife Mary Mell or her decease which shall first happen all that tract of land or plantation; two hundred and seventy acres of land or thereabouts here in before given and devised unto my beloved wife Mary, with the dwelling house thereon and all the other outhouses thereon to him and his heirs forever,

ITEM:- I give and bequeath unto my grandson William Mell, after the decease of my well beloved wife the negro boy London.

ITEM:- It is my will and desire that after the decease of my wife Mary Mell that my son Thomas Mell shall have the negro woman named Dinah, negro boy Abram, a negro man named London, and that my son William Mell shall have the negro woman named Judea.

ITEM:- It is my will and Desire that after the decease of my said wife Mary Mell that all the stock of horses, Cattle with all the Household Goods not heretofore given or divided shall be equally divided, share and share alike, between my two sons Thomas and William Mell and my three daughters, Mary, Martha and Margaret Mell, to them and their heirs forever.

ITEM:- It is my will that anything herein not mentioned shall be equally divided between my two sons Thomas and William Mell.

Lastly I hereby nominate, constitute and ordain my said wife Mary Mell Executrix and my said two sons Thomas and William Mell Executors of this my last will and Testament

In witness whereof I, the said Thomas Mell Senior, have to this my Last will and Testament contained in these

* Repetition of the last two items.

three sheets of paper thereof the eleventh day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty seven and in the thirty first year of his Majesty's reign.

THOMAS MELL. (Seal).

Sealed, published and declared by Mr.† Thomas Mell for his last will and Testament.

Signed, JAMES STREATOR.
DANIEL PERKEY.
BENJAMIN HURST.

Copied from Will Book dated 1758 to 1763; page 325. Charleston S. C. January 7th, 1760.

To all Christian People to whom these presents shall come, greeting. Know ye that we Thomas and William Mell in the Province of South Carolina and Parish of St Andrews for and in consideration of the love, good will and affection which we have and bear towards our well beloved sister Martha Mell, have given and granted to our well beloved sister. one negro boy by the name of Mingo for and during her natural life and at her decease that the said negro boy Mingo shall go to the surviving heirs begotten of her body and to them and their heirs forever. And if she the said Martha Mell should die without lawful heir lawfully begotten of her body then the said negro boy Mingo shall return to us, the said Thomas and William Mell our heirs, successors and assigns forever. And we the said Thomas and William Mell, our Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns the bargained negro boy Mingo to the said Martha Mell and the surviving heirs of her body against all persons and of our free will and accord and without any manner of consideration, will and forever warrant and defend the said negro boy Mingo to the said Martha Mell and the surviving heir of her body forever.

†Colonial historians say that "the prefix Mr. was sparingly used in those times and only applied to persons of consequence."

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this seventh day of January in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and sixty.

THOMAS MELL. [Seal]

WILLIAM MELL. [Seal]

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us,

MARY HODSON,*

THOMAS HODSON.

HIS

JAMES X LAPSLEY.

MARK

Book of Inventories from 1758 to 1761. Page 273. Charleston S. C. Inventory and appraisement of the Estate and Effects of Thomas Mell Sr., deceased.

This Inventory gives a detailed record of Thomas Mell's² personal property with its valuation. There were 35 servants valued at £7300; "a parcel of books" valued at £2; 34 head of cattle at £204; 5 horses at £75; 20 hogs at £30. The entire personalty was appraised at £7874. or \$39,370. This was an unusually large amount of personal property for any one in those days.

The Inventory was dated January 12th, 1760, and witnessed by Adam Stewart, Richard Bedon (or Baker?) and William Fuller.

*These Hodsons were the son-in-law and grand-daughter so unceremoniously cut off with five pounds apiece in the will of Thomas Mell.

Book W W, page 193. March 6th, 1761.

Release in Fee William Cartwright to Thomas Mell.

That tract of land lying in St. James Goose Creek, containing one hundred and twenty acres, butting and bounding to the southwest on land formerly belonging to Josiah Pendarvis, but now belonging to Mrs. Elizabeth Chandler, southeast on land belonging to William Mell, northeast on land belonging to John Ainslie and to the northwest partly on land lately belonging to Thomas Baker, deceased, and on the north according to the plat given in the book from which this is given, lying northwest, Longitude $21^{\circ} 23'$.

Book 6 number 3. Page 662. July 17th, 1764. Joseph Baker and Hannah his wife to William Mell, Release.

This Indenture made the 17th day of July in the year of our Lord 1764, between Joseph Baker of Beach Hill in the Province aforesaid, Planter and Hannah, his wife of the one part, and William Mell of Goose Creek in the said Province, of the other part. That in consideration of the sum of five hundred pounds good and lawful money, all that Plantation or tract of land, containing five hundred and twenty acres, lying at Beach Hill in the Province, being part of a larger tract, containing ——acres of land, bounded on the north partly by lands belonging to Isaac Ladson. on the east by lands belonging to the Estate of Joseph War ing, on the south by the other parts of the said tract, on the west by lands belonging to the aforesaid Isaac Ladson.

(Signed) JOSEPH BAKER.

HANNAH BAKER.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

THEO. GRIMBALL, JR.

WM. AIR.

This is the last paper we have at pre-

sent relating to William Mell. His will is catalogued 10 X 44, and his Inventory 10 Y 29, but both are lost.

S O U T H—C A R O L I N A .

GEORGE the THIRD, by the GRACE of GOD, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, and fo forth,

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting;

KNOW YE, That We, of our special Grace, certain Knowledge and mere Motion, have given and granted, and by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successours, DO GIVE AND GRANT unto PATEICK HUES his Heirs and Assigns, a Plantation or Tract of Land containing Five Hundred acres situated in Berkeley county, St. Matthews Parish on the north side of the Four Hole Swamp on a branch running into Dean's Swamp, bounding southeast, northeast and northwest on vacant land and southwest on Keenan's land. The said Patrick Hues his Heirs and Assigns yielding and paying therefor, unto Us, Our Heirs and Successours, or to Our Receiver-General for the Time being. . . on the Twenty-fifth Day of March, in every Year, at the Rate of Three Shillings Sterling, or Four Shillings Proclamation-Money, for every Hundred Acres. PROVIDED ALWAYS that the said Patrik Hues his Heirs and Assigns shall and do Yearly, and every Year after the Date of these Presents, clear and cultivate at the Rate of Three Acres for every Hundred Acres of Land.

Given under the Great Seal of Our said Province.

WITNESS his Excellency the Right Hon. Lord Charles Granville Montagu, Capt. Genl. Governour and Commander in Chief in and Over Our said Province of South Caroli-

na, this nineteenth Day of November Anno Dom. 1772 in the 13th Year of our Reign.

C. G. (L. M. S.) MONTAGU

Signed by his Excellency the Governour in Council.

GEORGE DAVIDSON PRO. C. E.

And hath therunto a Plat thereof annexed, representing the same, certified by

JOHN BREMAR Dept. Surveyour-General.

4th, Sept. 1772.

S O U T H—C A R O L I N A .

GEORGE the THIRD. DO GIVE AND GRANT unto PATRICK HUES his Heirs and Affigns a Plantation or tract of Land containing Three Hundred and Fifty acres in Granville county on the Watch Gall bounded on all sides by vacant land

WITNESS His Excellency CHARLES G. MONTAGU.

Governour and Commander in Chief in and over Our said Province of South Carolina, this 25th Day of February Anno Dom. 1773 in the 13th Year of Our Reign.

C. G. (L. M. S.) MONTAGU.

Signed by his Excellency the Governour in Council,

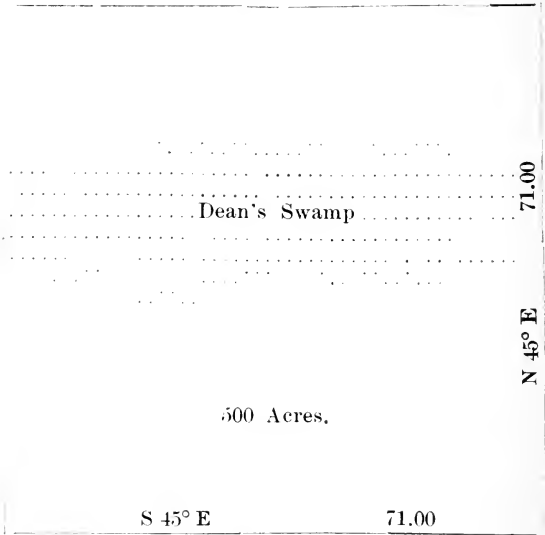
J. SIMPSON for C. E.

And hath thereunto a Plat hereof annexed representing the same, certified by

JOHN BREMAR, Deputy Surveyour-General.

16th January, 1773.

Vacant Land.



Vacant Land. Impassable.

Land deeded to Patrick Hues
November 17th, 1772.

The following documents are copies in full of the originals legally made out, signed and sealed by C. Kerrison, Register Mesne Conveyance, Charleston, S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA:-

In the name of God Amen. I, James Mell of St. Bartholomew's Parish. Merchant in State aforesaid, being sick and weak in body but of perfect sense and memory, Thanks be unto God, calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed to all men once to die, do make, publish and declare this to be my last will and testament: that is to say, principally and first of all, I give and bequeath my soul to God that gave it and my body to be buried in a decent, Christian like manner at the discretion of my Executors hereinafter named, doubting nothing that I shall receive the same by the Almighty power of God. And as touching such worldly estate as hath pleased God to help me with in this life, I give and bequeath in the following manner and form. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary Mell the use of my wench Hannah, my horse Bird, a feather bed and furniture, one half of my stock of cattle and hogs, a sidesaddle the half of my plantation on Black Hill, (or Beach Hill?), purchased of Benjamin Cudworth, * during her natural life and at her death to return to my beloved daughter, Mary Ann Mell, and in case of the death of my said daughter before the death of my wife Mary Mell, then I give and bequeath all and every part of the same to be equally divided between my two nephews Benjamin, son of William, and William son of Thomas Mell, to be equally divided between them, share and share alike, and the survivor or heirs of the survivor to take the whole forever; I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Mary Ann Mell the use of my girl Hannah boy Cæsar, a mare Fly and her offspring the remaining half of my stock of cattle and hogs

* Benjamin Cudworth was a prisoner at St. Augustine, Fla.

and the remaining half of my above mentioned Plantation, a gold ring a feather bed and furniture, a set of silver teaspoons, a papspoon, a pair of gold sleeve buttons, and in case of the death of my said daughter without lawful issue, I give and bequeath every part that is herein bequeathed to the use of my beloved wife during her life, and at her death and at the death of my said daughter, I give and bequeath my whole estate to my two nephews, Benjamin son of William and William son of Thomas Mell to be equally divided between them share and share alike and the survivor, or the heir of the survivor, to take the whole forever. I give to my Executors hereinafter named, to dispose of at private sale for the use of my daughter Mary Ann, my wearing apparel. I give to my Executors hereafter named full power to sell to the best advantage, as they shall think proper, all the remainder of my estate, both real and personal with full power to make good and sufficient titles to all and every part not before particularly described, and to collect all money due me, and after my just debts and funeral charges are paid, the overplus I give to my said daughter Mary Ann in the same manner as the part before given and to go to the same persons and for the same uses as before mentioned in case of her death without lawful issue. I give to my Executors full power to sue for any estate or parts of estate that may appear to be my property by law, and if recovered to go to my said daughter Mary Ann, and for such use and uses as before mentioned. My will and desire is that my said daughter shall have such good education as the part of my estate bequeathed to her will admit of. I give to my Executors, hereafter named full power to purchase lands or other property for the use of my said daughter at their discretion, and the property so purchased to go to such use and uses and such persons as the other part of my estate bequeathed to her use is directed after her death.

Lastly, I constitute and appoint my brothers William and Thomas Mell and my worthy friends, John Crosskeys and Melchior Garner Executors of this my last will and Testament.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and seal this ninth day of April, One Thousand seven hundred and eighty four.

JAMES MELL [L. S.]

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Testator to be his last Will and Testament, in the presence of us,

PATRICK HUES.

JOHN SIMMONS.

ANN CROSSKEYS.

Proved before CHALES LINING Esq., O. C. T. D. July 3rd, 1784. At the same time qualified WILLIAM and THOMAS MELL Executors.

The Inventory of James Mell's Estate is catalogued 11 S 3, but it cannot be found. Melchior Garner, "the worthy friend," was a Justice of the Peace and a man highly respected.

Grant Book 11, page 384

STATE of SOUTH CAROLINA:

To all to whom these Presents shall come, GREETING.

Know ye that for and in consideration of seven Pounds seven shillings and five pennies Sterling money paid by William Mell into the Treasury for the use of this State, we have granted and by these Presents do grant unto the said William Mell, his heirs and assigns, a plantation or tract of Land containing three hundred and sixteen acres situated in the District of Charleston, east side of Edisto River, having such shape, form and marks as are represented by a Plat hereunto annexed.....

Given under the Great Seal of the State.

Witness his Excellency William Moultrie Esq., Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State.

Charleston 1st day of May 1786, and the 10th year of the Independence of the United States of America.

WILLIAM MOULTRIE.

And hath thereunto a Plat thereof annexed representing the same. Certified by

F. BREMAR, Surveyor General.

March 10th, 1786.

Book K 6, Page 221. December 16th 1793.

Lease for one year. John Mell to Joseph Tobias.

SOUTH CAROLINA:

ABSTRACT.

An indenture made the 16th day December 1793, between John Mell of the Parish of St James Goose Creek, South Carolina, Planter, of the one part, and Joseph Tobias of the city of Charleston, of the other part, by which the former sold to the latter a plantation situated on the northern side of Bohicket Creek in Colleton county, containing three hundred acres, and bordering on the west partly on a marsh and partly on land belonging to William Green, on the east and north on land formerly belonging to Joseph Stanyarne. One quarter of an acre on the southern portion of this plantation, known as the Stanyarne Burying Ground, was reserved from this sale for the use of the Stanyarne Family. In consideration of this lease Joseph Tobias was required to pay John Mell the rent of one pepper corn.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

ROBERT FLEMING.

JOHN W. CHITTY.

Book K 16, Page 222. December 18th 1793.

Release by way of Mortgage: John Mell to Joseph Tobias.

ABSTRACT.

This Indenture made the 17th day of December in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety three between John Mell of St. James Goose Creek of the one part and Joseph Tobias of Charleston of the other part John Mell executed bond to Joseph Tobias for one hundred and seventy eight pounds, twelve shillings and six pence conditioned for the payment of eighty nine pounds, six shillings and three pence. This mortgage was made on the plantation mentioned in the documentⁿ given on page xviii.

This paper was witnessed by Robert Fleming and John W. Chitty.

Written across this paper is the following item:

I, Joseph Tobias the Elder, the mortgagee named in this mortgage do hereby acknowledge to have received full and ample payment and satisfaction on this mortgage whereby the bond therein referred to is become null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 31st. day of July 1795.

JOSEPH TOBIAS (Seal)

Book K 6, Page 224. December 31st 1793.

*John Mell to Joseph Tobias Bond, £89. 6. 3. Payable
March 1st 1794.*

ABSTRACT.

STATE of SOUTH CAROLINA:

Know all men by these presents that I John Mell am held and firmly bound unto Joseph Tobias in the just sum

of £178. 12. 6 to which payment well and truly to be made I bind myself and heirs firmly by these presents with my seal and dated the 17th of December 1793. The condition of the above obligation is such that if John Mell or his heirs shall Pay Joseph Tobias £89. 6. 3 on or before the first day of March 1794 then the above obligation will be void and of none effect.

JOHN MELL.

Will of Thomas Mell.

In the name of God Amen :

I, Thomas Mell of St. Andrew's Parish of the State of South Carolina, Planter, being of sound memory and disposing mind, and calling to mind that it is appointed to all men once to die, do make, ordain and declare this to be my last will and testament hereby revoking and disannulling all other wills by me made.

FIRST: I give my soul into the hands of God that gave it to me, and my body at my death I commend to the grave to be interred in a Christian manner in a plain cedar coffin in hopes of a joyful resurrection, and as to worldly estate, it has pleased God to bless me with I give and bequeath in the following manner my just and funeral charges being first paid, I give and bequeath unto my negro man Isaac his freedom during his natural life together with one brown bay horse branded on the mounting shoulder, thus 0, also a brown bay mare with her two year old filly. I give and bequeath to my cousin, Mary Cockfield, one hundred pounds sterling, my riding chair and harness to be put in good repair, with a mare Jenny. To my nephew William Mell, I give and bequeath a gun, a pair of gold buttons, a ring, a desk, a box, a pair of silver shoe buckles and a bed and furniture. To my nephew Thomas Mell I give and bequeath fifty pounds sterling, a gun, six silver table spoons, a Family Seal Ring, a pair of gold studs and a pair of silver shoe buckles. To my nephew John Mell I give and bequeath my plantation containing two hundred and eighty seven acres, more or less, in St. James Parish that was my father's, together with a feather bed a gun, a box, five sil-

ver teaspoons, my silver watch, a silver stock buckle and a pair of silver spurs and a ring to him and his heirs to a hundred generations. The remainder of my Estate, both real and personal. I leave to be sold by my Executors hereafter named, whom I do authorize or any of them to make and duly execute good and sufficient titles to the purchasers and property sold by them and the money so arising from the sale of my property so sold. I give and dispose of in the following manner to be divided into twelve equal shares; to my nephews William. Thomas, and John Mell I do give and bequeath to each one share to them and their heirs forever; to Benjamin Mell, Sarah[?] Mell, children of my nephew William Mell. I do give and bequeath to each one share to them and their heirs forever. To James, Edward Sumner and Thomas Mell, sons of my nephew Thomas Mell, to each one share to them and their heirs forever. I do give and bequeath to Mariann Mell, daughter of James Mell deceased, one equal share to her and her heirs forever; I do give one equal share to Mary Willingham her and her heirs forever. To John Roach I give and bequeath one share to him and his heirs forever.

I do give and bequeath to Thomas Willingham one equal share; in case he should die leaving no lawful issue then it shall be equally divided between John Roach's children. Further my will and desire is that the shares of my estate above mentioned, that is to say nephew William Mell's two children Benjamin and Sarah; James, Edward Sumner and Thomas Mell, sons of my nephew Thomas Mell, and Mariann Mell daughter of James Mell deceased; that their several shares shall be lent on interest, the interest be paid yearly and that to be put on interest by my Executors having good surety for said sums. And in case Mariann Mell should die leaving no lawful issue then her share shall be equally divided between William Mell's two children Benjamin and Sarah, and that the shares shall not be paid unto any of them until they arrive at the age of twenty one. My negro man Isaac above mentioned is a carpenter by trade which my Executors shall warrant and defend his freedom to him forever. Further my will and desire is that the Burying Grounds on both places be reserved for

Family Burying Places, and shall be ditched and paled in before division of my Estate.

And lastly I constitute and appoint William and Thomas Mell, together with my two friends William* and Stephen Lee, Executors to this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 19th day of March, 1794 and in the 18th year of America's Independency.

THOMAS MELL (L. S.)

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Thomas Mell to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who subscribed as witnesses in his presence and at his request and in the presence of each other.

WILKIAM CREGGMILES.

WILLIAM BLACK.

PETER RAST.

JAMES MCBRIDE.

CODICIL TO THE WILL: I do give my nephew Thomas Mell one bed and furniture; to Mary Willingham one bed and furniture as witness my hand this 19th day of March, 1794.

THOMAS MELL . (L. S.)

Witnessed by the same parties signed to the main will.

Proved before Charles Lining. Esq., O. C. D. T., December 22nd 1794. December 27th 1794 qualified William Mell Executor, (by virtue of a dedimus), before Henry Gray Esq.

* William Lee was a South Carolina Revolutionary hero and an ancestor of General Stephen D. Lee.

In the Index of Inventories, among those papers that seem to be hopelessly lost, are given these two:

Inventory of Thomas Mell, 6 R 19,
Inventory of Thomas Mell, 13 H 30.

Land Grant to John Mell.

ABSTRACT,

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA:

KNOW YE, that in pursuance of an Act of the Legislature we have granted unto John Mell a plantation containing fifty three acres, surveyed for him the 16th of February 1795, situated in the Charleston District, Goose Creek Parish bounding north on land belonging to John Mell. east and south on land of Whitemarsh Fuller and west on land now laid out to Benjamin and William Henry Mell.

Witness His Excellency Arnold Vander Horst, Governor of the State, this 2nd day of November 1795.

ARNOLD VANDER HORST. L.M.S.

There is also a similar document on record in South Carolina granting to Benjamin and William Henry Mell eighty one acres of land in St. James Parish, Goose Creek, and bounded on the north by John Mell's land, "which lately belonged to Thomas Mell deceased", on the east by John Mell, south by William Woods and west by Dr. David Ramsey.

This grant is dated 2nd of November, 1795.

In Book Y 6, page 119, of the South Carolina archives is a record dated January 3rd 1739, stating that Thomas Mell of Midway Ga., in consideration of £110 paid by Isaac Perry of St. Paul's Parish sold to the latter 228 acres of land at Beach Hill, S. C., bounded by the estates of Isaac Ladson, William Mell and Thomas Osgood.

In Book Z 6, page 146 and dated September 18th 1799, appears a deed to Rev. Thomas Frost signed by William Mell, Executor for the estate of Thomas Mell.

This deed transfers to Thomas Frost 940 acres situated in the Parishes of St. Andrew, St. George and St. James Goose Creek for the sum of £800. This land was bounded by the estates of Dr. David Ramsey, Lindour and Charles Martin, James Simons, William Moultrie and Col. William Fishburne.

This instrument was witnessed by John S. Cogdell.

INDEX.

Ainslie, John xi	Bremare, Andrew ii
Air, Wm xi	F xviii
Allen, George v	John xiii
Armory, John ii	Brooke, Lula 55
	Bull, Ste iii
	Bulline, John iv
	Bunkley, Mary A 45
Bacon, Albert 54	
John 36	
Joseph 36	
William 36	Cantey, J. C. 54
Baker, Hannah xi	Josiah 23 iv
Joseph 32 xi	Cartwright, William 28 xi
Richard x	Chandler, Elizabeth xi
Thomas xi	Chitty, John W xviii xix
William 36	Cockfield, John v
Bartholmess, Laura M 54	Mary 10 23 24 30 xx
Sarah L 56	Conant, Richard ii
Berrie 45	Cooper, Eliza E 51
Bessant, P. G 44	Lurene H 51
Black, William xxii	Cope, Margaret D 56
Boswood, James 23 iii iv v	Crank, T. E 57
Mary 22 23 25 iii vii	Creggmiles, William xxii
viii	Crosskeys, Ann xvii
Bradwell 48	John 39 xvi
Bragg, General 71	Cudworth, Benjamin 38 xv

- | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Davidson, George | xiii | Jones, John | 6 |
| Dennis | 22 | Jordan, Alicia G | 45 |
| Donoho, John | iii | Mary A | 47 |
| Dougherty, Mary B | 53 58 | | |
| Dubose, Joel | 39 | | |
| William G | 39 | Keenan | 34 xii |
| William P. B | 39 40 | Keeter, Laura | 59 |
| | | Kerrison, C | xv |
| | | King, Amelia | 56 |
| Ellinger, Mary | 9 | | |
| | | Ladson, Isaac | xi xxiv |
| Falligant, Champion | 54 | Lambright, James E | 46 |
| Fancher, Gideon | iv | Lapsley, James | x |
| Fannin | 40 | Law, Rev. Samuel | 49 |
| Fishburne, William | 28 xxiv | Lee, Stephen | xxii |
| Fleming, Robert | xxviii xix | T. S. | 52 |
| Foote, W. O | 55 | William | xxii |
| Frost, Rev. Thomas | 28 34 | LeMoyné P. C | 54 |
| xxiv | | Lindour | xxiv |
| Fuller, Whitemarsh | xxiii | Lining, Charles | xvii xxii |
| William | 24 26 41 x | Livingston, Rev. Wm | 23 iii |
| | | Llody, John | 32 |
| | | | |
| Garner, Melchier | 32 39 xvi | McBride, James | xxii |
| xvii | | McCollum, Blanche | 55 |
| George, Annie E. | 56 | McFail, James E. | 45 |
| Gilbert, Mary | 59 | McIntosh, Anna M | 54 |
| Godin, Benjamin | v | McIver, E. W | i |
| Grant, John | iii v | Mallard, John L. | 47 |
| Gray, Henry | xxii | Marion, Benjamin | iv |
| Green, William | xviii | Martin, Charles | xxiv |
| Grimball, Theo | xi | Matthew, M | ii |
| Guerin, Peter | 8 iv | Mayson | 55 |
| | | R e. J. R | 45 |
| | | Mell, A. W | 6 9 |
| Hines, Mary I. | 55 | Alma K | 59 |
| Holton, Thomas | iii | Ann | 38 |
| Hudson, Mary | 25 27 vi x | Annie | 55 |
| Thomas | 24 25 27 vi x | Annie L. | 59 |
| Humphries, E. A | 57 | Benjamin | 35 38 41 |
| Hunter, Mary P. | 56 | 42 45 46 52 55 | |
| Hurst, Benjamin | ix | xv xvi xxi xxiii | |
| | | Catherine A. | 54 |
| | | Charles H. | 57 |

- Mell, Charles I. 53 58
 Charles N. 55 59
 Clara P. 59
 Cynthia 44
 Decatur W. 47
 Edward B. 53 56
 Edward S. 37 38 44
 46 54 xxi
 Elizabeth 6 20 iii
 Elizabeth S. 42
 Eliza E. 53
 Ellen L. 53
 Emma H. 44
 Emma V. 53
 Ethel M. 59
 Fannie J. 45
 Florence M. 59
 George 9
 George A. 53 54 58
 George E. 59
 George F. 56
 George S. 53
 Henry 13 22
 James 33 34 36 38 39
 42 xv xvii xxi
 xxii
 James B. 44 56
 James C. 53 58
 James E. 54 59
 James R. 55
 John 5 9 7 9 10 13 14
 17 18 19 20 22 23
 27 29 33 38 40 41
 42 ii iii iv v xviii
 xix xxi
 John B. 55 56 60
 John D. 53
 John L. 55
 John P. 45 55
 Joseph 8 9 13 14 22
 Joseph A. 57
 Joseph B. 58
 Joseph O. 46 57
 Laura E. 55
 Lewis 55
 Louise 60
 Lurene H. 53 58
 Luther J. 46 57
 Margaret 25 27 viii
- Mell, Martha 25 26 27 34
 36 vii viii ix
 Martha A. 45
 Martha J. 57
 Martha S. 47 56
 Mary 10 23 24 25 27
 30 iv v vii viii
 Mary Ann 38 37 44
 53 59 xv xxi
 Mary D. 46
 Mary C. 13 56
 Mary M. 57
 Mary S. 47
 Mildred 59
 Nora, K. 59
 Patrick H 44 48 53 55
 58 59
 Pearl 59
 Ralph E. 59
 Robert S. 86
 Ruth H. 54
 Rutherford 59
 Sarah 34 35 58 xxi
 Sarah E. 44 54
 Sarah L. 56
 Sarah S. 47
 Sarah S W 46
 Stewart 55
 Sumner 54 59
 Sumner J. 59
 Thomas 8 9 10 11 13
 14 22 23 24 25 26
 29 30 33 36 37 39 42
 iii iv v vi vii viii
 ix x xi xv xvi xx
 xxi xxii xxiii xxiv
 Thomas B. 56
 Thomas J 5 11 46 47
 56
 Thomas S 5 11 12 37
 38 45 46 47 53
 Valeria E 45
 Virginia F. 44
 Walter J. 58
 William 7 18 55 26 27
 28 31 32 33 34 36
 38 vi vii viii ix x
 xi xii xv xvi xvii
 xx xxi xxii xxiv

- Mell, William B. 46 56
 William H 36 41 42
 44 53 xxiii
 William J 44
 William S 58
 William T 42 47 56
- Montague, Granville xii xiii
- Moultrie, Gen. Wm. 28 xviii
 xxiv
- Newton, C. W. 57
- Nicholson, Gov 8
- Osgood, Thomas xxiv
- Owen, Wm. ii
- Perkey, Daniel iv
- Perry, Isaac 32 36 xxiv
- Ramsay, Dr. David 28 42
 xxiii xxiv
- Rast, Peter xxii
- Roach, John 27 xxi
- Roberson, Lillie 60
- Rutherford, Ressie 58
- Rutledge, Hugh 32
- Salley, A. S. 13
- Saunders, Patience 41
- Shugart, C. W. 54
- Simmons, John xvii
- Simons, James 28 xxiv
- Simon, Sallie 55
- Simpson, J. xiii
- Smiser, Paul 34
- Smith, A. D 53
 A. L 53
 M. D 53
 P. H 53
 T. F 53
- Stanyarne, Joseph 40 xvii
- Stevens, Susan R. 46
 Dr. Thomas 46
- Stewart, Adams x
 Elizabeth 44
- Stocks, John iii
- Streator, James ix
- Strobhart, Agnes L. 57
- Sumner, Cynthia 43
 Edward 36 43
 Sally 36
 Thomas 37 43
- Tobias, Joseph. xviii xix xx
- Vanderhorst, Arnold xxiii
- Vaughan, Jemima 57
- Walthour, G. W. 48
- Waring, Joseph xi
- West, Joseph ii
- Weston, Jacob 32
- Whilden, W. G. 7 i iii
- White, Annie R. 53
- Williams, Ann. 44
 Edward 44
 Rev. Hilman 44
 Sallie 44
- Willingham, Mary 27 xxi xxii
 Thomas 27 xxi xxii
- Winn, Peter 37
 Rev. T. S. 37
- Witcher, Belle 53
- Woods, William 42 xxiii
- Yeamans, Sir John 7 18



