Anderson Record

Anderson County Chapter South Carolina Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 5743

Anderson, SC 29623 - 5743

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 199

1996 Officers

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The Anderson County Chapter invites members and nonmembers to submit articles on anything which would be of interest to Anderson County researchers. These may include, but are not limited to, the following: church, newspaper, Bible, military, slave and cemetery records; abstracts of Anderson County records; and what happened to our "family or cousins" who moved away. Please photocopy any original family documents, such as Bible records. Include the title page, showing the date of publication, if possible. A typed or printed transcript of the photocopied record would also be appreciated. Information regarding family reunions is also accepted. Please send these articles or your comments to the above address, ATT: Newsletter Editor.

The next Chapter meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 1996 at Perpetual Bank at 907 North Main Street.

Brown's Ferry information is continued from Volume 8, Issue 4 of the Anderson Record.

The Anderson Independent - Friday, April 15, 1930

Youngest Son of W. P. Brown Defends Father for Part He Took in Famous Brown's Ferry Murder Case of 1865

Under date of April 2nd. there appeared in the Independent an article, under the title, "Do You Remember" About Brown's ferry and the Yankee soldiers who were murdered there just after the Civil War.

That tragedy occurred before I was born: but I know there are statements and insinuations in the article about W. P. Brown that are untrue and misleading.

I am the youngest son of W. P. Brown. I was born and raised at Brown's ferry in Anderson county. As a Baptist pastor I have served churches in Anderson and adjacent counties for the past 30 years.

My father did not leave Anderson county for 45 years as stated in the article. With the exception of the years that he was in the army and two or three years that he lived in Charleston, S.C. and Augusta, Ga., he spent his whole life, more than 70 years in Anderson county and in the neighborhood of Brown's ferry.

In regard to his connection with the trial referred to he was a witness for the government and testified to such facts as he knew concerning that tragedy. As a truthful man and a good citizen he could not do otherwise and he never expressed or intimated any regret for so doing.

I do not know to what extent his testimony helped to seal a conviction. But as I have been informed he concured in the desire and assisted in the effort to secure the pardon of the men who were convicted, and to the best of my knowledge all the men were friendly to my father after they were released. I know that a son of one of the men often visited my father.

The fact that he was a witness for the government did make him unpopular with some people for a time and his life was threatened and he suffered financial loss.

I admire his courage and hink he merited the Devine promise to "The man that sweareth to his own hurt and changeth not." "Nor taketh a revenge against the innocent." "He that doeth these things shall not be moved."

In all my life I never knew my father to utter a falsehood. There are a number of substancial citizens living in Anderson and Hart counties who knew W. P. Brown and will testify to his honesty and veracity. I have been told by those who were in his company - which I think was Company I 1st Reg. S.C. Volunteers - that he was a good soldier. He killed his Yankees during the war not in time of peace.

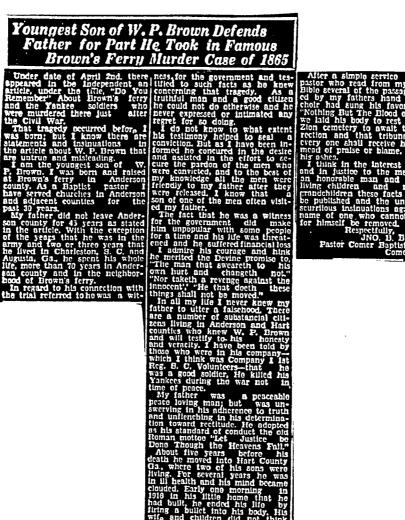
My father was a peaceable peace loving man, but was unswerving in his adherence to truth and unflenching in his determination toward rectitude. He adopted as his standard of conduct the old Roman mottoe "Let Justice be Done Though the Heavens Fall."

About five years before his death he moved into Hart County, Ga., where two of his sons were living. For several years he was in ill health and his mind became clouded. Early one morning in 1916 in his little home that he had built, he ended his life by firing a bullet into his body. His wife and children did not think him morally accountable for the act.

After a simple service by his pastor who read from my fathers Bible several of the passages marked by my fathers hand and the choir had sung his favorite song "Nothing But The Blood of Jesus", we laid his body to rest in Mt. Zion cemetery to await the resurection and that tribunal where every one shall receive his just mead of praise or blame. Peace to his ashes.

I think in the interest of truth and in justice to the memory of an honorable man and his four living children and numerous grandchildren these facts should be published and the unjust and scurrilous insinuations against the name of one who cannot answer for himself be removed. Respectfully, JNO. B. BROWN, Pastor Comer Baptist Church, Comer, Ga.

Photocopy of article follows:



Now we begin a very suspense filled story found by Ron Kay in the Anderson Intelligencer dated Thursday, Oct. 18, 1888.

THE BRAND OF FLOOD.

A Miserable Ending of a Horrible Series of Tragedies. *Greenville News, 14th inst.*

In a miserable wooden shanty off a short way from Buncombe street, near where it is joined by Rutherford, a wretched man died yesterday.

Who was he?

To those who were accustomed to see his gaunt form and hollow, sunken eyes and sallow cheeks, matted with tangled beard, incarnation of utter misery, he was simply "old man Davenport," or more often "Morphine Davenport," an outcast and a beggar. To others who knew his life history, he was an embodiment of human degradation, a man, in short, who had brought himself from a position of worldly wealth and respectability; had taken on the slavery of a debassing habit; had for filthy money's hire killed a fellow man in cold blood; had escaped the just vengeance of the law and had come forth from a felon's cell to sink deeper and deeper in misery until death came to end the cursed drama of his life.

Almost everybody knew Wm. Davenport, but few ever thought his life's history concealed the story of a dramatic tragedy. He came to Greenville twelve or thirteen years ago. He then bore some pretentions to respectability, but the morphine habit was his curse and it gradually brought him down until he earned a scant living by cutting wood and doing chores and managed in that way and by begging to keep himself supplied with the drug which was to him life and the all. His method of using the opiate was by injection; and at his death scarcely a spot remained on his body where the delicate point of the morphine syringe had not penetrated. He gave way under the long ravages of the habit last week and gradually became weaker until he died at _ o'clock yesterday morning. He had been supplied with food and medicines by charity in his last sickness, and his death was far less full of misery than his life had been.

The story of the crime that stained his hands is a story of the "bushwhacking" time in the years immediately following the war. In June, 1865, the year of the surrender, John Wilson Meeks was murdered at Breazeale's mill in Anderson county about midway between Anderson Court House and Belton. Meeks had volunteered at the outbreak of the war and had fought through it until the surrender, when he took up the long tramp for his home and the wife and children he had left there. He had married a daughter of Harvey Vandiver, a Baptist preacher who lived at Breazeale's mill, and they had lived happily together until the war and separation came.

When he returned he found all changed. His wife had gone to live with her father at the mill and there were rumors that she had lived on terms of too much intimacy with Dave Breazeale, the son of the widow Breazeale, who owned the mill.

The husband's return was followed by a quarrel with his father in law and he was forbidden to enter the house where his wife was. One interview he secured with her. He told her then that he was trying to get a house that he could carry her and the children to and that he would meet her at the well in the yard about eight o'clock that night to tell her of the arrangements he had made. He then went away and during the day that followed secured a home where he expected to carry his wife and children.

A dark plot was forming meanwhile. The unfaithful wife told her father and Breazeale of the appointment her husbvand had made. The night came, and with it the hour appointed for the rendezvous at the well. Suspecting nothing, Meeks approached the spot where he imagined he would find his wife waiting for him, and wishing, maybe, for the time when he should not be forced to meet her thus clandestinely.

But the wife did not keep the appointment. She remained in the house and in her stead three men sought the well and in the darkness lay in wait for Meeks. As he approached Davenport, who was one of the three and was waiting, armed with an army gun, shot him in the breast. The wound was not fatal and the would be murderer, joined with his victim, in a scuffle, which was terminated by one of the other men, who seized the gun and reversing it, crushed in the skull of the victim with a heavy blow with its stock. The third man stood looking on but took no active part in the struggle. The only other eye witness was a negro named Bill Brock who had been impressed to help in the bloody work, but that the deed was known to others was shown when a wild shriek followed the discharge of the gun, issuing from the interior of the house. It was the cry of the wife at the death knell of the husband she had betrayed.

The murder was accomplished; what should be done with the body was the question. The three accomplices aided by the negro hurriedly carried the body off into the woods four or five hundred yards. Tools hastily picked up were plied with feverish impatience and a hole, shallow and without semblance of a grave, was excavated in the depth of the wood. The corpse was thrown in and the dirt piled over it, the dead man's hat having been first placed over his face. One murderer stood on the grave as his fellow ghouls, threw on the dirt and packed it down. (To be continued in the next issue.)

HAVE YOU JOINED OUR CHAPTER FOR 1996?

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our deepest sympathy to Hubert Campbell on the recent death of his father.

Thelma Wilson continues to have health problems and requests our prayers.

Margaret Coker took a trip to Philadelphia and while sightseeing, tripped on uneven payment in front of Independence Hall, fell and broke her wrist. She was taken to Pennsylvania Hospital, the first hospital in the United States, where she was treated and then rejoined her tour to enjoy the rest of the trip.

HONORS

The President's Commission on the Status of Women is sponsoring a 40th anniversary celebration of Co-Education at Clemson on March 26 through 28, 1996 at Clemson with special recognition to the 1st women graduates. Special exhibits will be at Cooper Library and the Special Collections Archives at Strom Thurmond Institute. Congratulations to our own Margaret Coker. The first woman to attend Clemson University and Clemson's first female Graduate.

THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN USING THE CENSUS RECORDS

- 1. Don't believe census indexes to be either correct or complete.
- 2. Don't assume the spelling of the name is as you know it is now.
- 3. Don't assume the relationship to the head of household is as it is used now.
- 4. Don't forget to copy ALL the information at the top of the page, as well as the data to the right.
- 5. Don't forget all entries for your name in the county, better look at the neighbors too. (Four Smiths in a row with a Jones could mean a married daughter and family.)
- 6. Don't think records before 1850 can't help; only name of household- at least you'll know how many to look for for a whole family.
- 7. Don't forget 1880+ records when you are stuck in the 1880's.
- 8. Don't forget the 1890 Veteran's Census if your ancestor was in the military.
- 9. Don't forget about STATE Census records.

Credit - Old Pendleton Genealogical Society Newsletter

The next four pages continue the 1850 Mortality Census for Anderson County that we started in the previous issue of the <u>Anderson Record</u>.

Schedule 3. - Persons who Died during the Year ending 1st June, 1850, in Eastern Sub Division in the Dist of Anderson, State of South Carolina, enumerated by me J. S. Acker, Ass't Marshal.

1	2 3 4 5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.Mary C Low	6/M F		So Carolina	June		Croup	7 days
2.Jordan Hood	26 M	M	Do	May	Mechanic	Unknown	8 days
3.Moses Chamblee) Cresa	23 F B S		Do	April		11	10 days
4. ") Infant	1/M F B S		Do	March		ti	7 days
5. ") Matthew	1 M B S		Do	May		Croup	22 days
6.John E. Martin	12 M		Do	August		Accident	Sudden
7.Gabril Kay	57 M	M	Do	March	Farmer	Palsy	7 days
8.M. Roberts) Hellen	28 F B S		Do	December		Tyfoid Fever	8 days
9. ") George	2 M B S		Do	July	-	Dysentary	2 weeks
10. ") Infant	1/M M B S		Do	Dec		Unknown	2 days
11.Nancy Griffin	12 F		Do	June		Dropsey	1 year
12.James King) Mary	1 F B S		Do	Dec		Croup	5 days
13.Wm Hanks) Matthew	6/M M B S		Do	May		"	1 day
14.Nancy Earskin	89 F	W	Ireland	Oct		Dropsey	6 months
15.James Shumate) Isaac	11/M M B S		So Carolina	Nov		Tyfoid Fever	9 days
16.Joseph Case) Infant	1/M M B S		Do	Febry		Unknown	7 days
17. Cooley	1/M F		Do	Aug		11	12 days
18.Emily Criemer	30 F		Do	March		Newmonia	7 days
19.Peter Johnson) Perry	11/M M B S		Do	Febry		II	20 days
20. Hiram James	33 M		Do	Sept	Farmer	Tyfoid Fever	15 days
21.Artimesea Telford	3/M F		Do	11		Unknown	17 days
22.Sarah A. J. Hamby	1/M F		Do	0ct		11	1 day
23.John H. Williams	8/M M		Do	March		Measles	4 days
24.W. A. William) David	5/M M B S		Do	0ct		Unknown	3 days
25.Martha Scott	54 F	M	Do	Sept		11	10 days
26.Sarah Jane Beco?	1/M F		Do	June		11	2 days
27.Wm Sitton) William	3/M M B S		Do	Aug		11	1 day
28.R. Blassingam) Caroline	26 F B S		Do	June		11	2 days
29.Louisa E. Kay	9/M F		Do	Decem		11	6 days
30.Nancy R. Dobbins	1 F		Do	June		Dysentery	1 week
31.John Robertson	36 M	M	Do			Dropsy	10 days
32.William Jolly	48 M	M	Do			Palsy	4 years
33.David Davison	20 M B		Do	July	Laborer	Tyfoid Fe	2 weeks
34.Griffin Brazeal) Jake	47 M B S		Do	May		Unknown	5 months
35.W. Brezeal) Milly	3 F B S		Do	August		Accident	Sudden

Schedule 3. Persons who Died during the year ending 1st June, 1850, in Eastern Sub Dividion in the Dist of Anderson, State of South Carolina, enumerated by me J. S. Acker, Ass't Marshal.

1	2	3 4	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.W Breazeal) Susan	2	F B		So Carolina	Jan		Unknown	2 days
Eugenia Breazeal	11/	1 F		Do			New Monia	5 days
Kinnon Breazeal) Joe	80	M B	S	North Carolina	11	Farmhand	Old Age	•
4. ")Newton	5/M	M B	S	So Carolina	11		New Monia	2 days
5.James Willson)Infant		M B	5	Do	11		Still Born	•
John A. Dacus) Jefferson	8/M	M B	5	Do	March		Croup	2 days
7.Martha Harper	70	F	W	North Carolina	Sept		Unknown	6 months
8. Smith	1/M	F		So Carolina	August		†I	1 day
9.Charles W. Clardy	4/M	M		Do	Nov		Hives	2 days
10.John Clardy) Warren	3/M	M B	3	Do	June		Unknown	1 day
11.Benjamin Dowthit?) Sam	1/M	M B	3	Do	April		New Monia	1 week
12.Givins	1/M	M		Do	Dec		Unknown	1 day
13.Daniel Kelly	66	M		Georgia	August	Farmer	Consumption	2 years
14. Moore		M		So Carolina	11		Still Born	1
15.Wm Martin) Peter	18	M B S	3	Do	December		D Palsey	8 weeks
16.) Frasier	1/M	F		Do	August		Unknown	3 days
17. Thomas W. Hamilton	21	M		Do	October	Farmer	Typhoid Fev	9 days
18.R. N. Neal	9/M	F		Do	II .		Fits	2 days
19.Elisha Lewis	66	M	M	Do	Febry	Farmer	Inflamation	2 days
20.Rebecca Love?) Caroline	11	F B S	3	Do	Sept		Tyfoid Fever	10 days
21.Margaret R. Simpson	6	F		Do	June		Fluse?	11 days
22.William James	84	M	M	Do	II	Cooper	Tyfoid Fev	12 days
23.Mary J. Willson	1	F		Do	Nov	•	New Monia	3 weeks
24. Sarah	26	F B S	3	Do	Jan		11	1 week
25.Permelia Briant	35	F	M	Do	June		Unknown	1 day
26.Caroline Briant	8	F		Do	March		New Monia	5 days
27. James	1/M	M		Do	11		11	2 days
28. Harvey	14	M B S		Do	Dec		Scroffula	1 year
29. Caroline	11	F B S	5	Do	March		New Monia	2 months
30.Martha J. Brewer	1	F		Do	August		Tyfoid Fever	1 month
31.Tabbitha Brewer	24	F	М	Do	Febry		In Child Birth	1 day
32.William Rodgers	83	M	W	North Carolina	0ct	Farmer	Unknown	4 months
33.E Land) Mary	12	F B S		So Carolina	Dec		Crampled	1 day
34.James W. McMurry	15	M		Do	Febry		Dropsey	4 days
35.Susan McMahon	86	F	W	Georgia	Jan		Palsey	-

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BIRTHDATE CALCULATION - (The 8870 formula)

Using the 8870 formula to ascertain a birth date can be a tremendous help to the genealogist when checking tombstone (or other early) dates. If a record shows that a person died May 6, 1889 and was 71 yrs, 7 mos, and 9 days old...one has only to use the 8870 formula to quickly get the date of birth rather than taking the time to count backwards.

Death date Subtract	18890506	(year, month, day)
Subcrace	$\frac{710709}{18179797}$	(age at death)
Subtract	$\frac{8870}{18170927}$	(Constant) Born 1817 Sept 27
Credit - Old Pendleton G	enealogical So	ciety Newsletter
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