









## I. THE NAME IN SCOTLAND

The Scottish city of Perth in Perthshire is located at the head of the Firth of Tay. About eight miles to the east and a little south of the Firth is the rural village of Abernethy. Its origins are unknown, but the Romans, who never conquered and occupied any part of Scotland, did penetrate some parts of Caledonia, and Roman foundations have been unearthed at Abernethy. That the place was of continuing importance is indicated by the fact that it is shown on Ptolemy's map which the great Alexandrian made during the second century A.D. Here it is given the name of "Orrea", which is Greek for granary. During the Roman occupation, which extended somewhat beyond the first four centuries of the Christian era, Britain exported grain, lead, iron, copper, and pottery, along with oysters and various other items. In 410 A.D. Alaric, the Visigoth, sacked Rome and thereafter the regime of the emperors rapidly crumbled in Britain. With one exception, little was left but roads and ruins to remind posterity of Roman rule. This exception was the Christian religion.

While, during the fifth century, the barbarous Germanic tribes were conquering Italy, some of them - notably the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes - invaded and occupied most of what is now England, but did not get farther north than the Firth of Forth. During this period, northeastern Scotland was inhabited by a heathen Celtic people, called Picts because they painted their bodies, as did the American Indians. The Hebrides and the Argyll Peninsula were occupied by another group of Celts who came over from Ireland. They called themselves Scots and were organized into clans. Roman Christianity had not died out in Ireland, but it was a minor factor until a Welsh missionary, St. Patrick (373? - 463?), infused new life into the Church and sent missionaries to other lands. The most famous of these was St. Columba. In the year 563 A.D., with twelve companions, he joined the migrating Scots and established a monastery on the Island of Iona, one of the inner Hebrides. This grew to be an institution of much importance and for a long time was the intellectual center of the Church in North Britain. Many missionaries were sent out from Iona, and by establishing monastic churches at Abernethy, St. Andrews, and a few other places, they succeeded in christianizing the Picts. Their establishments consisted of a rectangular stone church surrounded by "beehive" cells for between 150 and 3,000 monks, the whole enclosed by a thick wall for purposes of protection (1).

A remarkable feature of the church at Abernethy is the round tower, said to have been built in 850 A.D. It is seventythree feet high and has an interior dimension of eight and a half feet at the base. There is only one other like it on the mainland of Scotland, though there are seventy-six still standing in Ireland. (2). This is an indication of the close relationship between Iona and Abernethy, both of which were founded by Irish missionaries and did not come under the jurisdiction of Rome until after the Council of Whitby, 664 A.D. These towers, though always built in connection with churches, did not at first serve as campaniles because large bells were not cast until after 1200 A.D. On the contrary, they served as watchtowers to guard against Viking raids (3). In fact, by 851 A.D., Iona and much of western Scotland were occupied by the Norsemen while Pictland repulsed them, and for some time its churches served as refuges for those Irish Christians who held out against the supremacy of Rome.

During these years Abernethy became, not only the center of Pictish Christianity, but the political capital of Pictland as well. King Gartnaida MacDomneth, who succeeded to the Pictish throne in 584 A.D., built a royal residence here and also, about 590 A.D., erected a stone church to replace the primitive one which King Nectan had built in the year 460 A.D. (4). It was, in fact, from Nectan that the place derived its final name. After the period of Roman rule, Ptolemy's Greek name "Orrea" gave way to "Carpow", the Pictish word for grain port, but when King Nectan built his monastic church there, the name was changed to "Abernethy"; "aber" being Pictish for "meeting of the waters", and "nethy" being for the King; also for a small stream which flowed into the Firth of Tay at that point. However, the stream is hardly a trickle now, and the village is more than a mile from the Firth.

These were the great days for Abernethy, but they were destined not to last. After the Council of Whitby, The Roman Church gradually captured the strongholds of Irish Christianity, including Abernethy, but the royal residence remained here until, in 1272, it was moved to Forteviot, and later to nearby Scone. Meanwhile, some important events had transpired. Duncan, then a young man, was King of Scotland from 1034 to 1040, but his right to the throne was contested by Macbeth, the Earl of Moray. In a battle fought near Elgin, Duncan was defeated and killed and Macbeth became King of Scotland. He reigned for seventeen years and appears to have made a good King.

Meanwhile, Duncan's son Malcolm fled to England and took refuge at the Court of Edward the Confessor. After seventeen years in exile, Malcolm mustered an army, partly English and partly Scottish, and, marching against Macbeth, defeated and slew him. Thus in 1057 Malcolm III (called "Canmore") became King of Scotland. When Edward the Confessor died in 1066, the succession to the throne of England was contested between Harold, Earl of Wessex, and William, Duke of Normandy. Six years after William defeated Harold at the famous battle of Hastings, he moved against Scotland with both an army and a fleet. Crossing the Firth of Forth without opposition, he confronted Malcolm at Abernethy. There the two Kings made a treaty in which Malcolm agreed to accept William as his overlord. Thus peace was maintained for a time, but under William's successors there were frequent wars between the two kingdoms (5). When the royal residence was removed from Abernethy in 1272, the place lost its importance, but meanwhile its name had been assumed by a family which was prominent in Scotland for several centuries (6).

Malcolm Canmore and his Queen Margaret ruled Scotland from 1057 to 1093. Their eldest son, Ethelred, was the Earl of Fife and is the first who is known to have used the surname "Abernethie", thus spelled because there was no "y" in the Gaelic alphabet. Though there is no documentary proof of the fact, it appears logical that when Ethelred became King of Scotland, his title as Earl of Fife devolved upon his eldest son, and that a still junior scion of the family was made Lay Abbot of the Monastic Church of Abernethy. This title carried the ownership of the lands belonging to the Church but involved no ecclesiastical functions.

If this surmise is correct, it would tend to explain why the shield in the armorial bearings of the Scottish Kings, the Earls of Fife, and the Abernethy family all feature the red lion rampant on a field of gold, but in the case of the Abernethy arms, the shield is "brushed with a black ribbon" - a diagonal band crossing from right to left. This feature was evidently added merely to distinguish it from that of the Earls of Fife.

Butler states (7) that: "In the twelfth century the Abernethy family emerges as the Lay Abbots of the Culdee /Irish Christian/ Monastery of Abernethy. Its members exercised great territorial rights, and presently assumed the title of Lords of Abernethy. "He furthermore says that, "In the last chapter we have seen that the Lord of Abernethy, the Earl of Fife, and the Priest of Wadele were the three supreme judges in connection with the law of Clan Macduff; some close blood connection seems to have existed between the Lord of Abernethy and the Earl of Fife, for the armorial bearings of the two families support the relationship" (8).

Ethelred, the first Earl of Fife and the first known to have adopted the surname "Abernethy", was succeeded by his son, Sir Alexander, who in turn was succeeded by his son, Sir Hugh (9). Hugh lived during the reigns of the Scottish Kings Alexander I, David I, and Malcolm the Maiden, and died about the middle of the twelfth century. He was succeeded by his son Orm, who was an influential figure during the reigns of Malcolm IV and William the Lion. He died between 1180 and 1190, and was succeeded by his son Lawrence. The historian Butler explains that: "It was during this time that the title of 'Lay Abbot' disappeared" between 1189 and 1199. "He /Lawrence/ conveyed to the Abbey and Monks of Arbroath his whole right in the advowson of the Church of Abernethy with its pertinents, and half of all the tithes which belonged to him and his heirs, and styled himself Lord of the Lordship or Manor of Abernethy; and while granting to Arbroath his privileges of Abbot, he retains the land and becomes a great secular Lord, the Head of the Baronial House of Abernethy" (10). Thus while gaining a title of nobility and retaining his lands, Lawrence lost the perquisites of his position as Lay Abbot. "But what has especially to be emphasized at present is, that the Lay Abbot was not deprived of the dominium or lordship which he possessed as Abbot, but retained his position as Dominus or Lord of Abernethy" (11).

The position of Lawrence de Abernethy in the Kingdom "seems to have been one of great influence and importance, for in 1244 he accompanied his sovereign to the meeting with Henry III of England at York, and was one of the barons who swore to the observance of the peace there concluded between the two Kings. He died not long thereafter and was succeeded by his son Patrick, ---." (12). Patrick died before 1257 without having made much of an impression on his contemporaries. He was succeeded by his son Hugh, whose career in a troubled generation was not without incident. When Alexander III, who was then only eight years of age, succeeded to the throne of Scotland, he fell under the influence of King Henry III of England, whose daughter he presently married. A period of tyranny and corruption followed, which finally resulted, on October 29th, 1257, in the abduction of the young King by a group of Scottish leaders, including Hugh de Abernethy. They surprised Alexander at Kinross during the night and carried him away to Stirling Castle. At the same time they seized the Great Seal of the Kingdom, but the young King did not resent this intrusion and later conferred honors upon his abductors, including Sir Hugh (13).

Upon the death of Alexander III in 1285, a regency was formed to govern the Kingdom until the arrival of his heir, and Duncan, Earl of Fife, was appointed one of the six regents. There followed another period of great disorder and lawlessness. On April 7th, 1288, Duncan was waylaid and murdered by Sir Patrick Abernethy and Sir Walter Percy, supported by Sir William Abernethy, who guarded another road along which the Earl might have passed, but it was Sir Hugh Abernethy, the head of the family, who actually fomented this plot. The motives which prompted it are not of record, but the assassins were immediately apprehended and Sir Walter Percy was condemned to death, while Sir William Abernethy was committed to prison in Douglas Castle, where he died. It is probable that Sir Hugh shared the same fate, while Sir Patrick fled to France and there ended his days (14).

Sir Alexander Abernethy succeeded his father, Sir Hugh, in the lordship. In 1301 he supported the cause of Scottish independence, but he soon deserted that party and became liegeman of Edward I of England, who trusted him as one of his strongest allies. He did not join Sir Robert Bruce when Bruce asserted his right to the Scottish throne in 1306, but espoused the English side. From 1303 to 1310 Sir Alexander was the English warden of the district between the Firth of Forth and the Highlands. In 1312 he was one of the ambassadors sent on a mission from Edward II of England to Pope Clement V. When King Robert I mounted the throne of Scotland, the lands which Sir Alexander Abernethy held in that Kingdom were forfeited, and the last that is heard of him is when he witnessed a charter in 1315.

Despite this forfeiture, and in the absence of male heirs,

Sir Alexander's estate devolved upon his three daughters, Margaret, Helen, and Mary, who "are the real link with present day title-bearers of the name: Margaret married George Douglas, Earl of Angus, Helen married Sir Donald Lindsay, Earl of Crawford, and Mary married Andrew de Leslie, Earl of Rothes. From Margaret the present Countess of Home /now Earl of Home/ is descended in direct line, and in her / his / charter chest at Douglas in Lanarkshire are the original charters, coats-of-arms and flags of Abernethie"(15). From Mary, Sir Andrew de Leslie and his successors, the Earls of Rothes, acquired the Baronies of Ballinbreich, Fife, Caerny, Parth, and Rothes in County Elgin. So important were these acquisitions that the Earl of Rothes quartered the Abernethy arms with his own (16).

The senior male line of the Abernethy family having failed, the title was later bestowed upon the descendants of William, second son of Sir Patrick Abernethy. In 1445, Sir Lawrence, twelfth in descent from Orm, became the first Baron Saltoun. The last to bear the baronial title of Abernethy was Alexander, ninth Lord Saltoun (1611-1668). He left no issue, and the chief male line of the ancient house became extinct at his death. Although cadet families of the name flourished for several subsequent generations, they have all lost their estates or failed in the male line, and the name as such is no longer borne by any outstanding family in Scotland (17).



"Charles City -- extended over a large tract of Country, till it, too, became the name of an original shire or county formed in 1634." Morgan P. Robinson, Virginia Counties, Bulletin of the Virginia State Library, Vol. IX, (Richmond, 1916), p. 177. It included much of the territory shown here, and also an area north of the James River.

## **II. VIRGINIA ANCESTORS**

The first of our Abernethy ancestors arrived in Virginia in 1652. No information as to his background is available, but the date and circumstances of his coming are significant. At the beginning of the Civil War in England, 1642-1652, the Scots took the side of Parliament against King Charles I, but after the King was executed in 1649, they agreed to support Prince Charles against the military Dictator and his army of Independents (Puritans) on condition that Charles sanction their Presbyterian establishment. The issue was determined when Cromwell crushed the Scots in the battles of Dunbar, September 3, 1650, and Worcester, September 3, 1651, in which the Scottish armies were completely destroyed. General David Leslie commanded the Scots at Dunbar, and since the Abernethys were a sept of the Leslie clan, they must have been involved in this disaster. At Worcester Leslie and many of his men were captured, but Charles, who had been crowned at Scone on January 1, 1651, escaped to France after six weeks of thrilling adventures (18). The prisoners taken in these engagements were, by order of Cromwell's Council of State, divided into three classes: the common soldiers were to be paroled and permitted to return to their homes; non-commissioned officers and officers below the rank of captain were to be transported to the colonies. Highlanders, captains and field officers, as well as members of the landed gentry were to be sent to the Tower (19). Since at this time Scotland was a separate kingdom and its people did not have the privileges of English subjects, it was not legal for Scots to migrate to the colonies. Thus the only legal method of entry would have been as convicts or prisoners of war. In any case, the fact that Robert Abernethy arrived in Virginia in the year 1652 is significant. It would seem to indicate clearly that he came as a prisoner of war. He was sold as an indentured servant, as would have been the fate of captives who were to be transported.

Most indentured servants were persons who, wishing to come to America, but unable to pay the cost of their passage, agreed with someone - often a merchant or ship captain - to transport them on condition that their services would be sold to someone in the colonies for a period of five years. At the end of this term of indenture, the erstwhile servant became a freeman with all the privileges of citizenship. There were cases when families of good standing indentured their younger sons in order that they might later acquire estates and live as gentlemen in the colonies. But Robert Abernethy was presumably taken prisoner at Dunbar or Worcester, sold as an indentured servant, and shipped to Virginia to become an agricultural laborer for a period of five years (20).

It was just five years after his entry that Robert first appears in the records as a freeman. Then, on April 3, 1657, he and his wife, Sara, entered a petition to the court of Charles City County stating that: "These presents witness that I Robt Aberneathy do consent & agree that my now wife Sara Aberneda, petitioner, do make unto her child Sara Cubigge (?) one cow called Goodleaf & a heyfer called Browne and another heyfer called Ivy to remaine for the use and good of her child, and if it please God to call this child by death, then the next child to succeed heire to its sister, and this we desire to be recorded in court.

> "witness our hands this 3d of April, 1657 Robert x. Aberneathie His R mark Sara Abernathie (21). Her S mark"

It is not surprising that both Robert and Sara were illiterate, for neither in England nor Virginia was an education to be taken for granted in the seventeenth century, and in Scotland an English education was probably even harder to come by. As for the educational situation in the Colony, this document, drawn up by the clerk of Charles City County was so illegible that it was necessary to call on two experts to decipher it! Of course the clerk in this and many other cases wrote out the names and one finds great variation in the spelling. In Scotland it was always spelled "Abernethy", or, in early years, "Abernethie". It is significant that Robert's name is here spelled "Aberneathie" and Sara's "Abernathie". It must be that Robert pronounced the "e" as though it were an "a", and in practically all the early records in both Virginia and North Carolina the name is spelled "Abernathy".

This first Robert, though belonging to a distinguished family, arrived in Virginia without purse or script, but he was apparently enterprising and made, presumably a good marriage. Because of the depredations of the British during the Revolution and the Yankees during the Confederate War, a large part of Virginia's early records were destroyed, but there is still sufficient evidence to show that Robert was a respected, though not a prominent person. Even before the "cow document" was recorded, he obtained, on January 3, 1656, a judgment against a man by the name of Armstrong (22). In 1657 he paid a tax of fifty pounds of tobacco, which was obviously a poll tax, indicating that, at the time, he had no real property and no slaves or servants (23). Yet he was not without credit, for within the same year he was ordered to pay 340 pounds of tobacco to Captain Thomas Stegge for the estate of the late George Armstrong (24). Even more significant is a court order of December 3, 1661, by which, with the consent of Martha, relict of David Ramsey, her son Patrick was indentured to Robert until he reached the age of twenty-one (25). Early the next year Robert was made a member of a jury of inquest to decide on the cause of death in a problematical case (26).

It seems clear that Robert owned land before there is any official record of it, for on January 25, 1665, Patrick Jackson sold a tract bounded on the west by the Poplar Branch, and on the north by the land of Robert Abernethy (27); then, on the following March 7th, Robert purchased one hundred acres at the head of Poplar Run (a stream which has not been found on any available map) on the south side of James River in Charles City County (28). The county records show that, less than a month later, James Wallace received full payment from Robert Abernethy for the cattle and gun that he had had in his keeping, this being the property of Patrick Ramsay, who as an orphan, had been indentured to him (29). In June of the same year, Robert was made a member of another jury to determine the cause of death in another problematical case (30). After this, we know nothing more of him until he died in 1685 (31).

Apparently this first Robert had only one son, also named Robert, who was probably born about 1660, and whose career is but scantily documented. In 1704 he is recorded as having owned one hundred acres of land, as had his father (32), and in 1717 he acquired another hundred acres adjoining the land of Major Robert Munford on Sapponi Creek in Prince George County (33). In 1722 he rented twenty-five adjoining his home place on the Horsepen Branch of Sapponi Creek. He married Christine Tillman, and they had a son, the third Robert, the date of whose birth is not recorded (34). On May 2, 1727, the vestry of Bristol Parish, Prince George County, ordered that Robert Abernethy and Charles Sturdivant be relieved from the payment of taxes (35). This privilege was commonly accorded to men who were too old to work, and we have no further record of the second Robert Abernethy.

His son, the third Robert, who was probably born about 1690, was more enterprising than his father, especially in the matter of acquiring lands. His first acquisition came in 1727, when he bought fifty-two acres on Moccasin Neck Creek, adjoining the property of John and George Tillman. At the same time he acquired eighty acres on Buckskin Creek and 197 acres on Sturgeon Run, a tributary of the Nottoway River, not far south of the James River in Prince George County. Ten years later he bought 312 acres on both sides of Little Cattail Run, and in 1739 he acquired 376 acres on Sapponi Creek. Thus, between 1727 and 1739, he added more than 1,000 to his estate, all in the vicinity of his previous holdings in Prince George County. There is no record of his activities after 1739, but with an estate of more than twelve hundred acres, he must have been a man of some standing.

Apparently he was married only once. The given name of his wife was Mary, but we have no record of her family name. There were five children: Mary, born in 1721; John, born two years later, and David, born in 1725. Members of David's family, who were fairly prominent in their communities, migrated, first to Lincoln County, North Carolina, and then to Giles County, Tennessee (36). After David there were two daughters, Elizabeth and Amy, who were born in 1730 and 1732 respectively (37).

It is John who is our ancestor. We have only meager records concerning him, but he continued to live in the same neighborhood as did his father. In 1756 he bought 297 acres on Sturgeon Run, south of the Nottoway River in Brunswick County. In 1768 he acquired eighty acres on Beaverdam Creek, which was nearby, but on the north side of the River in Dinwiddie County. Being fiftythree years of age when the Revolutionary War broke out, John did not serve in the army, but on two occasions in 1782, at which time he owned one slave, he furnished the armed forces with supplies (38). In 1773 he sold a tract of land on Beaverpond Branch, Dinwiddie County, and in 1792 he disposed of another tract of ninetyseven acres on Sturgeon Run to his son Charles for  $\pm$  50. Finally, in 1811, he sold another tract of 136 acres in Brunswick County. When, at the age of ninety, he died in 1813, his holdings in real estate amounted to 182 acres (39). His will, dated February 17, 1812, and recorded October 27, 1813, made his son John his sole executor and left him  $\pounds$  25 as compensation for board and clothing while living with him. The remainder of the estate was to be divided equally among his children or their heirs, and it is significant that four of the former had married members of the Harwell family (40). Unfortunately, we do not have the family name of his first wife Lucy, nor that of his second wife, Mildred. We also lack the date of birth of his son John, our ancestor (41).

The second John was married three times, his first wife having been named Mary (Brown?), and the first record we have of them is that in 1773 they sold a tract of land on Beaverpond Branch in Dinwiddie County. There is no record of military service during the Revolutionary War, but shortly thereafter John is recorded as having owned two slaves. In 1792 he bought one hundred acres on Couch's Run, for which he paid £ 50, and afterward he witnessed the will of his brother Charles of Brunswick County. This will was probated in 1796, with John and his oldest brother Frederick serving as securities for Charles's widow, Elizabeth. John and Mary had three children: Henry, Nancy, and Patsy. Mary died before February 1, 1809, when John married Nancy Kelly (42), who was the mother of Raleigh, Abby, Lucy, and Elizabeth. Nancy died before April 25, 1814, when John married his third wife, Molly King (43).

On April 24, 1815, he deeded to Molly: three slaves, two fine chests, two feather beds, some miscellaneous furniture, and "such other trifling things as she had when married and such as may be at his house after his death". At the same time he deeded one Negro girl and some furniture to his daughters Elizabeth and Abby. To his son Raleigh Harwell he deeded ninety-five acres of land on Couch's River, reserving occupancy for his own lifetime (44).

On June 25, 1816, John made a will bequeathing to his wife Molly and daughter Elizabeth the plantation on which he lived. They were also to have the Negroes Dinah and Bob. After the death or marriage of these heirs, the lands and slaves were to go to Raleigh, to whom he also bequeathed the Negro man named Lewis. One slave named Jeffrey was to go to his <u>son Henry</u>, and several others to his daughters Nancy and Patsy <u>/Elizabeth</u>/ Brown. One Negro named Joe was to go to his daughter Abby Short, and another to his daughter Lucy Booth. The remainder of his property was to go to his wife during her lifetime, or until she should remarry; after that it was to be equally divided among all his children. He appointed his son Raleigh to be sole executor, and the will was witnessed by Bradford Burge, William Gee and John Dixon (45).

This second John, in our line, died in Brunswick County, Virginia, in 1824, and his estate was appraised on November 22 of the same year. In addition to lands and slaves, it included such items as eight horses, four chests of drawers, one cupboard, eleven rush-bottom chairs, several mirrors, and caraffe stand, one gun, playing cards, and "1 parcel Brandy". This appraisal was certified by John F. W. Merritt, John Dixon, and Joshua Lucy as securities for Raleigh H. Abernethy, executor. The property was sold, presumably at auction, on February 1, 1825. It may be of some interest to note that three members of the Lucy family of Brunswick County, which may have been connected with the Sir Thomas Lucy who had prosecuted Shakespeare for poaching on his lands, married members of the Abernethy family of the same Virginia County (45a).

We do not have the date of birth of John's son Henry, who is our ancestor. We do know that, on December 10, 1796, he married Rebecca Firth, daughter of the widow Sarah Firth (46). On September 4, 1811, Henry bought 140 acres on Couch's Run, near his father's place in Brunswick County, for £ 235/13/6 (47). He evidently planned to make Virginia his permanent home, but two years later, probably because of the depletion of Tidewater soils and the economic effects of the War of 1812, he decided to take part in the great migration to the West. A number of his relatives had previously moved to Lincoln County, North Carolina, where twenty-two of them were living in 1790 (48). Some of these had gone on to Giles County, Tennessee, as had a considerable group from the homeland in Brunswick County. Deciding to join this colony of his kinfolk, Henry sold his homestead for \$746.00 on September 27, 1813, the deed being witnessed by Joshua Lucy, Herbert Hill, and Richard Stith (49).

## III. THE ALABAMA FAMILY

Near Elkton and Bethel in southern Giles County, Henry and Rebecca brought up their large family consisting of six sons and six daughters, namely: John, Thomas Smith, Robert, Burwell, Coleman, and Samuel, as well as Harriet, Panthea, Mildred, Jane, and Lucy, with one name unknown (50). Because of the fact that the Giles County courthouse burned some years ago, we have only limited information as to Henry's activities. In 1815 and again the next year the county court appointed him an overseer of roads (51). In 1817 he sold one hundred acres of land in the county, and again in 1819 he disposed of an additional tract of 118 acres. This is the last public record that has survived, but Henry's son Thomas Smith, who was born in Brunswick County in 1803, has supplied some additional information. Since he was ten years of age when he and his father's family left Virginia, he said that he retained a distinct recollection of his grandfather and his great-grandfather, both of whom were named John, and they both lived and died in Brunswick County, Virginia. He said they were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Henry and Rebecca were also Methodists. He further stated that his parents lived for nearly half a century and that all their twelve children lived to maturity. Yet we do not know when either Henry or Rebecca died or where they are buried (52).

Thomas Smith continued to live under the parental roof until, in 1824, he became of age. He then decided to make religion his profession - quite an innovation in the family - and joined the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was at once transferred to the Mississippi Conference, which included southwestern Alabama and held its annual meeting at Tuscaloosa on December 22, 1824. Having been admitted on trial, young Thomas was assigned as junior pastor of the Marion circuit, which included all the central basin of the Tombigbee River (53).

Making his home in Dayton, Marengo County, Alabama, he continued for the next fifty years to serve as circuit rider and pastor, and was one of the charter members of the Alabama Conference when it was first organized at Tuscaloosa in 1832 (54). A considerable part of this pioneer circuit rider's territory lay in the fertile Black Belt which was being settled rapidly by cotton planters, but the Choctaw Indians still inhabited some territory in southwestern Alabama and frontier conditions persisted in many areas outside the Indian reservation. Thomas Smith's eldest son. Dr. William Henry Abernethy, has left an account of his father's experiences in this borderland, which he says was "sparsely settled by roving bands of Choctaw Indians and scattered neighborhoods of white settlers from the older states, these being largely intermingled with North Carolina Scotch families and all chiefly engaged in cattle raising. Intersperced with these were plenty of outlaws who had fled from other states for prudential reasons.

"Setting out to reach his first circuit, the frontier preacher had no roads to travel, but had to follow Indian trails and cow paths most of the time. After some days he got lost in the woods, his horse got sick and he had to walk and lead him. He was in an unsettled country, and for six days he did not get a particle of food nor did he see a human being. He was sick himself, as well as starved, and he thought death was inevitable ---. On the sixth day while reflecting on the chances of relief he caught the sound of a tapping noise off to one side of his path. Going out to it, he found a blind old Indian chopping splinters with which to kindle a fire at his camp nearby. The preacher, knowing enough Indian language to talk a little, made his wants known. The old fellow said he had 'tater heap' and would sell them". At the Indian camp Thomas bartered a pair of cotton drawers for half a dozen small potatoes and while he was roasting them the old Indian put on the drawers, " and jumped and danced, and laughed, delighted at the imaginary triumph he would make over the young bucks at a frolic to come off soon.

"Thus refreshed, Tho' sick and very hungry yet, he (Thomas) resumed his weary way, and in another day he reached the first white settlement and was taken care of by a good old Scotch family until he and horse could recuperate. One night while there, he was awakened by a great noise and outcry by a gang of people in the yard. Hastily donning his clothes he went out to ascertain the cause. 'The end of time had come; - the world was afire and in a few minutes all would be consumed. Oh! pray for us, preacher, pray for us, for God's sake, or we are lost!' This was too much; he had never saved a world, had never seen one saved from fire, sin or anything else. He knew that Noah's bow in the clouds was a pledge of safety from water forever, and that we were promised a fiery exit next time. But why it should break out in south Mississippi where only a few Indians and Scotch families lived, he could not understand, and to say the least of it, it was not where he would have begun the job.

"But so it was, the fire was in sight and getting nearer every minute - a tremendous blaze. Well, the world was not burned that night, as every body knows. A little inquiry showed that some careless hunters out over the hills had set fire to the woods, and its blaze had caused all the trouble." On another occasion, while preaching to an apparently interested congregation, a small, white-haired boy poked his head in the door and piped out: "Jobe, your bees is a swarming". Instantly the whole congregation rushed out pell mell, men, women, and children, to see the swarming bees, and it was impossible to reassemble the congregation that day." (55).

Thomas Smith Abernethy was married three times: first to Martha W. Lucy, in 1827, of the related Virginia family; second, to Martha's sister (or cousin) Eleanor in 1842, and last to Ellen Collins Lordin of Mobile in 1851. He died in Dayton in 1882 and his grave there is marked by a handsome obelisk. The simple but traditionally dignified church over which he presided still stands as a memorial to "the days gone by". (56).

Martha Lucy, the first wife, was born in Marengo County, the daughter of Burwell Lucy and Jane Welsh. Jane was born and married in Chesterfield County, South Carolina, and died in Marengo County, Alabama. Her will is recorded in Will Book A, p. 178, September 25, 1845, Perry County Courthouse, Marion, Alabama. Burwell was the son of Isham Lucy, a French Huguenot, born about 1740, who migrated to Norfolk, Virginia, and later moved to North Carolina, where he acquired a plantation on the Pee Dee River in Richmond County and married Sarah Dickerson about 1765. During the Revolution, Isham Lucy served as a private in the Third North Carolina regiment, Captain Emmet's company. After the war he bought a plantation on the opposite side of the Pee Dee, in the Cheraw District of South Carolina, and was living there in 1790 (57).

On her mother's side Martha Lucy also had Revolutionary ancestry. Her grandmother, Jane Blakeney, 1766-1845, was born in Chesterfield County, South Carolina, married John Welsh, 1760-1835, and with him moved to Perry County, Alabama. They settled at a place called Muckle's Ridge, but John Welsh, along with six others, was elected to serve on a committee to rename the community and they decided to call it "Marion", for General Francis Marion of South Carolina (58).

Jane Blakeney's father was Captain John Blakeney, 1732-1832, who had been born at Blakeney, County Limerick, Ireland, and died in Charleston, South Carolina, but he had made his home in the Cheraw District since about 1760. Here he took an active part in local affairs and in 1773 was selected as an overseer of the poor of St. David's Parish, of which he was a vestryman. In 1774 he was a member of the South Carolina Provincial Congress, and on November 16, 1775, he was commissioned captain of militia and authorized to raise a company, which became a unit of Benton's regiment in General Francis Marion's brigade. Three of his sons also served in the armed forces during the Revolution. In 1960 descendants of Captain Blakeney erected a handsome monument to him at Dudley Church in Chesterfield County, South Carolina. The John Foster Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Monroe, North Carolina, sponsored the project and held a dedicatory service on June 8, 1960 (59).

The eldest son of the first Alabama Abernethy was named William Henry, 1828-1911, and he married Susan Rebecca Grayson of Marengo County in 1851. He was born into the Methodist Church and for sixty years was a member of the Masonic Order. He studied medicine and at the outbreak of the Confederate War volunteered his services, but was rejected three times on account of having been crippled by a fall from his horse. However, he served the Confederacy as a tax collector while, at the same time, practicing his profession. At the end of the war he moved from Clarke to Wilcox County, but in 1899 he moved to Flomaton, Escambia County, where, for some years, he practiced medicine in partnership with his son, Dr. William L. Abernethy. Meanwhile, in 1895, he became a Life Counsellor of the Alabama Medical Association. On December 3, 1911, he died and was buried at Flomaton.

He was survived by his wife, then in her seventy-ninth year, and by seven of their nineteen children. The surviving children were Lucy Owen, who married Edward W. Slaughter; Florence, who married Nathan G. Davis of Mobile; Nannie Adele, who married William Yancey Gordon of Flomaton, and is now (1965) the last surviving member of this branch of the family. Her son, Robert Gordon of Atmore, has furnished this and much additional information concerning the descendants of Thomas Smith Abernethy, Sr. The other children of Dr. William Henry and Susan Rebecca were Rufus Coleman, who married his cousin "Ala" (for Alabama) Perkins and whose daughter, Emma Hines Stallings, now lives in Jacksonville, Florida; Dr. William Lordin, on whose career no information is available; Mary Kate of Flomaton; and Reverend Thomas Young, a member of the Alabama Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church (60).

The second son of the circuit rider was our grandfather, Thomas Smith, Jr., and the third was Jones Cadwallader. The latter was born September 6, 1835, at Old Spring Hill, Marengo County, and died February 28, 1915, at Birmingham. After attending the common schools of his native county, he studied medicine at Nashville in 1856-57, and in 1859 was graduated from the medical department of Tulane University in New Orleans. Having undertaken the practice of his profession in Marengo County, he joined the Confederate Army on the outbreak of hostilities and was commissioned surgeon of the 32nd Alabama Infantry. Later he was surgeon of General H. D. Clayton's brigade, and finally chief surgeon of General Breckenridge's division during the Mississippi campaign. After the war, the doctor resumed his practice in his native county, but in 1882 he moved to Birmingham, then a young and rising industrial town. Here he was elected president of the Jefferson County Medical Association, and also Commander of Camp Hardee, United Confederate Veterans, of which he was one of the founders. He was also president of the "Surgeons of the Confederacy", United Confederate Veterans. In addition to being an outstanding Confederate veteran, he was a lifelong Democrat, Methodist, and Mason (61).

On August 31, 1858, he married Caroline, daughter of Thomas Barnet and Rebecca Mobley of Wilcox County. Their children were: James C. Jr., who married Cora Elizabeth Hughes of Houston, Texas; Huestis Barnett, who married Ninette Eugenie Wood of Birmingham; William H., who married Sarah Young, and Thomas Smith whose wife was Grace Dyer of Birmingham; Marie Antoinette, who married Charles Northington of Tuscaloosa; and Ellen Lauden, (or Lordin?) who married Henry Earle Parke of Sylvester, Georgia (62).

Their best-known son was Heustis, who was born in Wilcox County on December 11, 1872. His father having taken up his residence in Birmingham, Heustis attended the public schools there and was graduated from the local high school in 1886. Thereafter he studied at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now Auburn University, for two years and then went to Howard College in Birmingham for another year. Thereafter he studied law in private offices in Birmingham and was admitted to the bar in 1894. In 1900 he was elected justice of the peace, which office he held for three or four years, after which he was elected judge of the Inferior Court of Birmingham. Continuing in this office until 1908, he was then elected one of the judges of the Birmingham Court of Common Pleas. In 1916 he was appointed one of the judges of the Municipal Court of Birmingham, which office he held until 1919, when the legislature created the Jefferson County Court of Misdemeanors, and he was appointed judge of this tribunal. Meanwhile, in 1915, he was instrumental in founding the Negro Court of Arbitration, consisting of several leading citizens of both races, which served a useful and constructive purpose for twenty years.

For fourteen years Huestis was a member of the Democratic Executive Committee of Birmingham and twice served as its chairman. He was instrumental in bringing about the change from the aldermanic to the commission form of government for the city, and also in having the State constitution changed so as to allow the legislature to enable towns of more than 1,500 inhabitants to establish inferior courts to replace justices of the peace. In addition to being a Democrat and a Methodist, he was a member of the Knights Templar, a Shriner, an Odd Fellow, and a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. On September 20, 1912, he married Ninette E. Wood, daughter of Hornando De Soto and Corinne Pierce Wood of Huntsville (63).

Thomas Smith Abernethy, Jr., the second son of the pioneer Methodist preacher, was our grandfather. He was born in Marion, Perry County, Alabama, on May 11, 1832, and his life was a short and tragic one. We have no information as to his formal education, but judging by the only letter of his which survives and which will presently be transcribed, and also by the fact that in 1866 he served as secretary of the Mobile Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, he had a thorough, though limited education. In a preferatory note to a manuscript volume of "Sermon Notes", covering the years 1856-57 and 1861-63, he gives the following details: (1) Born May 11, '32 in Marion, Alabama; (2) Born again, Oct. 15, 1853, in Suggsville, Ala. at camp meeting; (3) Licensed to preach by the Camden  $\underline{/Quarterly//Conference/}$ , Dec. '53; (4) Admitted on trial in the Ala. Conf. at Talladega, Dec. 1854. In 1858 he was one of the traveling preachers who was ordained an elder (64).

A preface to the "Sermon Notes" gives a half-page "History of T. S. Abernethy, Jr.", which lists the places at which he was stationed, beginning with the "Navy Yard in Florida" in 1855, and ending with the Forkland (?) Church in Greene County, Alabama, in 1866. He makes no mention of service in the army of the Confederate States of America, but records in the National Archives in Washington show that the 41st regiment, Alabama Volunteers, was organized at Tuscaloosa on May 16, 1862, and on the same day was mustered into the Confederate service for three years or the duration of the war. It was to serve in Gracie's brigade, Johnson's division, Anderson's corps, Army of Northern Virginia. On the preceding May 3rd, Thomas Smith Abernethy, Jr. had joined the army and on the same day was elected Captain of Company I. However, the record shows that he resigned his commission on November 1st, 1862, and this was accepted the following month, with the notation that "promotion" was the reason for the resignation of the captaincy (65).

We have no information as to why our grandfather left the army and returned to the pulpit after so short a term of service, and his own listing of appointments indicates no break in his ecclesiastical connection. In 1861-62 he was stationed at Uniontown, Perry County, Alabama; the next year he was assigned to the church at Dayton, Marengo County, and then for the next two years he was sent back to Uniontown. Family tradition has it that he was an attractive, but impractical person. That his education had not been superficial is indicated by the carefully reasoned discourses which he outlined in his "Sermon Notes", and by his interest in literature. Unfortunately, the latter can only be suggested by a page in the "Notes" which gives the title of an essay on "Poetry and the Poet". The next eight pages, which evidently were devoted to this subject, have been torn out of the notebook.

As to his sermons, he evidently did not indulge in the emotional rantings which were so prevalent at Methodist camp meetings, but attacked religious problems in a rational and logical manner. One illustration of this rationality (probably not the best) is a sermon outlined on page 14 of the "Notes". His test was from Job XIX, 29: "Be ye afraid of the sword; for wrath bringeth the punishments of the sword, that ye may know there is a judgment." His comments were: (1) God is angry with Sin and that only. (2) His anger declared in His work. (3) Shown by His judgments - Suffering. This applies to individuals and nations. Difficulty of the argument in the case of individuals - Good people suffer. Our eternity is not in this world. Nations have no Eternity." These are merely notes and we cannot know how the indicated subjects were developed, but there is evidence of a willingness to think about difficult religious problems and a lack of dogmatism in his thinking.

On September 23, 1857, Thomas married Eliza Hines, daughter of William and Emma Clark Hines of Marion. The bride's family had removed from Wilmington, North Carolina, where William had been engaged in the shipping business, and came to Marion in 1830. There were six daughters and one son and they lived in a large house on the Greensboro road. The daughters attended a Methodist school for girls, the Marion Seminary, and the family slaves did the laundry for the school to pay the tuition of the Hines contingent (66). One of the daughters, Elizabeth, married William Howell, and their daughter Mildred married David Y. Howze of Marion; Ella, another Howell daughter, married Robert L. Sumner of Birmingham, but two others, Annie and Willie Emma never married. Another daughter of William and Emma Hines, named Emma for her mother, married James C. Perkins who, in 1840, had come from New York State to go into the mercantile business in Marion. One of their daughters, Minnie, married William Moseley of Anniston, and another was the abovementioned Ala(bama), who married her cousin, Rufus Abernethy. A daughter of this marriage, Emma Hines Stallings now lives in Jacksonville, Florida. Emma, another Perkins daughter, never married.

After our grandfather served as secretary of the Mobile Conference, which met in Enterprise, Mississippi, in 1866, we have no further information as to his connection with the church. He apparently left the ministry and settled in Enterprise, where, on December 1, 1871, he died of yellow fever, being then thirtynine years of age. On the previous fourth of November he wrote his father the only one of his letters which is now available:

"Enterprise, Miss. Nov. 4, 1871.

My dear father:

I know nothing is more natural than that I should want to write to you now and pour out my bitter grief in your faithful and loving breast. Except my precious wife, no one on earth sympathizes with me so truly as yourself. No one loves me so well and I am sure that no one has had a deeper experience of sorrow for the dead than you. I think I know now some of the agony you have felt. I have thought heretofore that I understood these feelings. I thought I entered into sympathy with you when you put your darlings, one by one, down into the bosom of the earth. I know now that I did not do so. My own loss has brought this knowledge in a strange and sad way and I can now realize what a troublous world it is we live in.

Tommie /Thomas Smith III/ was up on Monday morning and seemingly as well as usual. He had a chill on Saturday and was not well on Sunday. But on Monday morning he seemed better. We went to the river and put one of Dr. George's sons across in my boat. He came back to the house and his mother, not anticipating anything of a serious nature, advised him to lie down and read. Mary /our Aunt Mary/ was sick and he went into the room where she was and laid down and began reading a newspaper. In a few minutes, Mary heard him groaning and saw that there was something wrong about him. She ran to Eliza (who was in another room) and told her. When Eliza /our grandmother/ got in his room the poor fellow was in severe spasm. I was about half a mile from home appraising the property of an estate. I got home in half an hour after he was taken. We did all we could for him, had the best medical skill and attendance of friends. But I saw from the start that nothing but death could relax the tension of his brain. There was no lockjaw but severe congestions and spasm. The congestion was relieved, but the spasm was uninterrupted except under the influence of chloroform. We gave him by inhalation (he could not swallow) 5 ounces chloroform, 3 grains morphine by enema and injected 1 grain into his neck. We used the bath and every other possible means for relief. It was all in vain. The hand of death was upon him from the very first.

I feel it was right for him to go. God knows what is best for him and us. But feeling that we are in such safe hands, recognizing all the promises of Christian truth, I still mourn bitterly. I fear too much. It is a deep, deep sorrow. I had some special ambition in Tommie. He had a strong and reliable mind, was well advanced for his age. I had begun to lead him out in some new directions of thought. He responded to all my expectations of him and gave good promise of coming to a brilliant and useful manhood. He was a good boy, clean in person and in feeling. There was nothing dirty about him. You know he was affectionate and obliging.

Nothing pleased him more than to be good to somebody. His hand was always ready for every kind deed.

But I admonish myself that I am falling into the weakness of idolizing the dead. I have said too much of my dear boy already. But I think I can safely say this much, he is leading me like a leadstar to my normal place in the Church. I think it better one should die in the Church than live out of it. The dying may be by starvation, and the living in purple and fine linen, but the dying is best. Eliza will finish this letter. I know it will be a comfort to her to talk to you about Tommie. Poor woman. She is deeply grieved. You must write to us soon. When I feel like I can leave home I want to go over and see you. It may be several weeks before I can do so. God bless you all at home. Pray for us.

Eliza says she can't write now. She will soon. She sends affectionate greetings. All the children send love. Ask Ma to remember us in her prayers.

Your son,

Thomas

We are all up now except Willie <u>/our father</u> and he will be up soon. We are going to move next week from this wretched place.

Thos." (67).

Tommie is buried in Enterprise and his father--over whose grave I had a Confederate monument erected twenty years ago--is buried beside him.

But the grief-stricken father did not move. He also contracted yellow fever and died. No likeness of our grandfather has survived, but there are at least three of his father. According to family tradition, he was a handsome, attractive, generous and improvident person. He left his widow and four young children, Mary, Mattie, William Hines and Paul Lee, practically penniless, and they would have suffered but for the generosity of James Perkins, the husband of Eliza's sister Emma. He sent for them to come and live with him in Marion, saying that they would have a home as long as he had a roof over his head. Accordingly Eliza took her children to Marion and opened a small private school. The writer has known one of his grandmother's pupils, the late J. C. Mickleboro (68).

After the passage of some years, Eliza's daughter Mary fell in love with Emma's son William, but the parents naturally objected to the marriage of first cousins. Mary was accordingly sent to "rusticate" in the neighboring town of Greensboro with the hope that her ardor would cool, but it did not, and the lovers were presently married. They made their home in Marion and so do, or did, most of their children and grandchildren. Eliza's younger daughter, Mattie, married Rufus Fitzgerald and they lived and died in Marion, leaving no children.

After the death of his father, the younger son, Paul Lee, went with his mother to Marion and received his early education in the private school which she conducted. He acquired his higher education at Howard College, a Baptist institution then located at Marion. In 1870 the North Alabama Conference had been separated from the Alabama Conference, and in 1893 Paul Lee joined it as a clergyman on trial (69). In 1897 he became involved in a controversy as to whether the North Alabama Conference should withdraw its support from Southern University, which the Alabama Conference had established at Greensboro in 1859. Along with thirty-eight other members of the Conference, he signed a protest "against the action of the Conference, in giving up our interest in the Southern University". In 1918 the Conference met in Birmingham and Paul L. Abernethy was one of eight Y.M.C.A. secretaries appointed to serve with the army during the First World War (70).

On January 19, 1899, Paul Lee married Addie Lee of Furman, Wilcox County, Alabama, a descendant of Richard Henry Lee of Revolutionary fame, and a former teacher of music at Judson College in Marion. They had two sons, Paul Lee Jr. and Thomas. Paul, having graduated from Birmingham-Southern College, and having been in business in Atlanta for some years, died in Florida within recent years. Thomas is publisher of the <u>Talladega Daily Home</u>. Failing health forced the senior Paul Lee to retire from the ministry in 1927, after which he lived with his wife's family in Furman. He died in 1936, six months after the death of his wife (71).

William Hines, the older son of Thomas Smith, Jr., was our father. He was born at Enterprise, Mississippi, on March 21, 1865, but when his father died there in 1871, he went with his mother to Marion, Alabama, and there he grew up. Being an orphan without patrimony, he got only such schooling as his mother was able to give him, and at an early age became a traveling salesman. In this capacity, he lived for a few years in Anniston, but in 1893 moved to the booming industrial town of Birmingham. Meanwhile, on August 21, 1899, he had married Annie Pierce Rast of Collirene, Lowndes County, Alabama. Born on November 2, 1866, Annie was the daughter of Ann Jerusha Pierce (1841-1867) and Horace Rast (72), the granddaughter of Ann Elizabeth Dunklin (1818-1896) and John May Pierce (1814-1856), the great-granddaughter of Ann Hendrick Hamilton (1784-1868) and William Dunklin (1781-1838), and the great-great granddaughter of Temperance Arnold (1762-1849) and Thomas Hamilton (1758-1844), a Revolutionary veteran whose grave in the family burial ground at Collirene is marked by the Francis Marion Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Temperance and Thomas had met when the latter was wounded at the Battle of the Cowpens

(South Carolina) and recuperated at the nearby home to which Temperance had come from Culpeper Courthouse, Virginia, to keep house for her brothers (73).

Our Mother's family had migrated from South Carolina to Collirene, Lowndes County, Alabama, where they were established as large-scale cotton planters. In Birmingham our father engaged in wholesale brokerage business. After many years his health became impaired and he retired a short while before his death in Birmingham, July 7, 1941. His wife survived him and died in Birmingham in 1960 at the age of ninety-four.

William and Annie had seven children, Thomas Perkins, John Pierce, Elizabeth, William Hamilton, Mildred, Hugh Alston, and Emory Cecil. Both the daughters died in infancy, but all five sons are now (1965) living and there are four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Thomas Perkins\* married Ida E. Robertson of South Carolina and they make their home in Charlottesville, he having retired after 31 years from the faculty of the University of Virginia in 1961. They have no children.

John married Kathleen Burns who died in 1964. Their only son, John Jr., married Lucile Scrivener. They have two sons, John Pierce III and Richard, and they make their home in Birmingham. The only daughter, Kathleen (Patsy), married Gayle Riley. They also live in Birmingham and have two sons, John (Jackie) and Charles (Charlie). John Sr. is founder of the Southern Rubber Company of Birmingham, and his son is president of the firm. John Sr. married the second time to Sadie Brown.

William Hamilton married Warrene Harris of Jackson, Mississippi, where they make their home. He has retired from the real estate business. They have no children.

Hugh married Katherine Marshall Sibley of Birmingham and they have one daughter, Kate Marshall, who married William McNeil Crawford of Berkeley, California. Hugh is Vice President of the Prudential Insurance Company of America and makes his home in Jacksonville, Florida. Kate and her husband live in Piedmont, California, and they have three children: William McNeil, Jr., Hugh Sibley, and Katherine Thomas.

Cecil\*\*, Academic Vice President of Birmingham-Southern College, married Janice Johns and they have one daughter, Ann Tarver, who is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and a teacher.

Thomas Perkins Abernethy.

WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA 1964-1965

\*Thomas Perkins Abernethy. prof. history; b. Collirene, Ala. Aug. 25, 1890; s. William Hines and Anne (Pierce) A.; A.B., Coll. of Charleston, 1912; A.M., Harvard, 1916, PhD., 1922; Litt.D., Washington and Lee University, 1947; married Ida E. Robertson, Dec. 6, 1917. Acting asst. prof. history, Vanderbilt U., 1921-22; prof. of history, U. of Chattanooga, 1922-28; asso. prof. history, U. of Ala., 1928-30; asso. prof. history, U. of Va., 1930-37, Richmond Alumni prof. of history 1937-61, prof. emeritus, 1961--; vis. prof. U. Tex., 1961-62, U. Ariz., 1962-64. Chmn Corcoran Sch. History, 1946-55. Served as 2nd lt. inf., U.S.Army, 1918. Mem. Am. Hist. Assn., Miss. Valley Hist. Assn. (exec. com.), So. Hist. Assn. (pres. 1937), Va. Hist. Soc. (mem. exec. com.). Soc. Am. Historians, Raven Soc., Va. History and Govt. Textbook Commn., Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Kappa Phi. Club: Colonnade (U. of Va.). Author: The Formative Period in Alabama, 1922; From Frontier to Plantation in Tennessee, 1932; Western Lands and the American Revolution, 1937; Three Virginia Frontiers, 1940; The Burr Conspiracy, 1954; (with others) The Frontier in Perspective; The South in the New Nation, Vol. IV, 1961; (with others) Jacksonian Democracy, Myth or Reality?, 1962. Contbr. articles profl. jours. Ency. Brit., Am. Oxford Ency., Collier's Ency. Member editorial bd. Va. Quarterly Rev. Home: 39 University Circle, Charlottesville, Va. Ret.

\*\*Emory Cecil Abernethy. coll. dean; b. Charleston, S.C., Apr. 8, 1908; s. William H. and Annie Pierce (Rast) A.; A.B., Birmingham-Southern Coll., 1930; M.A., U. N.C., 1935; PhD., Vanderbilt U., 1940; m. Janice Johns, Aug. 24, 1940; l dau., Ann Tarver. Instr. English, West End High Sch., Birmingham, Ala., 1931-35, U. Ala., 1937-38; instr. English, Birmingham-So. Coll., 1939-41, asst. prof., 1941-44, asso. prof., 1944-47, prof., 1947--, dean, 1958--. Mem. South Atlantic Modern Lang. Assn., Phi Beta Kappa. Presbyn. Author: Mr. Pepys of Seething Lane, 1957. Editor: (with Garland Greever), Civil War Prose, Centennial Edit. of Works of Sidney Lanier, Vol. 5, 1945. Home: 1208 Greensboro Rd., Birmingham 4, Ala.

(The above inserted by Hugh Abernethy)
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- 10. Butler, 253.
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- 21. Charles City County, Virginia, MS archives, "Deeds, Wills, Orders, 1655-1665", p. 98 (Photostatic copy in Virginia State Library).
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- 24. Ibid., p. 22.
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- 29. Fleet (tr.), Virginia Colonial Abstracts, XIII, 32.
- 30. Ibid., pp. 40-41.
- 31. Ibid., XIV, 10; Virginia Land Office, Patents, book 5, p. 567.
- 32. Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, XXVIII, 328.

- 33. Virginia Land Office, Patents, book 10, p. 335. Transfers of land in Virginia are recorded either in the patent and grant books in the Land Office in Richmond, or in the deed books of the several counties. All the information in this paper which relates to such transfers is derived from these sources. Detailed references will not be given hereafter.
- 34. On April 20, 1689, Roger Tillman was granted 1,060 acres of land in Charles City County, on the south side of Appomattox River, for the transportation of twenty-two persons to Virginia. He had married the widow Susanna Parram (Parham?), who died in Prince George County in 1717 at the age of sixty-nine years. Her will names the following children: Thomas Parram, George and John Tillman, Jane Robinson, Christine Abernethy, and a grandson, Robert Abernethy. See <u>Virginia Magazine of History and Biography</u>, XXXIV, 153.
- 35. <u>The Vestry Book and Register of Bristol Parish</u>, Virginia, <u>1720-1789</u> (Churchill Gibson Chamberlayne, ed., Richmond, 1898), p. 33.
- 36. Virginia Land Office, Patents, book 34, p. 934, August 7, 1761.
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- 40. Ibid., p. 2; Brunswick County, Will Book, VIII, 79.
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- 46. <u>Ibid.</u>, XI, 22.
- 47. Brunswick County, Deed Book, XXI, 276-77.
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- 50. Elizabeth Denty Abernethy, The Abernethy Family, p. 7.
- 51. Minute Book B, 1813-1815 p. 496; Minute Book C, 181611817, p. 101.
- 52. Record in the family Bible of Thomas Smith Abernethy, Sr., now in possession of Robert Gordon of Atmore, Alabama.
- 53. <u>Minutes of the Annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal</u> <u>Church</u>, for the years 1773-1828 (New York, 1840), I, 428-29; Marion Elias Lazenby, <u>History of Methodism in Alabama and</u> <u>West Florida</u> (Nn.p., 1960) p. 98.
- 54. Lazenby, op, cit., pp. 183-85
- 55. "Biography of the Circuit Riding Methodist Preacher, Covering Experiences of Rev. Thomas Smith Abernethy. 1803-1882", by his son, Dr. William Henry Abernethy, 1828-1911. MS. copy furnished by Robert Gordon of Atmore, Alabama, grandson of Dr. W.H.A.
- 56. Rev. Frank Moseley, "Heroes of the Cross", <u>Alabama Christian</u> <u>Advocate</u>, March 29, 1955.
- 57. <u>Colonial and State Records of North Carolina</u>, XVI, 1101, XVII, 26; <u>South Carolina Census of 1790</u>, <u>Cheraw District</u>, p. 48; letters to Robert Gordon from Mrs. A. W. Redd of Foley, Alabama, Feb. 10, 1961, and C. Clark Bulwinkle of Mobile, n.d.; also application of Mrs. Redd's mother, Mrs. E. S. Pugh of Union Springs, Alabama, for D.A.R. membership.
- 58. Orphan's Court Record, Perry County courthouse, Marion, Alabama.
- 59. This information is from the <u>Daughters of the American Revo</u>lution Magazine of January, 1961. The article also carries a photograph of the monument.

- 60. Obituary signed "H.S.", and dated 1878, from the family Bible of Mrs. Lucy Owen Abernethy Slaughter and Edward W. Slaughter, furnished by Robert Gordon.
- 61. Thomas M. Owen, <u>History of Alabama</u> and <u>Dictionary of Alabama</u> <u>Biography</u> (Chicago, 1921), III, 5.
- 62. Ibid., III, 5.
- 63. <u>Ibid</u>., III, 4-5.
- 64. Manuscript in possession of the author; Lazenby, op. cit.,
- 65. Photostatic copy of Confederate records from the National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- 66. Information from Mrs. Irby Pope of Marion, granddaughter of Emma Clark and William Hines.
- 67. The original of this letter is in possession of Robert Gordon of Atmore, Alabama.
- 68. Information from my cousin, Mrs. Irby Pope of Marion, Alabama.
- 69. Lazenby, op. cit., p. 512.
- 70. Ibid., p. 614.
- 71. Ibid., pp. 769-770.
- 72. Mildred B. Russell, Lowndes Court House, 1820-1900 (Montgomery, 1951), p. 266.
- 73. Information furnished by my Mother in a letter of October 13, 1951.

## MEMORANDUM BY THOMAS PERKINS ABERNETHY

Many years ago Mother gave me these two letters. Recently I had our library laminate them for me and I have now made xerox copies. The one from John May Pierce, Sr. to Ann Elizabeth Dunklin explains itself. The lovers' quarrel was soon made up and they were married on the following May 24th. The groom was born in Charleston District, South Carolina, in 1814 and died at Collirene, Lowndes County, Alabama, in 1856. If my memory serves, Mother told me that he attended South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina) and was expelled just before graduation for getting drunk and dancing on the front porch of the President of the University.

The second letter was written August 20-21, 1862(?), by John May Pierce, Jr., to his mother while he was encamped near Norfolk with the Army of Northern Virginia. The Horace, with whom the letter is so much taken up, had married John's sister Ann on May 1, 1860 (Mildred B. Russell, Lowndes Court House, Montgomery, 1951). They were our grandparents. The Paul who is mentioned was Horace's brother, and John will remember that, with Mother, we visited him more than once at Farmersville, Lowndes County. I remember his telling us that, during the siege of Petersburg, the Confederate troops often had nothing to eat but parched corn and that some went over to the Yankee lines just to get something to eat. He was with Lee at Appomattox, but Mother was much distressed because he was an agnostic. "Mr. Rast" was Horace's father Daniel, our great-grandfather. He is buried in the family cemetery at Collirene. John May Pierce, Sr., had died in 1856 and in 1870 the widower Daniel Rast married the widow Pierce, and thus our great-grandparents became also our step-great-grandparents!

In the 1830's a group of related South Carolina families had migrated to the Black Belt of Alabama to become cotton planters on a considerable scale. They settled on a gravelly ridge which rises above the limey, black soil of Lowndes County, and they named their village Collirene. Here the Pierces built a typical plantation home - a two-storey, weatherboarded house with flanking wings and an entrance porch with four tall, square columns. According to the Southern custom, it was painted white with green blinds, and it is still standing and kept in good repair by a family of local origins. Here the widow Pierce lived during the War with her daughter Ann, but, as already indicated, her son John May, Jr. went to join the Confederate Army in Virginia and, on May 5, 1864, was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness. Mother told me that the color bearer of his regiment was killed, and when John retrieved the flag, he also was shot.

Ann's husband, Horace, survived the War and returned to Collirene. His father Daniel had some cotton stored in nearby Benton and the marauding Yankees had failed to find it. Having sold this at a good price, the father and son set out for South America to find a new home where they could escape the rule of the carpetbaggers and their Negro henchmen. They filled money belts with gold coins and, sailing from Mobile, got as far as Para at the mouth of the Amazon River, but finding that Brazil was quite as thoroughly integrated as Alabama, they retraced their route and returned to Collirene. It was after this journey that Daniel married the widow Pierce, but Horace already had an infant daughter - our Mother - who was born on November 2, 1866, and named Annie Pierce.

In addition to the death of John Pierce, Jr., the family suffered financially, along with nearly all Southern families, as a result of the War. During the conflict Daniel had borrowed some money, and though he offered to repay it in the same Confederate currency which he had borrowed, his creditor preferred to wait and finally had to be repaid in greenbacks. As a result of this transaction, the plantation was lost, but there was still a farm of several hundred acres and, since many of the former slaves remained faithful, there was ample help, both in the house and on the farm.

Annie's mother having died when she was hardly a year old, she was brought up by her grandparents and had a happy,carefree girlhood. When it was time for her to go to high school, she went to the infant town of Birmingham and spent the winters with her Aunt Emma Tanner Pierce, now a widow. She had been a Yankee school teacher from Vermont who had come to Collirene and had married Annie's uncle, William Pierce. Later Annie attended the "Female Institute" at Tuskegee, but she apparently did not graduate, as her mother had done. On August 21, 1889, she married William Hines Abernethy, son of Eliza Hines and Thomas Smith Abernethy, Jr. of Marion, Alabama. Both this Thomas Smith and his father, Thomas Smith, Sr., were Methodist preachers, the latter having been born in Brunswick County, Virginia in 1803. When he was ten years of age he moved with his father, Henry, and his grandfather, John, to Giles County, Tennessee. In 1821 he joined the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was sent as a circuit rider to southwest Alabama. Here the backwoods pioneers and the Choctaw Indians lived cheek by jowl and the young clergyman had some interesting experiences. Later he became one of the founders of the Alabama Methodist Conference.

Annie and William at first made their home in Anniston, and I was born during this period, but Mother went back to the Collirene home for the occasion! In 1893 the young couple moved to Birmingham, but after two or three years they made their home in Woodlawn, a suburb of that city. In 1896 "Grandma Rush" (this being the way in which the name "Rast" was always pronounced in the family) came to live with us, bringing with her a servant who had formerly been a slave in Collirene. She died at our home on December 3, 1896, and I remember her very well.

11 6.21. 1836 Parest Elizabeth -At forme I conclude from what I have, hind - Vand from the circumstance of your relaining, letter which you recieved by your to then illian containing my prayers for for for juice of same my that I conclude, that my Elizabeth had rainen one-for having worged her now, for " I thank you for this hind maps this severosity's the wounded they tender, and imorem heart, : heart that know no quile, descoved but the at they hands . But my Elizabeth knew that would not intentionally wound her feelings. That must have labour under some mi ske, she is knows that the can the loves a sdy as the ould be coved always sensitive, and any pearance of slighting him, makes here almost intic. I am infortunately gifted by natione with impeterovily of disposition, particularly and " I think miself injured, that frequently add me into errors; but I thank my God t have magnanimity enough; to confeld adily all mug laulto- all my in ms\_ and all y weathrefics. ver Brother cam - home from

Loundesbord, "ast monday m ning, and staid it home but a few hours he started immidiately Greenvill on business I went to your mothers to le term and hear from you, but he was unfortunally you Wh! m ligabet, the anguish of mind that I say Since I saw you, until last night, has been almon runwhelming. The idea of wounding they tender least of avonging you the fear of not being forgine for cours did almost madden on shewed many the ving which I work that had contained the lock of hair which you gave at thought I had lost the set out, while come from Hayneville Atthough I reg ich it muche stu I new it a ild not be helps of day or two of coming home in taking my h. 'e from pocke the set fell upon the floor. The sudden rush feelings was tremendous It brought to my distation. I was completely oucreor i, and could but opclaim to myself- Qh yol! is all my happing The showing to Small treasured this last ret of her that I love better than, my own soul! last meme to of my dear, bis Post Elizabeth? I never what rental a gong wa he fore that drea

our and since Island tomorrow for mobile int ill return in 800 10 days. Oh! I may generous goutte hav, sweet, Elizabetti let me thank you once more your for giveness. Good by Dearest and many wardian angels watch your pollows these from him who only lines to love his they abeth your own Lohn br. B. you will obser & that a poor poet the but so my Sligaber, recognized the sentiment tis all my townshills love can never cases. For her I tore most dear, For trace she that led me in the petho of peace And snatched me from dispair Let adverse winds around me blow wen then twee such to know That the's a part a - Finienal The Sun hims may reput to shine Bit now can I forget the image divis The image of here I Love? The mother may forget her infant babe And all manki & may recrease frome But how can a for it the noris sive multip Let scorth from her centre move Let all nature back to choos fall But how can & forget the Horn I love my very life, my my Love \_ my, all?

Abri Alte Jerer Near Norfelk Va Aug 25-May lear Monthen Man Diserve it de bousin Williams has havitten home I will enclose an short To you concerning deore is illness. His brivels have been derenged fin more Than a week, and on last mon Lay he wint to town, and ato some aystime which did not agril with . him alining that night and the next morning he had mat wider pains often which time this have an red and I Throught that he was bet Ting come out of daggin But the next day I consulted The surgeon, and he Told me that he was dang now and to fulfilling promising the graphing to a not Mary To send a messinger i milicitely to go

And yesterday severing he requested me To telegraph for Mr Rost and dis, which I did, This morning he was so much better that we mond him to The secrest house. where It Geometics Robinson lives The is very comportably fines up there, being much better this comp, where There is 200 much noise and confusion . Two of as will sit up and Friday Cvening, Aug. 81.th " As I could not send this off yesterday I concluded to finish it to-day. The surgeon and Paul wont over to see Horace This morning and say that he is heidedly bitter and freer of pain. Bot Hardy & Bill Drane sat whe with him last night atousin Hilliam & the will go over to right. I wish " could be with him all of This time, but Horace prefers Bring Bill to be with

hime as they know something clout medlein, and not more Than two cen be with about at one time. I will go it see him once or twice aday, and will so arrange it that two of is con be with him all the time the has a nice bed a comfortable soon It Robinson having in him. Horace has a great many friends and They bear offered services in cetting water on him faithfully, and I will alway noi this a debt of gratilude, which I will be remeble to repay, for this kindness to him. I do hope that he will now get well, some his seems so much letter, Best There may be more inflormation than we are around of sell sis that she must bear this like a herrino, and with that fortitude, where she has manifested on for merin Trying recasions and trust in God,

for the world do all things wells Horse received dis letter gisterday with a note enclosed for me from you. I dont richon it is necessing for you To send me any more, altho I im out those we had a general review and meter this morning, and this generally precedes payday a few days. If the pay us for our uniforms we will regieve about 212 dollars But nud some flammed shirts, and also some cotton shirts, as I have lost mat I my used on have them made to wash. If you have them made you may send me two or take collon, and the same menter of flormal shirts; But. of not fim need not mine?, as I will Tay to do with what I have I rece wid a letter from Bally The other day , and was will. I will expect isome one from home by taestlay or wednesday. give my love to all relations your officierrate 3 MEurce.

# "RECOLLECTIONS OF

HENRY HOWZE,

HUSBAND OF TEMPERANCE HINTON"

Note: Henry Howze was the great-grandson of William Hines

These reminiscences are written for the benefit of my children or any of my kin who may be interested in our family tree, to which this will be appended. They may find little pleasure in reading it now, while young, but when old age overtakes them, they may derive some satisfaction in reviewing the past.

To my cousin, Henry Y. Weisinger of Birmingham, Alabama, we are indebted for the family history which he compiled after many years of laborious research.

## YARBROUGH

My earliest recollection goes back to the time when my parents with my brother Frank, two years of age and I, four years old, moved from the maternal into the paternal (Yarbrough) home. Grandmother Yarbrough was then over 80 years of age. Ι will try to describe, from memory, the home. The house was a large two-story affair, somewhat Colonial in design, with columns set in front gallery. Painted pure white, with green blinds. A wide front hall, with stairway leading to the second story. A much wider hall extended rectangular with this one through the center of the house. The rooms were spacious, ceilings high, furniture antique. The beds had large posts at each corner which extended to near the ceiling. On some of them canopies rested on the four posts. They were so high that it was necessary to use a stool in ascending to them. One of these beds, I recall, had, instead of slats, a strong rope which was laced through holes in the sides and ends, so as to form a mesh-like affair for the mattress to rest upon. One had to be skillful in tightening this rope net. They had a stretching appliance for this purpose. I once saw my Father move this bed from one room to another, which was quite an undertaking. It had to be taken apart and it required two men to carry each part, so heavy were they. The mattresses in those days were made of shredded corn shucks, mixed with cotton, and were made on the premises by hand, having special equipment for stuffing and ticking them. On this composite mattress was placed the inevitable feather bed, and after beating up the feathers every morning, when the beds were made up, the ensemble would stand up to that to my childish eyes, looked mountain high. The way we boys were put to bed was by raising us

and tossing us to the center, where we would sink in the feathers and sleep blissfully until morning.

Each room had its large, open fireplace and many hours have we spent, roasting chestnuts or goobers and eating them while seated in the firelight's glow. Sweet potatoes, as well as corn pones were placed in the hot ashes and covered with embers. I have never since tasted potatoes and corn bread that were as delicious as these.

For lights, we had reached by this time the transition from candles to kerosene lamps. These were cleared away every day, refilled, wicks trimmed and chimneys polished to a glow. The women, during idle moments, which were few, would slit up newspapers and twist tapers for lighters. There were matches then, but they were expensive and a luxury we could not afford. The tapers would sit on the mantle in vases, or improvised vases, made out of oyster cans and covered with tin foil. So fastidious were they, the large ends of the tapers would be sometimes shredded and curled by a deft manipulation with the fingers and a pair of scissors, making an ornament for the mantel. Before retiring, the embers were carefully covered with ashes, so as to have live coals to start the blaze at the dawn of another day.

This imposing white house sat in a grove of giant oak trees on a hill, overlooking the town, on a thirty acre tract. Two streams, fed by springs, surrounded almost the entire tract, uniting on the east side and forming a creek. The land gently sloped to these streams. On the west side of the house was our apple orchard, with apples ripening from May until August. On the north side was our peach orchard, with numerous varieties, ripening during every month from about June until September. Each orchard comprised about five acres. There were two scuppernong (Escopanong) grape arbors. The trellises were built just high enough for one to stand erect and gather the grapes easily. We also had an arbor of black cluster grapes of some kind that were delicious. The vines of the escopanongs had spread out until each arbor covered nearly an acre of ground. They would yield an abundant harvest every year. We also had many varieties of fruits besides those mentioned.

As I have said, our front yard, several acres, was a grove of oaks. The back yard was terraced off to several levels. At the lowest level, along the fence line, were the stables and store houses for grain and feed. Along the north side was a row of two room houses, four or five, built for the servants. There was also a smoke house, with brick pit in the center, for smoking meats. In another location was the water well, 70 feet deep, with a windlass for drawing the water. This well was the bane of my young life, as I had to do most of the drawing and toting of the water, after I was big enough to turn the windlass. The water was always very cold and refreshing, when just from the well. Artificial ice was then unknown. While we had plenty of it in the winter time, it was an undreamed of luxury for the hot months. We never missed the ice. Milk was kept fresh and cool by lowering it in buckets to the bottom of the well, just clearing the water line.

On our thirty acres, there were any number of chestnut and chinquepin trees, and these afforded an abundant harvest every season, ripening about September. My father had the land posted and tried to keep trespassers off, pre-empting the nuts to our own and our friends' use. We had indifferent success at this, however, as there were always boys, both white and black, gathering them. A blight of some kind years ago killed all of these trees, not only ours but throughout the South, so that now there are practically no chestnut or chinquepin trees left.

We would gather the Escopanong grapes, bushels of them, then Father would put them under a screw press, and by hand power crush them and the juice was drained into large tubs, made by sawing whiskey barrels into at the middle. The juice was then placed in five gallon demijohns, the mouth left open, only a gauze covering tied over, to keep the skippers out. The demijohns were then placed in rows on shelves in our cellar, and were allowed to ferment. At regular intervals, Father would go around and drop yeast and other things in each receptacle. In due time this became seasoned wine, and then came the bottling. This was a gala event in the community, for all relatives and friends were invited to the bottling. From end to end of the large hall a temporary table was constructed, around which the guests would sit. Before each demijohn, which were all numbered, was poured into the bottles, corked and sealed with wax, a small glass was passed around to each guest. The tasters were supposed to keep a record of the numbers and, at the close of the festivities, a voting contest was held to decide which demijohn contained the best wine, and this lot was labeled and set aside for special occasions. You can imagine that after the numerous containers had been emptied and each had a sip, the electors would scarcely be in condition to render a fair decision. After storing away in our cellar enough for our own use for the year, all the rest was distributed among his friends. Father never sold any of it, although he could have

had a ready market for all of it, as it was, by unanimous consent, the best escopanong wine made in that section of the country. It popped, when opened, like champagne, and had the tang of Mums Extra Vinegar. This, too, he gave away. An amusing incident in connection with the wine making, in which my brother Howell was the offender, I would like to relate, but it is not suitable reading for mixed audiences.

Brothers Howell and Walter were born in the Yarbrough home, and we four boys grew almost to manhood there. With the streams, trees and hillsides, you can imagine that we four boys had an ideal playground.

Before closing the description of the home, I must mention the attic. A dark opening in the ceiling, reached by a stairway, was for years an object of terror to us small fry. We never passed under it without qualms of fear and accelerated footsteps. In later years we ventured to explore it and it eventually became a favorite pastime for us to rummage through the old trunks and cases containing relics of the past. Hanging from the joists was a gorgeous uniform, resplendent with brass buttons, epaulets, etc. In its time it must have been an imposing outfit but then it was stiff with dust and age. This, I learned, was my great, great grandfather George Daugherty's uniform. He was a major general in the Revolutionary Army. He performed valuable service for his country and was rewarded by the government with patents for two tracts of land; one, 5,000 acres in Williamson County, Tennessee, another, 5,000 acres in Dyer County. Great, grandmother still held valid titles to these lands at the time I am writing about, but the war impoverished her and she was unable to keep up the tax payments, consequently, the land reverted to the state. Did we own this land now, we would be immensely wealthy.

Grandmother Yarbrough also owned a rich river bottom plantation, just five miles from the town home. This had passed from her ownership, however, at that time. It was sold immediately after the surrender, as without the slaves she could not operate it. Being a loyal daughter of the South, she accepted Confederate money in payment. This money was never of any value. Father kept it for many years in an iron box, later giving most of it away as souvenirs. I have now in my safe a portion of this same money. I have visited the old plantation a number of times. The evidence of the aristocratic dignity of slavery time was still there. Centrally located, at the foot of a high bluff was the slave quarter. A number of small but substantial homes formed a square in the center of which was the inevitable water well, with its "Old Oaken Bucket." At one side of a rectangle was built a more pretentious house, built so as to overlook the entire quarter. This was the overseer's home. Grandmother had a number of slaves. They were well treated, in fact, too well as history relates she was inclined to spoil them. A legendary saying in after years was, the Yarbrough Negroes were the most trifling of any of the ex-slaves, due to the leniency and indulgence. Not even the overseer was allowed to chastise one of them, my Father being the only one accorded this privilege, which he seldom, if ever used.

After the war, and at the time of this story, many of the ex-slaves for a number of years remained with her at the town home and occupied the outhouses, which have been mentioned. Happy and faithful to the "Ole Missus," satisfied with the slight remuneration she could afford, which was merely food and clothes. When Father was a boy, Grandmother gave him in fee simple, Archie, a boy about his own age, who was, until grown and freed, his body guard and valet. Archie turned out to be somewhat of a rascal and gave Father, as I have heard him say, a good deal of trouble, but he was always faithful to his trust, looking after the young marster.

Having described the old home and its environments, I will now try to recall the personages, as I remember them.

Grandmother had been greatly bereaved a few years prior to that time by the death of her beloved husband, David Yarbrough, and her adored son, Doctor Henry Y., for whom I was named. The heavy ornamental gold watch that I have was Uncle Henry's graduating present and was presented to me by Grandmother on the date of my birth. Both husband and son died within a few days of each other. To add to her misfortunes, the war came on, and the slaves were freed and all she had left was the town home. It was not very long, however, before she was taken ill in the night and passed out. I remember her death and funeral and all the grief stricken ones about. I have no recollection whatever of my Grandmother Howze, but do remember seeing Grandfather once. He was an aged man, with white hair and beard.

After her death, Aunts Helen, Lou and Minnie, together with Grandfather, moved to Dyersburg, Tennessee, to settle on some of the land about which I have written. It was then that my Father and Mother moved into the old home to look after Grandmother. Although a mere baby, I can remember this good sweet soul.

In memory I can see her now as I sat beside her on the back steps, with the chickens flocking around us. She would let me hold the bucket and throw out the feed. This was my delightful and daily privilege. All the while she would caress me and apply endearing terms. Before we moved into the house, and while on a visit to it, I remember one day Aunt Helen sent for me to come in and look at the baby (Mary Lou). She was just a red ball, lying asleep on a pillow in a big rocking chair. Aunt Helen had married Nathan White. The next time I saw Mary Lou, she was a grown young lady. Her brother, Nathan, Jr., and Nellie and Mattie were born after they moved from Alabama. Aunt Minnie did not stay long in Tennessee, but returned and made her home with us, until we moved to Texas in 1892. There was one other personage in Grandmother's household, Miss Peggy Sloan, a very old lady. I was told that Grandmother took her from destitution into her home and cared for her to her death, although there were no kindred ties. I remember her death and funeral, also.

#### HOWZE

There were two families of Howze's living in Marion. Ι have never known the exact relationship, nor do I know my Great Grandfather Howze's name, but some think, John, who with his brother Henry Y, moved to Marion and settled. Cousin John Howze lived on the opposite side of the town from us. He was a son of the original Henry Y. Howze and my great grandfather. I remember him as a most intellectual and portly gentleman. He was considered very wealthy, a prosperous merchant, and it was he who established the Marion Central Bank and was its president until his death. This bank is still doing business. With him lived his mother whom all called "Aunt Kiko." Her name was Kikomois, an Indian name. A very old lady, with a bad lump on her back, she was lively and talkative and very much loved and respected by everyone. Cousin John had a younger brother, Louico, who lived in New Orleans. He came on a visit to our house with his bride. Of course, Father served his escopanong wine with the meals and they both extolled its excellence. His sisters that I remember, Julia and Mary, were the most beautiful girls I have ever seen, and they were noted throughout the state for their pulcritude. Then, there was Cousin Nannie Thompson. Her husband, Joseph Thompson, was an educator and President of the Marion Female Seminary, a school for girls for many years. Another sister, Caroline King, who lived in New Orleans. I once called to see her, when a boy, on a visit to New Orleans. Cousin John had five sons: Augustus, who was prominent as an attorney in Birmingham, Henry Y. (they called him Harry), John, George and Tom.

At this time they are all dead, except one, Tom. His daughters were Claudia, who married Sewell Jones, a relative of Marion, Nonie, who wed a Mr. Bryan, a minister in Birmingham; Mallie, who wed Manly Lide, a Marion boy and friend of mine. Mallie died last year in St. Louis.

#### HUNTINGTON

Cousin Frankie Huntington was a sister, if my chronology is correct, of the original Henry Y. Howze, and my great grandfather. I remember well this sweet gentle old lady with smiling face, always wearing a white cap. Cousin William Huntington, her husband, was then very old and shrunken, but quick and active. He was a jeweler by trade and the remnant of a silver set which we now have, so I have been told, each piece of which was made by his own hand was for General I. W. Garrott, and passes down to my wife, who was General Garrott's granddaughter, Templie Hinton, H.P. sister. Cousin William almost up to the time of his death, led the singing in the Presbyterian Choir. Their sons, David Y. (Named for my grandfather) was killed, I think, in the battle of Antietam. William H. Junior, succeeded him in the jewelry business and carried it on until his death. William Junior married Betsy Reynolds of Mississippi, a most refined lady. Their daughters were, Fanny, who wed my Uncle Walter Howell, thus their children and my parents are double of kin. Renie wed Charles G. Brown, a very bright young lawyer of Marion, who afterwards became Attorney General of the State. Cousin Renie died shortly after her marriage.

## WEISINGERS

Cousin Eliza Weisinger was niece of my Grandmother Yarbrough. She had several children but I have recollection of Henry Y. and his sister Millie, besides Cousin Eliza and her husband, Leonard.

There was another very important personage in the Weisinger home, Mary Burke, (Aunt Burke) as she was known to all the kith and kin. She was the daughter of Thomas Burke, first Governor of North Carolina, and came to Alabama with our forebears. She was a highly cultured lady. Never married, but spent her entire adult life in educating the younger generation. She prepared my Father and Cousin Henry Weisinger for college. Faintly, I remember my Mother leading me, a child, into her room where she was reclining upon a couch, very old, but gentle and kind. She carved for me with her own hands, out of wood, the head and torso of a doll and dressed it. We named it Sancho Panza and it was my favorite plaything until it was worn entirely out. The old clock now in my room, at one time adorned the mantel of the Governor's mansion in North Carolina. It was the property of her father, Governor Burke. Aunt Burke brought this clock to Marion. In after years when the Weisingers moved to Tennessee, it was left with my Father and came into my possession at his death. It is, therefore, at least 150 years old, as you can see by reviewing history a little. I may say that it is still keeping perfect time. I hope that whichever of my children inherits this clock, it will be preserved, as it is a rare and valuable relic.

#### JOHNSON

Cousin Helen Johnson, sister of Eliza and also a niece of my great Grandmother, with her son William and daughters, Fannie, Sallie and Helen are associated with my most pleasant childhood memories, as I have spent many happy hours in their home. Cousin Fannie (Mrs. James Smith) is still living in Marion, very old, but active in body and mind. Cousin Sallie (Mrs. R. P. Yeatman) now living in Houston and I derive great pleasure in visiting her and talking about old Marion times and people. All the other sisters and brothers have long since passed away. I recall Cousin George Daugherty Johnson, who was named for my great, great grandfather, as a handsome militaristic gentleman. His sons were Burke, Polnitz, Mit, and a daughter, whose name I think was Francis.

#### HINES-HOWELL

Great Grandfather William Hines and his wife, (nee Clark) came from North Carolina, sojourning for a few years in Milledgeville, Georgia, which then moved to Tuscaloosa, which was then the capitol of Alabama. Later, they came to Marion. They had one son and six daughters. The son, William, known to all as "Dock", was a prominent lawyer. He married Emma \_\_\_\_\_, but died a few years after his marriage. They had one daughter, named Ella, who wed Captain R. M. Nelson of Selma. To them was born one son, who was named William, about my age. William died a few years ago in Rio Janero, Brazil of yellow fever. Aunt Emma Hines afterwards wed Col. Thomas Fortis of Selma, a lawyer, who later moved to St. Louis and became Attorney General for the Gould System of Railroads. William Howell married Elizabeth Hines. These were my grandparents. Children, Eugene Randolph, a child of grandfathers by a former marriage. Uncle Ran never married, William Lewis married Fanny Norris. Walter Hines married Mildred, my mother wed David Y. Howze. Ella wed R. L. Summer. Aunts Annie and Willie Emma were never wed. All of this generation save Aunt Annie has passed away.

Aunt Mary Hines wed \_\_\_\_\_ Harris, Aunt Helen wed Frierson. I have no recollection of these two, as they left Marion before I was born.

Aunt Alize Hines wed Thos. Abernethy. Sons Thomas, who died when young; William H., Paul Lee. The latter is a Methodist minister at this time. Mattie, Mrs. R. H. Fitzgerald, Mary, Mrs. W. H. Perkins.

Aunt Emma Hines wed James A. Perkins. Only son, William, married Mary Abernethy. Daughters Minnie married first William Moseley and after his death wed Joseph Little. Ala (Alabama) wed Rufus Abernethy. Emma wed Grant Atkinson. Emma is the only surviving one of this generation at this time.

Aunt Alethean Hines wed Markham. He was killed in one of the battles of the Civil War. Cousin Alice, their only daughter, wed Thomas S. Smith of Mississippi. They came to Texas about the same time that I did. He became Attorney General of Texas and would undoubtedly have been Governor, had it not been for this untimely death.

All the old ones were fading out of the picture when I came on the scene, hence my memory of them is rather dim.

I remember Great Grandfather Hines as a very old man, and beard snow white. He was dignified and stern. Grandmother Hines had been an invalid for many years. She would occasionally have me come to her bedside and talk to her. A great sufferer, but always patient and kind.

To Grandpa and Grandma Howell, as well as all my uncles and aunts, I have always been tenderly devoted. Was never happier than allowed to go "out home" as we called it, to visit them. These visits would often extend into many a day. In fact, I spent a very large portion of my time with them. In closing, I will say that we are descendents of a noble line of ancestors. Sturdy, very pious pioneer stock. All English, Irish and Scotch. The blood that courses through your veins is the purest strain. Our forebears, of every branch, were intensely religious, fact were somewhat Puritanical in their ideas. There was never a "Black Sheep" to the fold at any time that I have ever heard of. You have just causes to be proud of your heritage.