

# The Pittsylvania Packet

Fall 1994



No. 14

Pittsylvania Historical Society  
Chatham, Virginia

### REPORT BY THE PHS PRESIDENT

The Pittsylvania Historical Society did it again! The Callands Festival (some call it the Autumn Potpourri) was another great success on October 1.

A salute to James "Mack" Doss who has been the PHS general chairman for the 15 years the event has been held at Pittsylvania County's historical landmark at the restored 1772 Callands Courthouse and old clerk's office (11 miles west of Chatham).

There was a great variety of all types of crafts (mostly handmade); and a great display of original paintings by well-known local artists.

There was an abundance of food items, including the famous fried apple pies cooked by the ladies of the Callands Volunteer Fire Department.

The entertainment was the main attraction, provided by various music groups playing old songs for the square dancing. The Long-Hunters displayed the Revolutionary War weapons and fired their muzzle-loading rifles. Old trappers showed off their furs.

The strolling Scotsman brought life to the old ballads of former years. A live historical skit written by Frances Hurt was held at the old Callands Courthouse featuring Samuel Callands, depicted events leading up to the Revolutionary War.

Political candidates for the U.S. Senate and Congress dropped by and had a field-day shaking hands. They expressed amazement at the crowd of some 13,000 "out there in the country."

The PHS offers appreciation to the Callands Volunteer Firemen who joined in helping to promote the festival, and prepared the parking lots, directed the heavy traffic and parking.

Yes, there will be another Callands Festival next year on the first Saturday in October. "Mack" Doss has already begun making preparations for it.

- By PBM

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**DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRE!**

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### AUTHOR TO READ FROM HER NOVEL

A real live author will be at the Pittsylvania Historical Society meeting Monday, November 21 to read from her just published book.

Helen Melton, who writes under the pen name of Kenyon McCann, has agreed to read from sections of her book that has just recently come off the press.

Its title is "Ride Into Darkness" - an exciting historical story - and is the first novel to have a Pittsylvania County setting.

The author will offer her book for sale after the program Monday night and will be happy to personally inscribe individual copies. The price: \$11.45, includes Virginia tax. For each book sold at Monday's meeting, Ms. McCann will donate \$1 to the historical society.

Remember the PHS meeting time and place: the old 1813 Clerk's Office behind Chatham Town Hall, Monday night, November 21 at 7:30.

# Markers and Portrait Local Reminders of Rachel Jackson

By Henry H. Mitchell

If Pittsylvania were to have a formal "Hall of Fame" for her sons and daughters, first on the list would be Rachel Donelson Jackson, wife of President Andrew Jackson. Rachel was born at the home of her father Col. John Donelson, ten miles east of present-day Chatham, on the Banister River, in 1767 -- also the birth year of Pittsylvania County itself. Rachel left Pittsylvania County at age 12 when her parents moved to Kentucky (then later Tennessee), the Donelson family thus becoming known as founding settlers of both those states.



This old photo shows Rachel Donelson's birthplace before it was destroyed by fire. (Cornfield is seen in front of cabin.)

At 17, Rachel married Lewis Robard of Mercer County, Kentucky, but the marriage did not last. Rachel then married Andrew Jackson, but it was later discovered that she was not legally divorced from her first husband. This embarrassing circumstance was used against the Jacksons by supporters of the opposition during Jackson's 1828 presidential campaign.

Even though Jackson won, the pressure of the campaign apparently brought on Rachel's final illness, and she died before her husband was inaugurated. Villified by some but loved by many, Rachel is the key figure in one of America's great love stories.

In 1929 Maud Carter Clement wrote on page 155 of her *History of Pittsylvania County* (available from the society) that the Donelson home is "still standing with long sloping roof and wide rock chimneys." At about that time the house was destroyed by fire, and in the late 1930s Myrtle Blair Motley (Mrs. Thomas F. Motley) launched a campaign to save the memory of the Rachel Donelson birthplace location.

Mrs. Motley's daughter, the late Mrs. Claude S. Whitehead Sr., recalled to this writer in 1989 that her mother had gathered stones herself, some from other locations including Cedar Hill Plantation, and hired laborers to place a commemorative chimney on the gentle rise of ground near Banister River where Rachel's home once stood (now the property of John Geyer).

The Friday, August 2, 1940 issue of the *Star-Tribune* included a photo of the unveiling of a marker on the commemorative chimney by the Thomas Carter Chapter of the DAR. The chimney can be seen today near VA 686 in the Markham community (see the map included in "Whispers of the 1700's in Central Pittsylvania County," an article published in the Fall 1992 Packet).

Virginia Historical Marker L-52, commemorating the Rachel Donelson birthplace site, now stands along the U.S. 29 bypass east of Chatham. For many years it stood in north Chatham but was moved in 1989 to its present more

visible site in response to a request from the board of directors of the Pittsylvania Historical Society.

Also in 1989, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. "Billy" Easley Johnson of Route 2, Gretna discovered a photograph of the Donclson home in the memorabilia of his mother, the late Mrs. Louise McCormick Johnson. This is the only photograph of the house known to exist. The house, although almost obscured by cornstalks in the picture, is clearly seen to have been rather large, almost certainly of the typical square one-and-a-half story construction common in the Pittsylvania area in the mid-to-late 1700's. Two massive chimneys flank the substantial clapboard structure. The house was probably very similar to the original wood portion of "Little Cherrystone" which sits two and a half miles east of Chatham near the intersection of VA 832 and VA 703.

Another county reminder of Rachel Jackson is a portrait of her which hangs in the Pittsylvania County Courthouse. The first portrait of Rachel (and the only one done during her lifetime) was painted in 1827. Andrew Jackson had a copy made in 1830 (the original remained with friends who had it commissioned, and it was eventually lost). The 1830 copy now hangs in the Jackson's Tennessee home, The Hermitage; our Courthouse portrait is apparently a copy of that 1830 copy. In the 1940's a rendition showing a more youthful and beautiful Rachel was painted for the White House, and remains there today.

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*Author's note: I have two questions which readers may be able to answer: First, are there other photographs of the original Donclson home on Banister River? Second, is there additional information available concerning the Pittsylvania copy of the Rachel Donclson Jackson portrait (artist, circumstances of its production, etc.)?*

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### *Estray Book Has Many Names*

The first "Book of Estrays 1773-1782" gives a long list of familiar names of persons who lived in early Pittsylvania County. It is fascinating and informative. It reports on lost animals and lists the names of the persons who reported finding them. It gives the date and location (such as creek, river, mountain, etc).

When a horse, cow, etc. strayed on to another's property, the land owner was quick to post an estray (written report) notifying the court clerk of its presence. A person could be accused of stealing if he did not report the stray.

The "Book of Estrays" compiled by Lucille Payne, has a full index of names of persons as well as locations. The price is \$20 ppd. Order from Homeplace Books, Route 2, Box 419, Axton, VA 24054.

Note: The following are two samples of the type of notices given in The Estray Book.

Taken up by the Subscriber living on Fly Blo Creek One Brindle Stear two years old last Spring marked with a Crop in right Ear and under keel in left a Short tail and Branded on right jaw. Charles FARISS SR. Sept. 8th 1777

We the Subscribers first Sworn before William Todd a Justice of the peace do appraise above Stear to LO.37.6 Current Money. R. FARGUSON James WADE David HUNT.

Taken up on Banister River a brown pide steer with a Star in his forehead, large horns about four years old last Spring Marked with Crop and Slit in his right ear and under keel in left. Crispin Shelton.

We the subscribers have appraised above mentioned Stray Stear to L4.10.0 Current Money of Virginia. Published Pittsylvania Sept. 20th 1777. Edmund PAYNE William JONES Allen ADAMS.

# Christmas in Colonial Chatham set for Saturday, December 3

For a merry pre-Christmas, you are invited to get into the holiday spirit and have fun in Chatham, Saturday, December 3 for CHRISTMAS IN COLONIAL CHATHAM.

This annual "colonial" event is sponsored by the Pittsylvania Historical Society, and everyone is cordially invited.

Main Street will be decked out in fresh greens with kerosene lanterns waiting until dusk to be lighted, and there will be some fascinating colonial impersonators from the county's racy past.

There will be tours of three charming homes, lavishly decorated for Christmas and each sparkling with music. Tickets in advance are \$5.50 and \$7 on day available at Pittsylvania Chamber of Commerce in Chatham.

An old fashion cake tasting with punch will be served by the ladies of the Pittsylvania Historical Society at the old 1813 Clerk's office. The chamber will hold open house all day with refreshments.

A strolling accordionist will enliven the scene, and a caricaturist will be here, and there will be an opportunity to win a free week at a lovely cottage on Cherrystone Lake.

There will be crafts at three places including an open house at the Nations Bank and Central Fidelity Bank and Town Hall.

Springs of mistletoe will be given out by the mistletoe ladies. The Chatham Rotarians hand out free ham biscuits as their ham boils in that legendary black pot over an open fire. And Chatham Lion Club members will give roast peanuts out to make persons feel welcome.

The amazing model train display, popular with the young and old, will be upstairs at town hall.

There will be old-fashion carriage rides (\$3). The Black Powder Rifle Hunters will also set up their camp.

A real feature will be a marvelous play (made famous by Jimmy Stewart) entitled "It's a Wonderful Life" performed at Hargrave Military Academy that night (\$3).

Pittsylvania Historical Society designates the proceeds to be used to renovate the Chatham Town Hall.

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## ARE YOU TIRED?

We have run across some absolutely irrefutable statistics that show exactly why you are tired. And it's no wonder you're tired. There aren't as many people actually working as you may have thought, according to our survey.

The population of this country is 200 million, 84 million over the age of 60 which leaves 116 million to do the work. People under the age of 20 total 75 million, leaving 41 million to do the work.

There are 22 million who are employed by the government which leaves 19 million to do the work. Four million are in the armed services, which leaves 15 million to do the work. Deduct 14,800,000 the number in state and city offices, leaving 200,000 to do the work. There are 188,000 in hospitals, institutes, etc., so that leaves 12,000 to do the work.

Now it may interest you to know that 11,998 people are in jail, so that leaves two people to carry the load. That's you and me...and I'm getting pretty tired of doing everything by myself.

# Novelty on the Cherrystone Moses Mill was 2nd Largest in County Back in the 1880's

By Herman Melton

The Seven Year War was sweeping across Europe, and the great Prussian Emperor, Frederick, had his back to the wall. Conscription of all able-bodied men was essential to stave off the onslaught of the combined French and Austrian armies.

One scholarly teenage Prussian youngster who did not wish to waste his life in wars was Abraham Moses - son of affluent parents.

He had been well educated in Frederick's schools in preparation for service to the state but chose instead to flee to America. Sadly, according to Moses family tradition, he was never able to seize any of the inherited wealth he had left behind.

He settled in the South in time to get caught up in the American Revolution in which he cast his lot with the Colonists while distinguishing himself in conflict. Ironically, he may have actually fought against some of the Prussian soldiers loaned to British King George III by Frederick the Great.

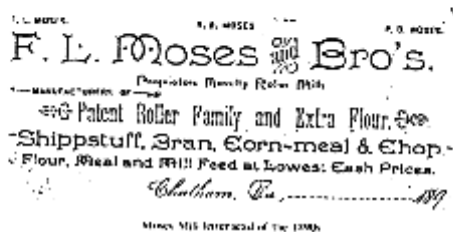
After the war, he continued to live in the South where he married, established a family and prospered before his passing in 1821 - the year after his son, Noah Alexander was born. That son is the principal subject of this narrative, and the one who lent his name to the mill on Cherrystone Creek, a mile west of Chatham.

Noah Alexander Moses was born in Mecklenburg, N.C., but lived in several places in the South during his boyhood. He married Roena Motley at Concord, NC in 1845 and sired 12 children - two of whom were born during the Civil War. Son Forest was named after the daring Confederate General, Nathan Bedford Forrest. Beauregard Moses was named after old P.G.T. himself.

After the Civil War, N.A. moved his family to Pittsylvania County, VA where he purchased a struggling mill on Cherrystone Creek from the remnants of the Ragsdale estate.

Under his management, the mill took on new life - the dreadful reconstruction notwithstanding. His success is not surprising since there is evidence of a streak of genius in this miller. He was no ordinary person, and it is known that he had other interests including a store at Moses Mill. From somewhere he inherited the title of Dr. N.A. Moses who worked on cures for cancer and stuttering. Among his other ventures were applications for a few patents for various items of farm equipment.

Family tradition has it that Noah Alexander Moses installed the first water turbine in a grist mill in the county. This replaced the less efficient (but more colorful) overshot water wheel. The title "Novelty Mill" was applied to the



This is an old letterhead  
used by Moses Mill in 1890.

establishment because of its unique modern equipment.

Figures from the Tenth Census (1880) indicate that Novelty Mill had a capital investment of \$6,000 and that it had 15 feet "fall" and two "runs" - one for corn and one for wheat. Since it ground 150 bushels of grain per day which brought in sales of \$15,150 annually, Novelty Mill became the second largest mill in Pittsylvania County. Moses' two employees received daily pay of \$1.80. The resourceful Moses began shipping Novelty Mill Flour far and wide by rail. Signs on the sides of the boxcars flamboyantly advertised the contents.

Novelty Mill fell victim to the scourge affecting many mills in the county. Its mill pond silted up, and this gradually but inexorably reduced its capacity. In consequence thereof, it was necessary to install steam equipment in 1920.

The end came for Noah Alexander Moses on Christmas Eve in 1890. His obituary noted that he was of the Baptist faith and that he was buried with Masonic rites.

Ownership of the mill passed into the hands of his sons, Forrest L. and Preston B. The brothers operated it until their passing in 1914 and 1915 respectively. Their younger brother, Bealle Moses, age 44, took over the reins at this juncture. It was under his careful tenure that the aforementioned steam equipment was installed.

The colorful old mill became Chatham's favorite recreation spot. Many youngsters caught their first fish in Moses Mill pond and learned to swim in the swift flowing tree lined race while the mill continued to produce quality products.

World War II was raging when a 500 year flood struck Pittsylvania County. A total of 14 inches of rain inundated the Cherrystone watershed on a weekend in mid-September of 1944. Moses Mill washed away as the creek rose to a record height of 26 feet. Bealle Moses almost lost his life when the mill building left its moorings with a resounding roar. Incidentally, the building contained the mill's metal safe which was never found. Pictured of the building lodged against a bridge a half mile downstream appeared in the next issue of the Pittsylvania Star. Its headline read: "Flood Does Great Damage as Streams Rise To Record Heights."

The irony is that the photo was snapped by the Star's Editor and Publisher, Preston B. Moses Jr. Surely, this was one of the saddest stories Moses was to cover during his half century of publishing as the mill, which his grandfather, father and uncles operated for 75 years, passed from the scene.

Fortunately, for posterity, Preston resumed oil and watercolor painting as a hobby after retirement and from vivid memory included the mill in his production of paintings of Chatham's historic sites. This is timely because portions of the building foundation, the base of the dam, the steam boiler stack and a submerged turbine are all that remain of a historic establishment with a proud title: Novelty Mill.

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NOTE: The above is excerpted from the book: "Pittsylvania's Nineteenth Century Grist Mills" by Herman Melton, noted historian and author. Copies may be ordered from the Historical Society (see back page).

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Little boy to his mother: "Grandma and Grandpa are sure nice. How come they never had any children?"

## Gives Interesting Picture of the Times **Old 1884 Newspaper Supported Democrats, Grover Cleveland**

By Preston B. Moses

I have a fascination for old newspapers, and especially for an issue of the *Pittsylvania Tribune* dated September 16, 1884 at Chatham, VA.

It was edited by L.H. Pigg who was also the owner. The old paper, now yellowed with age, is still legible.

It must have been profitable for the owner because it is more than half filled up with advertisements that include all sorts of ads dealing with health problems, patient medicines, and special cures for various ailments.

Editor Pigg made no bones about it - that he was strong for the Democrat candidates, Grover Cleveland for President, Thomas C. Hendricks for Vice-President and George C. Cabell for Congress from the Fifth Virginia District.

The editor proclaimed that "everything seems bright for the Democrat candidates."

He attacked the opposition, never mentioning the names of the Republican candidates. He wrote: "The Republicans are vigorously waving the bloody flag, and are endeavoring to rally their followers by appealing to the animosities of the past north and south issues. The GOP is predicting the direst calamities to the Union if the Democrats come into power. It's a constant attempt to array the people of the north and south against each section.

"This we condemn because we of the south long for national concord and are solid for good government and want to join hands for a better social order, and we can only do this by electing Cleveland and Democrats."

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Goolsbys General Store showed its support of Democrat Cleveland advertising "We have Cleveland whiskey - both rye and corn - warranted pure, just received."

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The school trustees for Tunstall district met at Brydon's Drug Store to set the date for school opening on Monday, October 20 and appointed the following teachers for the 15 schools in the district as follows: Miss Nora Guerrant as principal for Whitnell, Duval Porter at Cascade, C. G. Flitt at Brosville, Page Trotter at Barksdale, Nettie Breedlove at Mt. Cross, Sallie Trotter at Brosville, Lucy Still at Dunn's, Bettie Robertson at Harper's, Mary Lane at New Design, Alice Bennett at Voss, Eva Edwards at Glass, Maggie Luck at Linkey, E.R. Still at Dixon, Fannie Guerrant at Boaz and A.B. Swanson at Anderson school.

Teachers were required to sign contracts no later than Oct. 17.

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A news item told: John Robertson World Renowned Circus exhibited here last Tuesday. But owing to the fact that the circus train ran off the track, the street parade was not held and some of the performances had to be cut short or left out. But the collection of wild animals nearly came up to representation.

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A front page news item related: Mrs. Betsy Lipford died last week. All of the garments in which she was buried were spun and made by her own hands more than 60 years ago. They had been laid away for the purpose of which they were



uscd."

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Another short news item told: "There was very little brandy made in the county this year because of the inferior quality of the fruit." In a short news report, it called attention to the grand monthly drawing of the Louisiana State Lottery which will be the 173rd on October 14, 1884 in New Orleans for a top prize of \$75,000.

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Lawyers having advertisements in the **Tribune** were: James L. & J.A. Tredway, B.H. Munford, F.F. Bowen, George T. Rison, Horatio Davis, John Gilmer, Rosewell Page, John Martin, William T. Hutchings, G.O. Cabell and J.R. Oliver.

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W. T. Canada gave notice that he was opening a dentist office in Chatham with an office at Mrs. Payne's boarding house next to the courthouse.

Three separate auctioneers had ads in the paper: Charles E. Holt, J.A. Coleman and William C. Dove, all soliciting business for auction sales.

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Salesmen for Orchilla fertilizer had a big ad with their names and location: George T. Johnson and Thomas J. Patterson at Chatham, T.C. Creasy at Elba (Gretna), J.E. Haley at Motley, Charles D. Gooch at Chalk Level, J.P. Millner at Whittles, J.B. Anderson at Spring Garden, E.B. Fitzgerald at Ray, J.T. Adams at Staunton River and Garner Hedrick at Straightstone.

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Charles Viccellio announced he had opened a meat market next door to Hardy's Bar Room. He said, "I will have fresh meat three times a week, and oftener when the weather gets cooler."

H.D. Shepherd had this notice in the **Tribune**: "Bring your dried fruit to me. I pay highest prices for dried apples, peaches, blackberries and whortleberries."

An ad from a Danville drug store announced: "Just received at Parrish Drug Store, Main Street, Danville for sale - opium, morphia, ipecac, quinius, blue mass, colomel, ex-salts, camphor, cream tartar, alocs leandorum, paragoric spts, magnesia, divers powders and many other articles too numerous to mention."

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Dr. Lutz advertised his book now for sale entitled: "Secrets For Women" which he explained "makes self-care and self-treatment possible and successful." Price of copy - 50 cents.

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Advertisement proclaimed: "Absolute cure for worms is Clark's infallible worm syrup, safe and effective in its action. 25 cents per bottle."

How about this ad: "Many preparations which professionals say are harmless, often prove to be dangerous under certain conditions. But Dr. Bull's Baby Syrup is safe at all times. 25 cents at all drug stores."

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The railroad agent at Chatham, F. Holtzelow gave notice that the train service

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An advertisement in September 1884 issue of the **Tribune** was printed exactly this way: - "The Star Saloon with Charles Sours as proprietor is always full of pure liquors. Call and see for yourself."

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Why is it that opportunity always knocks, but temptation feels free to walk right in?

# Patricia Mitchell's Books Now Available Through Society

The Pittsylvania Historical Society now has available for our mail-order customers all the cookbooks published by Patricia Mitchell, society member and regular contributor to *The Packet*. The books are small soft-cover editions of approximately 27 pages each. The society will process an order of any five of these books for \$17.50 including shipping charges. Customers may select from over 40 titles.

Patricia currently has 19 books which deal with specific historical periods and ethnic contributions. Each of this category of her books contains authentic recipes, recipes adapted to modern usage, and commemorative recipes, plus extensive anecdotes, background information and careful footnoting for the convenience of researchers and re-enactors.

These titles include: *Cooking for the Cause: Confederate Camp Cooking*; *Confederate Home Cooking*; *Union Army Camp Cooking*; *Mrs. Billy Yank's Receipt Book*; *Yanks, Rebels, Rats & Rations: Scratching for Food in Civil War Prison Camps*; *Dining Cars and Depots*; *Victorian Parlors and Tea Parties*; *Victorian Vacation Recipe Book*; *Cooking in the Young Republic*; *French Cooking in Early America*; *La Cuisine Francaise des Premiers Annees...* (French translation of the previous title); *the Good Land* (Native American and early colonial food); *Soul on Rice: African Influences on American Cooking*; *Four Centuries of American Herbs*; *Girth of the Nation: Pleasures of the Palate in Early America*; *Revolutionary Recipes*; *Colonial Christmas Cooking*; and *Victorian Christmas Celebration Cookbook*.

Others of her books involve regional, nostalgic and health-conscious foods: *Coming Home for Christmas Cookbook*; *Christmas: How Sweet It Is!*; *Well, Bless Your Heart, Vol. I: Healthful Breakfasts, Brunches, Lunches*; *Well, Bless Your Heart, Vol. II: Healthful Dinners and Desserts*; *Southern Specialty Vegetables*; *Salad Days: Super Salads and Delicious Dressings*; *Simply Scrumptious Southern Sweets*; *The Take It Easy Good-Times Cookbook: Easy, Economical, Exciting Entrees*; *A Lick and a Promise: More Easy Recipes in All Categories*; *Waking Up Down South*; *Southern Breakfast Traditions*; *Delightful Dreams of Dixie Dinners: A Culinary and Sentimental Tour of the South*; *Just Naturally Sweet: Honey, Molasses, Sorghum and Maple Syrup Recipes (no refined sugar)*; *Sweet 'n' Slow: Apple Butter, Cane Molasses, and Sorghum Syrup Recipes*; *Apple Country Cooking: Apple Recipes, Anecdotes, Tales of Johnny Applesseed*; and *My Heart's in Louisiana But My Supermarket Isn't: Creole/Cajun Style Recipes*. Patricia also has a guide to south Louisiana's traditional Creole and Cajun restaurants entitled: *Hit the Road, Jacques!*

Patricia's personal kitchen specialty is breads, as is reflected in the following titles: *Loaves of Love: Yeast Breads With Emphasis on Whole Grains*; *True Grist: Cornmeal and Buckwheat Flour Recipes*; *Butter 'em White They're Hot: Original Delicious Biscuits, Muffins, Etc.*; *Southern Born and BREAD: Quick Loaf Breads*; *Grist Mill Quick Loaf Breads* (a second volume of quick breads); and *Crumbs Between The Covers: Homemade Bread for In and Out of Bed*.



*Here Are Some Pertinent Facts*  
**What Do You Know  
 About The Civil War?**

Here are some interesting and pertinent facts about the War Between the States 1861-1865, compiled by the Civil War Commission of Washington, D.C.

According to the US census, the population of the United States in 1860 numbered 31,443,321 persons. Of these approximately 23,000,000 were in the 22 northern states, and approximately 9,000,000 were in the 11 southern states. The total in the south included 3,500,000 slaves.

At one time or another, the number of soldiers involved in the war totaled 3,810,000 including both sides.

A total of approximately 513,332 were killed during the war (364,511 north and 148,821 south). One-third were killed or died of wounds, and two-thirds died of disease. The most prevalent diseases were dysentery, typhoid fever, malaria, pneumonia, measles and malnutrition.

The principal weapon of the war and the one which 80 percent of all wounds were produced was a single shot muzzle-loading rifle in the hands of the foot soldier. The bullet was soft-lead, about one-inch long, pointed at one end, hollowed out at the base, called a "minie ball," being invented by Capt. Minie of the French Army.

The muzzle-loading rifle could be loaded at the rate of about three shots per minute, and the maximum range of a musket was about 1,000 yards.

Artillery (cannons) was used extensively but only about 10 percent of wounded were victims of artillery fire.

Many doctors who saw service in the war had never been to a medical school but had only served as an apprentice in the office of an established practitioner. At an Army hospital set up in the Peninsula during 1862, there were as many as 5,000 wounded brought there after a battle and only one medical doctor and five

hospital stewards to care for them.

The Confederate cruiser "Shenandoah" sailed completely around the world raiding and destroying Union commercial vessels and whalers. It was six months after Lee's surrender at Appomattox that the ship and crew surrendered to English authorities at Liverpool after it was learned the war had ended.

There were large number of lads 14-years-old in the ranks of both the north and the south - and even some as young as 13. Many thousands no older than 16-years-old were especially in the Confederate Army.

During the War Between the States, one small section in Virginia was the bloodiest battleground. It was in an area barely 20 square miles including Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor and the Wilderness that more men were killed during the Civil War than were killed in all of the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, War with Mexico and Indian War. A total of 10 Union and nine Confederate Generals met death here.

At a battle at Lynchburg, VA in 1864, there were present on the field of battle USA ex-President General John Breckenridge of CSA Army and future presidents Maj. William McKinley and Gen. Rutherford Hayes of USA. Other Union Generals who later became US Presidents were U.S. Grant, Chester Arthur, James Garfield and Benjamin Harrison.

President Abraham Lincoln had four brothers-in-law who served in the Confederate Army.

Confederate Army General Robert E. Lee served as superintendent of the United States Military Academy at West point before the war.

The cost of the war is estimated to have cost the north (federal government) a total of \$6.19 billion by 1865. No estimate is available for the south, although the Confederate dollar had dropped in value to only six cents in 1864.

■ **Note:** The federal treasurer estimated by 1910 the total cost of the Civil War including the four years of the conflict and pensions, burials and hospitalizations amounted to \$11.5 billion. By comparison, the U.S. Congress this year, 1994, voted to spend \$31 billion just to fight crime for the next five years in the USA.

### LITTLE HUMOR MIXED WITH WAR

In Maud Clement's book of "Recollections of Confederate Veterans," Capt. Isaac Coles relates this little humorous incident about the Pittsylvania County (VA) Calvary:

"We went out on scout duty. When returning near dark, we came upon our own picket line. The pickets halted us, demanding 'who goes there?'

"Our lead scout called out promptly - 'Pittsylvania Calvary.'

"The pickets misunderstood and thought we said 'Pennsylvania Calvary' - and raised their guns to fire on us when Bill Clark excitedly yelled back - 'Don't shoot, don't shoot -- it's us.'

"We felt pretty important and thought everybody would know who 'us' is. Well we learned that night never to say 'Pittsylvania Calvary' again.

"Thereafter we always said 'Virginia Calvary.'"

## *Lend an ear to the story*

"Virginia, Botetourt County, this day came George Clark, John Long, also Thomas Wilson, all of the County and State...aforesaid, who being first sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, doth depose and say that on Saturday the 27th day of last August 1796, the said deponents being personally present or near the land of Mrs. Margaret Paxton, in the said county, did then and there see a certain Jacob Custard and a certain George Linenhoger fight on the main road leading from Pattonsburg to the Great Lick and the Courthouse of the County, during which fight the above named Jacob Custard...did in a violent manner, bite off the left ear of the said George Linenhoger. (From Botetourt County, VA. deed book no. 6 page 60, year 1796.

The recordation of the affidavit showing this incident was made because of a law which provided that upon conviction of a certain criminal offense, the punishment included having a piece of his ear cut off. Hence, a man without part of this ear was suspect of this offense and had to prove otherwise.

The best defense he could offer was a sworn statement as to how he received the injury other than by a penal procedure. (George Linenhoger was a large landholder in the Roanoke area in 1838.)

From "Seed - Bed of the Republic" by Stoner.

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### FIVE YEARS AFTER THE WAR

It was five years after the Civil War that the Federal Congress pulled the Union (Yankee) troops out of the southern states. It was on January 26, 1870 that Congress voted to return the state government to the state civil authorities.

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### RESEARCHING SWEDISH GENEALOGY?

The Swedish Foundation of Genealogical Societies will answer any question about Swedish genealogy and give information about professional genealogists. It was formed in 1986 and includes more than 80 of the 120 societies that exist to help in Swedish research. They do read and write in English. Write: Sveriges Slapforshae forbund, Box 152222 S-161 15, Bromma, Sweden.

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### ELLEN SAYS IT WORKS

Ellen Payne Odom says if you are having difficulty getting the family group sheets back from a relative, then make out one as completely as possible but make the wife 10 years older than you think she is. It almost always works, Ellen says with a hee, hee, hee!!!

### QUARANTINE

Italian for quaranta meaning forty. A ship suspected of being infected with contagious disease was kept outside port for forty days.

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### IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE ADDRESS

If you know the town and state but not the address, a letter addressed, leaving room for street and number or box number, enclosed in an envelope addressed to the Post Master with a couple of dollars will be delivered, and you will be sent the address along with a receipt of the money. (It will be a good idea to send a check payable to "Postmaster."

. From Williamson County (TX) Gen. Society.

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## Thanks Barbara for Your Letter

■ **Editor's Note:** The Editor of *The Packet* wishes to thank Barbara Kynette for writing to give us this information about our recent item about "Maps".

Dear Editor:

I was following up several of the resources you listed in *The Packet* regarding maps. The first, Earth Science Information Center, said they really didn't have a catalog and that their maps were based on US Geological Surveys which only began in 1879.

The second, Rand McNally Map Co., was said to have an archivist who could locate towns no longer on maps. I called the number given, a 312 area code and repeatedly got the message that I was misdialing -- by the way I am in the Chicago area which is the 312 area code. So I looked it up in a directory and realized it's in a suburb, like the township I live in, and about three years ago we were assigned 708 as an area code which differentiates us from the city.

Anyway, I finally got the company and was told that some years ago they had transferred their archives to the Newberry Library in Chicago. This is a library I have access to, but it certainly wouldn't be one that many of your members could get to easily.

Anyway, just thought I'd let you know that both of these leads should bear caveats, the first because of time limits and the second because of limited access.

From Barbara Kynette, 1142 Judson, Evanston, IL 60202.

### MEMBERS WRITE LETTERS

I tremendously enjoy the invaluable historical information in the Pittsylvania Historical Society publication *The Packet* about my native county. Lillian Mahan Habermann, 549 Center St., Wood Ridge, NJ 07075.

Thank you for your prompt reply to my letter requesting information on our Bennett family in Pittsylvania County, VA - and your offer to publish a query (free) in *The Packet*. May A. Dietrich, 4022 Lawn Avenue, Western Springs, IL 60558.

I certainly enjoyed getting and reading my first issue of *The Packet*. I am looking forward to corresponding with others who are related to my families and are interested in researching them. Elizabeth R. Cameron, 8551 E. Fairview Avenue, San Gabriel, CA 91775.

Thank you for sending me a sample copy of *The Packet*. I have written to Jeannette Brown to become a member of the PHS. Ralph A. Caldwell, 2575 Fannie Thompson Road, Monroe, GA 30655.

Please accept my check to join the Pittsylvania Historical Society. I am interested in the Lanier and William families. Curtis William, 9505 118th N. Seminole, FL 34642.

Please find a check for \$15 as a contribution to your society in recognition for the assistance given me by Herman Melton in my research of a grist mill owned by my ancestor Stephen Coleman. T. Richard Ferrell Jr., 2138 Seven Pines Lakes, West End, NC 27376.

We are researchers of the Jefferson and Graves families and would like to join

your society and receive your publication **The Packet**. We are researching these families (many were prominent in Pittsylvania Co., VA) from England and elsewhere to present generations. Herbert and Evelyn Barger, 2017 Tinker Drive, Ft. Washington, MD 20744.

I am sending a check for the membership to the PHS, and I want to send for the "History of Pittsylvania County" by Maude Carter Clement. It is always an advantage to know something of the history and geography of the area ones ancestors resided in. Jean Wilcox, 41 N. Gull View, Millsboro, DE 19966.

I greatly enjoy the stories in **The Packet**. Though small in size, it holds my attention more than other genealogical publications which seem to pander to the masses. I have an old paperback on my bookshelf which is titled "Small is Beautiful." That describes **The Packet** perfectly. Calvert B. Shelton, 3218 Skinner Mill Road, Augusta, GA 30909.

I am happy to make this contribution to the society. Since so many of my father's ancestors lived in Pittsylvania County (Sparks, Stone, Shelton, Morgan, etc.) I have a very special interest in the PHS. I have most of the books that are available about the county, so I feel as though I know it very well. Mrs. Helen Sparks Dreker, 838 Lois Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

There are so many suggestions for locating ancestors, records and helpful tips in your interesting publication. Norma Myers, P.O. Box 415A, Medora, ND 58645.

I can't bear to miss a copy of **The Packet**. I read the article about Mrs. Swanson at the "writers workshop." It resulted in an order for Patricia's book. Anna W. Kenney, 1060 Showalter Drive #216, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

I have received several letters from people who are researching their Davis ancestors in Pittsylvania County having been referred to me by PHS. Please make sure your records indicate that I am researching Chapman and Fisher ancestors who resided in Pittsylvania County ca 1780 through 1820, and not Davis. I have not begun researching my husband's Davis family, and I doubt if they have any connection to Pittsylvania County (although one never knows!) Darla Davis, 1 Warbler Lane, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926.

### COOKBOOK GETS SECOND PRINTING

Due to a continuing demand for the historical cookbook "Idle Hens Don't Lay," it has been reprinted.

It is a collection of Pittsylvania recipes and features art sketches of the area landmarks.

Notable additions are microwave hints, uses of home grown products, and it has a spindle binding.

Mary Catherine Plaster, (phone 804-432-8945) is the editor and it is profusely illustrated by Nancy Poteat Compton. The cookbook sells for \$9.50 plus \$2.43 for postage and tax. Orders may be placed through the Pittsylvania Historical Society (see back page).

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## November 1994 Queries

(Free to members to aid others with similar interests.)

Joseph MART first appears in any record in Pittsylvania County with his marriage to Sandal VADEN March 1802. Any help as to his origin, any connection to Nathaniel MART, Giles Co. 1810 census - goes to Gallia Co., Ohio, 1825. Any help or ideas will be much appreciated. Write to Lloyd W. MART, 311 East 8th Ave. Hutchinson, KS 67501.

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Samuel HARVEY inherited 100 acres of land in the Sandy River area from Robert CULLOM in his will in 1787. Who was Samuel HARVEY's father and where did the Harvey family come from? Samuel and his wife, Alice BURNETT, were both born in Virginia about 1770, married in Pittsylvania County 12 Jan. 1793. Parents of John, Richard, Francis, Mary, William, Polly, Missouri, Elizabeth and Samuel. Samuel died in 1822 and "Aalsey" died in 1856 in Pittsylvania. Would love to correspond with any one working on this family. Please write: Elizabeth CAMERON, 8551 E. Fairview Ave., San Gabriel, CA 91775.

\*\*\*\*\*

Need help to find Micajah Nicoll WYATT, (Will). He was born March 7, 1770 Prince William Co., Maca, Va. d. 1831 at the time of his death, he was a resident of Halifax County, VA. He was owning land on Brush Creek since 1807. I would like to know what Micajah N. WYATT wife name. She b. about 1774 of Prince William County, VA and her father and mother name. Write Lula B. TONER, 28448 E. 1121st St., Coweta, OK 74429.

\*\*\*\*\*

Need wife and parents of Jeremiah RAWLINS, whose 1804 (pr 1806) Caroline Co. will names sons Peter (dec'd), Jeremiah, William (in Halifax), Henry, Albin and George (dec'd). Of these, William m. 1788. in Caroline Co., Sarah, daughter of Melchizedek and Mary (CHILES) BRAME, and died 1836 in Franklin Co., TN. Their daughter Sarah Leland RAWLINS m. 1834, Pittsylvania Co., VA., Thompson COLEMAN, son of Col. Daniel COLEMAN. Please write Felix Earle LUCK, 8 St. John's Avenue, P.O. Box 506, Mt. Tabor, NJ 07878-0506.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seeking the children and parents of a Seth CALDWELL who resided in Pittsylvania Co. in 1782 through 1788 prior to moving to Montgomery County around 1789. Seth's wife was Elizabeth, and they had a daughter Sarah. Will exchange CALDWELL information with interested parties. Ralph A. CALDWELL, 3575 Fannie Thompson Road, Monroe, GA 30656.

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WRIGHT/DOSS: What happened to Agnes DOSS? She was born 1766, Pittsylvania County, VA and married George WRIGHT March 8, 1802 in Campbell County, VA. They had children: Ambrose, Sally, Wilson, John, Meredith, Lucy, Alexander, and Campoen. Mrs. Barbara Doss MCKINLAY, 2740 La Cuesta Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90046.

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NORTON-MURPHY: Pittsylvania County, VA., Court Record Book 30, Page 199, Dec. 1832, names William D. NORTON, Henry W. NORTON, and Nicholas P. NORTON as minor heirs of their deceased mother Elizabeth (MURPHY) NORTON in distribution of her father William D. MURPHY's (he died 1821/22) estate. Seek any information on these children. Are they living in Coffee county, Tennessee in 1850 census? Write to Patricia Lee MURPHY, Oglethorpe Place, Apt. #5, 455 Mall Boulevard, Savannah, GA 31410.

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## (QUERIES -- CONTINUED)

Who were the parents and siblings of Hezekiah BENNETT and Frances HARDY? Married 3 Aug. 1793 in Pittsylvania Co., VA. Hezekiah born 1773 VA. Died 1825 in Gibson Co., In. Frances born March 1773. Died 1836 in Gibson Co., Indiana. Will share information on their descendants, write to May A. DIETRICH, 4022 Lawn Ave., Western Springs, IL 60558.

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Searching for parents and possible siblings of Matthew P. HALL, born 1824 in Virginia. Married Sarah C. JACKSON, Dickson County, TN. 1847. Two children Elizabeth and B.F. - Matthew died in the Civil War serving in the Tenn. 50th Infantry. Write to Steve H. HALL, 1021 Hardesty Road, Ashland City, TN 37015.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information on George PECK who seemed to come from Hampshire Co., VA. and lived close to Alexander GIBONY and Nicholas SEAVER. Henry SEAVER, who lived in Botetourt Co. had a daughter, Elizabeth, who married James LEMAR about 1796 with Bondsmen Jacob and William SEAVER. Any connection to these two families is unknown. Relatives of all these families are known in Nodaway Co., MO in 1850 and seem to have gone there as a unit. Any help will be appreciated. Write Charles B. SEVERS, 5117 Euclid Avenue, Louisville, KY 40272.

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Would like information on Jonathan PRICE to 1732 Berks Co., PA and died 1809 Franklin Co., VA. His son, Evan, married Ann GILLIAM (GILLUM) daughter of Peter and Anne Heard GILLIAM. Anne was the daughter of Stephen and Mary Faulkner HEARD Sr. All lived in Henry, Franklin and Pittsylvania Counties, VA before moving to GA. Write to Mrs. Joseph MIONE, 1718 Ridgemont Drive, Wichita Falls, TX 76309.

\*\*\*\*\*

I am looking for parents and siblings of Abraham WHITWORTH born between 1795 and 1780. If anyone has any knowledge of this family please contact Mrs. Catherine M. HILBERT, 126 Chantilly Avenue, Louisville, KY 402214. Phone (502)-367-2537. I am also looking for Mary WHITWORTH who married George OVERTON. They had 10 children. I have names of five - need other five children and dates of whole family.

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Would like any data on Thomas MIDKIFF and Rachel B. DOVE, daughter of William DOVE, who married January 9, 1837 in Pittsylvania County, VA. They eventually moved to Tennessee. Write to Jean WILCOX, 41 N. Gull View, Millsboro, DE 19966.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seek information: Descend 1750 Bladon Co., NC. James PUGH Sr. (son of Col. Francis PUGH Jr. and Forebee SAVEGE of 1730s Bertie Co., NC) and Mary WHITMELL, daughter of 1730s Bertie Co., NC. Col. Thomas WHITMELL III and Elizabeth Hunter BRYAN. Seek information on Col. WHITMELL's forebears in Virginia. What is the Whitmell Connection with Tunstall District in Pittsylvania County, VA? Write to J.A. L. MILLER Jr., 2810-K Carriage Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27106-5328.

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Seek KELLY (or KELLEY) burial grounds, or any KELLY prior to 1860, especially that of James KELLY or James E. KELLY, Thomas KELLY or Elizabeth and Hugh KELLY. Also interested in name of first wife of James E. KELLY - and any and all births, deaths and names prior to 1810. Write to Vickie C. BEESON, 109 Forestdale Dr., Jamestown, NC 27282.

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## (QUERIES -- CONTINUED)

Seeking to connect with any other researchers who have information on John SHELTON who was living in 1790 in Pittsylvania Co., VA. John or a relative David SHELTON may have migrated to Jessamine Co., KY. in the early 1800's, ultimately giving rise to John SHELTON and many descendants in Washington County, Southern Indiana. If these details are significant to any reader please contact me. Write to Mark PENN, 16052 East Placid Dr. Whittier, CA 90604.

\*\*\*\*\*

Searching for the names of the parents of William SHELTON (b. ca 1735-40 d. 1794) wed Hannah YATES; John YATES (b ca 1720 d 1777-78) wed Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_. William SHELTON and John YATES families resided in Pittsylvania Co., VA. Contact Mrs. Clifford (Gomez Shelton) HEDLUND, 1444 Jewett Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6208.

\*\*\*\*\*

Need information on the GLANDON - MEYERS surnames, Stephen GLANDON born Sept. 6, 1815, Grayson County, VA., married Anna MEYERS, who was born October 25, 1817, Pittsylvania, Pittsylvania County, Va. Any help will be greatly appreciated. I do have material, charts on descendants of this family that I will be glad to exchange." Sharon KELLEY, P. O. Box 336, Wendell, Idaho 83355.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seeking information about Ambrose, Archibald, William and John COMPTON who lived in Amelia and Pittsylvania Counties in 1700s. Archibald was in the Revolutionary War and died 1826. Where is he buried? Anyone who may know or have proof that Patrick Henry COMPTON was son of Archibald, write Helen GIVLIANA, 3136 E. Enid Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85204.

\*\*\*\*\*

Trying to locate Jacob DEEN and wife Susannah HOTTY of VA (about 1766). He was a Methodist-Episcopal minister. Also John JOHNSON b. 1763 d. 1853. He was Revolutionary War soldier, also J. BRANDON b. 1772 in NC. Please write Thurman H. DEEN, 11248 Juniper Avenue, Morongo Valley, CA 92256.

\*\*\*\*\*

I would like to correspond with anyone related to or having information of this family line. Parents, siblings and descendants of Micajah Hopson MERRICKS, Callands, Pittsylvania County, 1819-1885 and second wife, Martha Susan BELL of Henry County, Virginia, 1836-1891. Write James B. BYRD Sr.; 6006 Leewood Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310-1918.

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Seeking information on Berryman GREEN of Halifax County. His son Berryman GREEN Jr. lived in Danville, VA. David GREEN 1412 S. 4th Ave. Thatcher, Arizona 85552.

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*All About County's Largest Family*

A detailed genealogy of the Sheltons is in April Miller's new book - "Shelton County," which is all about Pittsylvania County's largest family.

The text includes all branches of the Sheltons, whose descendants still remain in this Virginia County.

It has documentation of sources as well as numerous old photographs. Available now, price \$25 plus \$2.50 postage, to reserve copy write April Miller, Route 1, Box 22A, Chatham, VA 24531. Phone 804-432-4223..

April is a 12th generation Virginian, and has six different lines of Shelton Ancestry. She is a member of the DAR, UDC, Colonial Dames, Jamestown Society and others - all joined through Pittsylvania ancestry. Her first book "The Green Sea" dealt with Norfolk County genealogics.

# Heartfelt Thanks to PHS Members for Contributions

Dorothy Dean Harris, who is chairman of the Pittsylvania Historical Society "solicitation committee," reports an excellent response from members to the fundraising project in support of our society. She makes the following report:

"As we go to press, we have received \$1,000 from our solicitation letter. Replies have come from 20 states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin.

"Some of you wrote notes expressing appreciation for the work of the society. Others sent words of encouragement.

"A most interesting letter was received from Robert G. Dalby of Merriville, Indiana. He wrote that his great, great, great, great grandfather William, and three of his brothers, Robert, Thomas and Champress, were from Pittsylvania County and fought in the Revolutionary War. William's younger brother, Champress, was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. What a beautiful heritage. Thank you, Mr. Dalby, for sharing this with us.

"We are grateful to all of you generous caring people for your contributions and your notes," Mrs. Harris concludes in her heartfelt thanks.

Here is the list of contributors as of noon October 15:

Mrs. Athleen Adams, Roy L. Adams, Mrs. George Balmer, Mrs. Robert R. Bayes, Hubert D. Bennett, Robert L. Bennett, M/M John O. Bew, Mrs. W.W. Billips, William I. Booth Jr., Mary Ellen Bredenkoetter, Mrs. Elizabeth F. Broshears, Mr. and Mrs. Loyd R. Bruce.

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"THE PACKET" -- Published by the

PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 1206 -- Chatham, Virginia -- Phone (804) 432-5031

Preston B. Moses, President & Editor of "The Packet"

Frances Hurt, Vice President      Susan Worley, Corresponding Secty.

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Directors: Norman Amos, Virginia Chapin, James "Mack" Doss, Alice Overbey and

Catherine Overbey

Membership Dues: \$10 single, \$15 couple. Please mail to Mrs. Jeannette A. Brown, Membership Secretary, Route 1, Box 8K6, Chatham, VA 24531, Phone: (804)-432-2607. Member gets membership card and "The Packet."



# First Class Mail

## THE PACKET - Box 1206 - Chatham, VA 24531

THE PACKET is the quarterly publication of the Pittsylvania Historical Society for members and those who are interested in the history of their families and the area in which they lived.

### PITTSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

To order, write SUSAN WORLEY, Rt. 2, Box 223, Chatham, VA 24531

History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia by Maud Carter Clement. The history of the county, reprinted in hard cover. \$24 postpaid.

Eighteenth Century Landmarks of Pittsylvania County, Virginia by Madalene Fitzgerald and Frances Hurt. Revised, completely indexed. Soft cover. \$12 postpaid.

An Intimate History of the American Revolution in Pittsylvania County by Frances Hurt. Many little-known family stories, scores of surnames, roster of Pittsylvania soldiers. Illustrated and fully indexed, reprinted in hard cover. \$17 postpaid.

Footprints from the old Survey Books by Roger Dodson. Land surveys of Halifax and Pittsylvania Counties. Thousands of names. Soft cover. \$12 postpaid.

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Pittsylvania's Eighteenth Century Grist Mills by Herman Medton. Histories of mills built in 1700's. Richly illustrated, indexed, half cover. Over 300 family names appear. \$17 postpaid.

Idle Hens Don't Lay. Historical cookbook. Mary Catherine Plaster, editor. Art work by Nancy Compton. Collection of Pittsylvania County recipes. \$9.50 plus \$2.43 postage and tax.

Historical Cookbooks by Patricia B. Mitchell. Select any five from the list on page 10 of this issue. \$17.50 postpaid.

Pittsylvania Packet, Society periodical, free postpaid to members.

Books make perfect gifts!