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Visit the website for Gloucester Genealogical Society of Virginia at
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vaggsv/
LRHunt.ggsv@gmail.com
The Editor’s Page—

Welcome to Volume 18 of The Family Tree Searcher. The Gloucester Genealogy Society of Virginia has been at the task of reporting and interpreting stories about our ancestors for eighteen years making sure that our history is not forgotten. I urge you to join with us and share your story.

Three new publications have joined us in taking up this task, and they are reviewed in our current issue: Gloucester and Mathews Newspaper Articles 1737 – 1922, compiled by Joan Charles; 1820 Court Minute Book of Gloucester County, VA, compiled by Genevieve V. Brei; and Old Newspapers of Gloucester, VA 1869 – 1898, compiled by William Lawrence. This is a banner year for publications about Gloucester history, and we commend the people who published these collections. Two are available for sale at the Gloucester Museum and the Gloucester Visitors Center, and the third can be viewed at the museum and the Gloucester Public Library.

Sue Silver has contributed a very interesting mystery story about tracking down some members of the Seawell family as they moved stealthily across the continent. We welcome her as a contributor to the journal. I predict you will find her article enjoyable.

We also have two articles that talk about the families of a single married couple. The article “Capt. Junius Brutus Browne, CSA” talks about his ancestors and his family, and “The Special Marriage of Richard Roane and Elva Worrell” talks about the family of Junius’ wife, Emily Roane.

The story of the Garlands is about an African-American family in Gloucester during the second half of the nineteenth century. Doctor Garland was a contemporary of Junius and Emily and would have known many of the same people and probably each other. These were tumultuous times both before and after the “great unpleasantness” (the Civil War). We hope that you will find the stories about people who lived during that time and might have associated with our grandparents interesting and informative.

Lee Brown, Editor
Virginia to California and Nevada: Tracking the Seawells of Gloucester and District of Columbia

By Sue Silver
Hawthorne, Nevada

I recently agreed to transcribe a series of local government meeting minutes that begin in June of 1861. On completion of the first set of minutes, I was intrigued to know who the men and residents of the early mining camp of Aurora, in the Esmeralda Mining District, were. The town was then thought to be in the new county of Mono, California, but later determined to be in Esmeralda County, in the Territory of Nevada.

Today Aurora, now in Mineral County, is one of the most interesting ghost towns in Nevada, given there is virtually nothing left of it; save one standing wall, one Joshua Hendry stamp mill, and a few gravestones in the cemetery.

Aurora’s big “boom” came in late 1860 and lasted roughly four or five years before lawsuits over mining claims halted activity at the town and turned it on a downward spiral that it never quite recovered from. Its history is recounted in several books and publications and several areas of the old town site are now being archaeologically surveyed in small projects conducted by the University of Nevada, Reno, in connection with the U. S. Forest Service.

So how did a local historian and researcher in Nevada come to write for The Family Tree Searcher in Gloucester, Virginia? It all started with the name of W. M. Seawell. Seawell’s name had been encountered during research for my most recent local history book, Along the East Walker River, Nevada (2013), in which he was identified as the husband of the sister of one of the families who settled on the river, located northerly from Aurora. Other than associating him as the brother-in-law of one of the Wheeler brothers, little other note was made of Seawell in the book. But his name being found in these early county minutes just transcribed peaked my interest, so I decided to include him in a series of biographical sketches that will accompany the transcribed minute books.

That is where the trouble began, for, except for the federal census of 1860, where he was in Tuolumne County, California, and the Nevada State Census of 1875, W. M. Seawell was nowhere else to be found. The 1860 census identified his place of birth to be the District of Columbia and, between that census and the 1875 Nevada census, his approximate date of birth year was between 1829 and 1831. Going to available online records for the Washington County, District of Columbia, I found a marriage record for Lt. Washington Seawell and Martha Mackey, but the marriage date of July 2, 1832, was after the years identified for W. M. Seawell.

Still, Lt. Washington Seawell’s name was the only Seawell found in the time frame I sought to find the elusive W. M. Seawell. The search for a way to tie my Mr. Seawell to Washington Seawell began. That is when I found the article by L. Roane Hunt on the latter in The Family Tree Searcher, Vol. 5, No. 1, 2011. While it was an interesting article and pointed me in directions for Washington Seawell, it did nothing to aid me in connecting
Undaunted, I continued searching western states’ records for my Mr. Seawell, both in Nevada and California, where I did find information on him that led me back to the family of Washington Seawell. In the only California record found online, my Mr. Seawell was identified as William Mackey Seawell on the 1892 San Francisco County Great Register of Voters. A native of the District of Columbia, Mr. Seawell was 67 years of age, making his birth year about 1825. He therefore could not be the son of Washington Seawell and Martha Mackey who had married in 1832, although given his middle name it was tempting to push the envelope in trying to connect him to the man who was eventually promoted to Brevet General of the U. S. Army and was an early commander of Benicia Barracks in Solano County.

It was then that I went back to the online records of the District of Columbia, but failed to find another Seawell entry that would assist me. In desperation I emailed L. Roane Hunt to inquire if there were any records connecting a William Mackey Seawell to the family of Washington Seawell, but there was none that was known in the Gloucester records.

By this time, I was determined that I was going to find out what, if any, connection to the Gloucester Seawells there might be. Working from my home desk in Hawthorne, Nevada, I began an intensive search for all things related to Washington Seawell and the Seawells of Gloucester, hoping beyond hope for that slim thread that might tie William Mackey Seawell to his ancestral family.

The result of my search is less than conclusive and is mainly theoretical, at best. In the end that is the best that can be said of it. My theory then is presented to the historians, genealogists, and researchers of Gloucester’s past:

Washington Seawell was one of two Seawell brothers who married daughters of William Mackey of Georgetown, Washington County, D. C. His older brother, Francis Thornton Seawell, who had been born in Gloucester County, Virginia, on July 24, 1898, had moved to Georgetown around 1822 to work as an inspector at the federal government’s Custom House.

Francis T. Seawell’s youngest son, Henry S. Seawell, possessed a letter written to his father by Maria H. Tyler Seawell, the wife of Francis Seawell’s brother, John Boswell Seawell. Maria was the sister of then U.S. Senator John Tyler, later President of the United States. Datelined York Town,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descendants of John Seawell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>John Seawell</strong>, b. 1760, d. 1806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ m. <strong>Frances Hobday</strong>, b. 1762, d. 1814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>John Boswell Seawell</strong>, b. 1780, d. 1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Maria Henry Tyler</strong>, b. 1784, d. 1843*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sterling Seawell</strong>, b. ?, d. abt 1813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Frances Green Seawell</strong>, b. ?, d. 1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>William Edwards IV</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Courtney Seawell</strong>, b. 1795, d. 1855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Thomas G. Cluverius</strong>, b. 1784, d. 1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overton Seawell</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thomas Machen Seawell</strong>, b. 1798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Mildred ?</strong>, b. 1792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jane Seawell</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Peyton Burwell</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Francis Thornton Seawell</strong>, b. 1798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 1st <strong>Mary E. Mackey</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 2nd <strong>Helen ?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benjamin Seawell</strong>, b. 1801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Rebecca Burwell Perrin</strong>, b. 1802, d. 1873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Washington Seawell</strong>, b. 1802, d. 1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 1st <strong>Martha Mackey</strong>, b. ?, d. 1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 2nd <strong>Susan Amelia Bloom</strong>, b. ?, d. 1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 3rd <strong>Mary Bullitt</strong>, b. 1817, d. 1852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Maria H. Tyler, sister of Pres. John Tyler, who had owned a large estate in Gloucester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Virginia to California and Nevada

Va., 23rd March 1822 and addressed to "Francis Thornton Seawell, Custom House, George Town, D. C.,” Maria had written:

Gloucester, March 23

Dear Thornton - Seawell deputes me this office as he is so busily engaged with his scene as to be unable to write himself, and I assure you it is a very agreeable one as I have it in my power to inquire after your health and how you stood the fatigue of your journey. S - bids me ask you to send by the captain a barrel of flour and one of whiskey I take it from the freight he intended to have directed him to get this whiskey in Norfolk but as he did not see him it escaped his memory. We are catching fish now at a great rate, boats and the gill nets do execution every night and the hauling seine is just ready to go in the water. We got a note from Dr. Taliaferro yesterday. He enquired particularly about you and hopes you did not through indifference leave the county without calling on him. The children all send their love, they are constantly talking of you. I am in great haste for John to carry this to York as we fear losing the first mail, so must bid you adieu with assurances of sincerest esteem. – Yours "M. H. Seawell"

Two years later, Francis T. Seawell was married to Miss Mary Mackey, daughter of William Mackey of Georgetown, on May 27, 1824.[2] The 1830 federal census for Georgetown, Washington County, D. C. included the household of Francis T. Seawell and enumerated there among the “Free White Persons” were two male children under the age of 5 years, 1 male aged 15 to 19 years, one male aged between 30 and 39 years of age, and one female aged between 20 and 29 years. Two female slaves, one between 10 and 23 years of age and one 24 to 35 years of age, were also enumerated in the Seawell household that year. [3]

Feeling confident this was the family of the brother of Washington Seawell, I noted that there were two male persons, presumably Seawell’s sons, born in the approximate time frame that my Mr. W. M. Seawell had been born. This discovery kept my focus on Francis T. Seawell, and I continued to seek out more information about his family.

The 1840 federal census enumeration was not as convincing to me as the 1830 had been that I had found the right family, but I recorded it anyway. Enumerated in New Albany, Floyd County, Indiana, on the north bank of the Ohio River from Louisville, Kentucky, was the household of one F. T. Seawell. This household included only “Free White Persons,” enumerating 2 males between 5 and 9 years of age, 2 males 10 to 14 years old, 1 male aged between 40 and 49 years, and one female between 20 and 49 years old. There were no slaves enumerated in the Seawell household this year. There were no other online records found available in Indiana for F. T. or Francis T. Seawell.

In a Historic American Building Survey (HABS) Report documenting the Smith-Martin Rowe House on P Street in

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1 Los Angeles Herald, May 26, 1907.
2 Daily National Intelligencer, June 1, 1824.
3 All censuses noted were found using Ancestry.com.
Washington (Georgetown), District of Columbia, Seawell’s father-in-law, William Mackey, is mentioned as one of the property’s prior owners. [4] The report noted that Mackey had acquired the property in 1827 and also noted that on the death of William Mackey in 1839, he left as heirs Ann I. [sic=J.] Cruikshank [the wife of Richard Cruikshank], Alexander Mackey, Sarah C. Mackey, and Mary Seawell [the wife of Francis T. Seawell], his children; and John W. Seawell and James M. Seawell, “the children of Martha M. Seawell, his daughter who died in his lifetime.” Martha M. Seawell was the wife of Washington Seawell and had died in Tampa Bay, Florida, only a short time before her father.

The author noted an 1840 Chancery Cause which Richard Cruikshank, Ann I. [sic] Cruikshank, Alexander Mackey, and Sarah C. Mackey brought against John W. Seawell, James M. Seawell, Francis T. Seawell, and Mary E. Seawell [the wife of Francis T. Seawell] in relation to certain Georgetown properties. [5] The discussion noted that: “On December 20, 1841, Mary E. Seawell was found by the jury to be a lunatic.” The reason for this legal action is not apparent.

From New Albany, Indiana, the next census to identify the possible family of Francis T. Seawell was found in 1850 at Marion Township, Buchanan County, Missouri, east of Saint Joseph and the Platte River. This is the first census year in which all the members of the household are identified by name and is the earliest census record to definitively tie family members to one another without providing specific relationships. In the “Francis Sewell” household this year, the census enumerator listed the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Birthplace</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Francis Sewell</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>[no occupation listed]</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Sewell</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>born Kentucky</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornton Sewell</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>born D.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Sewell</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>born D.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Sewell</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>born D.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Sewell</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>born Missouri</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is theorized that Helen Seawell, as enumerated above, was the second wife of Francis Thornton Seawell, his first wife Mary E. Mackey Seawell having become insane in 1841. Neither Helen nor a presumed son, Thornton Seawell, are located after the above census.

Of the others listed on the 1850 census, Henry and John’s ages mirror the two males noted to be between 5 and 9 years of age on the 1840 census. Thornton's age placed him

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4  HABS No. DC-185; HABS DC Geo 108; William P. Thompson, August, 1968.  
5  Chancery Cause No. 158, Rules 14, October 15, 1840.
as one of the two males listed in 1840 as having been between 10 and 14 years of age. The other male of that age range was not in the household in 1850.

In 1854, a delinquent tax list was published in Sacramento, California, and included “F. T. Seawell” as owing $24.48. [6] As it is documented that Francis T. Seawell’s brother, Major Washington Seawell, had been ordered to California in 1849 and remained there to 1852, the Seawell listed in the Sacramento paper may have been Francis Thornton Seawell. It could also have been his son, named in 1850 as Thornton, but who quite possibly may have been named Francis Thornton Seawell Jr. There is no way, however, to prove that the party named in the list was actually connected to the family.

An “F. T. Seawell” and family was enumerated at Pilot Grove, located south of Booneville on the Missouri River in Cooper County, Missouri, on the 1860 federal census, at which time F. T. was listed as a 62 year old merchant and native of Virginia. Included in the Seawell household was John Seawell, a 28 year old native of “Dist Columbia,” and M. F. Seawell, a thirteen year old female, born in Missouri. No others of those previously identified with Seawell were found living in Missouri.

In the same census year, 1860, a Henry S. Seawell, then a 29 year old merchant and native of “Dist Columbia,” resided in the household of merchant George H. Scanlin at Lafayette Alamo in Contra Costa County, California. Also occupied as a merchant, Henry may have been in business with Scanlin at this time. Enumerated in the Sierra Nevada foothills county of Tuolumne in this same year was the elusive W. M. Seawell, a 31 year old native of “Dist Columbia,” who was a miner by occupation.

In recorded lists that may not relate to the Gloucester Seawell family at all, in 1865 an F. T. Seawell was taxed for income in Nevada City, Montana. That same year a “J. Seawell” was also taxed in Nevada City, Montana. Each was identified as being a retail dealer – F. T. Seawell dealing in liquors.

In 1866 and again in 1867, Francis Thornton Seawell was registered and listed on the Sonoma County, California, Great Register of Voters. A 67-year old native of Virginia, Seawell was a farmer residing in Sonoma Township. Also registered in the township and listed as a farmer by occupation was Henry Sterling Seawell, a 34 year old native of “Dist Columbia.” [7]

Located northwest of the town of Benicia, where Major Washington Seawell served at the Benicia Barracks in 1849 to 1852, and northeast of San Francisco, Sonoma County is

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Descendents of Francis Thornton Seawell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth</th>
<th>Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Francis Thornton Seawell</td>
<td>b. 1798</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 1st Mary E. Mackey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Mackey Seawell</td>
<td>abt 1825</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Susan Amanda Scrivner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Amanda Seawell</td>
<td>b. 1871, d. 1935</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Seawell</td>
<td>b. 1875, d. 1946</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thornton Seawell</td>
<td>b. 1829</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Sterling Seawell</td>
<td>b. 1830</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Seawell</td>
<td>b. 1832, d. 1906</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 2nd Helen ?</td>
<td>b. 1826</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Seawell</td>
<td>b. 1848</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Casper Schenck</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Schenck</td>
<td>b. 1870</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Martin E. Trench</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert C. Schenck</td>
<td>b. 1874</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Schenck</td>
<td>b. 1876</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Ralph Earle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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6 Daily Democratic State Journal (Sacramento, Cal), April 7, 1854.
7 Great Register of Sonoma County, California; via Ancestry.com; various years.
best known today for its many vineyards and vintners that rival their neighbors in Napa County. Comprised of rolling hills, low mountains and valleys, Sonoma was an active agricultural area in the mid to late 1800s.

The following year, in November of 1868, came the notice of the marriage of Casper Schenck of the U. S. Navy to “Mary F., only daughter of F. Thornton Seawell.” [8]

As may be becoming apparent, little news of the Seawells was found in the pages of the California newspapers after the close of the Civil War. During that time, news of war activities infrequently mentioned Major or then Lt. Colonel Washington Seawell, but little of any of the other Seawell family members was found. One of the few scant items found noted that F. T. Seawell, of Sonoma, had registered as a guest at the Brooklyn Hotel in San Francisco. [9]

The 1870 federal census finally provided the necessary information to identify the Seawell family members of Sonoma County. This census enumeration included the family, initially indexed under the surname of “Lanell.” On review of the census images, it was determined the surname was Seawell. The enumeration included:

- Washington Lanell [sic], 68 years, Retired U.S. Officer, born Va
- Bullitt Lanell, 21 years, male, farmer, born La
- Mary L. Lanell, 19 years, at home, born Cal
- Francis G. Lanell, 72 years, farmer, born Va
- Henry S. Lanell, 39 years, farmer, born Dist Columbia
- Also - one laborer from Prussia and one Chinese cook

After many years of separation, both in time and places, the two brothers Seawell, of Gloucester County, Virginia, were together once more. Washington Seawell had served his country with distinction beginning at West Point Academy, to the relocation of the native Indians in the Indian Territory in the 1830s and 1840s, to commanding a regiment at Benicia Barracks, California, to serving as the Mustering Officer for the Department of the Pacific, and commanding the Benicia Barracks. He was the easier of the two brothers to track by written accounts.

Francis Thornton Seawell died March 23, 1871, and was buried in the Mountain Cemetery in the town of Sonoma, California. [10] There his broken gravestone gives his place and date of birth, but any indication of his place of death would have appeared below

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8  San Francisco Chronicle, November 21, 1868.
9  San Francisco Bulletin, August 17, 1869.
10  http://www.findagrave.com; contributed by Eileen Gillette; gravestone photo by Connie A., with permission.
the line of the break at the bottom of the stone. It may be presumed that he died in California, but no notice of his death has yet been found.

In 1874, three years after the death of their father, Henry S. and John Seawell were listed in the Kansas City, Kansas, city directory. Listed as commercial merchants, they resided at 1204 Grand Avenue. The following year, the two sons of Francis T. Seawell, were enumerated on the 1875 Kansas State Census in Olathe, Johnson County. Each was noted to be farmers and natives of “D.C.” and had advised the enumerator they had come to Kansas from “Cal.”

Their half-sister Mary F. Schenck and her husband Casper were enumerated on the 1880 federal census in San Francisco. In their household was “Ellen” (10 yrs, born Ohio), “R.C.” (male, 6 yrs, born Cal.), and Jeanet (4 yrs, born Cal.). Also in the Schenck household was Washington Seawell, “Gen U.S. Army,” listed as a boarder. Mary Seawell Schenck’s husband was the Paymaster of the U.S. Navy in San Francisco.

Reviewing censuses beyond the year 1880, in 1900 Henry and John Seawell were found living in two different townships within Jackson County, Missouri. In Blue Township, Henry was listed with the erroneous surname of “Seal” and had given his birth information as September 1831. His father was born in Virginia and his mother’s birthplace was given as Pennsylvania. As “J. Sewell,” John Seawell was found in Brooking Township, where he gave June 1832 as the month and year of his birth. His father and mother were born in Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively. Henry was a farm laborer and John was a farm hand in this year.

The next information about the Seawell brothers came on the death of brother, John, on May 16, 1906, in Los Angeles. He had fallen on the sidewalk and fractured his skull. The item noted that he was 73 years of age, had been born in D.C., and the only family surviving him was “H. S. Seawell, a brother, of Los Angeles.” It also reported the he was “laid to rest under the auspices of ex-confederates and Daughters of the Confederacy,” but does not specifically state John had been a Confederate soldier, though the headline states they paid their “Last Honors to Old Comrade.”

The year 1907 brought the appearance of the newspaper article about the 1822 letter from Maria H. Seawell, at Gloucester to Francis Thornton Seawell, of “George Town, District of Columbia.” The letter was in the possession of Henry S. Seawell, “who has reached the ripe old age of 76 years.” In speaking of Henry’s father, the article stated that “Mr. Seawell, the recipient” of the ancient letter, “came to California in 1850, bringing the missive with him.” Its “trip across the plains in early days saw no little hardship and the romance of the times, but it also remained to return across the country to the other shore in the comparatively luxurious days of 1858, and then once more to California.”

It additionally reported that Henry S. Seawell, “the sole survivor of the illustrious family, is still living in Los Angeles, but a cancer on one of his hands will probably send the last of the Seawells [sic] to join his fathers.” If Henry was approaching the end of his mortal days in this year, the actual time of his death has not yet been determined, and his death record does not appear on the California Death Index for the years 1905-1929. Nothing further of Henry Sterling Seawell was located after the 1907 news article.

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12 Los Angeles Herald, May 22, 1906.
13 Los Angeles Herald, May 26, 1907.
Francis T. Seawell’s only daughter Mary Seawell Schenck was later found at Annapolis, Maryland, where Casper Schenck was a “Retired Naval Officer.” Their son Robert C. Schenck and married daughters Helen Trench and Janet Earle all resided with their parents. Both daughters had married naval officers, Helen to Martin E. Trench and Janet to Ralph Earle, who later became Rear Admiral Ralph Earle, of Worcester, Massachusetts, who on retirement became the president of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Mary Frances Seawell Schenck died in Worcester, Massachusetts, on August 15, 1931. She was buried next to her husband at the Annapolis Naval Academy Cemetery in Maryland. She was noted to have “been born on a plantation near St. Joseph, Mo.” and to have lived “in San Francisco; Dayton, O.; Washington; Newport, R.I.; Norfolk, Va.; Annapolis, Md.; Boston; and Worcester.” [14]

With her death, the last verified immediate family of Francis Thornton Seawell passed from the earth. The life of this little known “other brother” of the Seawell family of Gloucester may now be, at least, partially documented for the record.

This now brings us back to the reason that I discovered the Seawells of Gloucester, Virginia, in the first place – W. M. Seawell.

It is my theory that William Mackey Seawell, by benefit of his time of birth (circa 1825), his place of birth, the District of Columbia, and his middle name, together with the fact that both he and Henry S. Seawell, a known son of Francis Thornton Seawell, were in California in 1860, strongly suggests he is a previously undocumented son of Seawell and first wife, Mary E. Mackey Seawell, who became insane in 1841. He may have been the other Seawell son who was under five years of age on the 1830 census.

On the chance this theory may ever be proven, the following details are what little I’ve found about the life of W. M. Seawell:

William M. Seawell, more often identified simply as W. M. Seawell, was a resident of California at least as early as 1854, where he was identified as the Justice of the Peace of Cosumnes Township, in El Dorado County. [15] This township bordered the South Fork of the Cosumnes River and the main Cosumnes River, after the confluence of its Middle and South forks, as it flowed westerly toward Sacramento County. On the south side of the Cosumnes River, prior to 1854, lay Calaveras County. The new county of Amador was formed from portions of El Dorado and Calaveras counties in 1854.

In May 1855 Seawell was appointed to serve as Justice of the Peace, in Amador County. For some unknown reason, however, he resigned that post just ten days after his appointment. [16]

In June 1855, in an article about “Phalanx Nominations,” W. M. Seawell was identified as being a resident of Fiddletown in Amador County. [17] In 1856, W. M. Seawell was elected to the California State Assembly, where he served in the Eighth Session of the Legislature from January 5 to April 29, 1857. [18] While in the Assembly, Seawell introduced a bill to alter the Amador County boundary. This act of the Legislature was approved on April 25, 1857, and became known as the “Seawell Addition” to the land in...

14 Springfield (MA) Republican, August 16, 1931.
15 Sacramento Daily Union, 9/25/1854.
16 History of Amador County; Jesse D. Mason, 1881; p. 328.
17 Sacramento Daily Union, 6/22/1855
Amador County.

W. M. Seawell “was admitted as attorney and counselor in the Supreme Court of California” in January 1858. [19] His name appears on a list of names of those who had letters waiting at the Stockton, California, post office on the first of April. [20] Despite this new occupation, Mr. Seawell was enumerated as a miner on the 1860 federal census in Big Oak Flat, Tuolumne County, California.

According to Cliff Shaw’s book, W. M. Seawell was listed in the Second Directory of Nevada Territory in 1863 and owned four lots and houses in 1864. Shaw notes he was an attorney with an office on Pine Street in Aurora. [21] In fact, Seawell was listed as having been assessed income taxes by the U. S. Internal Revenue Services for the period of 1863 to 1866.

A lighthearted article about a “Remarkable Dog,” then on “a ranch down at Walker’s river,” tells of the various talents of the dog. In this article it mentions that it formerly belonged to “Mr. Seawell, of this city.” It isn’t clear if Seawell formerly owned the dog or the ranch, but it is certain from the article that Seawell was a resident of Aurora at the time of the article. [22]

On November 7, 1865, William M. Seawell was married to Susan A. Scrivner [erroneously spelled as Scrivenner] in Esmeralda County, Nevada, the town of Aurora then having been accepted to be within Nevada and not California. Miss Scrivner was the daughter of Benjamin and Talitha Scrivner of San Joaquin County, California. A year later her sister Fannie (Fanny) Scrivner would be married to John J. Wheeler, whose family resided on the East Walker River, northerly from Aurora. [For more about the Wheeler and Scrivner families, see Along the East Walker River, Nevada; Silver, 2013.]

McKinney’s Pacific Coast Directory of 1867 listed W. M. Seawell as an attorney residing in Aurora, Esmeralda County. The 1870 census enumerated “W. W. Sewell” and Susan “Sewell” at Aurora. The 37 year old attorney’s birthplace was erroneously identified as New York, as was Susan’s which likely means someone else may have provided the information to the census enumerator. As Susan Scrivner, the 21 year old wife of W. M. Seawell, was also enumerated that year in the household of her parents in Castoria, California.

The History of Nevada (Angel, 1881) noted that Seawell was elected to be Judge of the Third District of Nevada in the years 1870, 1874, and 1878. He was also listed in the publication’s Patron’s Directory which noted he resided in Dayton, was a native of the District of Columbia, was the District Judge, had moved to Lyon County in 1872, and had come to Nevada in 1860. He also owned 320 acres of land within Sections 19, 20, and 29 in Township 14 North of Range 26 East, much of which is now within the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area, north of Yerington in Lyon County.

In 1874, Judge Seawell sentenced young John Stewart to be hung in Aurora. The previous year Stewart had murdered Frank Durand in Columbus, southeast of Aurora.[23]

By the time of the 1875 Nevada State Census, W. M. Seawell, then 44 years of age, resided in Dayton in Lyon County, where he was the District Judge. The Seawell family now

19 Sacramento Daily Union, 1/15/1858.
20 Weekly Stockton Democrat, 4/3/1859.
22 Los Angeles Star, 8/20/1864, quoting the Aurora Times.
23 Sacramento Daily Union, 1/291874.
included his wife listed as “S. A.” and two daughters listed as “F. Seawell” (4 years, born California) and “V. Seawell” (2 months, born Nevada).

In 1879, the Territorial Enterprise ran a one line notation in which it advised: “The wife of Judge Seawell has become insane.” No follow up article or item was found after this to indicate the ultimate outcome of this event. Whatever the case may have been, Mrs. Susan A. Seawell was not found by census or other record after this.

In May 1887, it was reported that “Judge Seawell has wealthy men interested with him in the Antelope [at Aurora] mine, and that work will be resumed thereon soon.” In 1888, Judge Seawell ran to be elected to the Nevada Supreme Court, but lost to M. A. (Michael A.) Murphy, also a pioneer of Aurora.

William Mackey Seawell, aged 67 years of age, was found listed in the 1892 San Francisco Great Register of Voters. An attorney, the native of the District of Columbia was described as being 5’7 1/2” tall, with a light complexion, blue eyes, and gray hair. He resided at 718 Valencia St., San Francisco.

In the year 1894, the news of Seawell’s death was reported. This came first through the Daily Nevada State Journal and was followed up by a reprint in the Walker Lake Bulletin, in Hawthorne, Nevada. The Journal wrote:

“Judge William M. Seawell died in San Francisco on the 6th instant. He served two terms as Judge of the Third Judicial District of Nevada, which comprised the counties of Lyon and Esmeralda, and was defeated in 1888 for Justice of the Supreme Court. He was an able jurist and a man of sterling worth. He was born in Virginia 60 years ago.”

Like so often seemed to occur in such articles, some inaccuracies occurred in the above. The judge’s age and place of birth were in error; it being apparent from other records that his place of birth was Washington County, District of Columbia. A notice of his death also appeared in a San Francisco paper, but it too quoted the judge’s age and place of birth erroneously. None of the articles indicates a potential place of burial.

Of Seawell’s daughters, Fannie (Fanny) Seawell was enumerated in 1900 in the home of her uncle, John T. Robinson in Lookout, Modoc County. Daughter Miss Virginia Seawell was listed as residing at 804 Geary Street in the 1900 San Francisco City Directory. Her sister “Susan A. Seawell,” not listed as Fannie as she had been before, but who was born June 1873 in Nevada, was enumerated a second time in San Francisco on the 1900 census, where she was listed as a nurse at the Florence Crittenden Home. Fanny (Fannie) Seawell was again enumerated at the home of Uncle John Robinson at Lookout on the 1910 census, where she was 39 years of age.

Susan Amanda Seawell, a “Trained Nurse,” residing at 2375 Jackson, in San Francisco, was listed in the 1913 City Directory. In 1920, Virginia remained in San Francisco where she roomed in the household of Susan B. Jaenecki.

Sadly, both of Seawell’s daughters may have suffered some kind of mental illness, similar to that which their mother perhaps suffered. In 1920, both Susan and Virginia were enumerated at the Stockton State Hospital for the Insane, in Stockton, California. Susan, a native of Nevada, born about 1871, was again enumerated there in 1930. Virginia Seawell, a native of California, born about 1875, was enumerated at the Hospital for the Insane in

24 Territorial Enterprise (Virginia City, Nev), 11/8/1879.
25 Daily Alta California, 5/26/1887.
Susan Seawell, 59 years old, died on July 12, 1935, in San Joaquin County, probably at the hospital. Virginia Seawell, 71 years old, died on April 16, 1946, in San Joaquin County. She, too, probably died at the State Hospital. The California Death Index for Virginia notes that the maiden name of her mother was Scrivner.

No word of Mrs. Susan Amanda Scrivner Seawell, the wife of Judge Seawell, was found after the notation in 1879 that she had become insane.

William Mackey Seawell’s daughters, Susan (Fanny) and Virginia, are buried at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park, in Colma, San Mateo County, California.

Also interred at this cemetery was General Washington Seawell, whose remains were removed from the Laurel Hill Cemetery in San Francisco, and reinterred in a mass grave known as the Laurel Hill Mound with others whose graves were relocated when the cemeteries of San Francisco were abandoned and vacated in 1939 and 1940. General Seawell’s grandchildren, Harry Washington Seawell and Victor Frank Seawell, are also at Cypress Lawn.

If William Mackey Seawell was a son of Francis Thornton Seawell, what may have caused this possible son to become so distant from the remainder of the family? It may have had to do with divisiveness of the Civil War. Family descendants of W. M. Seawell’s wife say that he had some influence over his wife’s brother, who joined the Confederate States Army and served from 1861 to 1864.

If this is true and others in the Francis Thornton Seawell family were Union supporters, such a difference could have caused a breach in the family.

**Postscript:** In the process of researching William Mackey Seawell, I was able to identify the date of death of Martha Mackey Seawell, first wife of Washington Seawell, which occurred November 14, 1839, in Tampa Bay, Florida. Seawell was then a Captain. [27]

Some eight days after the death of his daughter, William Mackey died November 22, 1839, at his home in Georgetown. He had gone to Washington with the government in 1800 and had worked there until the day of his death. His funeral was held from his residence on High St., Georgetown. [28]

Two years later in a September 1841 letter from Major Seawell at Fort Micanopy (E.F.) to his sister-in-law Maria H. Seawell in Gloucester County, Va., Major Seawell wrote of his efforts in the “Removal of the Florida Indians.” Before telling of his work in the Indian Territory, he wrote to her about making arrangements for the care and custody of his then motherless children:

“I have received a letter from Mr. Cruikshank requesting that my children be permitted to continue with him until November, so that they may appear before the court which sits in Washington in that month, which I have consented to. Immediately after they

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descendents of Washington Seawell</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Washington Seawell</strong>, b. 1802, d. 1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ m. 1st <strong>Martha Mackey</strong>, b. ?, d. 1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>John Washington Seawell</strong>, b. ?, d. 1836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>James Many Seawell</strong>, b. 1836, d. 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Gertrude Ver Mehr</strong>, b. 1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Henry Washington Seawell</strong>, b. 1865, d. 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ m. 2nd <strong>Susan Amelia Bloom</strong>, b. ?, d. 1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ m. 3rd <strong>Mary Bullitt</strong>, b. 1817, d. 1852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bullitt Seawell</strong>, b. 1848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mary L. Seawell</strong>, b. 1850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. <strong>Hyppolite Belloc</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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27 Army and Navy Chronicle, Volumes 8-9 (1839), pg. 346 (Nov. 1839); Daily National Intelligencer, November 28, 1839; Daily National Intelligencer, December 16, 1839.

28 Daily National Intelligencer, November 23, 1839.
have appeared before the court, I am anxious that they should return to you, and if Boswell can spare the time, I will be greatly obliged to him if he will go for them. I enclose $50 to pay the expense of the trip..." [29]

The Mr. Cruikshank that Seawell mentioned was Richard Cruikshank, husband of his late wife's sister Ann J. Mackey Cruikshank, who with her husband sought the Chancery Cause, previously mentioned that named Seawell's sons, John W. and James M. Seawell. It appears that his surviving sons (eldest son Washington Seawell had died at Fort Gibson (Indian Territory) on March 25, 1839) [30] had been left in the care of his sister-in-law after the death of their mother.

Two years after the above letter to Maria H. Seawell, Major Seawell was married on October 17, 1843, to Susan Amelia, the "youngest daughter of the late John M. Bloom," formerly of Duchess County, New York. The marriage was short-lived owing to the death of the second Mrs. Seawell on November 28, 1843, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. [31]

About a year and three months later Major Washington Seawell married a third time on March 10, 1845, to Mrs. Mary Zantzinger, "daughter of the late B. Bullit [sic], Esq., of Natchitoches, Louisiana." [32] The new Mrs. Seawell accompanied her husband to California via the Isthmus of Panama in March of 1849. [33] She and the children of her first marriage, Octavia and Barton Zantzinger and two year old Bullitt (spelled as Barlett) Seawell and a three month old infant daughter were enumerated on the 1850 federal census in Benicia, Solano County, California.

Less than two years later, Mrs. Mary Bullitt Seawell died on May 29, 1852, at Benicia Barracks. [34] A few months later Washington Seawell was enumerated on the 1852 California State Census, in his Solano County household. No other Seawell or Zantzinger family members were listed with him.

Major Seawell was promoted to Lt. Colonel and in December 1860 was promoted to full Colonel of the sixth infantry and was "ordered to the command of his regiment at Benicia Barracks, Cal." [35] In the midst of the Civil War, Colonel Seawell was noted to be the officer to whom soldiers who were absent without leave might rendezvous and rejoin their regiments without punishment, "except forfeiture of pay." Colonel Seawell's location was identified to be at Louisville, Kentucky. [36] In January 1864, Colonel Washington Seawell was appointed to the Department of the Pacific as Commissary and Chief Mustering Officer in the State of California. [37]

Thirteen years later in March 1877, Seawell's only daughter Mary L. Seawell, whom he'd fathered with his third wife Mary, was married in San Francisco to influential banking and commercial agent Hyppolite Belloc, a Frenchman. [38] Three years later after her husband took their only child, a daughter, and left her proclaiming she had "misconducted" herself, Mary Seawell Belloc committed suicide in the cemetery at the Mission Dolores in San Francisco. She was 39 years old. During the inquest into her death, Belloc stated that she had often threatened to take her own life and seemingly over the most trifling of reasons. [39] Ten years after his wife's suicide, Hyppolite Belloc's firm, Belloc & Co., failed in a state of bankruptcy. [40]

Thus fills in some of the gaps of information on the life of General Washington Seawell and his family. More yet may undoubtedly be discovered, but perhaps another time and another family historian.

30 Baltimore Gazette and Daily Advertiser, April 29, 1836.
31 Commercial Advertiser (NYC), October 17, 1843; Alexandria (VA) Gazette, December 18, 1843.
32 Daily National Intelligencer, March 21, 1845.
33 Daily Union (D.C.), April 10, 1849.
34 Daily Missouri Republican (St. Louis), June 4, 1852.
35 Evening Star (D.C.), December 6, 1860.
38 Daily Alta California, 3/8/1877.
39 Sacramento Daily Union, March 19, 1880; Daily Alta California, March 24, 1880; U. S. Census Mortality Schedule, 1880.
40 Daily Alta California, March 8, 1890.
An African-American Family in Gloucester, Virginia
Surnames: Garland, Carter, Fields, Stubbs

By L. Roane Hunt and Jessica Jordan

Jessica Jordan’s Garland family has lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for four generations. In the 1920s, they moved there from Gloucester County, Virginia. Therefore, in her journey to know her family, she began searching Gloucester records and found Doctor Garland listed in the earliest personal property records following the Civil War that included freed slaves. The adjacent diagram illustrates the line of descent from Doctor to his grandson, William H. Garland, who moved to Philadelphia. His daughter, Dorothy, is Jessica’s grandmother, and Jessica’s plan is to share her family research with her grandmother.

Doctor Garland

He is first mentioned in the personal property tax record in 1866, and in 1869, the record includes notation about the residence of each person. He is listed as a resident of property of Augustine Warner Robins who lived at Mount Pleasant located at the headwaters of Wilson Creek. [1] In the 1870 census, Doctor is listed as a laborer in the home of Machen Boswell Seawell located across the main road from Mount Pleasant. M. B. Seawell was commonwealth attorney for Gloucester and a nephew of John Tyler, former president of the USA. [2]

George Carter was also a laborer in the same household, and Doctor later married George’s sister, Sarah, on November 23, 1871. [3] This marriage record reveals that

Doctor Garland, b. 1847, d. 1912
+m. Sarah Carter, b. 1842, d. 1884

William Christopher Garland, b. 1872
+m. Anna Elizabeth Fields, b. 1873

William H. Garland, b. 1903
+m. Bessie Scott, b. 1914

Dorothy Garland

George Carter was also a laborer in the same household, and Doctor later married George’s sister, Sarah, on November 23, 1871. [3] This marriage record reveals that

[2] The portraits of A. W. Robins, M. B. Seawell, and T. C. Walker hung in the Gloucester Court House for many years. Mount Pleasant was the site of the first high school for colored children, the Gloucester Training School, and later was the site of the integrated T. C. Walker Elementary School. T. C. Walker was an attorney and the first principal of the high school. The Seawell Farm is the present site of the Ladysmead community directly across the T. C. Walker Road from the former elementary school.
he was born in the town of Milton in Caswell County, NC, and his parents were Richard and Rhoda Garland. Doctor and Sarah had at least five children, and she and the youngest died in 1884 from consumption or tuberculosis. Sarah Carter was the daughter of Gabriel and Ann Carter.

Doctor then married Mary Ellen Burwell on September 7, 1884, and they had at least eight children. Mary Ellen was a daughter of Jackson and Arena Burwell. [4]

The Gloucester marriage records also show that Doctor's brother, Frederick, married Frances Ann Carter, another daughter of Gabriel and Ann Carter. Although Frederick is listed with a surname of Garland in later census records, his marriage record shows him as “Frederick Jeff,” and his parents are listed as “Richard and Rhody Jefferson.” The confusion with surnames is not unusual for those coming from slavery. Often the children were listed with the surname of their mother even if the father was the head of the household. One possible explanation is that Jefferson was his mother's surname.

A search of the census record for Caswell County, NC, showed that Garland was a common surname there. The 1880 census shows 106 persons of color with the Garland surname. There was one white Garland family in Caswell County. Dr. John Tabb Garland was the head of this family, and he was born about 1795 in Lunenburg County, VA. The many colored Garlands were probably former slaves of Dr. Garland.

Gloucester County also had one white Garland family, headed by Christopher Garland. Some of his children were born in Lunenburg County around 1795 when Dr. John Garland was born there. Christopher's widow, Mary, was listed in the Gloucester census through 1850. It is possible that Doctor had some connection to the Christopher Garland family since he named his first son, William Christopher Garland. Also, it is likely that Doctor was born with the surname of Garland of Caswell County.

Doctor Garland purchased his first property, six acres that was part of the farm “Snugley,” from A. T. Wiatt for $90 registered on November 28, 1878. [5] “Snugley” was previously owned by A. T. Wiatt's brother, William E. Wiatt, before the Civil War. [6]

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4 Marriage records for Doctor Garland are posted at www.familysearch.org.
5 Recorded in Gloucester deed book 7, page 395.
6 A. T. and William E. were sons of William G. Wiatt and Louisa Campbell Stubbs. A. T. was clerk of court from...
adjacent map shows the location of “Snugley” in the vicinity of Mount Pleasant and the Seawell property. This map shows Gloucester Court House (noted as C H) near the top and White Marsh Farm at the bottom. Doctor’s land was situated adjacent to watershed streams that flowed into the pond labeled Weavers Mill Pond in the Folkes Map.

The six acres of “Snugley” owned by Doctor Garland are noted on a survey of “Snugley” by William E. Wiatt. [7] The original 179.5 acres were subdivided in 1868, and the various portions were sold to former slaves. A copy of the survey is presented on the next page. The chart below is a segment of the 1880 Gloucester Census listing that corresponds to the Doctor Garland community of the “Snugley” subdivision. The list includes the head of household, age, and acreage from the survey. The number is that used by Cy Rilee in his original census publication. [8]

Charles Pannell’s marriages are listed in the early Gloucester records with the surname of “Pannell,” but later he and his children used the surname of “Pendleton.” Apparently, he was not living on his

Consecutive Listing of 1880 Census

#WW288—Harriet Burwell, 65, mother of Kate Burwell Thornton
#WW289—Kate Thornton, 30, widow of Frank Thornton, 30 acres (name partially erased)
#WW290—Warner Washington, 69, 10 acres, related to Charles Pannell (Pendleton)
#WW291—John Robinson, 26, 5 acres
#WW292—George Griffin, 65, 15 & 11 acres
#WW293—Temple Page, 30, 10 acres, husband of Wm Fox’s widow, Wm Fox lived with Charles Pannell in 1870 census
#WW294—Elijah Harrison, 60, 5 acres
#WW295—Doctor Garland, 32, 6 acres

Portion of the 1912 R. A. Folkes Map shows the approximate property locations of “Mount Pleasant,” Seawell, “Snugley,” Hinkle, Dunston, and D. Jones (Dr. Walter F. Jones). “Snugley” and Dunston notations were added.

1896 to 1918. William E. Wiatt was the first pastor of Providence Baptist Church and served there until the Civil War. He was elected Chaplain of the 26 Virginia Infantry and served throughout the war. In the midst of the war, he moved his family from “Snugley” to his wife’s home in Alabama. She died during the war; and after the war, he gathered his children and returned to Gloucester. He served as pastor of many of the Baptist churches in Gloucester, county surveyor, and the first school superintendent of Gloucester.

7 Survey book 2, page 225
8 Rilee, Cyrus Fleming, Jr., The 1880 Census of the 11,825 Inhabitants of Gloucester County, Virginia, 1997
The major portion of subdivided “Snugley” survey by Wm E. Wiatt on March 3rd and 4th of 1868. The road along the bottom is now named Short Lane that extends from T. C. Walker Road to the George Washington Memorial Highway. Doctor Garland’s six acres are noted near the top.
“Snugley” plot, but he was listed closer to Mount Pleasant and the Seawell Farm. His Washington and Page families or associates lived on his original plot.

Frank Thornton, who owned the 30 acres along the road, died on July 31, 1880, and his widow was listed as head of household in the 1880 census. He was a son of Samuel Thornton who was born in 1770 and died in 1872. Samuel was listed in the 1870 census. Frank’s son, Samuel, was born in 1874 and died in 1962. L. Roane Hunt was acquainted with the latter Samuel Thornton as neighbor and customer when his parents operated the Roanes store in 1950. [9]

The subdivision of “Snugley” was typical of the post-war practice in Gloucester County. Land that had been deserted or was not currently in use for other purposes was divided into smaller portions and primarily sold to the former slaves. In some cases, the plots were cut into very odd shapes, and typically there was not a designated right of way to existing roads. The land division seems to have been the easy part of the process; the construction of living quarters was probably the most difficult part. In the case of “Snugley,” there were probably some buildings that survived the war (especially slave quarters), and they were probably moved or used as material for new construction. [10] [11]

On June 5, 1888, Doctor sold his portion of “Snugley” to Samuel Griffin who was a son of George Griffin, also an owner of the former “Snugley” property. [12] Today, the northern portion of “Snugley,” which includes Doctor Garland’s six acres, is part of three large “sand pits.”

On January 5, 1889, Doctor Garland purchased ten acres from the Hinkle family that was known as “Clifford” on Glebe Road. [13] This property was bounded by “Enfield” then owned by Dr. Walker F. Jones. Later, Frederick Garland purchased land adjacent to his brother, Doctor. Doctor and Frederick are listed next to each other in the 1900 census. On November 10, 1908, Doctor gave one-half acre to Lucy A. Massey, his daughter from his first marriage. [14] On December 19, 1908, Doctor (noted as a widower) recorded a deed of trust to cover his debts. [15]

The last will and testament of Doctor Garland was written on March 13, 1912, and it was recorded on March 28, 1912. He gave his estate and property to three of his sons and one dollar to each of his daughters. [16] The three sons from his second marriage were Davy, Andrew, and Robert.

10 Wiatt, Alex L., Confederate Chaplain William Edward Wiatt, An Annotated Diary, H. E. Howard, Inc., Lynchburg, Virginia, 1994, pp. 43-44. Wiatt wrote about “Snugley” on Sunday, March 29, 1863: “I walked to Mr. A. W. Robin’s where my wife was; went by my place and beheld a truly desolate sight; nobody home; the dwelling house shut up; the out house a good deal injured; a heap of blackened coals and ashes and bricks where the barn and carriage house stood; no hogs nor cattle nor sheep… ” Also, on Wednesday, April 1, 1863: “I went over to my place this morning to take, perhaps, the last look at it; my wife went over also; I have but little expectation of ever living in Glo again…” On April 7, his wife and four children left to live with her family in Alabama.
11 Richard A. Roane stated that in 1877 when he purchased the one-acre corner of the thirteen acres designated for Washington Phillips there was a log house on the larger portion of the property. Mr. Roane established the Roanes P.O. on that corner property designated on the 1912 Folkes Map.
15 Recorded in deed book 32, page 211.
16 Will Book B, page 155.
William Christopher Garland

Doctor named his eldest son William Christopher, suggesting that he had some contact or connection to the white Christopher Garland family of Gloucester mentioned earlier. On December 30, 1897, William C. Garland married Anna Elizabeth Fields shown in the diagram on the previous page. [17] She was the daughter of John Henry Fields and Rebecca Stubbs. They had at least six children including William H. Garland, father of Dorothy. The 1900 Gloucester census shows William listed next to Charles W. Seawell, an attorney and son of M. B. Seawell. Apparently, William C. was living and working on the same Seawell farm where his father lived in 1880.

On November 23, 1898, William C. purchased 5.5 acres from George Enos that was bounded by both Doctor and Frederick Garland. He purchased another 0.8 acres from Frederick on January 9, 1900. [18] Apparently, he had sold this property by 1905.

On November 19, 1907, William C. purchased 0.7 acres of land from William L. Enos that was located adjacent to William H. Dunston as located on the adjacent map. Mr. Dunston's property included a sawmill and would eventually be the location of the first Gloucester Wal-Mart. The deed indicates that William C. and Ann Garland indentured themselves to William L. Enos for the purchase value of the property. [19]

Although there is no record of Anna Garland’s death, William C. was married on September 27, 1914, to Gay Easter Bright, widow of John Kemp and daughter of Joseph and Cinderella Bright. [20] On October 21, 1918, William C. Garland purchased 5.78 acres from David P. and Susan Vanderpoel Tabb Sanders for $289. [21] On July 25, 1928, he sold one acre on George Washington Memorial Highway to William David White. [22]

Apparently William C. Garland died in 1929 because 4.87 acres of land owned by him was auctioned on May 6, 1929, and purchased by Christian Hogge. [23] Then, on November 5, 1930, a list of heirs were recorded that included William H., John F., Pauline, and Lilian. [24]

William H. Garland was the oldest son of William C. Garland and Anna Elizabeth Fields as shown in the chart on page 16. His pedigree chart on the next page shows the family lines of ascent. As mentioned previously, Richard and Rhoda Garland of Caswell County, NC, had two sons, Doctor and Frederick that married two Carter sisters of Gloucester. Gabriel and Ann Carter raised a large family including Frances Ann and Sarah who married the Garland brothers. Another sister, Lucy, married Beverly Jones who is described in a previous journal article. [25] At least six of these Carter children raised families and

17 Marriage records of Gloucester County, Virginia, Book 2
18 Recorded in deed book 24, page 173
19 Recorded in deed book 31, page 350
20 Marriage records of Gloucester County, Virginia, Book 2
21 Recorded in deed book 42, page 445
22 Recorded in deed book 54, page 136, W. D. White probably moved his automobile business from his previous location near the Roanes store and post office. Later, Mr. White worked as a machinist for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.
23 Will Book E, page 314
24 In Will Book E, page 400 in a list of heirs for William C. Garland were William H. Garland, Philadelphia, PA; John F. Garland, Baltimore, MD; Pauline Gains, Germantown, PA; and Lilian Jackson, Pittsburg, PA. Recorded by T. E. Hall, personal representative.
25 Smith, Debra, From Bondage to Business: The Life of Beverly Jones, FTS, Vol. 6, No. 2, pp 11-12.
resided in Gloucester.

Anna Elizabeth Fields was the granddaughter of Lorenzo and Polly Stubbs who had at least six children that established families in Gloucester. (See pedigree chart below.) They were also included in a list of house and yard slaves of Eagle Point Plantation. Papers of the Bryan family who owned Eagle Point documented some of their slaves and their duties. Polly was a cook and her son Charles was a boy servant to one of the Bryan sons. [26]

William H. Garland

William H. was born in 1903 and was listed with his family in the 1920 Gloucester census. He moved to Philadelphia, PA, and married Georgia prior to 1925 when his first son was born.

On April 2, 1929, he married Bessie Scott, daughter of John Henry Scott and Susan Barnes. He and Bessie had twelve children as listed in the chart below.

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Family of William H. Garland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>William H. Garland, b. 1903</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+m. 1st Georgia ?, b. 1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John R. Garland, b. 1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. 2nd Bessie Scott, b. 1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Garland, b. 1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H. Garland Jr., b. 1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor Garland, b. 1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan Garland, b. 1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+m. Allen Randolph Stewart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarence Garland, b. 1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Garland, b. 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacqueline Garland, b. 1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Garland, b. 1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Garland, b. 1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwendolyn Garland, b. 1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Garland, b. 1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald Garland, b. 1946, d. 1961</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ancestors of William H. Garland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor Garland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1847, m. 1871, d. 1812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhoda Jefferson?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Christopher Garland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1872, m. 1897, d. abt 1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabriel Carter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Carter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1852, d. 1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H. Garland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Henry Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Elizabeth Fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorenzo Stubbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Stubbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polly ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1820</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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This happy occasion was the wedding of Joan Garland and Allen Randolph Stewart in the mid-1950s. The proud parents, William H. and Bessie, are shown left of the bride.

A portion of the family picture showing William H. and Bessie Scott Garland in front and Dorothy Garland on the right.

Dorothy Garland is shown in her graduation gown on the left. On the right is a recent picture of her with her youngest grandchild.
The Special Marriage of Richard Roane and Elva Worrell

By L. Roane Hunt

Richard Alexander Roane and Elva Maude Worrell were married on August 28, 1909, in a special “Cana of Galilee Marriage” near Woods Cross Roads in Gloucester County. Richard was sixty-six years old, and Elva was only nineteen. She was young enough to be his grandchild. Being one of their grandsons, I want to share some of the events that brought them together.

In her later years, Elva described how she and Mr. Roane arrived at her new home in the store and house at Roanes Post Office in Gloucester County. They drove up in their buggy as Will Ashe and his wife were leaving. At the age of twelve, Will Ashe came to the Roanes Store to live and work as a clerk. Eventually, he became a partner with Richard Roane and married Richard’s youngest half-sister, Linwood Roane. Will and Linwood Ashe lived with Richard before he married Elva. They moved to their new home on Wilson Creek located about a mile away the store.

Richard and Elva had five children prior to his death on March 26, 1920. Their first child was born on December 25, 1910, and died four months later in April. He was named Shiloh Israel Roane after the Old Testament names for Messiah and Savior of Israel. The death of the firstborn had to be especially difficult for Richard whose desire was to have children. Their second child was named Jeptha Alexander Roane, and he died at the age of fifteen. As in the case of many teenage deaths, his death was remembered by many of his peers. His pall-bearers were members of his Boy Scout troop including sons of prominent families in Gloucester. Richard and Elva were blessed with three more children who grew to adulthood and had their own families. They were Hulda Rebecca (my mother), Mae Naomi, and William Hunter.

What led this sixty-six year-old man to choose this young woman for his wife, and why would she agree to such a commitment? They both believed that their marriage was a spiritual commitment, and it was Richard's desire to produce a spiritual heritage of...
offspring for the Lord. He was a very religious man and sought to pattern his life after Abraham in the Old Testament whom God blessed with a child in his old age. The answers are found primarily in two sources: Richard’s papers saved by Elva and a diary of Richard’s father, Charles Alexander Roane.

Richard Roane was the second son of Charles Alexander Roane and Sarah Rebecca Roane. He was born on September 18, 1842, on the 52-acre farm, “Three Oaks,” in the southern part of King and Queen County. Sarah inherited this land from the Shackelford family. After Sarah’s mother died, her father married Matilda Ann Taliaferro. Matilda seems to have been a faithful and helpful step-mother. When Sarah’s father died, Matilda moved with her children to Gloucester to be near her father and brother.

Charles and Sarah had four children before her death in 1849: Luther, Richard, Maria, and Charles. After Sarah’s death, Maria spent part of her childhood with her step-grandmother in Gloucester. (In the 1850 census, Maria was listed with her father in King and Queen and with Matilda in Gloucester.) Eventually, the three sons of Sarah settled in the Wilson Creek area of Gloucester, probably influenced by Matilda T. Roane. Charles remarried to Matilda Frances Mitchell from the area of “Paradise” in Gloucester. Charles and Matilda had six children including Linwood who married Will Ashe. The other five children moved from King and Queen County and settled in Portsmouth.

Charles began his diary in 1856 and continued until 1872, three years before his death on May 25, 1875. He wrote in his diary about sitting with Rev. John Spencer, the first pastor of Poroporone Baptist Church which was located near Cologne. He wrote on
February 9, 1859, “set up with parson Spencer last night...he died ½ after 1 o’clock this morning...hope to lay him out.” (This may have been part of his duties as a justice of the old court of King and Queen County.) In 1860, Charles purchased 212 acres of land from the Spencer Estate that completed his holdings at 636 acres. The diary details the building of a new home, “Spring Hill,” that he moved into in 1861. This house is restored and is owned by Patricia Southall.

Charles’ diary contains the daily activities of the family as well as the activities of others that worked on the farm. He also writes about his church, Shackelford Chapel Methodist Church, and other church meetings at Salem and Bellamy in Gloucester. He described visitors who came to dine at his home and his dining at the homes of his neighbors. He made entries regarding the work of his slaves and those with special abilities as sawyers, brick makers, and wheat cutters. Some were responsible for taking his sons, Luther and Richard, fishing and hunting. On many occasions, he called the doctor for his sick slaves and assigned their replacements that included his own children.

He made clothes and shoes for his family and slaves. It is understood by his family that he was trained as a tailor in Baltimore. He was a descendent of Alexander Roane who was compensated for making clothes as recorded in the vestry book of the Petsworth Parish of the colonial Gloucester County.
“Spring Hill” was completed as the Civil War began. Charles and his son, Luther, began attending musters in Buena Vista for the Civil War in March 1860. Richard, who was under age, enlisted in place of his father in the 26th Virginia Infantry, Company I. The diary entry for June 26, 1861, reads, “Luther & Richard started to Gloucester Point today...good Lord protect them.” Their neighbor, Robert Sutton, was the captain of Company I. When Charles’ term ended on September 2, 1862, he received his discharge, and he and Richard left for home. On January 7, 1863, Richard joined Company C of the 24th Virginia Cavalry. His neighbor, Robert Sears, became his captain. In both of Richard’s assignments, his units were commanded by close neighbors. He seems to have had a protective military experience throughout the war. In the later part of the war, he was probably assigned to the camp at nearby Cologne indicated by his frequent home visits and his arrival home the day after the war ended.

On December 25, 1866, Richard married Lucy M. Bowden in the home of her father, Robert Bowden. Rev. Hezekiah P. Mitchell, Methodist minister, officiated the wedding. Richard wrote in his family Bible, “Our Farther [sic] Grant That We May Be the Recipients of Thy Grace. RAR.” In January 11, 1873, Robert Bowden granted ownership to Richard and Lucy Roane of a 268-acre farm in King and Queen County. This land was previously purchased in 1848 from Peter Bray and was located across the Mattaponi River from West Point. Richard left this farm and moved to Gloucester because of the poor post-war economy. Lucy joined Richard in Gloucester, but eventually, they separated, and she returned to her farm. When she died, Richard signed over the farm ownership to Lucy’s brothers in 1908. Elva said that Richard was bothered by comments that the farm was Lucy’s, so I assume this injured his pride. Also, after her death, he began his plan to find a wife that would bear him children.

The diary of Charles Roane contains a simple entry on January 15, 1867, that has a connection to what would be Richard’s second marriage 42 years in the future. Just a few weeks after Richard’s first marriage to Lucy, Charles wrote, “Richard got wood for Mrs. Worlds [sic].” (Mrs. Worrell was only about six years older than Richard.) This was the season for hauling firewood for heating and cooking. She was the widow of Joseph Thomas Worrell, and she was to be the grandmother of his future wife, Elva Maude Worrell (not yet born). Joseph Worrell’s name is engraved on the Gloucester Civil War Monument in memory of men who died in the war, but I have found no other record of his service in that war. He married Mary C. Lewis in 1855, and in the same year they sold an acre of land near Urbanna that she had inherited. They had two sons: Joseph and William. William (Willie) was born in 1861 and was the father of Elva. In the 1870 census, Mary Worrell and her son, Willie, were listed in the home of her relative Major Hall near the Charles Roane family.

Willie Worrell married Martha “Mattie” Ann Horsley of Woods Cross Roads on June 30, 1889, and they made their home at “Three Oaks” on the Charles Roane Estate. Charles had died in 1875, and Richard was trustee of his estate. Willie Worrell was sharecropping a portion of the farm from Richard. Mattie Horsley Worrell was the daughter of Elizabeth B. Horsley who had worked for Richard Roane in Gloucester. In 1894, Mattie contacted Richard because her husband was very sick; he died on December 15, 1894. Prior to his...
death, Richard came and prayed with him. Willie “got happy” as they were praying, a practice of “old fashion Methodist.” As he was dying, Willie asked Richard Roane to look after his three daughters. Richard agreed; Elva was one of his daughters. Both Elva and Richard Roane were born in the same house, “Three Oaks,” about forty-eight years apart.

A year later, Mattie Horsley Worrell married a neighbor, Richard Beverly Crump. He sold his property in King and Queen County and purchased the Horsley home place at Woods Cross Roads from the other family members with a commitment to care for Mattie’s mother. Richard Roane fulfilled his commitment to Mattie’s family by furnishing them with store items at various times, and in January 1909, he provided for some schooling at a Bible School in Tyner, North Carolina, for Elva and her sister. Later that year, Richard began discussing a possible marriage to Elva with her and her mother. However, it is my theory that he had proposed to two other women before committing to young Elva.

Around 1906, Richard began supporting the Vanguard Missionary Association, located in Saint Louis, Missouri. He contributed funds that were distributed in support of holiness missions in Africa, China, India, and Japan. One contribution of $400 was used to establish the “Roane Dentist Missionary Department” in India. The corresponding secretary of this association was Anna Sherman who was the daughter of its director. Evidently, Richard had met Anna in Richmond when she was traveling with her father on one of his preaching tours. Judging from one of her letters, Richard must have approached her about becoming his wife and bearing his children.

I believe the second woman to whom Richard proposed was a holiness preacher named Lillian Harrison who was in charge of the Bible School where Richard sent Elva for schooling. She also refused his offer, and later she married another preacher, Rev. W. L. Duncan. However, he did convince Lillian Harrison and Alice Jones, both holiness preachers at the Bible school in North Carolina, to come to King and Queen and form a Bible school at the Beulah Pilgrim Holiness Church. Richard had pledged $1,909 in 1909 to construct the initial facilities for a boarding school. It seems that Richard was the prime mover in this project with his funds and the procurement of key faculty members; however, his marriage to Elva that same year and his age caused him to give very little further
support to the school. The school was a success but suffered during the depression of the 1930s.

Prior to his death in 1920, Richard wrote a last spiritual will and testimony for his young children. In it he stated that he was “saved at the age of twelve or thirteen while weeding corn with a hoe.” He then wandered in the desert for forty years before he said the Lord called him to “spirit perfecting holiness.” This latter experience came under the ministry of the Ohio Friends Missionary, Frank Hall, who planted many churches in Tidewater Virginia, including King and Queen, Gloucester, Mathews, Newport News, and Portsmouth. Prior to this, Richard and first his wife, Lucy, were active Methodist. However, when he pressed her to receive this new experience of “sanctification,” she left him and returned to King and Queen.

Richard’s prosperous business afforded him the opportunity to travel with Rev. Frank Hall on various preaching missions. It was one of these occasions that he exchanged letters with Elva and her mother about his marriage proposal. He and Rev. Hall were preaching in Riverton, Virginia, near Fort Royal where a church was begun and named “Roanes Chappel [sic].” Rev. Hall returned with Richard to Gloucester and officiated at their marriage on August 28, 1909.

Richard continued some of his holiness ministries in the three tabernacles that he built in Gloucester. They were located at Woods Cross Roads, James Store, and White Marsh. It is obvious that he continued to be energetic as he aged, but Elva told how eventually he collapsed. Typically, he sponsored traveling holiness preachers at his tabernacles, and he would speak to the congregation prior to the offering. It was at one of these occasions that he collapsed, and he told those near him that “he never thought that would happen to him.”

Richard and Elva were married ten years, but he suffered mentally in his final months. Still, Elva had a lifetime of fond memories as Mrs. Roane.

The Beulah Church was originally one of the Ohio Friends churches. However, some prominent national leaders of the Ohio Friends had joined with others to form an expanded holiness movement. As this church movement developed, various names were used, and the Beulah church followed this trend. Although Richard and Elva lived a long distance from Beulah, they continued to consider it their home church and are buried there.

In 1909, Elva Worrell experienced many new challenges. She and her sister, Clemmie, arrived in Bible school in January. She studied there for that one semester until summer. Before coming home to Gloucester, she joined the holiness preachers, Lillian Harrison and Alice Jones, in a series of religious tent meetings in southeast Virginia. Her part in these meetings was to sing and give testimony.
The meeting in Hampton was extra eventful. A storm blew the meeting tent down, and a young man of Elva's age helped in the recovery. His name was Leroy Bradley with a mailing address of Rip Raps, Virginia. In the subsequent weeks at the same time Elva was discussing a possible marriage to the elder Richard Roane, Leroy was relentless in his pursuit to establish a serious relationship with her in a series of letters. Although she seemed to reject him without any serious consideration, she did keep his letters in her special box of papers. From his letters, it appears that her complaint against him was that he was not “sanctified.” He responded that he desired to be a Christian. Of course, Elva made her choice without regret, and she always referred to her husband with great respect as “Mr. Roane.”

Leroy Bradley survived this early rejection and seemed to have been a very successful man. He became the owner of a department store in Hampton and a prominent member of the Hampton Roads Baptist Church. At his death, his will included the donation of an apartment house to his church. Elva's part of the story illustrates how a certain early decision can affect the course of our lives for the many years that follow.
Capt. Junius Brutus Browne, CSA

By Lee Brown

The grave of Junius B. Brown and the accompanying Civil War service marker in the cemetery at Ware Church has interested me for some time. We share a surname, could we be related? I decided to see what I could find out about him. Maybe I could answer that question. I was surprised.

It was not too difficult to learn something about him. His gravestone tells us that he served in Company A of the 5th Virginia Cavalry Regiment, CSA, and that company is the subject of an article in Vol. 3, No. 1, of The Family Tree Searcher, from June, 1999, [1] and another in Vol. 17, No. 2, December, 2013. [2]

Junius Brutus Browne had served as 2nd Lt. in the Gloucester Cavalry (The Gloucester Light Dragoons) of the Virginia Militia since November 16, 1859. When the Gloucester Militia mustered at Gloucester Point to form the 26th Virginia Infantry in May 1861, the Gloucester Light Dragoons under Capt. John W. Puller were assigned to support the troops at Gloucester Point for one year, and they maintained a camp in Guinea during that time. Junius was promoted to a full 1st Lt. on May 14, 1862. [3]

During that time, they crossed the York River and served around Bethel Church and Hampton where the first land battle of the Civil War occurred. They provided land support during the engagement of the Merrimac with the Monitor. Some of the company's experiences were recorded by A. S. Hughes for the Sally Tomkins chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, for their Reminiscences project. [4]

When the 26th Va. Inf. was transferred to Petersburg to guard the James River, south of Richmond, the Gloucester Light Dragoons were transferred to the 5th Virginia Cavalry as Co. A in June 1862. Capt. Puller was promoted to major in December 1862, and on December 18, 1862, Junius was promoted to captain of Co. A. This was immediately following the battle of Fredericksburg. Major Puller was killed at the battle of Kelly’s Ford in March 1863. The company participated in the events of the war up to its conclusion at

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Capt. Junius Brutus Browne, CSA

Capt. Junius Brutus Browne served Gloucester County as sheriff. As the sheriff in post-war Gloucester, Junius would have been very active in the administration of civil and criminal law. He must have acquitted himself well.

Eventually, as “Capt. John B. Browne, CSA - Sheriff,” he was one of the people honored with a portrait in the Gloucester Court building (pictured, right). This Hall of Fame is the subject of another article in *The Family Tree Searcher*. [7] In the book, *Twelve Virginia Counties*, John Gwalthmey explains that J. B. Browne was honored because he “commanded a company and was sheriff.” [8]

Now let’s delve into his ancestry and “the begats.”

ANCIENT BROWNE, BURNET, AND CARTER FAMILIES

Col. William Browne (1709-1763) was son of Sir Anthony Browne Viscount Montacute, who was the son of Sir Anthony Browne, standard bearer to Henry VII, who was the son of Sir Thomas Browne, treasurer of the household to Henry VI. William Browne married Mary Burnet (1724-1745) in 1737. Mary Burnet was the daughter of William Burnet (1668-1729), influential governor of New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire in the years immediately before his death, and who was the son of Bishop Gilbert Burnet (1643-1715), Bishop of Salisbury, England.

Col. William Browne and his wife, Mary Burnet, had a son William Burnet Browne (Oct. 7, 1738 – May 6, 1784). He married Judith Walker Carter (1731-1801) in 1765 and moved to “Elsing Green” on the north shore of the Pamunkey River in King William County, which had been owned by John West. Judith was a daughter of Charles Carter (1709-1764) of “Cleve,” a son of Robert “King” Carter and Betty Landon, and Charles’ wife, Mary Walker.

One of their daughters, Mary Burnet Brown, is said, as a young girl, to have ridden her pony “up the stairway on one side of the hall and down the other,” speaking of how sturdy “Elsing Green” was, [9] though I think it speaks as much to her character. Mary was born Aug. 7, 1765, died Jan. 16, 1805. [10]

William Burnet, Gilbert Burnet, and Robert Carter were prominent figures about whom much has been written.

ANCIENT CLAIBORNE FAMILY

William Claiborne (1600-1679) emigrated to Virginia in 1621 to be a land surveyor. He soon became a member of the Governor’s Council and served as the secretary of the colony. He became very powerful and led a faction in the Council against Virginia Governor Sir John Harvey in a dispute that drove Harvey from office. He established Kent Island in the Chesapeake Bay, which he named for his birthplace in England, as a trading post after he became interested in the fur trade. Kent Island was soon granted to Maryland, and the Puritan sympathizer Claiborne began a long dispute with the Catholic Calvert family who were given authority in Maryland. Claiborne and his backers in Virginia and Parliament considered the island part of Virginia, but Calvert, with backing from the king, wanted it for Maryland. Eventually, after the island changed hands multiple times and Claiborne made several trips to England to plead his and Virginia's case, Virginia lost the island to Maryland, and Claiborne resided near the Pamunkey River. This was a tumultuous time in England and also in Virginia, and William Claiborne was considered one of the most powerful men in the colony, along with Governor Sir William Berkeley. His story makes for very interesting reading.

William Claiborne’s son Thomas (1647-1683), who was killed by Indians, married a Miss Dandridge and was possibly the one who built “Sweet Hall” on the Pamunkey River in King William County, [11] where his son Thomas (1680-1732) was born. The younger Thomas married three times and had 27 children.

The younger Thomas Claiborne’s third wife was Ann Fox (1684-1733), great-granddaughter of John West, the first royal governor of Virginia, and his wife, Lady Anne Percy. Ann’s mother, Ann West (1659-1708), married Henry Fox (1645-1714), and they were perhaps the most prominent family of King William County.

Augustine Claiborne (1721-1787), a son of Thomas Claiborne and Ann Fox, married Mary Buller Herbert (1728-1801), and their children were many. The Virginia Magazine of History & Biography described Colonel Augustine Claiborne of “Windsor” as “a distinguished lawyer, member House of Burgesses, 1748, '53 and '54, from Surry.” [12] He may have built or owned “Windsor Shades,” which is also linked with the Ruffin family. Mary was a daughter of Buller Herbert of “Puddledock” near Petersburg.

Their third child and oldest son was Herbert Augustine Claiborne, born April 7, 1746, in King William County, Virginia. Herbert Augustine Claiborne married twice. His first wife was Mary Ruffin, but the dates of that marriage are unclear. He married again before his death in August, 1814, at Chestnut Grove, New Kent Country.

9 Gwalthmey, p. 73.
10 ancestry.com consensus, but unsourced.
BROWNE-CLAIBORNE UNION

The second wife of Herbert Augustine Claiborne was Mary Burnet Browne, indoor pony-riding daughter of William Burnet Browne and Judith Walker Carter. They were married Feb. 17, 1781. This marriage (but not the date) is recorded in A Genealogy of the Known Descendants of Robert Carter of Corotoman (1982) in chapter X.

The marriage of Herbert Claiborne and Mary Browne joined two enormously prominent families.

Their first child was William Burnet Claiborne, born December 19, 1782, died October 14, 1833. After he became an adult, his maternal grandfather, William Burnet Browne, offered a substantial estate if he changed his Claiborne surname to Browne. He agreed; an act of the General Assembly effected it. As he was already named for his grandfather, he became the third William Burnet Browne after his grandfather and an uncle born about 1767, and therefore ensured great genealogical confusion.

This new William Burnet Browne, often referred to as William Burnet (Claiborne) Browne, first married Elizabeth Claiborne, no issue. His second marriage was to Louisa A. Booth (ca. 1795 - August 21, 1838) of Gloucester County. William's children were:

- William Burnet Browne
- Jefferson Browne
- Lucien Browne
- Martha Browne (1815-)
- Thomas Browne
- Herbert Browne (1823-)
- Marcellus Browne
- Junius Brutus Browne (1830-1878)

The fifth child of Herbert Augustine Claiborne and Mary Browne, and sister to William Burnet (Claiborne) Browne, was Judith Browne Claiborne. She married William B. Hill of King William County. Their daughter, Octavia Claiborne Hill, first cousin of Junius Brutus Browne, was the mother of Herbert Iverson Lewis, my mother's grandfather.

JUNIUS B. BROWNE AND EMILY C. ROANE

The marriage of Junius Brutus Browne and his wife is reported in A History of Two Virginia Families Transplanted From County Kent, England. Thomas Baytop, Tenterden, 1638, and John Catlett, Sittingbourne, 1622, by Dr. and Mrs. William Carter Stubbs, New Orleans, LA, ca. 1910, which says (pp. 119-120):

James Baytop Taliaferro (b. April, 1775), of Roaring Springs, Gloucester Co., mar. (I), 1796, Catherine, dau. of Geo. Booth of Poropotank, and his wife, Mary Taliaferro, and (II) Elizabeth L. Hackney, widow of Sterling Thornton. (Gloucester Records, II, 552.) Issue by first marriage:

1. Philip, b. 1796, d. 1819
2. Mary Booth, b. 1799, d. 1801.

*Capt. Junius B. Brown, C.S.A., was long an honored resident of Gloucester county. His

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13 ancestry.com consensus, but unsourced.
father's name was changed from Claiborne to Brown. Herbert Claiborne, of Chestnut Grove, Kent county, was married (the second time) to Mary, the daughter of William Burnet Browne, of Elsing Green, in King William county, who settled a large estate upon his eldest Claiborne grandson, upon the condition that he would take the name of William Burnet Browne, whose wife, Judith, was a daughter of Charles Carter, of "Cleve." The elder William Burnet Browne married a daughter of William Burnet, Governor of New York, and granddaughter of Gilbert Burnet, Bishop of Salisbury.

Mr. Junius Browne, of Gloucester, was his descendant, and inherited many beautiful and artistic things from the same source, which unfortunately burned when the old Mount Pleasant house in Gloucester was destroyed by fire.

It was Major Benjamin Roane (1785-1837), son of Alexander Roane (1748-1785), who married Matilda Ann Taliaferro (1800-1867). Their daughter, Emily Catherine Roane, born March 30, 1829, and Junius Brutus Browne, born in Gloucester County on September 12, 1830, married on November 25, 1851, and had these children:

William Burnet Browne, born on March 21, 1855, died on June 19, 1886, at the age of 31.
Matilda Taliaferro Browne, often called Maud, born on December 18, 1859, died on March 9, 1883, at the age of 23.
Junius Claiborne Browne, born on July 18, 1862, died August 1, 1918, buried at St. John's Church, Hampton.
Emily Elvira Browne, born July 4, 1865, married Norwood Jones, September 25, 1894, Gloucester Co., VA, died March 1, 1930, buried at St. John's Church, Hampton.

Junius Brutus Browne died on August 9, 1878, at the age of 47, and Emily Catherine Roane died on December 9, 1901, at the age of 72.[14]

Emily's brother George Roane served in Company A of the 5th Virginia Cavalry Regiment, CSA, with Junius. Major Benjamin Roane, before marrying Matilda Ann Taliaferro, married Rebecca Coleman Shackleford, and many descendants from that marriage settled in Gloucester County including my colleague L. Roane Hunt.

Some of what we know about the family comes from the federal census.

1840 Gloucester census
1840/ Pg.360/Ln.352/ Roane, Matilda A. --- TOTAL RESIDENTS: (10), WHITE MALES: under 5: (1), WHITE FEMALES: under 5: (1), 5 under 10: (1), 30 under 40: (1), 40 under 50: (1), MALE SLAVES: 10 under 24: (1), 56 under 100: (1), FEMALE SLAVES: under 10: (1), 10 under 24: (1), 24 under 36: (1), Persons employed in- Agriculture: (2)

1850 Gloucester census
#929 Roane, Matilda A., 49 F W, REAL: $2,500
Roane, Emily C., 21 F W
Roane, George A., 15 M W, OCC: Student
Roane, Maria L., 5 F W;
Prince, Lucy, 55 F W

#38 Booth, Thomas B., 51 M W, OCC: Farmer, REAL: $1,200
Booth, Margarett W., 23 F W
Booth, Mary Green, 7 F W
Booth, Margaret A., 5 F W
Booth, Thomas B., 2 M W
Armistead, Thomas B., 19 M W, OCC: None

Capt. Junius Brutus Browne, CSA

Browne, Junius B., 20 M W, OCC: Laborer;

1860 Gloucester census
#96  Brown, Junius B. age 29, M W, OCC: Farmer, REAL: $3,600, PERS: $3,315
Brown, Elmly C., 21 F W
Brown, William B., 5 M W
Brown, Louisa B., 3 F W
Brown, Maud T., 6 mo. F W
Brown, Herbert C., 27 M W, OCC: Gentleman, PERS: $1,500

1870 Ware census
Brown, Elmly C., 40 F W, OCC: Keeping House, PERS: $1100
Brown, William B., 15 M W, ASWY: X
Brown, Louisa, 13 F W, ASWY: X;
Brown, Junius C., 8 M W;
Brown, Elmly E., 3 F W
Sparks, Louisa, 13 F B, OCC: Domestic Servant, CNR: X, CNW: X

1880 Abingdon census
Brown, Emily C., 51 F W;  Mother, MS: WorD, OCC: Keeping House
Brown, Louisa B, 22 F W, REL: Sister, MS: S, OCC: At Home
Brown, Matilda T., 20 F W, REL: Sister, MS: S, OCC: At Home
Brown, Emily E, 12 F W, REL: Sister, MS: S, OCC: At Home
Whiting, Catherine, 15 F B, REL: Employed, MS: S, OCC: Cook

1900 Petsworth census
Browne, Junius C., 37 W M, DOB: July 1862, REL: Head, MS: S, OCC: farmer, owns farm

1900 Elizabeth City, Wythe district census
#1 Jones, Norwood, 27 W M, DOB: Jan 1873, HEAD, MS: M 6 years, OCC: dairyman renting a farm
Jones, Emily E., 32 W F, DOB: July 1867, REL: Wife, MS: M 6 years, 2 of 2 children living
Jones, Norwood L., 4 W M, DOB: Sept 1895, REL: Son, MS: S
Jones, William B., 11 mos. W M, DOB: July 1899, REL: Son, MS: S
Brown, Emily, 71 W F, DOB: Mch 1829, REL: Mother, MS: WorD
Goodwin, James, 47 B M, DOB: Mch 1853, REL: Servant, MS: WorD, OCC: farm laborer

In 1840, Emily C. Roane was about 11 but is probably the one white female listed as age 5 to under 10. In 1850, Junius was a laborer living with the Booth family, in the home of his mother’s brother. In the 1860 census, it appears that his brother was living with Junius and his family. Junius died in 1878, and the 1880 census shows the family without him, his oldest son as head of household, and Emily a widow. In 1900, widow Emily was living in Elizabeth City Co., VA with her youngest daughter.

Two daughters of Junius and Emily are mentioned in the Gloucester County marriage records:
Thomas Lowry Sinclair, age 26y, farmer, Elizabeth City Co VA, s/o Jefferson & Mary F. Lowry Sinclair; Louisa B. Browne, age 23y, d/o Junius B. & Emily Roane Browne; Dec 23 1880 by Rev. George E. Booker (pg. 164/Ln.99).
Norwood Jones, age 21y, machinist, of Elizabeth City Co VA, s/o William F. & Emily F. Lowry Jones; Emily E. Brown, age 21y, d/o Junius B. & Emily Roane Brown; Sept 25 1894 by Rev. William B. Lee (Pg.270/Ln. 57).
The other children died unmarried.

**LIFE AROUND THE WAR**

Junius B. Browne was assessed land taxes starting in 1855 on a 173-acre parcel with buildings 8 miles west of the court house near “Marlefield.” In 1854, this property had been owned by John Sinclair Jr. having been transferred from William ap W. Jones in 1854. The parcel was valued at $2,000 in 1859 and each year through 1869.

Junius B. Browne acquired a 108.5-acre parcel, valued at $759.50 in 1860 from J. C. Mitchell and Thomas Oldham. 57.5 acres was sold in the next year to John M. Pierce, leaving 51 acres for Junius valued $357.

Both properties, totaling 224 acres, were described as “8m W.” of the court house and were probably adjacent or nearby. They were the only properties on which Junius Browne was assessed land taxes.

The Browne family was recorded as living on “two hundred and fifty acres more or less, and bounded on the North by the main Road leading from Woods Cross Roads to Purtan, on the South by the lands of John Pearce and William K. Perrin, on the West by the land of William R. Jones and the main Road, and on the East by the lands of the estate of Catesby Jones dec’d and W. W. Stubbs together with the improvements and buildings thereon...” in several land transactions in the Gloucester County Deed Books, including Book 1 page 43 and Book 2 page 234. This is probably the 224 acres that he was being taxed on from 1855 to 1869.

Junius described himself as a farmer in the 1860 census, so he probably farmed that land up to his enlistment in 1859, perhaps until war began soon afterwards, and through the birth of his first three children. After his return from the war to his devastated home county, property transactions and suits against him for non-payment of debts give evidence that money was tight for this descendant of privilege.

Like many in the South after the war, Junius went bankrupt. On November 4, 1867, his real and personal property went to an assignee in accordance with bankruptcy laws. This action was recorded in the Gloucester clerk’s office on October 9, 1869.[15] In 1870, he was assessed no land tax, and James S. Van Horn held the deed and paid the taxes on those parcels. In the census, Junius said he was a farmer. Perhaps he was still farming the same land.

Capt. Junius B. Browne was elected to a three-year term as sheriff on November 4, 1874, to start on Jan. 1, 1875. [16] There seems to have been a special election in May 1875, for a four-year term beginning in July, and he won that, too. [17] On Jan. 4, 1875, Sheriff Browne nominated his son, William Burnet Browne, as a deputy. To fill a vacancy, the Court appointed William Constable for Ware District for two years starting July 1. He qualified again as a deputy in August, 1875. [18]

Sheriff Capt. Browne in 1877 was renting the home “Roaring Springs” in Gloucester Court House. He was mentioned in a letter from Peter William Smith to Sally Todd Field, who owned the house or was at the least responsible for its upkeep.[19] Emily Roane

15 Gloucester County Deed Book 2, p. 207-208.
16 Minute Book #2 of Gloucester County Court 1867-1874. p. 683.
17 Minute Book #3 of Gloucester County Court 1774-1779. p. 85.
18 Minute Book #3 of Gloucester County Court 1774-1779. p. 85.
Browne’s grandfather was James Baytop Taliaferro, who had owned “Roaring Springs” earlier, and we can assume that she and the family were living there with Junius. He died before the end of his 4-year term as sheriff that began in 1875.

In September, 1881, W. B. Browne, the oldest son, made a successful bid for land that Junius seems to have been paying on when he died. The land was described as 235 acres on the south side of the road between Sassafras and the York River, previously owned by Temple G. Catlett before he died in about 1868. It was called “Locust Grove farm.”

The family was living on this land, but William was not able to raise the money to complete the sale, and the property was transferred to John S. Cooke on Apr. 15, 1882. But on November 15, 1882, the family and court realized that a life insurance settlement paid what was owed on the property, and it was returned to the family and divided among the children, excepting Louisa, who had a husband and took cash as her share.

Then, in 1892, Emily C. Roane Browne and her unmarried children Junius C. Browne and Emily E. Browne, William B. Browne and Maud T. Browne having died, started selling off land, a few acres at a time, apparently to owners of adjacent property. Earlier, in 1883, William had part of the property surveyed in anticipation of sales and the plat was recorded in the clerk’s office (see Map 1). Junius C. Browne, the youngest child, continued selling off this land. The last sale was recorded in March, 1907, when he sold the land where he was living and moved in with his sister, Emily Jones, whose family was living in Hampton.

The attached maps illustrate some of the Locust Grove farm held by the wife and children of Junius after his death. Map 1 is an old plat that comes from the plat book in the Gloucester clerk’s office. At the bottom of the page is written, “This Plat represents Seventeen + 1/8 (17 1/8) Acres of land belonging to Wm. Burnet Brown, surveyed + divided at his request for the purpose of effecting sale of same. October 1883 – A. T. Wiatt D.G.C.”

Map 2 is a portion of the current tax map of land about midway between Sassafras and Allmondsville Road along the York River which can be compared with the plat. The plat seems to correspond to property on the south side of Ark Road between Olivis Road and East Autumn Lane, which is around addresses 6253 (part of 5-acre parcel No. 1 on the plat) to 6295 (part of the 4-acre parcel). Specifically, parcel No. 3 looks like the 7-acre parcel 29-37B, No. 2 looks like the 5.05-acre parcel 29-37C, and No. 1 looks like the combination of parcels 29-128, 29-128A, and 29-127, which together are 4.95 acres. Acreage in the original plat is probably less precise than the current property descriptions.

EPILOGUE

Capt. Junius Burnet Browne started life as a man of means, married well, owned land, and started a family. The deprivations of the Civil War, in which he commanded the men of Company A of the 5th Virginia Cavalry Regiment and was captured, took their toll on him and his family. His reputation persevered, and he was twice elected sheriff of Gloucester County. His performance in the military in service of his nation and as an officer of the law in Gloucester County garnered him the recognition of his neighbors as an honored resident of the county.

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19 Reminiscences: Confederate Soldiers of Gloucester County, Virginia. Sally Tompkins Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Gloucester County, VA 2000
20 Gloucester County Deed Book 9, p. 79-80
Map 1 – Plat of Browne property surveyed prior to sale, 1883
Capt. Junius Brutus Browne, CSA

Map 2 – Property Tax Map of old Browne land, 2014
Lineage of Junius Brutus Browne’s father, William Burnet (Claiborne) Browne
Gloucester and Mathews Newspaper Articles Indexed

By Lee Brown

An interesting new book has come across my desk. *Gloucester and Mathews Newspaper Articles 1737 – 1922* is a compilation of old newspaper references to the two counties, and it is loads of fun to look through. This collection was assembled by Joan Charles of Hampton, Virginia, who searched through 127 newspapers from 30 states, found over 800 articles, and put them, fully indexed, into a book. The book is for sale at the Gloucester Museum and the Gloucester Visitor’s Center for $20.

You can get a little of the flavor right now. Here is one of the early news items:

**February 2, 1739 – Virginia Gazette, Parks (Williamsburg, Virginia)**

We hear from Gloucester County, That on Thursday Night was Se’nnight, a Man who had been drinking at the Ordinary near the Court-house, being quarrelsome and troublesome to the Company, was by a Man belonging to the House, push’d out of the Door, and missing his Step, fell backwards, and with the Fall, and the Liquor together, dy’d soon after. The Coroner’s Inquest fate on the Body, and brought in their Verdict, *Accidental Death*.

Reports like the one cited above, besides being interesting on the surface, have a deeper historical significance. This one establishes that there was an ordinary operating near the court house in 1739. When combined with other articles, we may be able to improve our knowledge of the town.

Newspapers were the primary source of news for people in this area, and they reported what their customers wanted to know about, not so very different than what our news media reports now. The book details murders, horse races, piracy, shipwrecks, wars, and more. So what we have are glimpses into what the early county residents were talking about all those years ago.

One of my favorites is this:

**June 12, 1900 – Petersburg Daily Index (Petersburg, Virginia)**

Mayor Moss, of Newport News, will send the first message next Wednesday over the new Chesapeake and Tidewater Telephone lines from Newport News to Yorktown and to Gloucester Courthouse. There are two separate lines, one to Yorktown, which feed branch lines in Warwick and York counties, and the other going on to Gloucester Point, across York river, feeding Gloucester, Mathews, and New Kent counties. The cables across York river will be laid Wednesday.

Of course, one of the main topics of conversation was the weather:

**January 21, 1847 – The Southern Patriot (Charleston, South Carolina)**

Dreadful Tornado in Virginia – The Norfolk Herald learns that the counties of Matthews and Gloucester were visited on Thursday last, by a violent tornado of wind. One house was entirely destroyed in Matthews, several others unroofed, and fences and trees in every direction blown down. In East river, some damage was done to the shipping along the whole line of the river; numberless out houses were thrown down. Mr. John Dangerfield, collector
of customs for Matthews county, being on the road in a single gig, on his way home encountering the tornado his horse took affright, and sad to relate was instantly killed. The tornado lasted about thirty minutes.

Advertisements are as illuminating as the news articles, and Joan has not ignored them.

**July 23, 1767 – Virginia Gazette, Purdie & Dixon (Williamsburg, Virginia)**

(Advertisement) GLOUCESTER, July, 20, 1767. AS I intend to leave the colony this fall, I must request the favour of all those who have any demands against me to come immediately and settle, particularly those demands on account of gaming. I have made a promise never to lay one shilling more upon any bet whatsoever, as it has been very hurtful to Their humble servant, RICHARD GWYN.

The articles (and advertisements) are as useful to the genealogists as to the historians. The one above suggests the departure from the colonies of Richard Gwyn in or soon after 1767, apparently someone who the gamblers in the area would miss having at the table.

What makes this book an important reference work is its 16-page index. Entries are listed separately for events, horses, places, slavery, vessels, and people.

Scanning the people index, I noticed that there was an article mentioning Nina Taliaferro (for whom my mother did some secretarial work when I was a toddler; I have a vague and probably imagined recollection of her carpet and the undersides of some tables, which at my age was the crux of my environment) on October 2, 1899:

**October 2, 1899 – The Sun (Baltimore, Maryland)**

PERSONAL. Brief Items About Baltimoreans and Their Friends. Miss Nina Taliaferro of Gloucester county, Virginia, and Mr. Harry Osborne Sanders of Albany, N.Y., are to be married October 18 at Ware Episcopal Church, Gloucester county. Owing to the illness of the bride’s mother no invitations will be issued.

We know the Sanders name in Gloucester because of Sanders Nursing Home. The presence of this personal item in the Baltimore newspaper calls attention to the connection between Baltimore, Norfolk, and points in between, and how prevalent and routine was travel by ship up and down the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The consequence is that newspapers up and down the coast (and elsewhere) carried Gloucester and Mathews news.

A nearby article is one that local genealogists would be unlikely to discover without a reference such as this book and its index:

**May 14 1900 – Galveston Daily News (Galveston, Texas)**

Fort Worth, Tex., May 13. – Mrs. Alexander Hogg, wife of the former principal of the Fort Worth public schools, and present editor of the Texas and Pacific Quarterly, died here unexpectedly about 5 o’clock tonight. She had been ill from an infecction of the stomach only two days and her death came as a painful surprise to her family. She has a large circle of friends in this city and among some of the leading families of the south. Her maiden name was Eliza Buckner Cook, and she was the older daughter of Mordecai and Julia Ellen Cook of Gloucester county, Virginia, and related to the Russells, Taillaferros, Buckners, Stubbs and Dabneys of that state. She was married to Prof. Hogg December 29, 1859, and they lived in Virginia several years. After the war they moved to Auburn, Alabama, where Prof. Hogg occupied the chair of mathematics in the
agricultural and mechanical college there. Later they moved to Montgomery, Ala., and afterward to Texas, coming to Fort Worth in 1882. This has since been their home, and here they reared three daughters, Miss Mary Lula, Miss Virginia Dabney, now Mrs. W. H. Wynne, and Miss Julia Ellen, the wife of Hon. T. J. Powell, present mayor of Fort Worth. Each of the married daughters has two children.

Someone researching one of these old Gloucester names would probably not be looking in the Galveston Daily News. This article demonstrates the breadth of Joan’s work. While the people index is obviously helpful for genealogists, the other indexes are well worth investigating. A chapter in the history of Gloucester, Mathews, and most other southern counties is slavery. Many articles give the reader a good idea of how that fit into the life of the region.

**September 12, 1745 – Virginia Gazette, Parks (Williamsburg, Virginia)**

(Advertisement) RAN away from the Subscriber, living in Ware Parish, Gloucester County, on Tuesday the 6th Day of August last, A Negro boy nam’d Sawney; he looks old and wrinkled in the Face, though but very small of Stature, and had a fresh Scar on one of his Cheeks. He had on when he went away, a Pair of old blue Cloth Breeches, and a Hempon Shirt. Some Person had forg’d my Hand, and given him a Pass, but my Advertisements happening to get before him, he was take up at West Point the Tuesday following, and he made his escape the same Night, from the Person that had him, about six Miles from home. Whoever secures the said Runaway, so that I may have him again, shall be handsomely rewarded for their Trouble, and all their reasonable Expences bore by John Matthews.

**March 2, 1753 – Virginia Gazette, Hunter (Williamsburg, Virginia)**

(Advertisement) To be SOLD, at Publick AUCTION, at the Subscriber’s Plantation, in Gloucester County, on the last Thursday in March, Two Hundred Acres of Land, on Queen’s Creek, in the said County, 20 Virginia born Slaves, Men, Women and Children, and a Quantity of Stock. Three Month’s Credit will be allowed, the Purchaser giving good Security, as usual, to Robert Reade.

Announcements for the sale of property, including slaves, and promises of rewards for the return of runaway slaves were common. The index also includes some slaves by name, for example “Slave, Pompey”:

**April 3, 1746 – Virginia Gazette, Parks (Williamsburg, Virginia)**

(Advertisement) RAN away last June, from the Subscriber, in Gloucester County, a short, well-set Negroe Fellow, named Pompey; He is about 5 Feet 6 inches high, talks good English, and is of a yellow Complexion; Had on when he went away, a Cotton Waistcoat, dy’d yellow, a striped Virginia Cloth Jacket and Breeches, a Virginia Cotton Shirt, an old Pair of Shoes and Stockings; but I am since informed he has changed his Apparel.

Whoever secures the said Negroe, so that I may have him again, shall have Two Pistoles Reward, besides what the Law allows, paid by William Huggins.

The water has always been important to the region, and that means boats. The boat building industry of Mathews County produced many ships that were advertised for sale in newspapers all along the east coast in advertisements like this:

**November 29, 1804 – United States Gazette (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)**

(Advertisement) BRIG JULIA. Tomorrow at 1 o’clock, at the Merchants’ Coffeehouse,
will be sold, *The fine fast sailing brig JULIA.*, Now lying at Morton’s wharf, burthen per register 123 84-95 tons, built in Mathews county, in the state of Virginia, in 1803, of the best materials, and well finished. Inventory to be seen at the coffee house; terms approved indorsed notes at two and four months. *A. PETTIT & Co. auct'rs.*

The earliest named locally-built vessel to make the papers was the 57’ schooner *Delight*, but it was not an advertisement for sale:

**April 26, 1794 – *Philadelphia Gazette* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)**

(Advertisement) PIRACY! The schooner DELIGHT, the property of Manual Antonio Martin, of the island of Bona Vista, was on the 18th of October last, while lying at anchor in the road of that island, forcibly entered and carried off by John Dunham, John Murray, and a man by the name of Dodge, and one other person, name unknown. – This vessel was sold to M. A. Martin, by William McNeil, who came to Bona Vista in her, from Madeira. – She was built in the county of Matthews, state of Virginia, and was registered at New-York the 16th April, 1793 – Her name was painted on her stern – her dimensions as follows: 56 feet 6 inches keel, 16 feet 56 inches beam, hold 6 feet 2 inches, her burthen 54 tons. ...

If any person can give information of this vessel ... inform Messrs. Joseph Anthony and Son, Philadelphia ...

Several of America’s wars involved the local waterways:

**February 27, 1813 – *Carolina Federal Republican* (New Bern, North Carolina)**

An express arrived here yesterday with information, that the British had landed a force at New-Point Comfort, in Mathews county – and that they had also taken possession of Smith’s Island in Maryland.

Note this account in an “enemy” newspaper:


FROM YORK RIVER. The useful gun-boat *Young Rover* is now blockading the mouth of York River and cruising in Mobjack Bay and its tributaries. The *Young Rover* has recently been within six miles of Yorktown, without meeting opposition from the Rebels. On Sunday last a canoe was picked up containing five intelligent contrabands who came from Gloucester Point, opposite Yorktown. One of them, a very bright mulatto, who has recently been acting as a butler to a wealthy planter in Matthews county, says that the fortifications at Gloucester are poor, mounting only sixteen and seventeen marine guns. These works are intended to throw a cross fire with those at the lower end of Yorktown, which latter he says number four or five ordinary earthworks, mounting heavy marine pieces. This contraband says the Rebels drill about five hundred men at Gloucester, and he supposes the whole force there is about fifteen hundred.

*Gloucester and Mathews Newspaper Articles Indexed* contain hundreds of these accounts of life in Gloucester and Mathews counties. Using the index or just browsing takes the reader from one interesting anecdote to the next. Where else can you find out about historic events such as this?

**January 31, 1890 – *The Sun* (Baltimore, Maryland)**

Mr. J. F. Chelton, of the schooner Anna Lloyd has in his possession a peculiar mouse which he found on board his vessel while she was at Gloucester Point, Va. The mouse makes a noise resembling that of an English sparrow, and the captain and his friends call it the singing mouse.
Old Newspapers of Gloucester, VA
1869 – 1898

Submitted by William L. Lawrence

While doing some historical research on Gloucester County in 2009, I came across some old Gloucester newspapers in the rare book collection of the Swem Library at the College of William and Mary (W&M). There were about fifty copies from the 1800s. I also found two copies in the Virginia Historical Society’s collection (VHS) and four at the Library of Virginia (LVA). Two of them, however, were duplicates. Since these old newspapers were unknown to the general public, I felt they should be reproduced and made available. At the least, I thought copies should be in the Gloucester Public Library and the Museum of History.

I was finally able to start on this project in the fall of 2013. I first photographed the old newspapers, but found that they did not reproduce satisfactorily. They had to be scanned. Jay Gaidmore, Director of the Special Collections Research Center at Swem Library at the College of William and Mary, and his staff were most helpful and accommodating in scanning the newspapers. Jamison Davis, Visual Resources Officer at the Virginia Historical Society, coordinated the scanning at the historical society. I was able to scan the microfilm of the old issues found at the Library of Virginia through intra-library loan. Errol Somay, Newspaper Project Director at the Library of Virginia, had previously scanned old newspapers on loan from Elsa Cooke Verbyla, publisher of the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal some years ago. Elsa recently came across two more old issues and donated them to the collection at Swem Library. This project would not have been successful without the permission and cooperation of these four. My sincere thanks and great appreciation go to all of them.

Only three copies are being printed - one for the Gloucester Public Library with the financial assistance of the Gloucester Historical Society, the Gloucester Genealogical Society, and the Friends of the Library; one for the Museum of History with the financial assistance of the Friends of the Museum; and one for the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette Journal. On the following page are a listing of the newspapers, the location of the original issues, or the location of the microfilm of the originals. I have also included the Santa Claus Advertiser by W. D. Richardson of Iron Clad, Gloucester, VA. Iron Clad is now known as Flat Iron. While not a newspaper, its uniqueness makes it worthwhile for inclusion. Please note that in some copies of the Gloucester Herald the third and fourth pages are identical or very close to being the same.

If one looks carefully, one can read the name of the original owner of the old newspapers written at the top of most front pages. Thank goodness for collectors; otherwise the newspapers would not be here today.
Old Newspapers of Gloucester, VA

The following is a list of old Gloucester Newspapers included.

The Gloucester Herald, a weekly, 1869 to 1875 by Taliaferro, Page and Puller
Editor: J.H. Rowlenson

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The Tidewater Liberal, 1881 to 1885 by Joshua F. Ross

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Santa Claus Advertiser, 1883, Iron Clad, Gloucester Co. by W.H. Richardson

Christmas 1883 W&M

The Gloucester Mail, a weekly, 1884 to 1886 by Erza J. Weaver

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The Mercury, a weekly, 1886 by Jas. L. Hart and Fred. H. Wolffe

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Tidewater Virginian, a weekly, 1886 to 1889 by B.F. Bland, Editor and

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The Gloucester Letter, a monthly, 1886 to 1889, Cappahosic, VA, W.B. Weaver, Editor

April 1898 W&M
Below are some examples of local news found in the old newspapers.

Gloucester Herald-Oct.26, 1872

Gloucester Mail-Oct.4, 1884

The Mercury-Sept.2, 1886

Earthquake Shock

Tuesday night, an almost, violent shock of earthquake was experienced throughout the section, causing among many of our people considerable fright. It occurred about half-past ten o'clock, and lasted not less than twenty seconds. According to the best information, the shock was felt to a greater degree among residents of North River, and no few of our citizens abandoned their homes, not resuming quiet until their restive minds were fully restored to ease.

Yesterday morning, the topic of conversation among all classes was the earthquake, and with no perceptible coyness did each one we accost upon the subject give his or her experience. Mr. Tom Cooke's clock ceased to tick; while our friend, Mr. John R. DuVal, became suddenly solicitous about the welfare of his store, and in his open somnolent state of uneasiness made haste to find the cause of such a shake. A colored man who lives about two miles from here reports that his wife was shaken out of bed, and much ado ensued because in her state of excitement he could not satisfy her mind that it was not he who pushed her out.
The Gloucester Historical Society would like to announce the publishing of a new book titled *1820 Court Minute Book of Gloucester County, VA* by Genevieve V. Brei with editing by L. Roane Hunt. She states, “Gloucester, Virginia, is a fascinating county steeped in culture and history. As part of an archaeology internship with The Fairfield Foundation, I started taking a closer look at the documents that enable historians, archeologists, and genealogists to understand Gloucester’s early years. Unfortunately, Gloucester experienced what the Library of Virginia deems ‘a catastrophic loss’ of records twice: once in 1820 and again in 1865. The first fire took place in April 1820 at the Gloucester Clerk’s Office, and it destroyed most of the county’s official records. The second fire occurred in Richmond where official county records from across Virginia were moved to keep them safe during the Civil War. Among the only surviving documents from these fires are the county court’s minute books.

In general, minute books contain court proceedings. The 1820 Minute Book is extraordinary as it also attempts to mitigate the devastation of the 1820 Clerk’s Office fire. Beginning in June, it contains transcriptions of original documents such as indentures and land transactions as well as ongoing debt cases, appointments, and county financial information. The vast majority of the Minute Book deals with lawsuits and debt cases.”

Genevieve Brei is an undergraduate at the College of William and Mary, in Williamsburg, Virginia. This is her first publication. Her interests range from history to geology, always with an emphasis on understanding the past.

Her book can be purchased at the Museum of History or the Visitor’s Center for $20. Proceeds go to the Gloucester Historical Society to support special projects.