

# COLONIAL GRANVILLE COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE

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Loose Leaves from  
"THE LOST TRIBES OF NORTH CAROLINA"

Compiled and Edited by

Worth S. Ray

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GENEALOGICAL PUBLISHING CO., INC.

1979

#211

(11) RICHARD HENDERSON (son of SAMUEL HENDERSON and his wife ELIZABETH WILLIAMS) was born in HANOVER COUNTY, VIRGINIA, April 30, 1735 (WHEELER vol 1 p. 102); he died at his home in GRANVILLE COUNTY, N. C., January 30, 1785. Thus he lived for FIFTY YEARS only, but left the impress of a remarkable career on the history of his country. He was about ten years of age when his father, SAMUEL HENDERSON, removed from HANOVER COUNTY, Virginia, to GRANVILLE COUNTY, North Carolina. Somewhere I have read that when his father was SHERIFF, his young son RICHARD was one of his deputies. He studied law, when young, in the office of his cousin (who, in fact, was his double cousin) JUDGE JOHN WILLIAMS, who was much older than himself, was admitted to the bar and later was appointed by the Governor a Judge of the Superior Court, and was serving in that capacity when the trouble with the "Regulators" arose in North Carolina. His cousin, JUDGE WILLIAMS, was serving in the same capacity at the same time, and both were forced to leave Hillsboro to avoid violence with the enraged "regulators". In company with JUDGE WILLIAMS (whose step-daughter became his wife), LEONARD HENLEY BULLOCK, WILLIAM JOHNSON, JAMES HOGG, THOMAS HART, JOHN LUTTRELL, NATHANIEL and DAVID HART, when the CHEROKEE INDIANS offered their lands for sale (WHEELER Vol. 1, p. 103) he organized a company called "THE TRANSYLVANIA COMPANY", which bought up a large tract thereof, paying a fair consideration for the same, which included "a large portion of the present States of Tennessee and Kentucky" of which the Company took possession the 20th of April, 1776. Governor MARTIN, of North Carolina about the same time, declared the purchase illegal, but JUDGE HENDERSON and his "associates" proceeded to Kentucky, guided by the intrepid DANIEL BOONE, where the "State of TRANSYLVANIA" was duly organized, and a proprietary government set in motion. JAMES HOGG (of an old HANOVER COUNTY, VIRGINIA, family) was dispatched to the seat of GOVERNMENT of the nation, as an agent to effect a settlement with the Colonial Government, but who failed in his mission. Eventually Col. Henderson and his associates were granted a block of some 200,000 acres as a compromise, and the original tract accepted as a "purchase" by the Nation, notwithstanding it had been repudiated as a "fraud" when first consummated. According to WHEELER this 200,000 acres was granted by VIRGINIA, and later TENNESSEE made HENDERSON & CO. a similar concession in the Powell's Valley country. In 1779 JUDGE HENDERSON (Sometimes COLONEL HENDERSON) opened a land office at what is now known as NASHVILLE, for the sale of these compromise lands to settlers. In GRANVILLE COUNTY, Judge Henderson lived in the "HUT BURN SECTION" neighbor to JUDGE WILLIAMS. He married ELIZABETH KEELING, step-daughter of JUDGE WILLIAMS, a lineal descendant of COL. LEONARD KEELING of Charles City County, Virginia, after whom he named one of his sons, a distinguished Judge on the North Carolina Bench. The children of JUDGE RICHARD HENDERSON and his wife ELIZABETH KEELING are given as follows: FANNY HENDERSON (b. 1764) who married JUDGE SPROUN McKAY, of Salisbury; RICHARD HENDERSON (b. July 1766); ARCHIBALD HENDERSON (b. August, 1768); ELIZABETH HENDERSON (born in 1770) who married an ALEXANDER, from MICHIGENBURG COUNTY; LEONARD HENDERSON (b. 1772, died in August 1833) married FRANCES PARKER, and left two sons and two daughters; JOHN LAWSON HENDERSON, (b. 1778) who left no children, according to the writer's information. An interesting story is that of FANNY HENDERSON, a daughter of JUDGE LEONARD HENDERSON and the grand-daughter of JUDGE RICHARD HENDERSON. She married a DR. WILLIAM TAYLOR and they had a daughter LUCY WHITE TAYLOR, who married JOEL ADDISON HAYES, of NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, whose son JOEL ADDISON HAYES, JR. married MARGARET HOWELL DAVIS, the daughter of PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS, of the SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.

GRANVILLE COUNTY REGIMENT OF MILITIA  
MUSTER ROLL OCTOBER 8, 1754.

(From Vol. 22, N. C. Colonial Records,  
page 379.)  
COLONEL WILLIAM BAYON in Command.  
COL. WILLIAM PERSON, Lieutenant-Colonel.  
MAJ. JAMES PATHE.

Company Commanders in this Regiment were  
as follows:

1. CAPT. JOHN GLOVER.
2. CAPT. GEORGE JEFFREYS.
3. CAPT. RICHARD COLEMAN.
4. CAPT. DANIEL HARRIS.
5. CAPT. JOHN SALLIS.
6. CAPT. SUGAR JONES.
7. CAPT. BENJAMIN SIMS.
8. CAPT. ANDREW HAMPTON.

In the Company of CAPT. SUGAR JONES were  
the following persons, among others:

GEORGE WOOTE  
DANIEL WOOTE  
ATKINS McLEMORE  
JEREMIAH WOOTE  
— JAMES RAINWATER  
THOMAS COOPER  
JAMES RAY  
WILLIAM UNDERWOOD  
JOHN WOOTE  
JAMES WOOTE.

In the Company of CAPT. ANDREW HAMPTON  
the following names appear on the roster, among  
others:

JOHN CLARK  
JOHN JONES  
LEONARD ADCOCK  
JOHN ADCOCK  
VALENTINE WHITE.

Among the signers of a PETITION from the  
GRANVILLE COUNTY residents in 1771 (Vol. 9 N.C.  
Colonial Records, pp. 95-96) were the following:

GROVES HOWARD  
VALENTINE WHITE  
DAVID HOWARD  
FRANCIS HOWARD  
CHRISTOPHER HUNT  
WILLIAM WORTHINGTON  
CUTHBERT HUDSON  
ISAAC KRAID  
RICHARDSON OWEN  
THOMAS OWEN  
JONATHAN KNIGHT  
WILLIAM AGNEW  
JAMES WILKINSON  
ISAAC WHITE  
BENJAMIN HOWARD  
MARSHA KNIGHT  
JOSIAH STOVALL  
JOHN BAKER  
JAMES LANGSTON