



Claiborne Society Newsletter

The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants



Fall 2015

Message from the President

The 2015 National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants Reunion will take place in Charleston, South Carolina from Thursday, November 5 through Sunday November 8. Vice President Susan W.H. Rura has done an amazing job planning the reunion – not least of which was avoiding the dates of October 1 through October 4, when all the roads were closed due to flooding! The final page of this newsletter is a form you may use to register for the reunion.

One of the important undertakings that will take place at the reunion will be the nomination and election of new officers. I have nominated Susan Rura for President and I look forward to the leadership she will provide in this role. Susan has an enthusiastic outlook that is inspiring! That leaves her current position as Vice-President vacant, and we are entertaining candidates. Our Secretary and Treasurer are also at the end of their term, so these positions need to be filled as well. If you have an interest in helping to carry forward the rewarding work of this Society, please contact us for more information.

This issue of the newsletter contains some background on Dr. Nicholas Butler, who will be our speaker at the Saturday evening banquet. We are also fortunate to have more delightful family stories from our members: Lora F. Claiborn Lake on the Claiborns of Missouri, Steve and Catherine Cate with more information on Archdeacon William Sterling Claiborne, and Sally Prosch on how her ancestor Sarah Carroll Fox stood up to British soldiers during the revolution. In addition, my brother John and my sister-in-law Sandy Clayborn have allowed me to reprint a letter of thanks they sent to their local newspaper. We are so grateful for all the help they received. Finally, I have been wondering for years about a certain explorer named Thomas Clayborne and I cannot wait any longer to ask the membership at large whether they can place him in someone's family line.

Patricia Clayborn, President clayborn@aol.com

Treasurer's Report April 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015

Balance April 1, 2014	\$9,706.04
Balance September 30, 2015	\$ 15,105.50

RECEIPTS	
New Membership (2 Life, 6 Standard)	\$540.00
Dues	330.00
Book Sales	120.00
Claiborne Journal Sales	70.00
Reunion Registration / Tours	<u>4,920.00</u>

Total Receipts	\$5,980.00
+ April 1 Balance	<u>9,706.04</u>
Total Liquid Assets	\$15,686.04

DISBURSEMENTS	
Printing & mailing <i>Claiborne Clan Newsletter</i> (Allegra Printing)	\$569.03
Printing & mailing <i>Claiborne Journal</i> (reimburse Elsa Diamond)	<u>11.51</u>
Total Disbursements	\$580.54

BALANCE	\$15,105.50
----------------	--------------------

In addition to the assets above, the NSCFD holds 2 CDs at Chesapeake Bank, Mathews, VA:

#296580203 balance on Sept 3, 2014 =	\$11,157.50
#296570445 " " Feb 25, 2015 =	<u>\$ 5,243.14</u>
	\$16,400.64

TOTAL ASSETS	\$31,506.14
---------------------	--------------------

Respectfully,
Diane Claiborne Clements, Treasurer

OFFICERS 2013 - 2015

President	Patricia Clayborn
Vice President	Susan W.H. Rura
Secretary	Corinne Middleton
Treasurer	Diane Claiborne Clements
Registrar	Ann Richardson Starr

Standing Committees

Reunion	Susan W.H. Rura
Research	Dr. Alex Waldrop
Archives	Duain Claiborne
Publications	Patricia Clayborn
Webmaster	Dan Boylin

www.claibornesociety.org



Sweet Hall as drawn by Edward A. Darby (1877 - 1966)

CLAIBORNE SOCIETY REUNION in CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

November 5-8, 2015

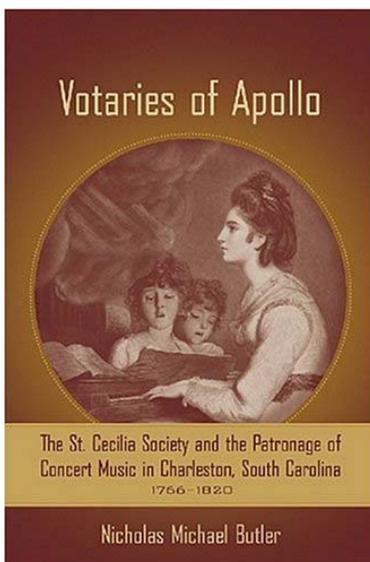
Antebellum Charleston: Before the War

Susan W. H. Rura, our Vice President and Chairman of the Reunion Committee, has arranged for Nicholas Butler, Ph.D. to speak on Charleston history at our Reunion. Our banquet will be on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at the Mills Hotel in the Planters Suite from 6:00 pm onward.

Dr. Butler is a native of Greenville County, South Carolina. He attended the University of South Carolina in Columbia where he studied music, and later Indiana University where he received his Ph.D. He has served as an archivist for the South Carolina Historical Society and as an adjunct professor at the College of Charleston, and as an historical consultant for the City of Charleston. He has also worked behind-the-scenes on several large improvements to Charleston landmarks, including White Point Gardens and Colonial Lake.

He is currently the historian, archivist and Special Collections manager for the Charleston County Public Library. His work includes conducting a series of online programs called *The Charleston Time Machine*.
<http://charlestontimemachine.org/>

In his role as historical consultant for the City of Charleston, Dr. Butler heads up the mayor's Walled City Task Force, charged with the job of researching and uncovering the walls and fortifications that surrounded the city in the 17th and 18th centuries. The Task Force was appointed by Charleston Mayor, Joseph P. Riley Jr. in 2005, and the group is made up of preservation leaders, historians, archaeologists, and managers of historic sites, as well as representatives from city government and local utilities. Since its inception, the group has engaged in a great number of educational activities that include lectures, "walk the walls" events, and a self-guided walking tour of the walled city footprint. The Task Force also coordinated two seasons of archaeological investigations at South Adger's Wharf in 2008 and 2009. Eventually, the group intends to mark the outline of the walls in the streets and sidewalks so that the public can have a heightened sense of the size and scope of the walled city.



Dr. Butler has written a book about the history of music in Charleston entitled "*Votaries of Apollo*." Nicholas Temperley, emeritus professor of music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign describes the book as follows: "Until now, early American musical history has been set largely in New England and the Mid-Atlantic states. Now, thanks to Nicholas Butler's effort, the balance has been restored. He shows that the elites of Charleston in the late-Colonial and Federal periods supported a strong, European-based musical culture at least as sophisticated as anything further north, with its own distinctive flavor, derived from Caribbean and French connections. Butler's study of the St. Cecilia Society is based on impressively thorough research, and is presented without a trace of regional or racial bias. It is an easy read, rich in fascinating detail."

Dr. Butler is married to Christina Butler, who is a professor in the Historic Preservation department at the College of Charleston, and is also the owner and lead researcher of Butler Preservation, Inc., performing construction, restoration and research work. Together, the Butlers are embarking on the exciting process of designing and constructing their own historically-accurate Charleston home. You may follow their progress at the following site: <http://follynot.org/about-us/>

THE CLAIBORNS AND THEIR FOX TROTTING HORSES

From: Lora F. Claiborn Lake

This is a story about my Great, Great Grandfather, Daniel Allen Claiborn. It was written by Janet Esther and published in the May 1985 issue of the M.F.T.H.B.A. Journal magazine, which stands for Missouri Fox Trotters Horse Breeders Association.

"THE CLAIBORNS AND THEIR FOX TROTTING HORSES

Daniel Allen Claiborn of Crocker, MO., was an Ozarks pioneer and a one armed veteran of the Civil War who wouldn't ride anything but a Fox Trotting horse. He died in 1931, at the age of 92, after insisting on riding to a bank meeting despite a deep March snow. (He was founder and President of the Bank of Crocker.) On the way home, his foot hung in the stirrup as he dismounted to open a gate a quarter of a mile from the barn. He fell and lay in the snow for a couple of hours before he was found. A few days later he died of pneumonia.

Daniel left Tennessee as an infant with his parents, Ousley and Frances Claiborn, on a wagon train headed for California in 1839. The Claiborns and some other families dropped out in the Missouri Ozarks and entered claims to valuable land along Dry Glaize Creek in what later became Camden County. Ousley made the two day horseback ride to Boonville, MO. in one day and a night to ensure being the first to claim the land he wanted. Whether the Claiborns brought the Fox Trotting horses from Tennessee or purchased them after reaching the Ozarks cannot be verified. It is known that their son, Daniel, was riding Fox Trotters during the Civil War and he said the stock of his horses came from his father. After Camden County was organized in 1841, Ousley served on the first Grand Jury, was elected Judge of the Camden County Court, and became one of the early postmasters.

The Claiborn heritage was southern and they were slave owners when they came to Missouri. In later years, Ousley opposed slavery but dark eyed, energetic, little Frances never forgave Abe Lincoln for the Emancipation Proclamation. Several former slaves remained with her their entire lives and are buried in the Claiborn Cemetery.

Missouri was torn by divided loyalties during the Civil War and the Claiborn sons painfully reflected that fact. David, the oldest, left home and fought for the Confederacy in the battles of Wilson's Creek and Pea Ridge. He died in a Little Rock, Arkansas hospital in 1863.



Jane Eveline Huffman Claiborn
1845 - 1944

Daniel and John fought for the Union. Daniel was wounded during the siege of Chickasaw Bayou, just north of Vicksburg, Mississippi and his right arm had to be amputated. Five months later, John was wounded in the Battle of Vicksburg. Wiry, determined Daniel survived the loss of his arm and made his way back home to Decaturville, Mo. John was in an Army hospital in Illinois when the war ended. Daniel rode one of his Fox Trotting horses and led another to Illinois and brought his brother home.

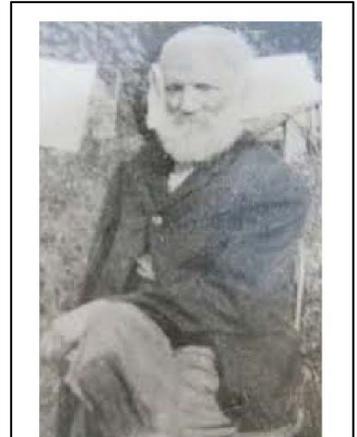
Daniel and his wife, Jane Huffman Claiborn, moved to Pulaski County after the Civil War. They drove two ox-drawn wagons loaded with their possessions and took along six head of Fox Trotters; 4 mares, a stallion and a gelding. Daniel rarely talked about the Civil War, but Jane told their grandson, Paris Claiborn (whom they raised after he was orphaned at the age of eight) about passing homesites along the trail where only chimneys remained. The dwellings had been burned by the bushwhackers who robbed and terrorized the civilian population during the war.

The land they settled near Crocker had big trees and tall prairie grass; the brushy undergrowth common today was absent. They lived on rabbits and prairie chickens until they could get established. At the birth of their first child, Daniel promised his wife that their next child would be born in a proper home, not a one room cabin, and his word was good. The two story log dwelling he constructed was considered luxurious and people came from miles around to see it.

Daniel taught school and became one of the first Pulaski County Judges. In addition to operating a large farm, he owned a general merchandise store in Hancock and was president of two banks. Construction of the railroad in 1869 was a tremendous boon to the livestock industry and Daniel bought stock of all kinds. In the fall of the year he purchased mule colts and put them in a pasture with an old grey mare that wore a bell. The big market for cotton and mining mules was at Memphis, Tennessee. When Daniel had a shipment ready for Tennessee, the grey mare was led to the railroad pens with the mules devotedly following the sound of her bell. Daniel Claiborn wouldn't ride anything but a Fox Trotter and he never allowed anything but a buggy collar to be put on one. He worked mules; Fox Trotters were his transportation. Although he kept buggies and hacks for the family, he preferred to ride horseback. He was a crucial judge of horseflesh and any horse failing to meet his standards for gait and endurance got sold.



Grave of Ousley Claiborne



Daniel Allen Claiborn
1839 - 1931

Daniel and Jane Claiborn raised eleven children and two grandchildren and gave each one a farm when they married. Two of their sons became medical doctors. Dr. Drura (pronounced Drew) Claiborn's first practice was in Waynesville, Mo., a resort town built on the Gasconade River. He rode a black Fox Trotting stallion that his father gave him and the horse was rather famous for his feats and endurance. It is claimed that the young doctor would swim the black across the river at high flood stage. Visitors from Montana told Drura of their vast country and the need for a doctor in the area around Big Timber. Dr. Drura Claiborn moved to Big Timber, Montana and practiced medicine there for 52 years. He is supposed to have taken the stallion and a buggy team with him.

Dr. Ed Claiborn graduated from Missouri Medical College (now Washington University) in St. Louis in 1896 and opened a general practice in Decaturville, Mo., his father's hometown. His career as a country doctor spanned 63 years. His father gave him a buggy team of Fox Trotters when he started his practice. If the roads were too bad for a buggy, Doc Ed rode horseback. At 6'3" he was extremely tall by 19th century standards and he rode a horse as hard as the situation demanded; he was a physician first and foremost. Everything else took a back seat.

A one eyed son of the famous Rex McDonald stood at Montreal, Mo. Like many of the old time American Saddle Horses, this stallion sired natural Fox Trotting foals. Doc crossed his mares with the one eyed stallion and got, among others, a good bodied, dark chestnut colt. This Fox Trotting colt was called Rex and he became Doc's favorite mount despite being notoriously cold backed. Doc's appreciation of the horse was based on his tremendous stamina. Rex was horse enough to take a man anywhere and back, but he required an experienced rider the first hundred feet of the trip.

Doc Claiborn charged a dollar for an office call. The fee for a 'confinement case' (delivering a baby) was \$10.00. He might ride twelve or fifteen miles to make a house call for \$3...or just a promise to pay. He never refused to attend anyone, even if they had no money. 'That's alright,' he'd say, 'I know you'll pay or I wouldn't have doctored you.' And pay they did. Sometimes payment was sorghum or a piece of furniture, but a debt to Doc Claiborn was a matter of honor to most of his patients.

Pneumonia, appendicitis, and tuberculosis were feared killers, and diseases that have now been eliminated by immunization claimed the lives of many children. On special cases he brought doctors from St. Louis to consult with him. Major surgeries were referred to doctors in Barnes Hospital in St. Louis if they were able to make the trip by train.

Doc bought his Model T in 1914. He was very cramped when he sat down in the car and his knees stuck up above the level of the door. He never cared for driving himself and generally employed someone to drive for him. He continued to keep a horse and buggy team in the barn, ready for any emergency. The roads were so bad the car frequently got stuck and there were months when only a horse could get through the mud.

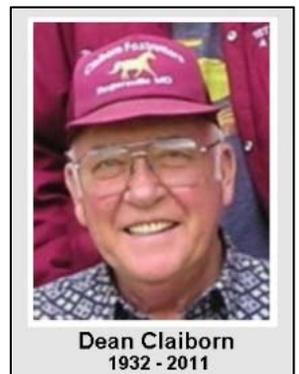
He got called out in all kinds of weather, at all times of the day and night. He described being called for a confinement case off the road near Bagnell. 'When I reached there I discovered it would be necessary to wait awhile. As I was very tired I mentioned that I would like to lie down and rest awhile. Seeing another bed in the room, and thinking a child in it, I said 'I'll just lie down here.' No one said anything. I turned back the covers and as I started to lie down, the 'child' came out the other side. I believe she was the tallest and most beautiful young lady that I had ever seen. She left the room, and I didn't see her again, and still no one said a word.'

Doc got appendicitis but didn't feel that he could leave home for surgery because his wife was critically ill. He sent for Dr. Rogers of St. Louis who arrived with a nurse and performed the necessary operation in Doc's own office. Doc was in such bad shape he couldn't be moved to his residence next door, so they set up a bed for him in the office. The nurse slept on a cot in the adjoining room. To prevent any hint of a scandal, one of Doc's sons slept in the office too.

Most of the early Claiborns owned farms and engaged in the cattle business and Doc was no exception. His oldest son, Kenner, was the acknowledged cattle expert and he did the buying for several family members. Paris Claiborn was an eighth grader when he accompanied Kenner on a cattle buying trip to Arkansas in the 1920's. They were gone six weeks. Paris rode Cotton, a sorrel Fox Trotting gelding with a little roan hair and a flax mane and tail. Kenner engaged the places to lot and feed the cattle as they rode to Arkansas, traveling about 50 miles a day. Men had cattle spotted for Kenner and he rode from one area to another buying a total of 485 head of yearling steers. They drove the cattle right up Hwy. 5 all the way to Decaturville, Mo., encountering three or four cars and a few wagons each day. At night the steers were lotted and fed at the locations Kenner had pre-arranged. Local drovers were hired along the way. In the mornings the cattle were counted out with a drover positioned behind every fifty head. Keeping other cattle from joining the herd was a major problem on open range. They got home with 487 head, two more than Kenner bought.

At Decaturville, the cattle were dehorned, branded with a 'C' and parceled off to various members of the Claiborn clan. They were grazed, then finished to 'American Royal' condition on grain. As fat three year olds, 25 head would fill a railroad cattle car. Paris helped trail one more herd out of Arkansas before improved roads and increased use of trucks made long cattle drives part of Ozarks history. Bagnell Dam was completed in 1931, the year Daniel Claiborn died, and it altered Camden County considerably. A new county seat named Camdenton sprang up nine miles from Decaturville. Dr. Ed Claiborn moved there in 1933 and continued his practice until his death 25 years later. Paris Claiborn is retired from civil service and lives in Dixon, Mo. He has continued to ride and own Missouri Fox Trotting Horses throughout his life. He used to show a good deal and rode a Celebration class winner back in 1961.

Dean Claiborn, of Macks Creek, Mo., owns a handful of Missouri Fox Trotters that are descendants of the horses his Great Grandfather Daniel Claiborn rode during the Civil War. He lives on a magnificent Niangua River farm that once belonged to cattleman Kenner Claiborn. If you ford the river on a horse, it's only a few miles to Camdenton; by auto it's necessary to go a long way around. Dean smiles when visitors mention the river. He knows the Claiborns tried for generations to get the county to build a bridge across the Niangua. It's one of the few things they never got accomplished."



Dean Claiborn
1932 - 2011



Claiborn Clan Missouri

Daniel Allen Claiborn is in the center of the picture. During the Civil War he fought on the side of the Union and lost his right arm in the battle of Chickasaw Bayou, north of Vicksburg. Sitting beside him is his wife Jane Eveline Huffman Claiborn. She is holding baby Norma Jean Claiborn, youngest child of Willa and Daniel Barton Claiborn. Behind Jane is Ousley Claiborn. Behind Ousley is Edward G. Claiborn, MD known as "Doc". Standing behind Daniel Allen just to his left is Willia Gipson Brock Claiborn, to her left is her daughter Frances Louise, sitting at the feet of Louise is her brother Harold Glenn (my father) to his left is Frank Crall (grandson of Winnie Claiborn Crall).

I finally found the identification list that was given to me at the time that I received the picture.:

Bottom Row: Lorene, Marjorie, Harold Glenn, Frank.
Sitting: Jane Eveline Huffman Claiborn, holding Norma Jean, Daniel Allen Claiborn.
Next Row Up: Max, Paul, Willa, Louise, Ruby.
Next Row Up: Becky and "Red Bill" (Frances Brother), Mattie, Ousley, Maude, Crystal, Earl.
Back Row: Lula, Doc Ed, Mack

ARCHDEACON WILLIAM STERLING CLAIBORNE



Archdeacon William Sterling Claiborne

We have received more information on Archdeacon William Sterling Claiborne from members Steve and Catherine Cate. Archdeacon William Sterling Claiborne's portrait was featured in our last newsletter. His lifetime of service included providing education and health care in the areas surrounding Sewanee, Tennessee. Before he was an archdeacon, Claiborne was a theology student and college football hero. He played guard for the Sewanee Tigers of Sewanee University of the South and was part of the 1899 "Iron Men" team, who won five road games in six days all by shutout.

Steve Cate wrote to us and stated: "This is a follow up to my inquiry at Sewanee (Univ of the South) about any recent information on William Sterling Claiborne. This also fills in a few areas of the piece in the latest newsletter by Deb Peabody. As can be seen, William Sterling Claiborne (Uncle Sterling to us) was a phenomenal force on campus at Sewanee and the diocese of East Tennessee. He also had a profound effect on the lives of the folks in East Tennessee in the first three decades of the 20th century. AND HE WAS A HECK OF A FOOTBALL PLAYER, TOO!

I may also send this to Will Claiborne, in that Will, Sterling and my wife are attached to the same branch of the tree. I believe it is safe to say that Sterling was born at Geddes in Amherst County. How and why he arrived at Sewanee in the 1890s is still to be discovered. Catherine's father, Charles Robert Claiborne, Jr. attended Sewanee in the early 1930s.

Sterling was a tireless fundraiser for Sewanee and Sewanee causes. It is known in the family that, on more than one occasion, he would venture to see friends on Park Avenue in New York City and return with checks to build another school, another chapel, another hospital.

Sadly, we never met the man. He died too soon, but his admiration and legacy live on.

Best, Steve Cate Santa Ana, CA"

Mr. Cate forwarded the following message to us, from John Bratton, past executive director of the Sewanee Associated Alumni:

"From: John Bratton Subject: Archdeacon Claiborne To: Steve Cate

Dear Mr. Cate,

It is with considerable pleasure to report to you all that I know about the remarkable career of Father Claiborne. No person ever contributed to Sewanee and this community as much in our entire history as did William Sterling Claiborne, and some significant facts of his ministry have just recently come to light. That will follow. When the Sewanee Trust for Historic Preservation determined that his legacy was nearly lost, we went to work making certain that the almost forgotten fact that the proper name of our parish house was Claiborne Hall, and finally received assurance that the new parish house, then under construction, would bear his name. The Trust commissioned our distinguished alumnus portrait painter, Claude Buckley, to deliver what became a splendid portrait now at the entrance to Claiborne Hall.

Father Claiborne came to Sewanee as a seminarian in the 1890's and played lineman on Sewanee's undefeated 1899 team, recognized by sports historians as the greatest college football team of all time having played five games in six days and not even scored on by the best teams in the south like Texas and LSU.

Father Claiborne was graduated from the School of Theology in 1900, his senior year in seminary. Only this year did we know how he could have served as rector of Otey Parish while still a seminarian. The answer came from a college student who spent this past summer at Oxford where he found the legacy of Fr. Claiborne as a great missionary much alive, and they knew that Bishop Gailor of Tennessee had ordained him his senior year, something generally unprecedented.

He served ten years as rector of Otey when Bishop Gailor named him Archdeacon of Sewanee and East Tennessee, whereupon the Venerable William Sterling Claiborne set out to establish mission churches, many beautiful and still active, from our Franklin County past Chattanooga, which today includes thriving Grace Church, further north to Kingsport. Archdeacon Claiborne raised the endowment for the Emerald Hodgson Hospital becoming the only hospital

between Nashville and Chattanooga serving the University students and staff and poor mountain families all around. He became known as "Apostle to the mountaineers".

Fr. Claiborne established a school for mountain boys, there already being one for girls which he later kept from closing, known as St. Andrews' School which, when concerned about its permanence, persuaded the Order of the Holy Cross to come here where it became a boarding school at first for local residents but soon from elsewhere but always those in need, some with no resources to offer. Today it is one of the best buys in secondary education known as St. Andrews's-Sewanee School.

Archdeacon Claiborne, as part of the responsibilities of his office, established a seminary for older men with a curriculum more appropriate for those of advanced age who wished to pursue holy orders. It was known as the DuBose Training School, was very successful, many graduates seeking a rural parish ministry.

Hope this is helpful.

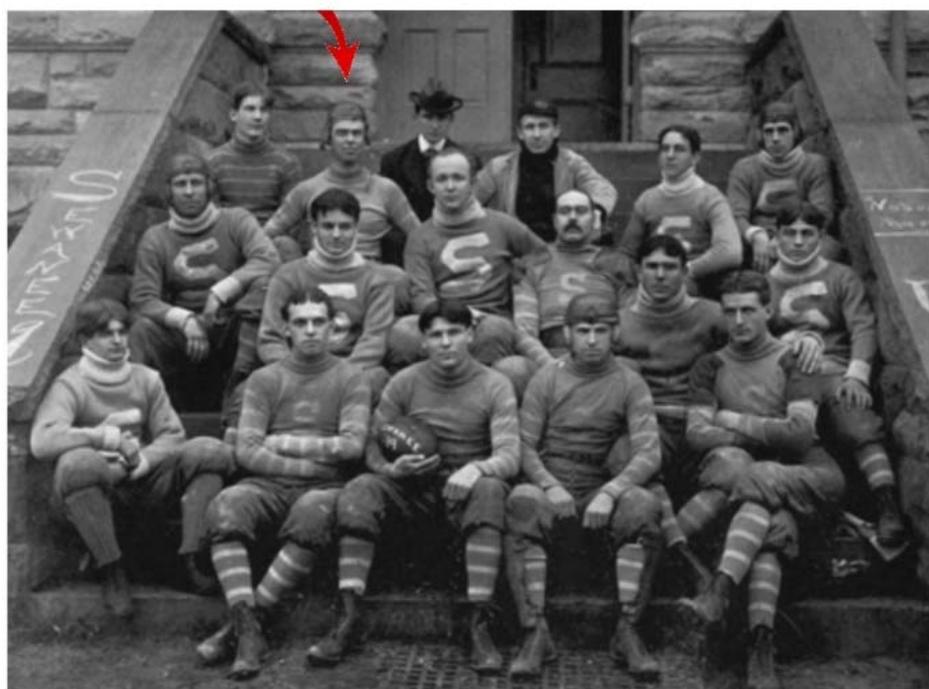
Best wishes from Sewanee, John Bratton"

Concerning the football years, the book *Ninety-Nine Iron: The Season Sewanee Won Five Games in Six Days* by Wendell Givens states:



William Sterling Claiborne as a football player circa 1901

"William Stirling Claiborne, Right Guard: This 190-pound 6-footer from Amherst County, VA, believed that pre-game intimidation of opposing players would make them easier to handle in the line of scrimmage. At an unspecified time before the big trip, more likely much earlier in his life, he had lost the vision in one eye, and now he made the most of the loss. Facing opposing players before each game, he would point to the discolored eye and proclaim, "I got this last time out!" Before enrolling at Sewanee to study theology, Claiborne had attended Roanoke College in 1893-95, so he truly was a senior player. He was a member of the Missionary Society and vice president of the Athletic Association.



The 1899 Sewanee Tigers Football Team
William "Wild Bill" Claiborne
Top Row Second from Left

Guard William Stirling Claiborne returned to play on the 1900 team, continued theology study and became known as the 'apostle to the mountain folk' for his work among Tennessee mountain people. The story is told that once, when a rowdy youth was trying to interrupt a Claiborne sermon, the powerfully built former guard continued holding an open Bible in one hand and with the other picked up the rowdy and set him outside the door, never interrupting his sermon. Claiborne founded the St. Andrew's School for Mountain Boys, refounded St. Mary's School for Girls, and established Emerald-Hodgson Hospital, all at Sewanee."

SARAH CARROLL FOX AND THE BRITISH TROOPER

We are happy to have received a response to our request for family stories from Sara "Sally" Prosch, who is both a Claiborne and Fox descendant. She states:

"I do have a family story about a Claiborne descendant of Col. William Claiborne...Sarah Carroll was a great granddaughter of Ursula Claiborne who was married to William Gooch. Sarah and her husband William Fox (also a Claiborne descendant of Col. William Claiborne) had a plantation outside of Charleston, SC in the PeeDee River basin. Sarah's husband William was off fighting the British in the Revolutionary War and had left his wife and children at the home.

Not long after William had left, a group of British troops was in the area burning homes of the patriots. They came to the Fox home and one of the troops went up the steps to the front door, knocked on the door and when Sarah Carroll Fox came to the door he demanded that all in the house leave immediately. Sarah was a very tall lady and also rather muscular. She picked up the young trooper and dropped him off the porch, which was a considerable distance to the ground the house being a raised cottage due to the occasional flooding. The British left the house unburned and unpillaged."

LETTER FROM CALIFORNIA

This is a letter sent by Claiborne Clan members John and Sandy Clayborn of Sheep Ranch, Calaveras County, California, to their local newspaper, The Calaveras Enterprise. The Clayborns survived the recent fire and are grateful to also still have their home. With their permission, we are reprinting their letter here:

"Letter to the Editor: FIRE FRIENDS - September 25, 2015

We evacuated from the Butte Fire on the afternoon of Sept. 11 as smoke enveloped us; fleeing the Sheep Ranch area in a hurry with a trailer, two dogs, two of three cats and two parrots. Following a long line of cars and trailers, we trudged up Avery-Sheep Ranch Road and headed west on Highway 4. After 90 minutes of stop-and-go traffic to the signal light in Murphys, we cruised on to the Calaveras County Fairgrounds. The RV park was nearly full late Friday and we were immediately assisted by Brad and Amy, who helped us back into a cramped spot next to their trailer.

People with only a car, truck or tent were also welcomed. Over the weekend, we met Sean McCamey, pastor of the Refuge Church in Angels Camp. He and his volunteers set up camp with hundreds of donated goods, providing nearly everything evacuees could need or use.

The fairgrounds gave everyone free utilities, and volunteers cooked free meals three times a day at the Ranch House. HSTAR Technology put up free Wi-Fi service for evacuees, firefighters and volunteers. When we did have to go out and shop, Spence Feed wouldn't take our money, and Angels Food Market gave us 10 percent off.

The environment at the RV park was immensely supportive, with displaced folks sharing positive, harrowing and sometimes heartrending stories. We met folks we knew and made several new friends during our eight-day stay. And when the fairgrounds was made the base camp for the fire fight, it was inspirational to watch the firefighters come and go. We all waved, saluted and thanked them as they went about their dangerous business.

We are blessed and lucky; our property and home are OK. Brave firefighters fought the fire to a standstill just a few hundred feet from our property. Many were not so lucky. Next, we have to take care of those who lost everything. But just for now, we applaud the fairgrounds staff, the thousands of firefighters who came from all over, the police and sheriffs who protected us, the hundreds of volunteers, and the folks of Calaveras County who are truly our fire friends.

John & Sandy Clayborn, Sheep Ranch"

WHO IS THE THOMAS CLAYBORNE
WHO SAILED TO THE SPICE ISLANDS IN 1604?

By Patricia Clayborn

My searching brought me to a book entitled *Hakluytus Posthumus or Purchas His Pilgrimes* with passages written by a Thomas Clayborne who sailed with Captain Henry Middleton to the Spice Islands during the years 1604 to 1606.

At first, I wondered if this Thomas was the father of Colonel William Claiborne of Virginia. The reason is that Colonel William's father was a merchant involved with the Hanseatic League in trading on the Baltic. I wondered if it might be possible that he was also involved with the East India Company in trading in the Orient.

I thought it could be possible, since merchants sailed on these voyages of discovery in order to look after the Company's interests. However, it is my understanding that William's father Thomas had died by 1607.

In contrast, I found that the Thomas of the voyage was still taking part in journeys in 1609 (Source: Calendar of State Papers Colonial, East Indies, China and Japan, Volume 2, 1513-1616 originally published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1864. <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/cal-state-papers/colonial/east-indies-china-japan/vol2/pp181-183>).

Although both Thomas Cleborne of Hay Close and his grand-nephew Thomas Cleborne of Cliburn Hall were both alive during this time, I do not think this is either of them. I suppose it is some fourth Thomas Clayborne with whom I am not familiar. I have transcribed the record of the journey and include it here in case it helps us with the search for the identity of this fascinating Thomas.

THE TABLE

The Contents of the Chapters—*Continued.* PAGE

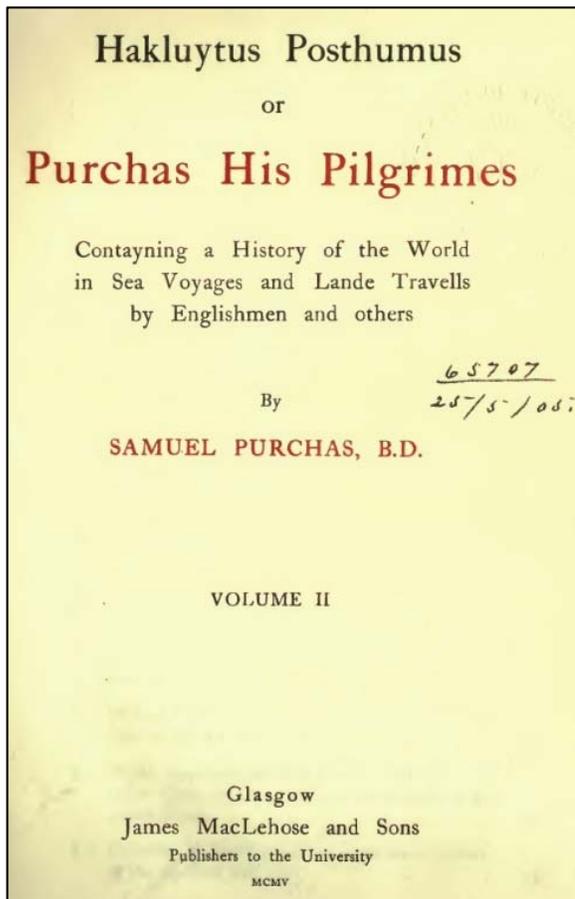
§ 6. Further quarrels betwixt the English and Dutch,
with other accidents. 491

Dutch fray. Cowardize valourous.

CHAP. V.

The second Voyage set forth by the Companie into the East Indies, Sir Henric Middleton being Generall: wherein were employed foure ships; the Red Dragon, Admirall; the Hector, Vice-Admirall; the Ascension with the Susan: written by Thomas Clayborne in a larger Discourse, a briefe whereof is here delivered. H. 496

Iles of Banda.



A.D.
1602-05.

PURCHAS HIS PILGRIMES

chants, who after dinner, some went ashore, and some stayed untill the next day. About three a clocke we wayed Anchor, and with some Ordnance bid the Towne and Dutch shippes farewell. About eleven or twelve a clocke at night, we came to an Anchor under an Iland, where the next day we tooke in wood, which our Generall had sent our men before hand to cut ready. The seventh day towards evening, we wayed Anchor againe, and set saile: Master Towerson, and some other of the Merchants, then tooke their leave to go ashore, whom wee committed to the protection of the Almighty; and our selves to the curtesie of the Seas, desiring God to blesse both them and us, and if it be his will, to send us a happy meeting againe in England.

Chap. V.

The second Voyage set forth by the Company into the East-Indies, Sir Henry Middleton being Generall: wherein were employed foure ships: the Red Dragon, Admirall; the Hector, Vice-Admirall; the Ascension with the Susan: written by Thomas Clayborne in a larger Discourse, a briefe extract whereof is heere delivered.

THe second day of April, 1604. being Munday, about twelve of the clocke, we had sight of the Lizard. The three and twentieth day, West South-West to the West-ward, two and twentie leagues, latitude fifteene degrees, and five minutes: and this day we fell with the Westernmost part of S. Iago, being West by North six leagues, and at five of the clocke we stood to the East-ward for Maio, the wind at North.

The foure and twentieth day we fell with Maio, and stood to the South-ward of the Iland, and came to anchor

496



The Second Voyage set forth by the Company into the East-Indies, Sir Henry Middleton being General.

Wherein were Employed Four Ships: the Red Dragon, Admiral, the Hector, Vice-Admiral, the Ascension and the Susan.

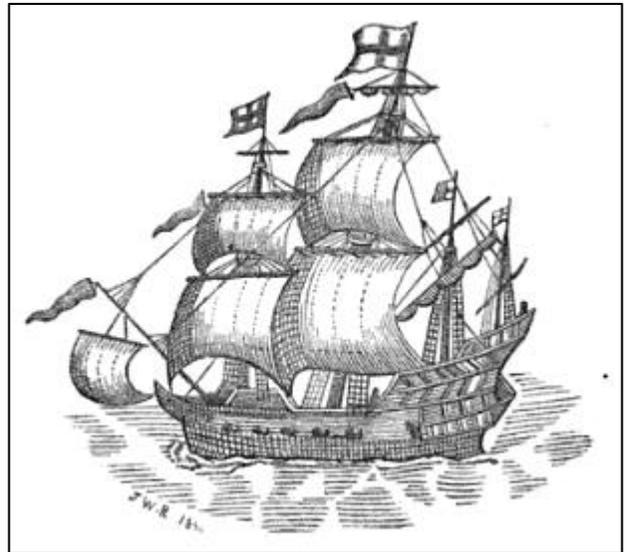
Written by Thomas Clayborne in a Larger Discourse, A Brief Extract Whereof Is Here Delivered.

The second day of April, 1604, being Monday, about twelve of the clock, we had sight of the Lizard. The three and twentieth day, West South-West to the West-ward, two and twenty leagues, latitude fifteen degrees, and five minutes; and this day we fell with the Western most part of S. Iago, being West by North six leagues, and at five of the clock we stood to the East-ward for Maio [Maio Island, one of the Cape Verde Islands], the wind at North.

The four and twentieth day we fell with Maio, and stood to the South-ward of the island, and came to anchor at fifteen fathoms, one point North-West and by North, and the other East South-East. The five and twentieth day we landed, and lost one of our Merchants, who was taken by the people of the Island. The six & twentieth day in the morning, we landed a hundred men to see if we could get our Merchant again, but could not come near any of the people of the Island; so we left him behind us, and this night about nine of the clock we set sail, the wind at North. The sixteenth day of May, latitude 00, fifteen minutes, and this day we passed the Equinoctial [equator].

The thirteenth of July in the forenoon, we had sight of Cape Bona Esperanza, [Cape of Good Hope] being off us fifteen leagues. The seventeenth day we came to anchor in the road of Saldania [Saldanha Bay] having sixty men sick of the Scurvy, but (God be praised) they all recovered health before we went from hence. Saldania is in latitude thirty three degrees, fifty six minutes, or thirty four degrees. Here Mr. Cole was drowned, being Master of the Hector, our Vice-Admiral, and here we stayed five weeks wanting a day.

The twentieth day of August being Monday we weighted, and set sail out of the road of Saldania, the wind Southerly, and we stood to the West-ward. The three and twentieth of December, being Sunday, we came to anchor in Bantam road, where we found six Holland ships, and three or four pinnaces.

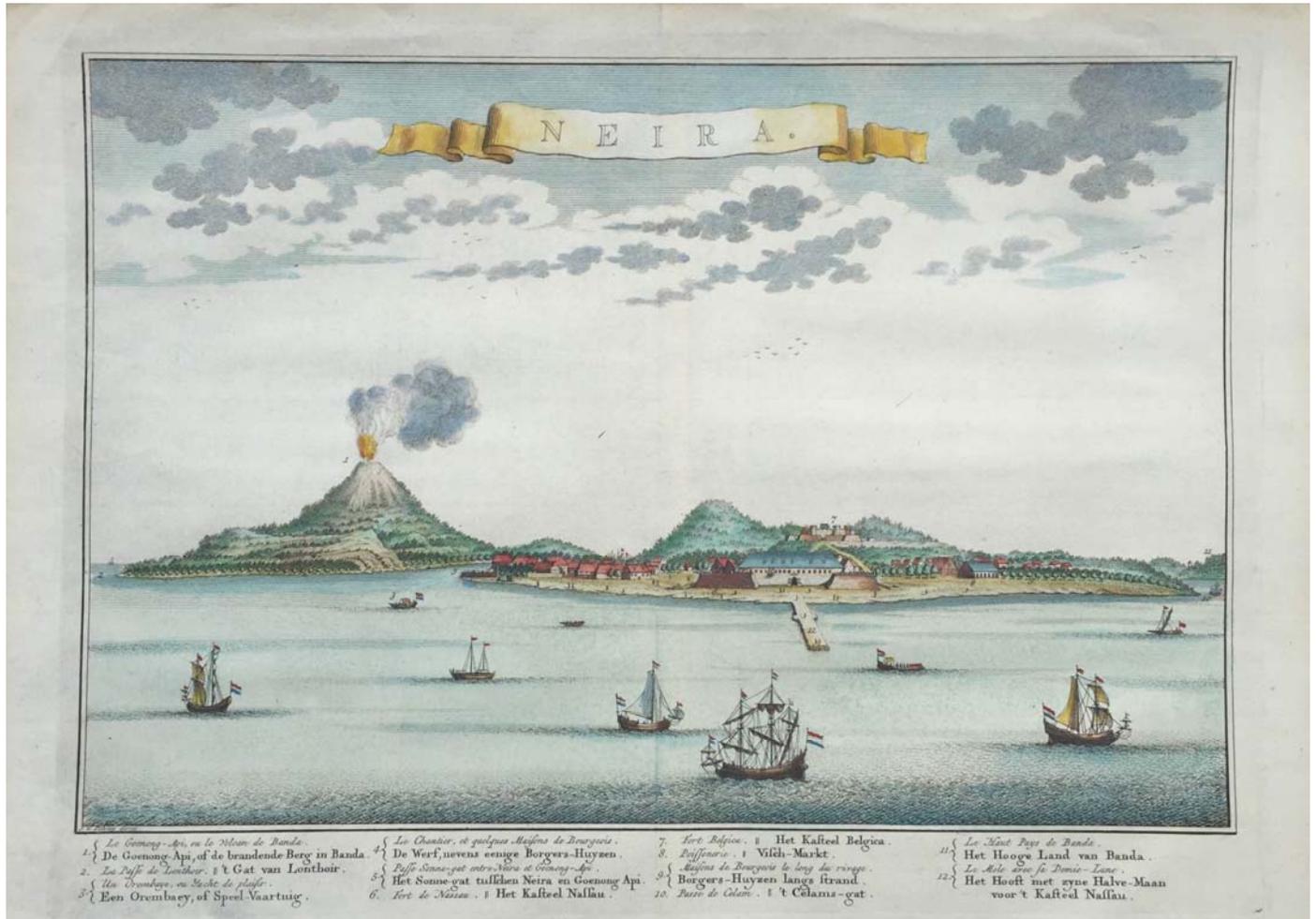


The eighteenth day of January [1605], we set sail out of Bantam Road, with the Dragon and the Ascension, but they parted at Amboyna [Ambon Island]. The General went with the Dragon to the Moluccas, and the Ascension (whereof Mr. Colthurst was Captain) for Banda. The Hector and the Susan laded Pepper at Bantam, and set sail from thence [to England] about the middle of February.

The twentieth day of February, the Ascension arrived at Banda, and anchored in four fathoms and an half, by Neira [capital city of Banda Island], which is the chief place in those islands. From the South part of Amboyna to Banda, the course is East by South, to the South-ward thirty leagues. The latitude of Banda is four degrees, forty minutes, and the going in is to the West-ward. There is a very high hill that burns continually, and that hill you must leave on the starboard side. The going in is very narrow, and you cannot see it till you come within two cables length of it; for so you must do, and then you shall have about twenty fathoms; and then stand along still by that Island about a cables length from it, if the wind will give you leave, and then you shall find shallower water, eight, seven, six fathoms, and in the very narrow of all, you shall have five fathoms, and so that depth until you come in to the road.

By Gods help, a man may go in without any danger, keeping near unto the aforementioned island. It is somewhat shallow on the starboard side, in the narrow of the going in, but that will show itself. There are two small islands, one called Puloway, and the other Pulin, and they lie about three leagues to the West-ward of the going in. There is no danger about them, but may be very well perceived. You may leave those islands on which side you please, either at your going in or coming out.

About the middle of March, here we found the wind to be variable, and so continued till the middle of April, and then it continued, and stood between the East and South-East, four months to our knowledge. But it doth used to continue five months, as the people of the country say, and likewise five months between the West and North-West, and the other two months variable.



Here in the dark Moons it is given much to gusty weather, and much rain. Here we stayed one and twenty weeks, and five days, in the which time we had eleven men died, and most of the Fluxe. The one and twentieth day of July, 1605, being Sunday, we set sail from Banda, the wind at East South-East, and we stood to the West-ward. The two and twentieth day, we fell with the South-end of Burre, [Buru] the wind at East South-East.

The seven and twentieth day we fell with Deselem, and then we came about the South-end of the island, leaving seven islands on our starboard side. We stood close by the wind to the North-ward, fair by the main island of Deselem, to clear ourselves of a small island and a shoals, that lieth off the South-West part of Deselem, and leaving this island, and all the other shoals on our starboard side, we stood North, North-West, along the West side of Deselem, while we came in six degrees and ten minutes. Then we steered West eighteen leagues, and fell with the point shoals that lieth off the South-West end of Celebes, and the very Southern most part of that shoal, lieth in six degrees, and being clear of that, we stood to the West-ward.

The sixteenth day of August, we came to anchor in Bantam road. The sixth day of October being Sunday, we set sail out of Bantam road, with the Dragon and the Ascension. The fifteenth day of November, latitude thirty one degrees, forty eight minutes, the wind North North-West, thick foggy weather. This day about ten of the clock in the morning, we came within a ship's length of a rock, or sunken island. The water showed upon it very brown, and muddy, and in some places very blue, and being a ship's breadth or two to the North-ward of it, we saw the water by the ships side very black and thick, as though it had been earth, or course sand boiling up from it. The variation in this place, is one and twenty degrees from North to West decreasing.



The sixteenth of December, West nine leagues, latitude thirty four degrees, and twenty minutes. This day in the morning we had sight of the land of Ethiopia, [Africa] distant from us some twelve leagues. The six and twentieth day, latitude thirty four degrees, thirty minutes. Now being in the latitude, and in sight of Cape Bona Esperanza, [Cape of Good Hope] and within one league of it, we steered North-West, and North North-West, and North, and as the land lay about the Cape.

The seven and twentieth day, we came to anchor in Saldania road, [Saldanha Bay] where we found our Admiral, and the Hector, which ship the Dragon, our Admiral, met withal seven days before driving up and down the Sea about four leagues off the Cape Bona Esperanza, with ten men in her. All the rest of her men were dead, which were in number three and fifty, which died since she came out of Bantam, which time was nine months. Being in great distress, she lost company with the Susan, three months after she came out of Bantam road, which ship (the Susan) was never heard of since. Here we came to anchor in seven fathoms, having the low point going North-West by West and the Sugar Loaf South-West, ½ a point to the West-ward, the point of the breach of Pengwin Island [Penguin Island] North-West by North, and the hill between the Sugar-Loaf and the low point, West South-West, the peak of the hill to the East-ward of the Table, South by East.

The sixteenth day of January [1606] in the morning, we set sail from Saldania road [Saldanha Bay], and went to the Northward of Pengwin Island between that and the Mayne [main]. When we had the island South from us about one mile and a half we sounded, and had ground twenty fathoms, white coral, and whistles [broken] shells. When we were clear of the island, we stood off West by South, and West South-West, while we brought the island South-East by East off us. Now being about six of the clock in the afternoon, we had sight of the Hector, coming out to the Southward of the island, for we left her at anchor when we weighed. Now the wind being at South, we stood all night to the West-ward, close by a wind. In the morning following we had lost sight of the Hector, and then we steered away North-West with a low sail while Noon, being the seventeenth day thinking to get sight of the Hector, but we could not.

The first day of February, West to the Southward sixteen leagues of latitude, sixteen degrees and twenty minutes. This day about one of the clock in the afternoon, we had sight of Saint Helena [where Napoleon Bonaparte was exiled in 1815], bearing West to the Northward from us, about twelve or thirteen leagues. The second day West, and West by South four leagues, then having the island west from us about eight or nine leagues, the wind at South-East we lay off and on, to the Eastward of the island, most part of the night, and in the morning following, we stood to the Northward of the island.

This day about twelve of the clock, we came to anchor in the road of Saint Helena, our land anchor lay in seventeen fathoms; our ship rode in twenty fathoms, blackish, gravelly sand. We had one point North-East of us, and one sharp hill like a Sugar-Loaf (with a Cross on the top of it) that bore North-East by East. The Church in the valley South-East. In this valley there are many trees likewise, the high-land South-East up from the Church, and all the valley besides is full of trees. The other point of the land South-West to the West-ward we moored South-East, and North-West. Our anchor in the offing lay in one and twenty fathoms.

The third day at night being Monday we had sight of the Hector, coming about the South end of the island, but could not fetch into the road, yet stood to the North-ward as near as she could lie, the wind at East. The fourth and fifth days, our boats went out to help to get her into the road, but they could not. The sixth day at night being a little wind, we towed her in with our boats, into thirty five fathoms, one mile and a half from the shore, bearing from us South-West by West, distant about two leagues.

The eleventh day, we set sail from Saint Helena, the wind at East North-East, and we steered North-West. This North-West part of the island lay in the latitude of sixteen degrees, and in seven degrees, forty five minutes of variation. Note this, that the Church that bore South-East of us, when we were in the road, stood in the bottom of the fifth valley from that point that bore North-East of us. We came to anchor in the Downs [English Channel], on the sixth of May 1606, where we rode eight days for a fair wind.



East India Company Ships at Deptford Dockyard on the Thames River
Date painted: c.1660 Collection: British National Maritime Museum
This depicts the East India Company's Dock Yard and buildings near Deptford Creek.
Several ships are on the stocks and their striped ensigns identify them as Indiamen.



Margaret Clay Wall Irby

We are sad to hear of the passing of Margaret Irby, wife of John Irby and sister-in-law to Doctor Claiborne Irby:

Margaret Clay Wall Irby, age 87, of Raleigh, died October 1, 2015, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Margaret was born on October 22, 1927, in Norfolk, Virginia, the only child of Harry Alden Wall, M.D. and Grace Walker Wall.



Margaret is survived by her husband of 65 years, John Poindexter Irby III, and her 3 children, Grace Irby Robbins and her husband Charles Austin Robbins, Jr., Margaret Irby Clement and her husband Whittington Whiteside Clement, and son John Poindexter Irby IV and his wife Amie Dixon Irby. She is also survived by her 9 grandchildren, Grace Walker Robbins, Charles Austin Robbins III, Claiborne Randolph Robbins, John Irby Robbins, Whittington Whiteside Clement, Jr., Harrison Rutledge Clement, John Irby Clement, Henley Watkins Irby and John Poindexter Irby V.

Shortly after graduating from Longwood College, she and John were married in 1950 in Franktown on the Eastern Shore of Virginia where she spent many happy days and where her family has lived for many years. She and John resided in Norfolk for 10 years where their 3 children were born, prior to moving to Raleigh in 1960. Margaret cherished her life in Raleigh and felt very blessed by wonderful friendships for over 55 years. She enjoyed her time spent at the Carolina Country Club as an avid tennis and bridge player. Her most passionate interest was that of her children and grandchildren. Margaret was a long time member of White Memorial Presbyterian Church, where she served on the Wedding Guild for ten years and Chairman for three years.



New Member

We are delighted to welcome the following new member to our Clan: Lauren Penfold Crepeau of Marietta, Georgia.



2015 Annual Dues

Our membership year runs from October 1st to September 30th. The Annual Dues for the Claiborne Society are \$10. In addition, a lifetime membership is available for \$200 for current members. Plans are under way for our 2015 Reunion. To continue to receive newsletters and reunion mailings, please send your check in the amount of \$10 payable to *The Claiborne Society* to our Treasurer as follows:

Diane Claiborne Clements
232 Cherokee Station Drive
Nashville, TN 37209

Please also include an updated home address and e-mail address that we may use for the mailings, as well as any other new contact information you may have.



CLAIBORNE SOCIETY REUNION NOVEMBER 5-8, 2015

“Ante-Bellum Charleston: Before the War”

REGISTRATION FORM

Name Ancestor.....

Street Address

City State Zipcode Telephone

E-Mail:

Names of guests

1.

2.....

3.....

Registration Fee—per person. # x \$120. = \$.....
[includes Saturday Banquet, speaker, programs]

Optional Friday Activity “Charleston Tea Party Private Tour” # x \$100. = \$.....
[includes breakfast, lunch, transportation, and
entrance into gardens & houses]

Total enclosed \$.....

LODGING: When making lodging reservations, please reference our group as: *The Claiborne Society*.

I would be interested in participating in room sharing/cost sharing with other Claiborne Clan members.

- To make Reservations at **The Mills House Hotel**, call 1-800-874-9600 or 843-577-2400.
- To make Reservations at **The Meeting Street Inn**, call 843-723-1882.

Send this form and your check to our Treasurer payable to *The Claiborne Society*:

Diane Claiborne Clements
232 Cherokee Station Drive
Nashville, TN 37209

Questions? Call Susan Rura 410-465-4778

Registrar
15302 Poplar Grove
Houston, TX 77068

