Old Petersburg and the Broad River Valley of Georgia

Hebert, Keith, Coulter, E. Merton

Published by University of Georgia Press

Hebert, Keith and E. Merton Coulter.
Old Petersburg and the Broad River Valley of Georgia: Their Rise and Decline.
University of Georgia Press, 2021.

For additional information about this book
https://muse.jhu.edu/book/97680
Notes

Numbers in brackets at the top of the following pages indicate the pages in the text to which these notes refer.

CHAPTER 1


2. William Bartram, *Travels through North and South Carolina, Georgia, East and West Florida, the Cherokee Country, the Extensive Territories of the Muscogulges or Creek Confederacy, and the Country of the Chactaws . . .* (Dublin, Ireland, 1793), 322. For Wright's Proclamation, see Jones, *History of Georgia*, II, 130-31. An original handbill is in the De Renne Collection in the General Library of the University of Georgia. Adding to Wright's description of the New Purchase, Bartram said that it was "a body of excellent and fertile land, well watered by innumerable rivers, creeks and brooks." *Travels*, 322.


6. Hitz, "Earliest Settlements in Wilkes County," 262, 274-80; Louise Frederick Hays, *Hero of Hornet's Nest. A Biography of Elijah Clark* [e], 1733-1799 (New York, 1946), 12-14; Elbert County Deed Record G, 124 (Elberton, Ga.). There had been hesitation by some of the Indians at the Augusta Treaty Conference in giving up their lands; and they left with some feeling of bitterness. Before the end of the year Indian hostilities began against the settlers, in which murdering and pillaging took place. After about a year of scattered hostilities, a conference was held in Savannah and a peace agreement was signed on October 20, 1774. Jones, *History of Georgia*, II, 132-35. Dart River was a name that never came into common use, hardly getting off the official papers on which it was written. Even the surveyors appointed by Sir James Wright to run the boundary lines on the New Purchase never used the name on their official map—they used Broad River. This latter name was given to the stream by the early settlers as a compliment in view of the smaller stream to the southward which was called Little River. An early undated map "par les Freres Lotter à Ausburg" listed the Broad as "Cherakeehaw." On a map published in 1794 in London by Laurie & Whittle, entitled "A New and
General Map of the Southern Dominions belonging to the United States of America..., the river is called "Salwegee or Broad River." For a full description of this map, see Catalogue of the Wymberley Jones De Renne Georgia Library... (3 vols. Wormsloe [Savannah], 1931), III, 1225.


CHAPTER II

1. The governors of Georgia were, George Mathews, George R. Gilmer, Matthew Talbot, and Wilson Lumpkin. The two governors of Alabama were William W. Bibb and Thomas Bibb. The counties named for residents of Broad River Valley (Virginians and others) were Clarke, Cobb, Crawford, Dooly, Gilmer, Hart, Heard, Lamar, Lumpkin, Meriwether, Talbot, Taliaferro, Toombs, Upson, and Walker.

2. Gilmer, Georgians, 175, 176.

3. Ibid., 175. A Georgian writing in 1855 said, "We have met the Broad River people in scattered groups, talked with them, and shared their hospitality, without knowing the distinction which attached to their original locality." Southern Recorder, July 3, 1855, quoted in Stephen F. Miller, The Bench and Bar of Georgia: Memoirs and Sketches... (2 vols. Philadelphia, 1858), II, 439.

4. Gilmer, Georgians, 228.


8. Oglethorpe County Annual Returns on Estates, 1815-1830, pp. 285-87. This record is in the Office of the Ordinary. Gilmer owned a "lot of land at the Chalebate Springs in Madison County."


11. Letters from Mrs. Grace Lewis Miller to the present writer, St. Louis, August 4, 19, 1958; Charlottesville, Va., April 15, 1960. Mrs. Miller has spent many years gathering information on Lewis for a biography of him. See also Gilmer, Georgians, 104-105.

12. Georgia Express (Athens), January 14 (1, 1), 1809; Oglethorpe Echo (Lexington, Ga.), January 15 (1, 2), 1909; White, Statistics of Georgia, 456-60; James Edmonds Saunders, Early Settlers of Alabama. With Notes and Genealogies, by his Granddaughter, Elizabeth Saunders Blair Stubbs (New Orleans, 1899), 216; Gilmer, Georgians, 82-88, 115-23.


16. Ibid., 91-92; Biographical Director of the American Congress, 1774-1927 (Washington, 1928), 1306.

17. Gilmer, Georgians, 139-56 18. Ibid., 161.


20. Gilmer, Georgians, 115-23, 482.

21. Ibid., 139-39; Biographical Director of the American Congress, 672.

23. For instance (out of many which could be cited) there was Ralph Banks who with his family of a wife and thirteen children moved from North Carolina to the Broad River Valley. Intermarrying with some of the Petersburg families, several of these children moved on into Alabama. Saunders, *Early Settlers of Alabama*, 446. Many of these settlers were, of course, veterans of the Revolution. Edward Lloyd Wailes died there in 1809. "He served as an officer [in] three or four campaigns in our revolutionary war." *Georgia Express*, February 11 (3, 4), 1809.


26. For further information on Meson, see E. Merton Coulter, "Francis Meson, An Early Georgia Merchant and Philanthropist," in *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, XLII (1958), 27-43. At the time of his death, Meson owned 232 acres, six town lots in Lexington (valued at $5,000), merchandise listed at $7,000, and various personal effects. Oglethorpe County Tax Digest, 1811-1816, p. 4.


CHAPTER III


3. Oglethorpe County Annual Returns on Estates, 1815-1830, pp. 293-39; Oglethorpe County Will Book, A, 105-106 (all in Office of the Ordinary, Lexington, Ga.).

4. Oglethorpe County Tax Digest, 1800-1805, p. 46 (In Office of Clerk of Court).

5. Oglethorpe County Will Book, A, 105-106. As an indication of the patriarchal nature of slavery, when George R. Gilmer returned to his father's home with his Virginia bride the slaves went wild with joy, shouting "Massa George is married and come home." They then grabbed the bride and carried her into the house. Gilmer, *Georgians*, 291. Bishop Francis Asbury on a trip through Oglethorpe County in 1803 visited James Marks and noted in his journal that "he is a kind master to his slaves, and hints the probability of liberating them by will; but he may change his mind before he dies." Elmer T. Clark, J. Manning Potts, and Jacob S. Payton, eds., *The Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury* (3 vols. London and Nashville, 1958), II, 416.


8. "1850 Census Population Schedules, Georgia, Microcopy, T-6, Roll, 71, Macon through Pike," 95; *ibid.*, Roll, 63, p. 274; *ibid.*, 1860, T-7, Roll, 33, pp. 79-80. For the tradition, see *Oglethorpe Echo*, November 15 (3, 5), 1878; August 28 (1, 3), 1908; August 21 (8, 2), 1925. Of course he might have sent some of his slaves to Africa before 1850. Census records before that time were unavailable.
9. Oglethorpe County Inventories and Appraisements, Book, H, 57; I, 57, 125, 170.
10. Gilmer, Georgians, 166. 11. Ibid., 111.
12. Augusta Weekly Constitutionalist, July 16 (7, 6), 1856.
13. Gilmer, Georgians, 85-86. As late as the 1950's part of the old log residence was still standing.
14. Ibid., 116, 160-61, 165; Lodowick Johnson Hill, Sr., The Hills of Wilkes County, Georgia and Allied Families (Atlanta, 1922?), 57; Smith, Andrew, 23; Oglethorpe Echo, May 26 (8, 5), 1899.
15. Oglethorpe Echo, May 26 (8, 5), 1899.
17. Oglethorpe County Inventories and Appraisements, Book G, H, I, passim; Inventories Annual Returns on Estates, 1815-1831, passim.
18. Bowen, Wilkes County, 47; Oglethorpe Echo, May 26 (1, 4), 1899. For some school expenses charged to an estate, see Oglethorpe County Inventory Book, H, 17, 18.
19. George White, Historical Collections of Georgia: Containing the Most Interesting Facts, Traditions, Biographical Sketches, Anecdotes, Etc. . . . (New York, 1854), 581; Smith, Andrew, 26; Gilmer, Georgians, 91, 92, 170-171, 232-34.
20. Gilmer, Georgians, 152-56; Smith, Andrew, passim.
22. Oglethorpe Echo, September 18 (1, 4), 1896; Ibid., May 30 (5, 2), 1913; Oglethorpe County Inventory, C, 47-48.
23. Gilmer, Georgians, 85-86. In drumming up a crowd for a political speaking, such an invitation as this might be heard: "O yes! O yes! all you who want to hear a speech, come here." Ibid., 259-60.
24. Ibid., 146.
25. Elbert County Superior Court Records (fragment), October term, 1805 (in the Office of Clerk of Court, Elberton, Ga.).
27. See Oglethorpe County Minutes of Superior Court, A (1794-1799), passim.

CHAPTER IV

1. Saunders, Early Settlers of Alabama, 419; Grace Gillam Davidson, "Dionysius Oliver, Georgia's Pioneer Realtor," in Atlanta Journal, October 2 (8, 4-5), 1934; McIntosh, Elbert County, 36, 516. Oliver was buried in the Stenchcomb Churchyard, near Elberton. His tombstone has this inscription: "Dionysius Oliver, Capt. of a Privateer. Rev. War."
gives the date February 8. An original of the separate law may be found in the De Renne Collection in the University of Georgia Library.

7. Included in many of the deed records is this expression: "plan laid of [off] by Dionysius Oliver . . . and exhibited to the first purchasers." For example see Elbert County Deed Record, D, 73-74. A plan ordered to be drawn in 1804 and to be deposited in the Elbert County Courthouse with the Clerk of Court has been lost; but the original Oliver plan has been preserved and is now in the Dionysius Oliver Manuscripts, in the University of Georgia Library, with this legend: "A Plan of the Town of Petersburg in the fork of Savannah and Brd. Rivers." It bears the date, April 27, 1786.

8. Wilkes County Deed Record, DD, 85.
11. Georgia & Carolina Gazette (Petersburg), August 15 (3, 4), 1805. This firm was known as Jones, Walton & Company, and was made up of these men: William Jones, Thomas Walton, Jr., John H. Walton, and Henry Jones. Thomas Walton, without any indication as to junior or senior, died in 1806, in Lincoln County, and a sale of his effects was held, including 100 barrels of corn, 1,000 pounds of bacon, "a quantity of spirits consisting of rum, brandy and whiskey, all of the best quality," and many other items "too tedious to mention." Ibid., June 5 (4, 3), 1806. The other Thomas Walton died in 1809 in Lisbon. Mirror of the Times (August), March 6 (3, 3), 1809.
13. John Drayton, A View of South-Carolina, as Respects her Natural and Civil Concerns (Charleston, 1802), 213.
15. Elbert County Deed Record, A, 2; B, 2; K, 9; L, 31; Saunders, Early Settlers of Alabama, 422.
16. Augusta Chronicle, August 6 (1, 2), 1796; January 27 (4, 3), 1819; Saunders, Early Settlers of Alabama, 430; Francis Butler Simkins, Pitchfork Ben Tillman, South Carolinian (Baton Rouge, 1944), 24-25.
17. For instance, Elbert County Deed Record, H, 26. Thomas Evans, a free man of color, bought and sold a few lots. In 1803 he sold Lot 20 to Philip King of the Abbeville District in South Carolina. Ibid., H, 169.
18. Wilkes County Deed Record, GG, 74-75.
19. Elbert County Deed Record, G, 66, 67; H, 17; K, 39, 108; McIntosh, Elbert County, 39-40; Augusta Chronicle, April 21 (3, 1), 1804; Pope was a member of the Elbert County Land Court in 1801. Davidson, comp., Historical Collections, III, 226.
21. Wilkes County Deed Record, CC, 14; Elbert County Deed Record, F, 49.
22. Elbert County Deed Record, D, 73-74.
23. Ibid., L, 42. 24. Ibid., O, 84. 25. Ibid., H, 2.
27. Ibid. 28. Elbert County Deed Record, L, 70.
32. Archibald Stokes, Petersburg, Ga., February 27, 1825 to William S. Stokes, near Madison, Morgan County, Ga. Courtesy of Mrs. Daniel Hickey, Madison, Georgia, owner of the letter.
34. Elbert County Writs Superior Court, 1799-1803, pp. 416-18; Elbert County Deed Record, D, 31; G, 24; H, 27, 52; K, 43, 84.
35. For information on the Watkins families, see Saunders, *Early Settlers of Alabama*, 10, 215-238, 476-80, 492-503, 506, 509-11; *Augusta Chronicle*, March 11 (3, 2), 1797; August 16 (supplement, 2, 1), 1800; December 14 (3, 2), 1805; Elbert County Deed Record, E, 76; G, 129. For the will of James Watkins, II, see Elbert County Will Book, M, 334. This will was published in *Habersham Historical Collections*, 2, 297-98. The will of John Watkins may be found, *ibid.*, 299-301.
37. *Augusta Chronicle*, July 31 (3, 1), 1802.
40. Elbert County Deed Record, J, 170.
41. Petersburg *Georgia & Carolina Gazette*, June 15 (1, 1), 1805.
42. Athens *Foreign Correspondent & Georgia Express*, September 29 (3, 2); October 6 (3, 1), 1810.
44. *Augusta Chronicle*, December 2 (2, 4), 1818; Alma Cole Tompkins, Charles Tait (Alabama Polytechnic Institute Historical Papers, 4th Series, 1910), 1-3, 27; Charles and James A. Tait Collection, in Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery; Davidson, comp., *Historical Collections*, III, 10.
47. *Augusta Chronicle*, May 7 (3, 3), 1803.
50. “Hillyer Memoir,” 34-35. For an obituary of John Freeman, see Petersburg *Georgia & Carolina Gazette*, May 20, 1806. This citation is from the “Hillyer Memoir,” which gives the text of the obituary.
52. She was the daughter “of the late venerable and patriotic Gen. Elijah Clark.” *Augusta Chronicle*, December 31 (3, 4), 1813.
53. *Augusta Mirror of the Times*, April 24 (4, 4), 1813.

CHAPTER V


5. *Augusta Chronicle*, August 7 (3, 2), 1790.

6. Thomas Cooper, comp., *The Statutes at Large of South Carolina* (Columbia, 1839), 179.


15. *Augusta Chronicle*, April 26 (3, 3), 1816. Praising the speed of the *Enterprise*, an editorial in the *Augusta Herald*, April 4 (3, 2), 1817 said that it left Savannah on Monday at 8 a.m., with two fully laden freight boats in tow, "rusted, as is their practice on the Lord's day, and arrived here on Tuesday, about noon; no instance is recalled of a loaded boat having made a passage in so short a time." By these calculations it took seven and a half days for this up-river trip.


17. Lamar, comp., *Compilation of the Laws of Georgia, 1811-1819*, p. 498. This law carried also an appropriation of $10,000 for the Oconee River.


19. Lamar, comp., *Compilation of the Laws of Georgia, 1811-1819*, pp. 513-15. This law did not specifically state that the northern point was Panther Creek, but this intent was brought out in the act of December 18, 1818. *Ibid.*, 515-16.


40. William C. Dawson, comp., *A Compilation of the Laws of the State of Georgia . . . Since the Year 1819 to the Year 1829, Inclusive . . .* (Milledgeville, 1831), 45 (Resolutions).
43. *Ibid.*, 353, 355; *Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia . . . November and December, 1834* (Milledgeville, 1835), 190-91; *ibid.*, 1837 (Milledgeville, 1838), 233-54; *ibid. 1842* (Milledgeville, 1843), 143; *ibid.*, 1847 (Milledgeville, 1848), 274-75. In 1891 the Superior Court of Oglethorpe County granted a charter to Emory Cason to set up a line of boats on Broad River, but it seems that his company never acted on it. *Oglethorpe Echo*, May 15 (5, 4), December 4 (5, 6), 1891; March 11 (1, 2), 1892.
44. *Augusta Chronicle*, December 11 (2, 3), 1790; December 29 (3, 2), 1792; February 9 (1, 4), 1799; January 17 (3, 3), 1801.
49. Letter Book of Shaler Hillyer, 1805-1820 (MS in University of Georgia Library), February 19, 1813.
54. *Augusta Chronicle*, July 19 (2, 2 in supplementary sheet), 1794.
60. Copy in Keith-Jones Collection (in possession of present writer).
71. S. Hillyer, Letter Book, December 9, 1812.
\* Notes [68-76] 


73. *Augusta Herald*, December 19 (3, 1), 1817.

74. Drayton, *View of South-Carolina*, 141.


79. Wilkes County Deed Record, DD, 1783. See also Davidson, comp., *Historical Records*, III, 197.


CHAPTER VI


3. *Augusta Chronicle*, January 23 (3, 2), 1796. For comments on the flood of 1793, see *ibid.*, March 16 (3, 1), 1793.

4. *Atlanta Constitution* (“The Great Southern Weekly”), August 21 (1, 1), 1888. The same news story by “T. L. G.” (T. Larry Gantt) appeared in *Oglethorpe Echo*, September 17 (1, 4), 1888.


10. *Aggregate Amount of Each Description of Persons within the United States of America, and Territories thereof, Agreeable to Actual Enumeration Made According to Law in the Year 1810* (Book I of the Third Census), 80a; *Augusta Chronicle*, January 12 (3, 1), March 15 (3, 2), 1811.


14. Elbert County Superior Court Records, 1790-1800, p. 141.


CHAPTER VII

1. Niles wrote of the Troup and Clark parties in 1831, “We know not what they differ about—but they do violently differ.” Niles’ Register, XLI (1831-1832), 150.
3. Same to same, July 28, 1803.
4. There has been some dispute as to how Elijah spelled his family name, whether Clarke or Clark; but the generally accepted way is the former. John, his son, who gave his name to the party, spelled it Clark.
5. Miller, Bench and Bar of Georgia, 1, 34.
6. Augusta Chronicle, June 26 (2, 1-3); July 3 (2, 1-2), 1802; Thomas Gamble, Savannah Duels and Duellists, 1733-1877 (Savannah, 1925), 45-49.
7. Cook himself was a lawyer and loved the profession. Garnett Andrews, writing in 1870 said of Cook: “When I first visited Elbert court—some 45 years since—I saw an old gentleman, hardly decently clad, come to the court-house door in his carriage. A servant carried his split-bottomed chair and pillow inside the bar, then helped his master in, who—by permission of the Judge—with cotton night-cap and broad-brimmed hat on and papers in hand, took his seat. This was ‘old George
Cook,' a lawyer who clung to the profession with such tenacity that he continued to practice under such difficulties. Not able to stand, or hardly speak intelligently, he would get some of the young lawyers to do it for him, after giving them the points.” Reminiscences, 60.

9. Ibid., June 12 (4, 2-4), 1802. 10. Ibid.
11. Ibid., July 3, (4, 1), 1802.
12. Ibid., July 31 (4, 2-4), 1802; Savannah Georgian, December 3 (2, 2), 1822.
16. Savannah Georgian, December 3 (2, 2), 1822. For several accounts of the duel see Gilmer, Georgians, 125-26; George R. Gilmer, The Literary Progress of Georgia . . . (Athens, 1851), 20; J. E. D. Shipp, Giant Days or the Life and Times of William H. Crawford (Americus, Ga., 1909), 48-49; Knight, Landmarks, II, 16; Sparks, Memories of Fifty Years, 40; Jones and Dutcher, Memorial History of Augusta, 226-27.
19. Sparks, Memories of Fifty Years, 76.
22. Sparks, Memories of Fifty Years, 76.
23. Augusta Chronicle, September 18 (1, 2-4), 1802. 24. Ibid.
25. Miller, Bench and Bar of Georgia, I, 336; Moffat, Tait (Ph. D. Dissertation),
13. For an extended account of this affair, see E. Merton Coulter, “A Famous Duel that was Never Fought,” in Georgia Historical Quarterly, XLIII (1959), 365-77.
27. Clark, Considerations on Crawford, 100, 101; Shipp, Giant Days, 69-75.
28. Augusta Herald, August 20 (3, 1), 1800.
29. Augusta Chronicle, August 28 (1, 3), 1802.
33. Augusta Chronicle, July 31 (2, 1), 1812.
34. S. Hillyer, Letter Book, August 8, 1813.

CHAPTER VIII
1. Morse, American Geography, 447.
2. Drayton, View of South-Carolina, 135-36.
5. Act for the Inspection of Tobacco, February 10, 1787 (separate leaflet).

13. Elbert County Minutes of the Inferior Court, 1791-1801, pp. 9, 34, 57; Gilmer, Georgians, 129.
14. Elbert County Deed Records, A, 76; F, 50; H, 6, 22; J, 64; Elbert County Writs of the Superior Court, 1799-1803, p. 369; Watkins, comps., Digest of the Laws of Georgia, 1755-1799, p. 658.
15. Elbert County Superior Court Records, 1790-1800, p. 142.
17. Augusta Chronicle, May 11 (1, 1), 1799.
18. Ibid., November 21 (3, 2), 1801.
19. Ibid., February 9 (3, 2), 1816.
22. Ibid., November 18 (3, 4), 1797.
24. E. White, Savannah, June 6, 1786 to Dionysius Oliver, Petersburg, in Oliver MSS Collection.
25. Augusta Georgia State Gazette or Independent Register, November 25 (3, 2), 1786; February 10 (4, 1), November 24 (3, 3), 1787.
26. Elbert County Writs of Superior Court, 1799-1803, p. 369; Augusta Chronicle, February 5 (1, 2), 1791.
27. Davidson, comp., Historical Collections, III, 193; Elbert County Deed Record, C, 137.
30. Petersburg Georgia & Carolina Gazette, January 2 (3, 3), 1806.
31. Augusta Chronicle, November 9 (1, 3), 1805.
32. Ibid., June 20 (3, 3), 1801; February 7 (1, 3), 1807.
33. Elbert County Writs of the Superior Court, 1799-1803, p. 212.
34. Quotations were given regularly in the Augusta Chronicle.
35. Quotations may be found in both the Augusta Herald and the Augusta Chronicle.
36. Augusta Georgia State Gazette, May 31 (1, 1), 1788.
39. Ibid., 67.
42. Green, Eli Whitney, 68, 69.
45. Augusta Chronicle, July 30 (1, 3), 1796.
46. Ibid., October 1 (2, 3), 1796. 47. Ibid., December 24 (3, 4), 1796.
• NOTES [113-120] 189

48. Ibid., December 31 (3, 1), 1796. 49. Ibid., February 11 (3, 1), 1797.
50. Ibid., July 22 (2, 4), 1797.
51. Ibid., February 25 (4, 2), June 10 (2, 4), 1797.
52. D. A. Tompkins, Cotton and Cotton Oil . . . (Charlotte, N. C., 1901), 9, 28;
Mirsky and Nevins, Eli Whitney, 113.
53. Tomkins, Cotton, 26; Mirsky and Nevins, Eli Whitney, 113.
54. Augusta Chronicle, December 10 (1, 3), 1796.
55. Mirsky and Nevins, Eli Whitney, 161 n.
56. Seabrook, “Memoir,” 127; John Donald Wade, Augustus Baldwin Longstreet
(New York, 1924), 10; Jones and Dutcher, Memorial History of Augusta, 163, 388;
Green, Eli Whitney, 75; Mirsky and Nevins, Eli Whitney, 111.
57. Tomkins, Cotton, 24.
60. Ibid., 20, 27, 41, 42, 44; Green, Eli Whitney, 89; Mirsky and Nevins, Eli
Whitney, 115.
62. Miller and Whitney vs. Jesse Bull, United States District Court, 1800; Miller
and Whitney vs. Daniel W. Easley, 1801, United States Fifth Circuit Court. The
records of these suits and others are in Court Records in the United States District
Court and also in the Circuit Court, of Suits Brought by Miller and Whitney, in
the Federal Records Center in East Point, Georgia.
63. Tomkins, Cotton, 475.
64. Mirsky and Nevins, Eli Whitney, 174.
65. Augusta Chronicle, February 16 (3, 2), 1793.
66. Ibid., February 16 (3, 3), 1793.
67. Ibid., December 13 (3, 2), 1806.
68. Augusta Georgia State Gazette, September 13 (3, 3), 1788.
69. Ibid., May 31 (1, 1), 1788.
70. Augusta Chronicle, August 20 (3, 1), 1803; October 4 (3, 2), 1806.
72. Pendleton Farmers’ Society (Atlanta, 1908), 96.
74. An Act for the Inspection of Cotton, February 21, 1796 (a separate leaflet in
the De Renne Collection).
77. Ibid., 135-36.
78. Jones and Dutcher, Memorial History of Augusta, 388.
79. Augusta Herald, July 16 (3, 2), 1800.
80. Georgia and South Carolina Almanac . . . 1808 . . . (Augusta, no date), no
page numbers.
82. Mirsky and Nevins, Eli Whitney, 100.
86. Ibid., March, 1809. 87. Ibid., May, June, 1809.
88. Ibid., May 24, 1812. 89. Augusta Chronicle, June 30 (3, 1), 1815.
90. Ibid., September 22 (3, 3), 1815.
92. Ibid., October 28, 1819.
94. Z. B. Rogers, “First Tobacco Warehouse, First Cotton Mill. Petersburg’s Claim
to Past Glory Uncovered; Once had 2 Senators,” in Atlanta Constitution, March 31
(section 2-B), 1946.

96. Augusta *Georgia State Gazette*, January 20 (3, 1), 1787.
99. *Augusta Chronicle*, December 10 (Supplement, 1, 2), 1791; December 5 (3, 1), 1789.
101. The *Augusta Chronicle* regularly listed the price of corn.
103. Elbert County Deed Records, D, 118.
104. Petersburg *Georgia & Carolina Gazette*, July 18 (3, 4), 1805.
110. *Augusta Chronicle*, May 24 (3, 6), 1816.
111. Petersburg *Georgia & Carolina Gazette*, July 24 (4, 4), 1806; *Augusta Chronicle*, May 11 (3, 4), 1799; October 25 (3, 3), 1800.
112. Elbert County Deed Record, G, 91.

CHAPTER IX

1. Elbert County Deed Record, E, 91; G, 48; *Augusta Herald*, February 19 (2, 2), 1800; Oglethorpe Echo, December 11 (3, 3), 1925; Oliver Whyte, New York, November 29, 1798, to “Dr. Larkin [Newby?]” Petersburg, in Larkin Newby Collection.

5. *Augusta Chronicle*, October 8 (1, 1), 1803.
6. Elbert County Deed Record, G, 89.
10. *Augusta Chronicle*, February 27 (3, 4), 1808.
12. Elbert County Deed Record, A, 10, 60; F, 30; H, 34, 63, 153; K, 126.
16. *Augusta Chronicle*, January 18 (3, 2), 1794. Forsyth was highly respected in Augusta, and his death called forth two long poems of mourning and appreciation.

“Low in the dust the SON of LIGHT now lies,
He's left our Lodge to join one in the skies;
May angels with their silver wings o’ershade,
The ground now sacred by the relics made.”


“High rear memorial, in honor of his name
Let marble cupids round his urn still weep,
Let sculptor’s hand his character define
And troops of angels his hallow’d ashes keep.”

He was buried in St. Paul's Churchyard in Augusta, where a great marble slab covered a well-kept grave, even into the twentieth century.

17. Clark et al., eds., Asbury Journal, II, 4-5.
18. Augusta Chronicle, March 1 (3, 2), 1794.
19. Ibid., June 21 (3, 2), 1794.
21. Oliver Whyte, Petersburg, Georgia, November 27, 1804, to Larkin Newby, Fayetteville, North Carolina, in Larkin Newby Collection.
22. Elbert County Deed Record, U, 117. In the course of time there was no end to the glamour that was heaped on Petersburg. In 1888 an old lady remembered the time when the town had 33 stores, evidently an extreme exaggeration. Oglethorpe Echo, September 14 (1, 5), 1888.

24. Ibid., 539.
27. Petersburg Georgia & Carolina Gazette, June 15 (1, 1), 1805.
28. Ibid., November 23 (3, 2), 1805.
33. Ibid., February 10, 1807. Hillyer never forgot his kindred back in Connecticut. He and his wife Rebecca visited there at least once, and in 1807 he sent his father a draft for $300, merely "a mite in Conn." but "my mite to soften the Pillow of an aged Parent." Letter Book, May (no number), 1807; Shaler Hillyer Collection (Microfilm Box 21, Reel 17, Department of Archives and History, Atlanta).
37. Ibid., June 19, 1807; May 10, 1808; February 9, 1809; Petersburg Georgia & Carolina Gazette, January 30 (3, 2), 1806.
39. Augusta Mirror of Times, May 7 (2, 2-3); 3, 1), 1810.
41. Ibid., June 19, 1807; April 12, 1812; June 6, 1813.
42. Ibid., February 8, 1813. 43. Ibid., April 12, August 15, 1813.
44. Ibid., April 12, July 21, 1813; Shaler Hillyer Collection (Microfilm Box 21, Reel 17).
46. See text in this book relative to note 36, Chapter V.
47. Lamar, comp., Compilation of the Laws of Georgia, 1811-1819, p. 501. See text in this book relative to note 37, Chapter V.
48. Shaler Hillyer Collection (Microfilm Box 21, Reel 17).
50. A. Y. Stokes, New York, July 7, 1821 to W. S. Stokes, Madison, Georgia, in Mrs. Daniel Hickey Collection.
51. These items were obtained from Petersburg Store Account Book, 1799, and from newspaper advertisements in the Augusta Chronicle.
52. Items obtained from Day Book B, William S. Stokes Store, 1818 (in University of Georgia Library).

54. A. Stokes to W. S. Stokes, June 17, 1818, in Mrs. Daniel Hickey Collection. In 1799 James Oliver, Jr., received $250.00 for clerking in a Petersburg store. Petersburg Store Account Book, 1799, p. 120.

55. See text in this chapter relative to note 9.

56. Elbert County Superior Court Minutes, fragment.


58. Ibid., 247-248.

59. Ibid., 353.


61. Ibid., 36-38. 62. Ibid., 39-41. See also ibid., 41-42.

63. S. Hillyer, Letter Book, January 19, 1808 [1809].

64. Ibid., August 23, 1809. 65. Ibid., July 12, 1810.

66. Petersburg Georgia & Carolina Gazette, June 5 (3, 4), 1806.

67. Ibid., June 2 (3, 3), 1806. 68. Ibid., July 31 (3, 4), 1806.


70. Petersburg Georgia & Carolina Gazette, June 15 (1, 1), 1805.

71. Augusta Chronicle, August 26 (4, 4), 1814. Another establishment known as “The Millford Merchant-Mills” began operations on the Broad River about a mile and a half above Petersburg, in July of 1815. It was set up by Benajah Smith, who promised to manufacture “at least 60 barrels of superfine flour per day . . . [and he felt] warranted in saying, that his mills will not be inferior to any in the southern, or even in the middle states.” His mill house was fifty feet square and four stories high, but it contained five floors. When in full operation he would run “three pairs of five feet Georgia-Burr Mill-stones,” with all necessary equipment such as reels, screens, elevators, and so on. There was excellent navigation from his mill race to Augusta, which would save at least a half of the cost by wagons. “All boats coming by or to Petersburg,” said Smith, “from the upper country or elsewhere, will not have more than two and a half miles out of their way, both in going to, and returning from the mills; and a good river to navigate.” Ibid., July 9 (3, 2), 1813.


74. Ibid., 329.

75. Ibid., 329-332. 76. Ibid., 332-33.


78. See text relative to note 38 in Chapter V.


80. Ibid., June 22, 1816; November 30, 1817; May 27, 1818.


82. Augusta Chronicle, June 24 (1, 3), 1808. See also ibid., March 19 (1, 2), 1808.

83. S. Hillyer, Letter Book June 11, 1807. 84. Ibid., February 5, 1813.


CHAPTER X


2. John Williams Walker, Petersburg, August 20, 1799, to Larkin Newby, Newark, S. C., in Larkin Newby Collection.


4. John Williams Walker, Petersburg, April 10, 1799 to Larkin Newby, Vienna,
• Notes [144-153]

5. Walker to Newby, August 12, 1803, in Larkin Newby Collection.
8. Walker to Newby, January 4, 1805, in Larkin Newby Collection.
10. Oglethorpe Echo, September 14 (1, 5), 1888.
11. Bartram, Travels, 322-23. See also White, Statistics of Georgia, 229-30; Oglethorpe Echo, August 3 (2, 2), 1888.
14. Petersburg Georgia & Carolina Gazette, July 31 (3, 1), 1806.
15. Augusta Chronicle, May 11 (1, 3), 1799.
16. Shaler Hillyer Collection (Microfilm Box 21, Reel 17).
17. Walker, “Hebron” (Petersburg), June 20, 1803, to Newby, Fayetteville, in Larkin Newby Collection.
20. Kneeland to Carter, January (no day), (1831?), in Mrs. Mercer Sherman Collection.
23. Georgia Tavern Act, February 1, 1788 (leaflet in De Renne Collection).
26. Elbert County Minutes of the Inferior Court, 1791-1801, p. 16.
28. Elbert County Minutes of the Inferior Court, 1791-1801, pp. 19, 63, 126.
31. Augusta Mirror of the Times, June 17 (1, 2), 1811.
32. Elbert County Retailers Oaths, 5. The date of this oath was January 20, 1840.
33. John Williams Walker, Petersburg, Ga., August 20, to Larkin Newby, Newark, S. C., in Larkin Newby Collection.
35. Augusta Chronicle, September 28 (1, 3), 1799. See also ibid., September 24 (3, 4), 1800; October 17 (1, 4), 1801.
36. Petersburg Georgia & Carolina Gazette, August 7 (4, 4), 1806; Augusta Herald January 28 (2, 1), 1801; Augusta Chronicle, passim, 1808.
37. Watkins, comps., Digest of the Laws of Georgia, 1755-1799, pp. 531-32. See also ibid., 430, 455.
41. Ibid., December 10 (3, 5), 1813. 42. Ibid., August 11 (3, 3), 1815.

CHAPTER XI
2. Augusta Chronicle, October 14 (3, 1), 1797; White, Statistics of Georgia, 199.
13. Petersburg *Georgia & Carolina Gazette*, June 5 (1, 1), 1806.
15. For instance, Stokes Petersburg Store Account Book, 1818, pp. 24, 30, 52, 60, 83, 95, 114, 272, 294, 337.
18. Petersburg *Georgia & Carolina Gazette*, November 30 (3, 1), 1805.
29. Clayton, comp., *Compilation of the Laws of Georgia, 1800-1810*, pp. 58-59; J. Hillyer, “Memoirs,” 72. The other members of the Society, named in the act, were Memorable Walker, Oliver White (Whyte), James Sanders Walker, John A. Casey, Thomas Casey, Robert Watkins, William Jones, Albert Brux, Robert H. Watkins, Reginal N. Groves, Nicholas Pope, Andrew Green Semmes, James Coulter, and Garland T. Watkins. An example to exaggerate and romanticise the history of Petersburg is seen in the statement that “it was always believed by the people of Petersburg that Smithson got the idea of his bequest from this society organized in Petersburg.” James Smithson died in 1829, and the Smithsonian Institution was not established until 1846. See Rogers, “Petersburg’s Claims to Past Glory Uncovered,” in *Atlanta Constitution*, March 31 (Section 2-B), 1946.
31. Asbury said that he was first in Georgia in 1785, but his recorded journal does not substantiate this assertion. Asbury's *Journal* (1815 edition, III, 361).
38. See the paragraph in Chapter VI, of this narrative, supported by note 6.
58. Petersburg *Georgia & Carolina Gazette*, July 25 (3, 4), 1805.
60. *Augusta Chronicle*, November 11 (3, 4), 1809. The *Augusta Herald*, March 6 (4, 4), 1806 announced that it had in its possession the manuscripts of the Rev. James H. Ray sermons "together with Poems Sacred to Christianity," which would be published if enough subscriptions could be secured. Shaler Hillyer and Moses Waddel were to act as agents in the Petersburg and Vienna region.

As another claim of Petersburg to past glory, Rogers in "Petersburg's Claims to Past Glory Uncovered," in *Atlanta Constitution*, March 31 (Section 2-B), 1946 wrote that a preacher happening through Petersburg saw a square dance going on. He scolded the dancers and made them get down on their knees and ask for forgiveness. Rogers asserted that this incident was "the only such where a dance was turned into a prayer meeting."

**CHAPTER XII**

2. Elbert County Deed Record, P, 199. This sale need not be taken as representing the actual value of the property; for it could be reclaimed within a certain period by recompensing the purchaser.
3. Elbert County Deed Record, R, 186; W, 39.
4. Ibid., S, 84. 5. Ibid., U, 69. 6. Ibid., W, 41. 7. Ibid., X, 95.
8. Ibid., X, 129; DD, 121; EE, 531, 532. 9. Ibid., EE, 504.
11. Journal of the House of Representatives of . . . Georgia . . . 1849 & ’50 (Mil-
ledgedville, 1849), 394-95.
13. Ibid., 94-102.
Amount of Postage accruing at each Office, in each State and Territory of the U.
States, for the Year Ending 31st March, 1827,” in Reports and Communications
Made by the Executive Departments of the Government, and Memorials, &c. to the
House of Representatives during the First Session of the 20th Congress, H. R. Docu-
ment 60, p. 58 (Binder’s title, State Papers), Serial Number 170.
Birmingham, Privately Printed, 1961), I, 3-36, 426.
22. Quoted from New York Herald by Augusta Chronicle, September 6 (2, 4), 1817. See also Daniel Watkins (?), February 20, 1838, to William Dearing, Peters-
burg, in Mrs. William Ray Collection; Augusta Chronicle, September 3 (3, 5), 1817. The Petersburgers going to the Mississippi Territory (later Alabama) passed
up the Federal Road through Athens, Georgia, crossing the Tennessee River where
Chattanooga was later to be built and onto the road from Knoxville to the south-
westward. Thomas Perkins Abernethy, The Formative Period in Alabama, 1815-
1828 (Historical and Patriotic Series No. 6 of the Publications of the Alabama State
Department of Archives and History. Montgomery, 1922), 17, 30.
24. Quoted from the Milledgeville Georgia Journal by the Augusta Herald,
February 25 (3, 1), 1817.
(Volume 37 in the James Sprunt Studies in History and Political Science. Chapel
Hill, 1955), 19, 23.
27. Augusta Chronicle, May 6 (2, 1), 1818.
28. Ibid., July 26 (3, 1), 1816.
29. Ibid., October 29 (3, 2), 1817.
30. Ibid., February 25 (2, 1), 1818. 31. Ibid., September 5 (2, 3), 1820.
32. Bailey, “Petersburg Youth of John Williams Walker,” 137; Abernethy,
Formative Period in Alabama, 58; Moore, History of Alabama, I, 156; McMillan, Constitutional Development in Alabama, 34; Edward Chambers Betts, Early History
33. Jane Kneeland, Petersburg, January (no day, year 1831 [?]) to Eliza M. A.
Carter, Washington, Ga., in Mrs. Mercer Sherman Collection.
34. A. J. Hanna, Flight into Oblivion (Richmond, 1938), 85; Weekly Atlanta
Constitution, August 21 (1, 1), 1888.


37. Quoted from the Louisville (Ky.) *Courier-Journal* by the Daily Athens Banner, January 1 (1, 1), 1882. See also Weekly Atlanta Constitution, August 21 (1, 1), 1888; *Habersham Historical Collections*, I, 9 ff.; Otis Ashmore, "The Story of the Confederate Treasure," in *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, II (September, 1918), 119-38; Otis Ashmore, "The Story of the Virginia Banks Funds," *ibid.*, II (December, 1918), 171-97.

38. *Oglethorpe Echo*, September 14 (1, 5-6), 1888.
44. Jones, Jr., *Dead Towns of Georgia*, 237.
46. Weekly Atlanta Constitution, August 21 (1, 1), 1888.
48. Weekly Atlanta Constitution, August 21 (1, 1), 1888.
51. *Oglethorpe Echo*, June 18 (3, 6), 1875.
55. *Ibid.*, June 1 (1, 1-2), 1906. The present writer visited the site of old Petersburg on July 21, 1957, before the waters had covered up the place.