



Clagon Family

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 A monthly newsletter CAROLINA TREES & BRANCHES is mailed to each member unless you choose to pick up your issue at the meeting. Back issues are sent to those joining later in the year. Dues are to be paid by Dec. to receive your Jan. issue of a new year.

FAMILY RESEARCH SOCIETY MEETING is held on the 1st Sunday of each month unless otherwise posted in the newsletter. The meeting begins at 3:00 pm at the Grace United Methodist Church located on Hwy 17 N, approximately 3 miles N of the Albemarle Hospital, and just across the road from National Car Rental in Elizabeth City. We encourage everyone interested in family lines of Northeastern NC & nearby surrounding counties to attend. Our meetings consist of: outstanding & informative speakers, a time for fellowship & research, time for everyone to browse through our Genealogical Library, (books are available for sale), and refreshments are served. Let us know if you're interested in joining. WELCOME!

THE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT PUBLICATION MATERIALS.

A SPECIAL THANKS to all SUBMITTING articles for this PUBLICATION.

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OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

THE CLAGON FAMILY

Submitted By : Kaye R. Herndon

According to research compiled by Wm. Crumby Cleghorn & published in a book titled, "The Barony of Cleghorne, AD 1203 to AD 1912", (Library of Congress CS71 C585), the name Clagon began as Glegerne & is of Celtric origin. It dates back to A.D. 80 during the Roman invasion of Scotland where it appears as a camp established near the border of Scotland at a place called Glegerne. It first appears as a family name in the 15th century in Scotland - a David Cleghorn, farmer, (D)1577 & about 10 persons by the same name were found in this area at this time. By 1600 numerous Cleghorns were found in the surrounding areas.

A James Cleghorn, the elder (D)June 1588-West Craigs of Corstorphine leaving 2 sons, James & Harry. Harry (sometimes recorded as Henry) was apprenticed to a merchant in Edinburgh in 1611, but there is no record of his death. He had 3 sons - Thomas, David & James & one dau., Isobel. Of Thomas there is no record. David (D)1647 leaving his estate to James & Isobel. It is ASSUMED that young James is the ancestor of the American Cleghorns and Claghorns as the 1st time the name appears in America it is James Claghorn.

In 1650 the English Army under the leadership of Cromwell occupied the parish of Corstorphine for approximately one year. At the end of the war in Sept. 1650 over 9,000 Scots were prisoners of Cromwell. About 5,000 were released as wounded; the balance were sent to England. Many prisoners sent to England were very shortly sent to New England & VA. to be sold as slaves or servants to the inhabitants of America.

A James Cleghorne is listed in Barnstable, Mass. as being indentured to Lt. Bernard Lumbard of Barnstable, whose dau., Abia Lumbard (D)21 Aug 1677, he later married. (An ordinance by English Parliament 20 Oct 1651 sent 262 Scots from ship "John & Sara" to be cosigned & sold at the expense of inhabitants of America as slaves or servants.) This is possibly the same James Cleghorne of Corstorphine. According to records in Yarmouth near Barnstable, Mass., he was married in 1653/54 & admitted to citizenship in 1657. Bernard Lumbard granted him 20 acres in 1664 (confirmed in 1680). In Suffolk Co. DB VI, pg 253 dated 5/1671 he sold his house & 20 acres of land in Yarmouth. Several records in the area refer to James Cleghorne as landowner in the Barnstable area. He left a will (June 1683) leaving his gun & sword to his son Shubael (#1). He, or possibly a son by the same name, was impressed into service for the King to fight Indians around Cape Cod, serving 3 enlistments.

James's son Shubael [#1] (m) Jane Lovell D/o John Lovell. He (D)1726 & his will is recorded in Barnstable probate BK.IV, pg 298. Shubael (#1) had a son Shubal (#2-9/20/1696-1/14/1754) (m) Experience Hawes (1706-9/19/1778). He became a soldier in the Louisberg Expedition of 1745 under Capt. Lumbard. The Louisbourg Expedition led by the Americans who were aided by the British in 1745 was an attempt to take possession of the town of Louisbourg in Nova Scotia which at that time was second in importance in that area only to Quebec. It was a major Cod Fishing center & was protected by a heavy fortress. The Americans took possession of the fortress & town during the Louisbourg Expedition. Shubael (#2) lived in Barnstable & Chilmark, Mass. He also had a son named Shubal (#3) (B)1725 (m)1748-Martha Hillman. He sold his house & land in Martha's Vineyard-Sept. 1772 & moved to NC where he entered Rev. War.

It is at this point that Mr. Cleghorne's research ends & mine begins. Shubal (#3) enlisted in the Revolutionary Army on 10/28/1776 with Col. Blount's CO, 5th Regt. under Col. Edward BUNCOMBE. He was promoted to Corporal 12/1777 & transferred for the balance of the war to Lt. Col. Harney's 2nd NC. There was also a Timothy CLAGHORN listed on the NC muster rolls; I am assuming that this was his oldest son. In the 1790 NC census the following heads of household are listed: Timothy/Hawes/Benjamin/Shubal all Martin Co.; Shubal, Tyrrell Co. In the 1800 census Benjamin CLAGON of Craven Co. & Horse (Hawes) Claghorn of Martin Co. are listed as heads of households. In the 1810 census Benjamin Claghorn of Washington County is listed as head of household.

The will for Shubal Clagon (#3) dated 12/1787, recorded in WB, pg 136. Martin Co., NC verifies the names of his wife and children. Shubal's son Timothy died 2 years after his father leaving his inherited property to his mother, brothers

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THE CLAGON FAMILY (contd.)

& sisters. They, in 1790, sold all of their land to Edward SMITHWICK as it bordered Mr. Smithwicks mill pond & he desired to build several mills.

Benjamin eventually settled in Washington Co., NC. In DB G, pg 30, dated Nov. 20, 1829, Wash. Co., NC courthouse there is recorded a plat representing 156 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres of land surveyed for Benjamin Claghorn on Oct. 26, 1829. The plat describes the land as bordered on the west by the east side of Kendricks Creek then beginning at a little gut of the creek just below the float bridge the line runs south east following a swamp to Spring Branch along its various courses to Thomas BLOUNT's patent line, following his line back to Kendricks Creek. In 1831, filed in the same deed book G, pg 31 Benjamin Claghorn conveyed to his wife all right & title to the land whereon they lived - this being the land owned & entered to record on Aug 14, 1829 for which the above mentioned plat had been filed. In 1840 Benjamin & his wife, Mary, transferred title to this same land to their son Smith M. Claghorn (DB H, pg 278, 3/13/1840) but retained rights to live there until their deaths.

Smith McCrae Clagon (B)1813 (m) Mary E. Blount (B)1829 (D)1889 D/o Wiggins Blount (B)ca1798 (D)ca1855 & Elizabeth Clifford (B)ca1810. They had 6 children: Smith M., Jr., Wiggins B., Mary Catherine, Hester B., James P. & Bettie. In 1872 Smith M. had conveyed to each of his sons, James & Benjamin, 72 acres of land described as lying on each side of the main road from Columbia to Plymouth. I have not been able to locate any record where Benjamin or Smith purchased land other than the original plat. I do not feel that these 144 acres are a portion of the original plat as the description is not similar. In his will dated 2/18/1889 (WB A, pg 172, Wash. Co.), Smith M. named Smith M. Clagon, his youngest son, heir to a tract of land containing 100 acres along Mackeys Creek, the bulk of his cattle & hogs, & the remainder of his household and kitchen furniture; the remainder of his land to be divided between his other children. Because of the similarities in the property description, I am making the assumption at this point that the land mentioned in the will is the same land originally purchased by Smith M., Jr.'s grandfather, Benjamin Claghorn.

Benjamin Wiggins Clagon never married. He enlisted on 7/1/1864 in Plymouth, NC as a Private in the Montgomery Alabama Blues Artillery. There are no records of his military service after a shirt purchase in Oct. 1864. Family members remember that he was referred to as Dr. Clagon after the war. He never had formal medical training but apparently received enough experience during his short term in the war to feel that he was capable of serving the residents of the area as a "doctor" & reportedly did tend to their needs from his water front home in Mackeys Ferry. He remained in Mackeys until he was unable to care for himself. At this point he moved to the Veterans Hospital in Raleigh, N.C. where he stayed until his death.

James Clagon (12/20/1848-9/9/1930) (m) Mary HERRINGTON (9/8/1855-7/16/1913) & they had 3 children that lived to be adults. He became a large landowner & farmer in the Roper area. According to family recollections he owned land that stretched from the waterfront (Albemarle Sound) to the town of Roper where his home was located.

Smith M. Clagon (1865-12/4/1935) (m) Laura JOHNSTON (11/13/1864-1896) D/o Dr. Thomas M. JOHNSTON & Elizabeth J. PHELPS of Wash. Co., NC on 12/21/1888. According to family tales, being the youngest he had always been "babied" & was not well prepared for providing a secure home for his family. He reportedly drank heavily & eventually lost all of his holdings in Mackeys. It was in Mackeys Ferry that his first 3 children were born: Thomas S., Mary Elizabeth, & Thurman (died at birth). The home in which he lived had been converted into a house from the original barn, it being the only building left after a fire destroyed the original home of his father. In 1897 Smith M., Jr. took as his 2nd wife Virginia "Jennie" RIDDICK & 3 more children were born: Allie Mae, Agnes & Laura. In 1900 Mary Elizabeth moved to Plymouth to live with her mother's sister, Mary Jo RICE & her husband, Dan who was a ferry boat Capt. at that time. Thomas remained with his father. After the death of Smith's 2nd wife their 3 daughters went to live with their maternal grandmother. He took as his 3rd wife Mabel SNELLINGS. They lived in Ayden, NC (died & buried there.)

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Thomas Smith Clagon (m) Ruby JACKSON & resided in Plymouth, NC where he operated a tugboat. He is described by residents of Plymouth that remember him as having the typical tanned, weatherbeaten look of a seaman. He separated from his wife moving to Norfolk Co. to live for awhile with his sister, Mary Elizabeth, better known to us as "Mamie", & her family at their Norfolk Highlands home. He eventually moved in with a woman living on Bute Street in Norfolk who became pregnant with his child. He was taken ill and placed in DePaul Hospital, then located on Church Street. In need of a blood transfusion, Mamie was asked & consented to give blood as she was the closest blood relation at that time. He did not recover from his illness, dying at the hospital.

Mary Elizabeth began attending school after moving to Plymouth to live with her Aunt & Uncle. At the time they had no children of their own, but after Mamie's arrival they had 5 children, three of which lived to adulthood: Dan, Aubrey & Bruce. Mamie helped to care for the children when she wasn't in school. They later moved to Edenton where Mamie eventually was able to acquire an apartment of her own. She commuted each day by horse & buggy to Hertford where she taught school. She came to Norfolk, attended Keys Business School, then moved back to Edenton taking the position of Secretary to the owner of the Cotton Mill there. It was at this time that she met her future husband, Charles Allen (Rigg) RIGGAN, 13 years her senior. At that time he was the owner of a fleet of fishing boats, owner of a barber shop & owner of one of the 1st automobiles in Edenton. They (m) 12/16/1915. He sold his barber shop & fishing boats and purchased a home for them on Court Street just a couple blocks from the waterfront. The house was torn down sometime after I visited there in 1990. Rigg was transferred by Western Union, his employer, to Elizabeth City & their 1st child, Katharine Clagon RIGGAN, was born there on Oct 17, 1916. He then took a job with Norfolk & Western Railway & was sent to Victoria, VA. where Charles Allen, Jr. (B) July 22, 1919. They moved to the Norfolk Highlands section of Norfolk Co., VA. a few years later when he took a job with Norfolk & Southern Railway. Their 3rd child, Gloria Johnston, was born there on Jan 22, 1928. Rigg was supervisor over the telegraph & telephone operations for Norfolk & Southern Railway. He worked out of the Union Station in Norfolk then located near the foot of the Berkley Bridge at Water and Main Streets.

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HUGH BRADLEY FAMILY

Hugh Bradley (B) 29 Apr 1783 - Raleigh, Wake County, N.C. (D) 1854
Warren, Bradley Co., Arkansas (Buried) on Plantation in Bradley Co.
Son of John Bradley & wife Mary ??

Martha Patsy Hunter (wife of Hugh Bradley) (B) 9 Aug 1782-NC (D) 13
June 1856-Bradley Co., Arkansas (Buried) on Plantation in Bradley Co.-
Parents: unknown - Hugh & Martha's children listed below:

1. James Robert Bradley (B) 28 Apr 1813 (m) Sarah Hubbard Mosely
2. Nancy Bradley (B) 10 Oct 1814 (m) Samuel McKinney
3. Mary Bradley (B) 17 Feb 1816 (m) Isaac H. Pennington
4. Martha Jane Bradley (B) 4 Mar 1818 (m) John Brown
5. John Bradley (B) 28 August 1820
6. John T. Bradley (B) 20 Sept 1823 (m) Serritha J. Rice
7. Eliza Bradley (B) 24 Jan 1825
8. Kizzia Bradley (B) 1 January 1827
9. Sarah Bradley (B) 3 Jan 1829 (m) Isham Cone
10. Hugh Bradley, Jr. (B) 21 Oct 1832 (m) Alemela Virginia Blonkenschap

WILLIAM C. COTTON FAMILY

William C. Cotton (B) ca 1806-NC (m) Matilda Tardy (B) in Alabama
Children are listed below:

- [1] Pheby (B) 1830; [2] William (B) 1832; [3] Susan (B) 1835; [4] Delana (B) 1836; [5] Tardy (B) 1839; [6] Harriett (B) 1841; [7] Alexander (B) 1845; [8] Nancy (B) 1847; [9] John B. (B) 1848.

If anyone has additional info on the Bradley or Cotton family, contact:
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