

# FRANKLIN COUNTY HISTORY

By REV. E. H. DAVIS

Before proceeding further with the history of Franklin we will linger a while longer in Bute to emphasize especially one of those Extra-legal Assemblies in which the people would meet regardless of constituted authority and in defiance of the Governor. The Provincial Congress at Hillsboro, Aug. 20, 1775 was a most important event in the history of the State assembling as it did in defiance of the Governor, Josiah Martin, and in the face of his denunciation and threat. Before abandoning his post as Governor and taking refuge on one of His Majesty's vessels in the Cape Fear River he had denounced this particular Assembly as, "an artifice of falsehood and sedition,"—to which the assembly responded by act as well as in word directing that his message be burnt by the common hangman. Note, this Assembly composed of 184 elected delegates from the 35 counties of the State met a year before the Continental Congress at Philadelphia with its famous Declaration and only a couple of months after that other Declaration of Mecklenburg with which we are not so familiar. Most of the signers of that Declaration were members of this Hillsboro Congress and Signatories to its action. A part of the work of this assembly was to pass this test of citizenship—nearly a year before July 4, 1776.

We the subscribers professing our allegiance to the King and acknowledging the Constitutional Executive power of Government do solemnly profess testify and

To my Friends, Subscribers, and readers of the FRANKLIN TIMES:

I would again stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance. To date just 9 of the 25 new Subscribers I am under promise to deliver have been secured and only \$14 of the \$50 in renewals. Some of you who are responsible for putting this pleasant responsibility upon me are yourselves backward in your response. Without further hesitation or secret evasion of mind heed at once this combined S. O. S. of the undersigned and C. D. Q. of the Editor and come across. Do so at once. Another matter. I have alluded elsewhere to the roster of Bute and Franklin County soldiers in the Continental Army. It is possible that there are in some of our homes old letters or family records and diaries that would help in a very material way in completing or even making such a roster. In other counties exactly that has been done. Lend a hand also here.

E. H. DAVIS.

declare that we do absolutely believe that neither the Parliament of Great Britain nor any member or constituent branch thereof have a right to impose taxes upon these colonies to regulate the internal police thereof and that all attempts by fraud or force to establish and exercise such claims and powers are violations of the peace and security of the people and ought to be resisted to the utmost. And that the people of this province singly and collectively are bound by the acts and resolutions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses because in both they are freely represented by persons chosen by themselves. And we do solemnly and sincerely promise and engage under the sanction of virtue, honor and the sacred Love of Liberty and our Country to maintain and support all and every the Acts, Resolutions and Regulations of the said Continental and Provincial Congresses to the utmost of our power and abilities. In testimony whereof we hath hereto set our hands this 25c August, 1775.

Here follow in the records the names of all those 184 members including Bute's 6, viz: Jethro Sumner, Green Hill, William Person, Henry Pattillo, Thomas Eaton and Joseph Riddick. Those are ringing words of defiance under certain conditions to those in authority over yonder and at the same time of citation to responsibility, obligation and duty to those at home whom these signers represented.

In accordance therewith they proceeded to the organization of a civil government vesting the same in a Provincial Council for the whole State, a committee of Safety for each District, and County and Town Committees for each County and Town and what was equally important and possibly more significant took steps for creating an army. With this in view the State was divided into 6 Districts, viz: Edenton, New Bern, Wilmington, Halifax, Hillsboro and Salisbury. The Halifax District including Bute.

For Halifax District, Nicholas Long was named Col., Henry Irwin, Lt.-Col., Jethro Sumner, Major.

Following that assignment for the District we find these officers named for the local regiments or companies in Bute: 1775, William Person, Col., Philemon Hawkins, Lt.-Col., William Alston, 1st Major, Thomas Sherrod, 2nd Major, 1776, Thomas Eaton, Col., Thomas Sherrod, Major, Green Hill, 2nd Major, 1776,

## SUBSCRIBERS

Since our last report the following subscriptions have been received in appreciation of this history:

NEW	
W. M. Pernell, R 3, Louisburg.	8
Reported last week	8
Total	9
RENEWALS	
T. A. Person, Greenville.	11
Reported last week	11
Total	12

Halifax Brigade, Bute No. 5, James Denton, Capt., John Macon, Lieutenant, William Harrison, Ensign. Bute No. 6, Benjamin Seawell, Capt., William Hill, Lieutenant, John Jones, Ensign, Bute No. —, Bennet Wood, Captain, John Macon, 1st Lieutenant, Eli Ely, 2nd Lieutenant, James Myrick, Ensign.

There is this interesting entry regarding Capt. Seawell's Company in camp at Wilmington, July 31, 1776. Present for duty 49, Guns 44, Swords 2, Tomahawks 9, Axes 5.

Here follows a note of appreciation to the Governor from a grateful Captain just as it appears in the Record: New Bern, May 23, 1778. Excellency. I expected to be so happy to see you and to present you sir my respectful Duty and to make you my acknowledgment for the favor you will have in Employing me for Captain in Mr. Scharids (Sherrod) Regiment. I hope I will do my business so well to give your Excellency all the Satisfaction you can desire from me and for that I can give to you Said Satisfaction. I would make some statements but I can not do it so your Excellency will Deliver to Mr. Scharid my Commission for what I want him. I believe he Col. Scharid has spoke to your Excellency for me in this case. I hope your Excellency will Deliver to me said Commission or Brevet. I go to the morning to Edenton for my business I have there; if I can rend to your Excellency any services your Excellency will Dispose of me in Every Case being with the greatest Esteem. Your Excellency Most Obedient Servant. H. Zollcoffer.

Your Excellency will Excuse my bad English, reiding in any time I will do it more better than I can do it now. (In all of which while the language limps the patriotism does not.) It is such to be regretted that no complete roster of soldiers from Bute or Franklin County in the Continental Army is at present available. Judge Clark in his preface to Vol. 16 Colonial Records says that the roster at the close of that volume of all the North Carolina soldiers in the Continental Army is the only one so far as known in being, and that is arranged alphabetically without any reference whatever to locality.

(To be continued)

## E. B. PREDDY

Youngsville.—Funeral services for E. B. Preddy were held at the Youngsville Methodist Church with the Rev. M. M. Walters, of Knightdale, officiating. Assisting was the Rev. E. M. Carter of Youngsville.

Burial followed in the family cemetery a mile from his home, near Youngsville.

A member of the Junior Order and the Patriotic Sons of America as well as the Youngsville Methodist Church, with which he was connected for 63 years, Mr. Preddy died at the age of 80.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Sybilla Jane Preddy; two daughters, Mrs. Annie Bell Staunton of Kittrell and Mrs. Pauline Hobgood of Wake Forest; two sons, W. S. and Henry Preddy, both of Youngsville; 15 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

At the turn of the last century the U. S. Marine Corps had a total strength of 5000 officers and men. Today there are over 100,000 men in the Marine Corps.

## Double Duty For North Carolina Farmers



North Carolina farmers have responded enthusiastically to the national need to repair farm machinery and to sell scrap metal, according to reports made to the State USDA (War Board). Machinery must be in tip-top shape for production of urgently needed war crops this year, and scrap metal is essential for steel mills producing arms to fight the Axis.

Approximately 28,000,000 pounds of scrap metal have been collected in the State so far, with much more to be gathered from Tar Heel farms. New appeals are being made for more scrap from farms by the War Production Board which says some mills are slowing down due to lack of scrap. The board says there still is enough scrap metal on farms of the nation if used with other materials, to make more battle ships than there are in the world today, or enough 2,000-pound bombs to drop 3 a minute for more than three years, or enough 100-pound bombs to drop one every second for more than three years.

## VICTORY ON THE FARM FRONT

Franklin County farmers who expect to obtain lime and phosphate for use as soil building material this year from the AAA are urged to place their orders early, announces W. C. Boyce, County Agent. This will be necessary due to probable transportation difficulties expected later in the year. Freight cars and trucks used in hauling lime and phosphate may be busy in troop movements and movement of war supplies. This lime and phosphate, Mr. Boyce pointed out, is obtained through the Agricultural Conservation Association as a grant-of-aid material. The cost

of lime delivered to the farm is deducted from conservation payments due farmers under the Agricultural Conservation Program. This deduction rate is \$3.30 per ton, delivered to farm, and each 1000 pounds applied counts one unit.

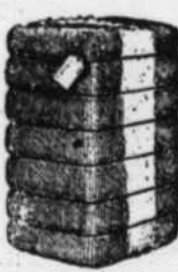
olina farmers under this plan in 1941.

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## BUILDING COSTS

Mounting building costs affect practically every insurance risk. The amount of fire insurance on a piece of property that was all right last year is likely to be all wrong today. Our job as an insurance advisor is clear. Check every fire policy against present day values, and we will be glad to help you.

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