

LETTER FROM ELIZABETH ANN CALDWELL HIGGINS  
TO HER SON DR. ALFRED HIGGINS

*Transcribed by Jouett Taylor Prisley*

*Transcriber's note: This letter, and the attached "History of My Grand Parents" was written in 1887 by Elizabeth Ann Caldwell Higgins to her "only son," who, based on dates of death, would have had to have been Dr. Alfred Higgins, born in Newberry in 1827, later residing in Hale County, Alabama. Of her other five sons, two died young, and the other three died in 1861, 1862 and 1876. At the date of this letter, Elizabeth was 84 years old and within one and a half years of her own death. The gist of the letter is a recap of the very long history of her grandparents which follows. This copy is from another typescript from the "Higgins" file at the South Caroliniana Library, and is more polished as to spelling etc. than the accompanying "History".*

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Newberry, Aug. 1887

My Dear Beloved Only Son,

I wish to leave you my last sketch of my life before my sight entirely leaves me, for I feel that my days are growing to a close, and I may not be able to accomplish this work, but I wish you to read what I have to say, for it is the work I must accomplish in the sight of my Blessed Lord and Master which has done so much for me in my life. Oh, how Merciful he has gently led me from my infancy up to a good old age. I am now old and feeble but thanks to his blessed Name I am still spared and Greatly Blessed for I have a lovely Son & Daughter who tenderly watches over me in loving kindness every day and hour of my second childhood. I have lived until I am almost alone, all my companions have gone to rest, but I feel that I am greatly blessed in my last days to see my Grand Sons and Daughters taking up there Cross of my Adorable Savior and following in his blessed footsteps. Oh, how kind they are all to your Old Mother. I often think how blessed I am to my Heavenly Father to give me in all my life long such loving ones, and I have such good kind friends. I wish to give you my Family as I wish you to feel how blessed I am in my dear old Home where all my joys and sorrows have been passed, and I know my Blessed Saviour has gently led me a long through all my troubles to give me his blessed Spirit to enlighten my blind Eyes and bring me, a poor sinful creature, to believe in and trust him in all his glorious Gospel to the Salvation of my sinful Soul. Glorious hope I can now give thanks to God and feel assured he will work out my salvation. I have no fear of death. I feel I am ready for Blessed Saviour has suffered for all my sins and I have from my infancy been taught by my Dear Parents to love and read his holy Bible and to pray and believe all Gods word. How thankful I am that I had Parents who loved and served Gods Holy Word. they very soon after the Revolution joined the Presbyterians at Little River Church when my Uncle John Caldwell gave the Land, and before they sent to bring their Mother to South Carolina. Her Sones & all her Family were living in Charlotte County, in Virginia. they and their Neighbors had built a nice Presbyterian Church for their Mothers large Family of Children, for Grand Father had served in the war (French-Indian) and was getting old. she was left a widdow, her sons had come to South Carolina before there Fathers death, several years with there Sister who married young Patrick Calhoun, son of Col. Calhoun who was sent by General Washington to survey South Carolina, and lay it off in Districks. Uncle John Caldwell and my Father, William

Thomas Caldwell, had Studied under Col. Calhoun, but the young ones were not willing to go before they had settled, so they must bring their wives out to this new Country. Uncle John Caldwell married Miss Martin, a very wealthy young Lady and he had done well. Young Calhoun married Miss Martha Caldwell, my Fathers 3rd Sister, and then they all moved to there work in South Carolina. Col. Calhoun very soon put them all to work, for he was a Noble smart man. his work was to lay off South Carolina from the Savannah River to -----River, and divide it into Districks. they did so. they all settled in Abbeville for several years but as they came through the Country the Indians were very kind and as the families of bothe were very large Settlement after and they all had layed of the Districk of Abbeville from the Savannah River to the Saluda and layed of the town of Abbeville. they crossed that River and layed of Newburry Districk, and Laurance, and located the places for a Court House in each Districk. Uncle John and my Father bought up large boddies of lands at government prices from the Friendly Indians. as there Father had died and left his wife in Virginia. Uncle John was the oldest Son & was born before they left Ireland. Agreeable to the English law he was to inherit his Fathers Estate. this was the law after they had first arrived in America. My Father was then born in America and several of Girls in Pensylvania. Then the war with England was declared against America and the King sent over many of his subjects and gave them large Bounty Lands to every family who would join against the settlers that had fled from persecution and settled in this new land. the English had so incensed the Indians by taking there land, and were not to pay for it, that they became unruly and caused trouble. There was a large Town on the Saluda not ---?---. or near my Uncles & Father had bought Lands from called the Old Indian Town. My Father sayed they were very friendly tribe and they often used to bring venison and fish to the Family for they were friendly and did not disturb there stock for they were friendly to all who were kind to them and bought there Lands and payed for them, but the Kings men cheated them and got there lands as bounty from the King of England to kill and steal there Country so they were determined to be revenged on all that were there enemies. this was about the beginning of the Revolution in the Southern States. there were many families of Refugees settled in Newberry of good Whigs true to fight for there State. such was my noble Family for they fled from England very early in amongst the first settlers in Pencilvania where there family increased. my Grand Parents were very smart, industrious Irish Family, intelligent. Grand Father was a good man. they fled from England soon after there marage and he bought Lands in the State of Pensylvania, very soon built him a home where they remained untill many new arrivals from persecution came over to America. he had visited Virginia and became acquainted with many of the settlers in that state, wished to get a home for his growing family as he had a good offer for his settlement and he wished to Educate his Children as they had grone up. he went back home and souled out his place and in the meantime the English had sent over to America a large number of men and Armes to all those who had goten bounty Lands, to fight the first settlers in America. this was the beginning of the Revolution in America. King George the third sent a young noble Irish Man by the Name of Lord Braddock to subdue the rebbells in America. he came in great pomp and show. Grand Father had been comissioned by Gen. George Washington the President of the United Colonies as they were then called, but the young Nobleman with great pomp divided his troops into three separate Bands to frighten the Americans. it was the beginning of the strife and as the Rebbells and the Indians had not been certain what cource to pursue and had been commanded to make there appearance, they joined in the Fource. Grand Father was then under the troops were led into ambush, the great Nobleman was slain and the whole fight came to confusion. General Washington and the American troops stoped the battle and led the vanquished troops to return to England, and they thought to have peace, but it was only the first brush the Americans had been in, and the Tories who had gotten

large tracks of fine lands as bounty wrote back to renew the fight and then the Revolution was proclaimed. The Americans had taken heart and did not submit to be ruled by King George of England and his Torys. they had now resolved to be a free people with our noble President George Washington as our Father & Leader, with the help of the Good Lord and Master. after many noble men on bothe sides were killed we were Declared a Free & Independent Nation of 13 States United and no King but Our Heavenly Master whose we are and hope to remain. Our Family has suffered in the war for they went through the whole from the first to the last but have ever been true to there beloved United States. my Grand Father Caldwell on my Fathers side & all his family fought in the revolution.

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## HISTORY OF MY GRAND PARENTS, & THERE FAMILIES

by Elizabeth Ann Caldwell Higgins

*Transcribed by Jouett Taylor Prisley*

*Transcriber's note: This is a ponderous and repetitive account written by my great-great-grandmother. A photocopy of the original hand written manuscript at the South Caroliniana Library shows deteriorated penmanship in its 38 legal size pages. I have followed as faithfully as possible her spelling, grammar and punctuation, with the exception of the old-time "f" for "s". She was educated to or above standards of the time for women. Her memory and some of her family's oral traditions may have been faulty at times, but I found her quite on target with other histories. A curious exception is her mention of the birth of twins to her grandparents. No other records support that.*

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They were married, in Ireland, and were persecuted by the Episcopalians, and had to leave. For America, was then being settled up. First, Son John Caldwell was born before they left Ireland. Grandfather first settled in Pencilvania, where they bought land from the Indians who were friendly tribes. They were very soon settled for they were a working Couple there. my Father, William Thomas Caldwell, was born hear. There they lived for several years in prosperity and there Family increased. Margaret Caldwell, there first Daughter, Rebecca Caldwell, the second, Martha Caldwell, third, by this time they came over from Ireland and England a large increase of recrutes, wanting Homes, and the Indians had become jelous and unruly. Grand Father had been compelled to raise a troupe to keep them in order and he had been anxious to see Virginia. he had heard of that State & as his Family was increasing, he would sell his home and he did so and Before War declared, between England & America. he had moved to Virginia. He got him a nice place in Charlot County, very soon got him Good House and a fine Merchant Mill and improved his home. he was a Hardworking man and his two Sones were able to help him. Grand Mother was a great manager and instructed her Children in everything after they settled in Virginia there Family increased. Elenor Caldwell and Elizabeth Caldwell were Born and General Braddock was sent over to America by the King of England, Ireland and Scotland, with several ships loaded with arms, & men, to subdue the American rebellion. He came. Butt in his first attack he was met with a Defeat and slain, & G. Washington with the Virginian and Carolinian troops saved the army, that night whilst my Grand Father was engaged in the struggle he got a dispach calling him to come Home for Grand Mother was very ill, he was getting Old and he got a Furlow from his young noble General George Washington, to leave for his distressed Family. when he arived he found his dear Wife with Twins, a Son and a Daughter, all doing well, he sayd he thought it was time for him to give up his Comision and take care of his Children, for he had seen enough of war and he would stay, and make his Bread to feede the troops, for war was now declared. he named his Son James Caldwell and the Daughter Sarah Caldwell they bothe were fine helthy children, and as it was five years from the birth of Elizabeth, the youngest Daughter, all of his large children named above were now Grown or doing well, he never went into the army for now he had two Sones able to take his place Uncle John had been elected Captain, in his place, my Father William Thomas Caldwell, my Father, was first Lieutenant they served some time in Virginia, when they were sent out to South Carolina with Hon. Mr. Patrick Calhoun, to survey and lay off the different Districks. Old Mr. Patrick Calhoun

Lived in North Carolina, where Uncle John Caldwell and his brother were sent to school. they very soon made acquaintance with his family and they determined to studdy under him, they very soon had been appointed to move to South Carolina, but the young members of the Family could not consent to come alone. My Uncle John Caldwell had often visited in North Carolina and had the Family of his teacher to visit, my Grand Fathers family, so the Aunt Martha Caldwell and a Mr. Patrick Calhoun very soon consented to Marry and join the families and all the family to come to South Carolina and get a new Settlement. Uncle John had married before, his wife, Jane Martin, a North Carolinian, a welthy Family, and strong noble Family, so they all concluded to move to South Carolina, all the Calhouns, all left in a Boddy and landed in what was afterwards called Abbeville Districk, but there were very few settlers, only Indians. Old Colonel Patrick Calhoun, and his large Family, Bought a valuable tract of fine lands on the Savannah River, near to where they after gave it the name of the Calhoun Settlement. They began to settle and Uncle John Caldwell and his wife, & my Father, lived with Uncle Patrick Calhoun and his wife and followed there work dividing up the Lands in Districks, and laying off the Government lands, and as they had the Government Comision to do so, as to be able to sell to all who wished to purchase, a tract of land at Government prices. They lived with there Sister Martha, and her Husband for two or three years, but as they came through South Carolina, they had been pleased with the lands, in that section, they had finished there jobs, so they had determined to settle in South part of the State as there were so many inducements, as they found several settlers who had set lands and were in a good neighbour, and a very friendly tribe of Indians. They bought a large Boddy of land. Uncle John and Father soon had a delightful settlement, and they had by Wife several families of Slaves, they had no Children, he had very soon opened a farm, and my Aunt when they would be surveying, she with her servants did very well. They had surveyed all the Lands from Savanah River South to Saluda, it was a pleasant ocupation and profitable busines. They had done a great Busines for their families, the War was now declared by England and America. Uncle John had many noble friends amongst his numerous families that had moved out of Virginia & North Carolina on account of the war, for all the trouble seamed to be on the Sea Coast about Charleston. Captain John Caldwell, Family Consisted of his Wife, for they had no Children. William Thomas Caldwell, a Young Lady, Miss Martha Campbell, and a relative of my Grand Mother, so that his House was a pleasant retreat for all the youths. He was one of the noblest of men, and a Brave Man, beloved by all who knew his Family. He very soon raised all the men in his neighbourhood and he was again Elected Captain of a noble Company of valiant Souldiers, who received orders to leave for the Defence of the City of Charleston But they had in the number taken in a few Tories. they had received Bounty Lands, to serve the King of England. There was William Coningham otherwise called Bloody Bill, who ran against my Father for first Lieutenant. Caldwell received the most votes and he was elected which caused ill feelings amoungst the Torey set, but they were all received at Charleston and were sent to Fourt Moultry where they did a noble part in defending the Citty. But when they were engaged Coningham swore he would be revenged on Cap Caldwell, and he tryed to surrender the whole Company into the hands of the British officer, but his scheem was defeated & he had to be Tryed by a Court Martial and they sentenced him to be whiped. The Court appointed a man of the Company named Toles to carry out the Order. He was the father of a large family living near to my Uncles and his two Sones which he swore to be revenged uppon when the troops had saved the Citty of Charleston He then joined the Britiches and got a comision to raise a company of Tories, who watched every oportunity to take his revenge on my Relatives. his plan was to rob, and kill Americans and take revenge on there families, by killing of there stock. he had a settlement in Florida where he sent all his stolen goods by Tories & negroes when Times of distres came, he and

his Tory gang did make a large Fortune. When our Troops were engaged, and the poor Females were left at there mercy they suffered greatly often leaving them to suffer for there abuse & insolence. After he got a comision from the British General, to rase a troop of Tories, his aim to subdue the Rebbells, he soon did, but as there was call very soon for all true Americans to come to the asistance of North Carolina & Virginia, as they had driven the enemy from Charleston, back to the North, all the noble Band of Patriots left to ade in keeping the armey at the North, all South Carolinians asembled in a Boddy and obeyed the call to duty, my Grand Father, Cour. John Williams and all his Brothers command left for the seat of war. While they were fighting the Battles, my Grand Father Caldwell sickened and Died, leaving my Grand Mother with a large Family of Daughters and her three youngest children in the midst of the war. Her Sons and one of her Daughters were well settled in South Carolina, had a fine farm and a vast Boddy of Land, which they had bought by surveying and dividing of into Districks. They had layed off all Abbeville, Districk, Newburry, Laurence and Lexington, and saved the lands so that all true Americans could buy from the Indians land at Government Prices only the Tories got vast boddy of land who fought for the King, and cheated the Indians, who were very frendly to those who bought & Payed them for there Lands. I have heard my Father say they was game of all kinds the Indians used to bring there Family constantly untill they well settled. They first settled in Abbeville Districk, where Old Cournel Patrick Calhoun & his large family first Bought a fine large tract of Land near the Savanah River, called it the Calhoun Settlement. My Fathers Sister married his Son, his name was Patrick Calhoun. The Old Gentleman gave them a nice Home, but they were so many to settle they had to remain close together as they were then in a savage country. My Uncle John Caldwell, & Father soon concluded to build a good house as they were all young, and verry industrious, they had acomplished a delightful work, they were married in Charlottesville, North Carolina. Uncle John Caldwell and my Father had been sent to school there from Virginia before the war. They had studeed surveying under Cournel Calhoun, the Old Gentleman, and when he was apointed by Washington to survey the State of South Carolina, he introduced my uncle John Caldwell, and my Father, William T. Caldwell to them as worthy young men who had been peupells of his in that buisiness. he wished them to go out with his family, as they were well accuanted so they bothe received a comision to proceed to South Carolina, but before the time the Family of young people having been intimate, they could not leave there relatives untill they were married. Uncle John Caldwell was married to Miss Jane Martin, a noble wethy family at Charlotte, North Carolina. Young Patrick Calhoun of North Carolina was married to Miss Martha Caldwell of Virginia, then they all left for South Carolina and they were about the first settlers in this State. I have heard my Father often tell how they all felt when they first settled in what was after called Abbeville Districk, near where the village and Court House now stands. He sayd it was a most beautiful country he had ever seen, but they very soon had a nice good settlement and a good farm started for they were a thriving people and had a noble example in the Head of the Family. They were all a family of Christians, they all belonged to the Presbyterians and a very studdy noble Family. They had many noble Sons & Daughters, but they are scattered and yon, very few of all those noble Heroes who fought for our liberty are now living. I am the last of my Family. I am in 83 year. I wish to leave you a short account of the noble Herows from whome my family came. I am not ashamed to my good name on either side of my parantage. My Mothers Father, Maj. John Williams and his Brother, the valiant Coneral of Kings Mountain Fame. History gives you an account of his valiant deeds and exploits at the close of the dreadful cruel unjust war with England. He was slain at that noble defence that our noble troops from the Mountains, the Tories & all the British Troops had chosen that part of South Carolina for a final Battle ground and were so shure of Victory, that they

had assembled after the fall of Cambridge, they left in great fourse for the mountains for a Decisive battle. Tarlton under Lord Corn Wallace Command had ordered Coningham to collect all the Tories and repace to the mountains where they met, verry soon met, our noble Band of Mountain heroes, and all the Troops gathered from all South Carolina, a brave and true set of men, very soon made there mark where King Mountain, Col. James Williams fell, mortally wounded. he asked if his Enemy Ferguson was dead. the answer was I die sattisfied. He was the Father of a large family of noble sones who had been slane by Bloody Bill Coningham at Hayes Station when he and his cruel Tory gang Killed my Uncle John Caldwell, on his way to the mountains, and his enemy Oliver Toles and his two grone sones, and then layed them out on the work bench setting fire to every House on his place, he had a cruel number of Tories on there road then to there last battle. My Father and many of his friends had seen the flames at Mr. Toles plantation. he went to his Brother, he pointed to the fire and begged his Brother to leave home for he would be the next to suffer. he sayd he was unwell and he did not believe Coningham would do him harm. I will not go. Well he was sitting under the shade of a large Oak Tree & when his Brother said I and my friends are going to warn Col. Hays of there danger, and I then will gather all our men and meet Brother James and we will go to the company at Cowpens where they are assembling when I have given them warning. Whilst he was at the station many of there friends came up, he pointed back to his Brothers farm, all in flames, as they wrode away in a boddy, they saw Coningham and his Band of Robbers Coming up to the Station. he knew his time for vengeance had come but there duty was plain and he would take his revenge on all who opposed him so they all left not knowing the end. My uncle had resigned his office, and the company had elected his Brother James Caldwell Captain in his place. As he was on his way with the rest of his company only (--?--) nor his comraids knew his Brother John had been brutaly shot by Coninghams Pistol, his Head & Hands bothe cut off by his cruel enemy to all of my Grand Parents. He gave leave to all his Tories to select anything they wanted that was belonging to the Rebbells, as he intended not to leave anything for them, his wife and old Friend Miss Martha Campbell sister to the young man who he had killed at Newburry at Coats Blacksmith shop and whose remains were intered when they were digging the track for the Rail rode. My Brother had them reserved, and wrote to his Brother Dr. Campbell, who came down to Mr. John Caldwell, a Lawyer of the Newburry Barr, he thanked his friend and took them and had his remains intered in his family graveyard. Coningham detailed a scout of his Tories and sent off all the negroes and everything and stock that was able to move to Florida. it was then belonging to the Spain he had bargan for a fine tract of Land where the Tories carried all there Plunder, after he had finished he set Fire to every house on my Uncles place and what women and children he could not steal, for they had so done there work. My Aunt was taken to my Grand Mothers who had been kindly brought to settle near her Sons, for she was left a Widdow & a large Family of young Ladies, in Virginia. her Children were all grown. she acted a brave part in the war. I must give you some of her tryals. Coningham used to do her every mean act his heart prompted, to tease and frett her, she was a smart Irish Lady, had a good ready witt to keep her Temper, at the same time she cheated the enemies in many ways, for she had some faithful Friends in her Slaves who always had proved there faith by obeying the least wish. I will name two, Sambo and Peggy (?), they believed in doing all they could for her. she was so good to stay and do all the harme he could to the Families of his old companions in armes, who was true to there Country. I will give you some of his cruelties. But I must finish the life of my Grand Father. I left his Family History when he returned home after General Braddocks Defeat. He was then devoted to the care of his Farming and domestic Duties. His youngest son David Caldwell was Born, his health began to fail, he had always Been an industrious man, all his children were now grown and were all doing well, but the three youngest.

but Grand Mother was now very soon left a widdow, with a large Family of Daughters, in Virginia. her Sones and a Daughter were now living in South Carolina and they had accumulated a Fine Property, and they had Bought up several large tracts of Lands in different Districks. Uncle John and My Father wrote there Mother to come to South Carolina, they had Built her a good settlement for her Family, the would send for them very soon, so she would be able to rent out her home, as they would Send out for her for there was now a lull of War in South Carolina and the Youths in Uncles command would be proud to have a trip to Virginia. so my Father and several of the company with there waggons, left to bring her Family of Daughters & the little ones, came out and were delighted to come. they all arived safe, & well this was not long before times began to be very hot in South Carolina when they all had to resume there places in the strife, and they had to take up the march under there Captain and leave there homes, but they were a brave sett ready at every hasard. The Tories had made many advances, & were very insolent in many Families where they had a grugge. There was a youth who often visited my Uncles Family, he was smart, he loved my Father & often came to visit at my Uncles and Grand Mother, was acustomed to the use of the rifle but was not quite of age. he was a great admirer of my Grand Mothers Family, and they all often glad to have him come, for when there was none but Ladies, to have some friend if it was but a youth. I will now give you his adventure. Grand Ma was a very cheerful Presbyterian, and a very smart industrious inventive witt in case of imergency. she had a faithful Servant who stayed and attended the Mill. Coningham had been on the lookout for James Creswell, he heard he was at Caldwell's Home, for the spie was a Negro, so he hired him to take his Pistol and waylay him and kill him & my Father. so the Negro stoped at the Mill to enquire if they were at the house of Uncle. Sambo he said what you want with them, so he toled the negro, he sayed you stay and attend the Mill till I go up to the house, and see. he went up but Father and Creswell had gon out on a recannoiter of some of the Tories, but Sambo had given Grand Mother notice, and she had had a visit from several of the Tories, who had come and they wanted My Aunts to get them there Breakfast whilst they were gon to see there Tory friends so they left after cutting out of the Loomb all the clothe my Aunts had wove. in the meantime Creswell came up & My Father. she ordered Sambo to get her two Horses and put her Saddle on one and his Miss Elizabeth's saddle on the other, so he very soon had them readdy when he brought them out to the Block, he went back to the Mill and toled the Negro who said you stayed a great while. he said yes I had to wate on my Mistress orders for some of the Tories were there and I had to make a fire to cook for them, so I must go and carry up a fresh pale of water, you tend here whilst I soon will come back. My Father came up and when Sambo got to the House, the hireling got restless and came up to see what was going on, so when my Father went to take the water off the old mans head a Pistol shot by the Negro shaved the hare of his head. his Horse was standing by with the saddle all ready but he could not imediately leave, so he toled him, Sambo, not to follow him for the Tories will come back soon, he ordered Sambo to saddle Cresswell's horse and they very soon were on his track, they ran him several miles, but Cresswell had his dog with him, and the Horse the Negro rode lost a shoe, and he got lame, so he left him and took to his own strength, but Cresswell had outwrode my Father. the Negro had hidden in the Swamp, but the dog soon found him, but he shot him from his gun and wounded him. he toled them that he had been hired by Coningham to kill them bothe. Creswell went back to Grand Mothers whilst my Father went back to Uncle Johns. he arrived before the Tories came back for they had found out that they were watched, by some of there Enemies and could not accomplish there end. they found there Dinner ready and Grand Mother also ready wating for her ride, so she called to Betsey to come on for she wished to be back Soon, the Tories were all eating there meal when they bothe mounted there Horses on a visit to Mrs. Neelies. They wrode slowly untill they

were out of Sight. she had dressed Creswell in Miss Caldwell's Clothes & Bonnet and had let him out whilst one of the men swore Miss Caldwell took long steps for a Lady, Grand Ma heard him, and so did all the girls but they accomplished their grand feat of saving a noble life for he lived to be able to do good service for his Country, and he, after the war Married and died leaving a Widdow and Daughter. he owned the Ferry at the Island Ford. his Daughter Married a Son of Uncle James Caldwell, years after the war was over, but they are all a noble Family. My Grand Parents raised a large Family of Children, and untill his death they were all living and all gone but Uncle David, but he thrived and married and had a Family of Children. I have given you their names in the first of my narrative. I will also tell you what kind Brothers those Noble Females Married, the young men who had belonged to Uncle John's Company of Rangers and defended Charleston and were all called to Virginia and North Carolina whilst the war had not yet raged in this nation of South Carolina only with the Tories, they were our worst foes, they had received large Bounty Lands from the King of England and therefore did harm to those true Americans. they had many of them gotten Lands from the Spaniard, who owned Florida then, where they could send off all their ill begotten plunder, and it was safe, as our possessions did not then own a claim on that part of America. I left my Grand Ma on a visit to Mrs. Neeleys, and her return before the Tories had finished their meal. as she returned and her Daughters told her what had happened, one of the Tories asked her if her Daughter had a pleasant visit, she said she was safe for Creswell had come from Haizes Station, he was then learning the manual of Arms under Cournel Hayes, but my Father had gotten word by one of his Sisters, went to give him the news, and the next morning he went up early to the Block House and Creswell and he went to see if the Negro was dead, and found he was, and they had him Buried, this was before the call came for volunteers, came from Cournel Ash, but the Indians had become unruly, and as Father and several of his comrades had nothing to do they were ready to go and do all they could. They were many young men who had no Families, volunteered to go below Savannah and fight the Indians in Georgia and Tories. They left, joined the Army who were ordered to Byier (?) Creek in Georgia, they were all overpowered by the Indians and taken Prisoners and were sent off to St. Augustine where they were confined in a solid rock Prison where they only saw daylight or the Sunlight one hour of the day for 15 months, if it had not been for the youth & a relative of my Grand Mother whose Father had been killed in Virginia and left her a widdow, and this little Boy. Grand Mother had given them a home. When they sent for her she brought them out to South Carolina. he took a great liking to my Father and he was very useful to him and very Smart and intelligent. so when my Father and his Companions were called off on duty he begged so hard to go with the Company that they were glad to have him. his mother Named him for Uncle John Caldwell Finnie. I have often heard my Father say if it had not been for him they would have a wretched time. he very soon made his goodness felt to all the young men and they jailors very soon took him in to the Prison to help him attend the Prisoners. they had no communications with the United States, for all communications were cut off, they never heard a word from home, nor did his people hear from them untill they were reprieved. My Father was engaged to a neighbour Daughter, during the war, but concluded not to marry untill it was over for they did not know how long it would last. all of their families thought best during their imprisonment they all of the soldiers in confinement agreed not to shave, or cut off their hair, untill they were released. it had some time to grow in 15 months. Johnny used to get Books for them as they men used to give money to the jailor and when they brought in their rations Johnny was permitted to come with him as he was so kind and he brought them Candles for their Prison was a dungeon hewn out of a solid rock. Grand Mother and her Family had given them up as all being dead, for not a word could they hear from them. they had heard where they were sent to

Prison, after the fall of Charleston into the hands of the British, and the fall of Savannah, they lost all hopes, but it was a blessing to the Prisoners for the Spaniards set them at Liberty and they had to return on foot, but they were all so glad they left for the long journey. They all came on very well, but after they crossed Savannah river, Jonie got very sick, he had been so good to them all that they tried to get him on but they had no means, until they reached Georgia where they could get some help. I have heard the Old Souldiers at my Fathers when I and my two youngest Brothers used to set up when they had a Family reunion in our neighbourhood for all my Grand Mothers Daughters married young men from the Raingers as they were then called. When the war closed and sweet peace was declared, it was a Day long to be remembered by all who suffered so many losses, but Our Heavenly Father sent his Blessings down on our Noble George Washington and his tried Veterans. I must tell you how my Father met the Lady to whom he was engaged. She often visited his Mother and Sisters to hear from them if they had any news. There was great uneasiness in both families. They only lived about 5 miles in the country apart. So Miss Elizabeth Williams Daughter of Major John Williams, thought to take a young Filley and visit the Family and hear if they had heard from the Prisoners, or if they were never coming Home, so she was going on very well until her Animal espied a man in the rode started to wheel back, her Saddle turned and she fell. The beast ran off. He first asked her if she was hurt, she said no but she was frightened. He said I will catch your Horse. He knew her but she thought he was a Heshion, for they were a nation of tropes that the King had hired to come to America, and it frightened her. He very soon got back fixed the Saddle and she mounted, they then were in sight of Grand Mothers House. He asked her who lived there. She answered the Widdow Rebecca Caldwell. By that time they arrived at the House. Grand Mother came to meet her and she said what man is that. She said I do not know I have been so frightened then, but he is coming in. She said did you ask him, you said you thought him a Heshion but she could say no more. He came in but no one could find out who he was. At last he asked if they had any word from the Lieutenant. The answer was no sir. He saw that they all did not know him so he said I have seen your Son, he is well and will be at Home, but I am but a poor Souldier and am not in any fix to meet so many young Ladies. I must beg of you to provide me with some of your Sones Clothes. Grand Mother called to her Faithful Sambo, to come and conduct this poor Souldier to her Sones rooms for she was so glad to hear he would very soon be at Home. So Sambo got every thing ready for him, and came and showed the stranger to his room. She ordered him to wait on him, so when they were alone, the Negro who had been his Boddy Servant from childhood, did not know him. He asked him if he could cut his hair and shave off his long Beard, his answer yes Sir I have often done it for my Master and his family for I have been in this Family all my Life. He then told him to let me Comb your Beard, and take the Sissors to it first so you can shave. He commenced the feat and when he was done he was completely amazed to find out it was his young Master William and would have spoken aloud but a hint from him was enough to him so he whispered to him to be silent for none of the Family knew him. So Sambo obeyed in cheerful silence, until all was accomplished. When the Door of his Room was opened and there long lost came out to embrace his Mother & Sisters and Miss Williams and rejoiced with them. It was a great joy, they had to send for his Brother John and his Family. The news was very soon spread, and as their Friends also had a rest they all were then rejoicing in many families to the great disappointment to the Tories who had been very insolent in their absence for whilst part of the Command of Uncles Company were in prison and there had not any thing to do but to be ready when called for, when my Father had to go back where he had left his sick noble youth on the rode for they had gotten back into South Carolina, and found a good Samiritaine, who was willing to keep him. So he got a conveyance and John(s) Mother with a trusty driver he arrived safe, but he

was better, they settled for all and brought him Home. he never seemed to gain any strength, he was several times thought better, but at Last he died leaving his Mother alone. she then stayed in the Family as one of them untill death, for all the connescion loved her and her Noble young Son for his kindness to our Prisoners, he had a loving heart to the Cause and although so young espoused the Cause of his country. After my Fathers return the Company was again summoned to get ready to receive the enemy, as for the Tories had been very insolent for some time, had made great robbing, & stealing, in the Broadriver Settlement. as they had news that the fall of Charleston & Savanah and Augusta, were threatened by the invaders from the Kings troopes, were in motion coming on in great fource to South Carolina. My Father and several of the Raingers who were sent out by the Captain to hunt up the Tories. Satterwhite, Gillam, Tinsley, Campbell and Goodman were sent to Saluda. they went as fare as Waters Ferry. they were at the Ferry when Coningham and about Fifty of his most noted band came to the Ferry, but the Bote was on this side, so they had time to leave and get the start of the enemy. they was not enough to stay, so they all started as soon as they saw them in a boddy for there company and had the start all but young Campbell, who stoped to get Coates to put a shoe on the Horse. the rest of them went on. they shott Campbell at Newburry at Coates Blacksmith Shop. he was burried by the Old man and his Boys. When the Rale Rode was layed off and the Hands were diging up the tract they found his grave, and my Brother John Caldwell took charge of them, wrote to Doctor Campbell and his brother. maney years after the war was over he came and was thankful to his friend for his kindness, took them home and had them intered in the Family Grave Yard, but they all the rest had escaped there great Enemy. so they then took vengance on every Family of the Whiges thay had a spight at. Mr. Coates lived and owned all the Land around where our village of Newburry now stands. he gave the Publick Square to the town. his House was on the Lotte where the Seceeder Church is. his Spring is on that lotte. when Cambrage was overrun by the British and Lord Rawdon ordered Tarlton to give up the Old Fourt & Coningham to collect up all the Tories and scour the Country, it was a Sollum time for now he had determined to take his revenge on all of his neighbours he had been affraid before but he now saw that our affairs were in a gloomy state and all things seemed to work against us. Lord Rawdon turned his face to the North and sent Tarlton to the Mountains. the Whiggs were now collecting in Scouting parties for they did not know what rout the armye would take. William Caldwell there Lieutenant had sent out different Bands of Cap. Caldwell's Company of Raingers to see. they left Cambrage and were encamped at the Saluda river. when one part of there armye had crossed it came up a storm of rain and detained them so that for some time. the others then went on to Newburry, when they were Detained by high watter at Bush river the same thing kept them from unighting. The Whiggs were on the watch to see if they would follow Rawdon on to North Carolina, or go up to the mountains. I will tell you a good seen that took place when the Scouts were watching the Enemy in the swamps of Bush river. a part of the enemy was then Camped on the road below the Village and the rest was wating so they could cross the River, for some time, but at last they ventured. our Scouts had left home to find out which rout they would take, not thinking how long they would have to wate. they had taken in food for there Horses but none for themselves so they began to be verry hungry before they got over. they fed there horseys on some flatt rocks in the swamp but now the Newburry Rode runs over the rocks. my Father often has shone them to us, his Children, and toled us how very hungry he and John Satterwhite, Robert Gillam, James Tinsley, Joseph Goodman were, but when they came to John Nellies they were shure they would give them all something. when they were on the Hill before them they saw a negro woman crossing to the House, with a long water (waïter) of pies and Biscuit. Satterwhite said we are in good luck, to Gillam. I never was as hungry before in my life and I will eat some of them. he broke out in his

cheerful way and sayd she is a Torey & was making them for the Kings army, not for us, her neighbours, well I hope she will be generos. they all stoped and asked for some water. Satterwhite & Gillam and Caldwell got down and went into the house. Satterwhite said Mrs. Nellies I would be glad to buy something to eat for we are all but out for two days and are very hungrey. her answer was that the army had just passed and were all fed with every thing I had. he then turned to his Companions & Said I smell hot peach pies, dont you Gillam. he answered Mrs. Nellies sayd she had nothing, will you let me follow the cent. he got up stepped into her Bed room and then came out with the wa(i)ter filled with the smoking perfume. sayd, they are my own for the Lady sayd she had nothing to eat. come in my good Fellows, I know you are all ready. he offered the Old Lady pay but she was so ashamed of her blunder she would not take any thing, but he called up the Negro and payed her for her work. so they all feasted and mounted there horses and followed the lead of Army as fair as Rutherfords, when they took the rode to the Tea Table Rock. they then returned to get all the Company in readiness, but before they asembled Coningham and his Tories thought it a good time to pay there old grugge. My Father went to Uncle John Caldwell & Showed him the flames asending from the House of Maj. Toles who he had murdered and his two eldest Sones then layed them out on the Shop Bench set fire to every house on the place, leaving them house less to the poor wife and Children. my Father said to his brother he will kill you. come I am going to warn Col. Hays. he found his Brother setting in his yard under a Large Oak Tree. he pointed to the burning Houses of his friend, Oliver Toles, and his two Sones who he had just shott and then layed them on the work Bench in the shop and set fire to every House on his place leaving his wife and Children after robing them of everything he could send off. he had a Band of Tories and enemies, to South Carolina, near 200. he Detailed men to carry off all they could steal, to Florida. it belonged to the Spaniards, and so they were safe. at that time we had no communications with the Spain, but the Tories had for they all believed in having a King. My Father & his friends earged Uncle John Caldwell to go with them. he sayd I do not feel able for I am not well and I cannot Believe Coningham will do me any harm. My Father then and his friends were on the march to meet the enemy. His Brother James Caldwell was elected Cap.in the Company as my Uncle had resigned his Command and the Company had Loved him so that they unanimously voted for him. he was on the march to meet the enemy then and all the Scouting parties were on the march when the Tories were Killing all they could for his time to take revenge had come and he made all the Whigs & there families suffer he had a large band of Tories then on the road to meet there although South Carolina and her brave Whigs was mett at the appointed place for a very decided victory. Col. James Williams and the Noble Brave of the North Carolina & Maj. John Williams, who came from North Carolina with his command, from Rockingham County to meet the enemy at Kings Mountain in South Carolina where the Tories had assembled in great numbers but Col. Mac Dowell had come with the Seviars brothers with a vast amount of noble Mountain men from North Carolina and Tenessee to Join our brave men from South Carolina. this was the first Battle after Lord Corn Wallace had given up the South and had turned back to Virginia but he had ordered all the Tories to go to and collect a large fource to subdue South Carolina as they had given up to them to meet and subdue the rebbells. here Coningham had taken his revenge on my Grand Fathers Family, the Williams Family on my Mothers side as he had done all he could to my Fathers Family of Caldwells. at Hayes Station he Murdered three Sons of Gen. James Williams, Brother of Maj. John Williams, my Mothers Father. you can find the account in History of South Carolina, after his bloody affair at the murder of Colonel Hays at Laurence County where he let of Four men at the request of there Friends go free then all went and joined the company and fought the battle that was to help close a long struggle for Liberty although our loss was hevvy, it was we gained decided

Victory and drove of all the greatest Enemies, the Tories, that America ever had. hear Cap. James Williams lost his life, leaving a Widdow with Several Children They lived in Laurence where all the family lived. they had moved to South Carolina but they bought a large Boddy of fine lands near to Little river Church. Col. James Williams & all his Family were Presbyterians and belonged to the Church my Uncle gave the land and all my Grand Mothers Large Family were members and my Fathers family. Maj. John Williams Married a Babtist Lady, Miss Mary Atwood. The Atwoods came to this Country it was when so many Persons were leaving England, they were persecuted by the Episcopalians. numbers came over with Roger Williams. he was a Babtist preacher. they sought to worship God agreeable to his word and not by Forms. the best of many Families came with them. My Great grand Mother was an English Lady who believed in the form Gods Blessed Son gave them in his word and therefore were persecuted. so the Family all sought a Home in America and they came. Before the war some of the relatives had come to South Carolina and Bought Homes. then when their relatives the Tories arrived they wrote to the Atwoods to come to the South for all was at peace hear. I have heard my Father and all my Uncles often talking when my youngest Brothers used to set in there Lapps at there Family reunions. they were all very loving and clannish. I was young then but I loved all the friends of my Grand Mothers Family and my Fathers old Brothers in the revolution. my Brothers James and Patrick used to take notes and read them to me. I kept them for years but the writing faded so that I could not see, so I lost them for which I was so sorry but many things I have talked with my Old Aunt Elizabeth Gillam who came to live with me 15 years of her life. she had lived to see all of her Children Maried and had seen over 4 generations of her Mothers Family. she was a very kind good Christian. her Children had all married of and she concluded to break up her Home and come to live with us as we were glad to be able to have her for she was good company for me and my little ones as my health failed me. & my Husband was so kind as to attend to her business for her, but in the last of her life her Son, Gen. James Gillam lost his wife and came for his Mother to come and stay with his family of Children. she went. she lived untill she was over 100 years old Grand Mother Lived untill she was 99 years old she was able to walk to my Fathers it was a mile & a half to my Fathers It was in 1807. I was in my 4 year then.

*(Note: Some disorder in sequence seems to exist here, but this is true to the photocopied hand-written original in the South Caroliniana Library.)*

his answer was to his Brother. I do not fear Coningham when he saw his Brother for the Last time he left and had time to warn Col. Hayes. his Company came up and before they were out of the Old Field he saw the whole of his band of Tories coming to the Station. Hear my Mothers Family suffered for he killed and chopped up all the boddies of the men and Boys then he and his band went up to where they many of them were routed and slain he had been sent to the mountains to raise all the Tories to come to the great Battle of our moble mountaineers but he escaped and ran off to enjoy his stolen plunder. he never came back although many of the negroes returned from there to there Families. He came to my Uncle John Caldwells straight from the murder of Toles and his 2 Boys. he found him setting in his yard under a large Oak Tree. he drew his Pistol & Shott him down. then gave his orders to his men, to rob & distroy every thing. and set fire to every house n the place. he detailed a gange of his Tories, to take all the conveyances that they could find. horses & Oxen, fill every thing they wanted and off for Florida. the women & Children they could not carry but every one that was able to Travel go he then went to my Uncles Boddy and cut off with his sword his head & hands. by this time the Distruction was compleat. the women carried my poor Aunt to the Quater for every hous on the home place were in ashes Aunt Elizabeth his Sister mett the Tories in the Lane and she asked Coningham what he had done he sayd you can see my revenge on my enemies. she had my Aunt taken up to her Mothers where she stayed untill after Peace when she got the half of

his Estate & returned to Charlotte N.C. to her Friends she Married her Cousin left a Daughter. My Dear Grand Mother and all of the Family of Girls came down to witness the Destruction of all her Sones fortune swept of by his worst Enemy but he was a good kind man True to the last to his Country. Cap. John Caldwell was beloved by every good man, he was a Christian. he made his will giving my Aunt the half of his estate & he had all ready given his Mother a fine Plantation, and left every one of his Sisters when they settled in life for they none of my Grand Mothers family then Married, but they were all engaged to the young men of his Company. Uncle John Caldwell had been the first of the Family who had Married, in North Carolina Charlottsville Miss Jane Martin. they had no children she lived at Grand Mothers untill Peace was declared then she returned to her Home when the Estate was settled by my Father, and she had seen all the Mariages of the Young Ladies & my Father William T. Caldwell to the Daughter of Col. John Williams, our Grand Father. Coningham went straight to Hayes Stations and killed several of Grand Fathers Brothers, and Nephews youth, he let none escape his vengeance my Aunt had sent one of her Sons there to carry his Brothers som clothes he went up to him calling him by name when he had hung them up on a fodder stack pole, and sayd what can I tell my Mother when I go home. his answer was I will save you that pleasure. he then ordered him to be strung up but the weight was too great for they were several Boddies on it before it fell and he then Commanded his men to shoot them. he sayd if any of you wish to save your Friends say so for I am determined not to let any escape. Some of the Tories Saved William Dunlasp, James Tinsley, Golding Lennard. I have forgotten the name of the fourth man, but all that escaped went up and found their companions on the rode to meet at Musgroves Mill on the Enoree River, where they were all gathering as many of the back mountain men had appointed to meet at James Williams & his Brother as Tarlton and all his men were going there to meet Coningham with his band of Tories. this was the firs Battle that Uncle James Caldwell my Fathers Brother who was Born when Lord Corn Wallace and all his Irish, & Brittish, and Heshions Souldiers General Braddock was defeated by the Americans. he was an Irish who the King of England had in the beggining of the war sent over to subdue the Americans, but it was a failure in his first attempt he was compleaty defeated. my Grand Father was captain of a company under Washington and his Virginia Troops and he saved the army. Lord Cornwallice Braddock was drawn into a snare, was Defeated & Slain, so his grand Hostes were fourced to persue another start. Uncle James was elected by took charge of his Brothers company as he had been killed by Coningham the company Elected him Captain and they all had assembled under Colonel James Williams he was a brave noble Souldier they had all gathered at Musgroves on there way to meet there Enemies and nobly did they all do there duty the British under Furgason & Tarlton had thought they had chosen a strong place, but when our noble mountain troops from North Carolina & Tenessee came down so brave they verry soon found it was no play but hard Fighting and utter defeat for it was a great & Brave struggle, but a very decisive fight on the side of the Americans, although our loss was heavy. this was the first Fight that Uncle James Caldwell had been in but for he was verry young but he had been so constantly learning, it was natural he was born brave in the Decisive Battle at Kings Mountain where so many of our noble brave Souldiers lost there lives. he was mortally wounded & left on the Field as dead he was found alive but he fell in the thickest of the Slain & when they Friends went to take up the dead he was found so badly cut up it was thought he could not live. Father sayd he saw him engaged in the very midst of the Battle & leading on his Troops they found him near where his Commander was Killed. Gen. James Williams fell after his asking if Furguson, & Tarlton were Killed. he said I die contented. Uncle James lay all Night untill next morning before they found him he had fallen on his face and when his Companions turned him over they could not be convinced he was alive untill he asked for Water. My Father had nothing but

his hat he ran to the branch and brought it full he then gave it to him and bathed his head that had been chopped by the sword his cheek bone had been cut through from his right Eye & had fallen down only hanging by the skin. every Finger had been cut off but his left Hand thumb & four finger he threw up his hand to protect his Head. my Father Tore off his own Shirt to have his wounds dressed, when they got a Surgion. he did not think it was probable he could live but he got him to a kind neighbours house, who nursed him so kindly he very soon was carried to his own home, and he lived many years a long and happy life he was one of the most useful Christians in Newburry & Married a noble Christian raised a noble Family of Children who followed the example of there Christian Parents they were all Presbyterians of Little River Church the Church that Uncle John Caldwell had Built and given to that Church & he gave the Land to the Church before the war when he settled his Mothers Family in South Carolina (inserts between lines make this confusing) after the British were Driven off from Charleston. the Generation sould it and there is nothing but the 3 acres where the Graves of the Elders were Burried. he sent my Father for his Father had died. I am the last of the Family as I was the youngest Child of my Parents. my wish is that they keep the spot sacred to the memory of the Family who loved to worship God at Little River Presbyterian Church for it was my Grand Mothers own although none of my Family is burried there for the donor of the Land was murdered by Coningham shot down amongst his Tory Troops during the Revolution and every House on his place set on fire, his wife left destitute for they run off every thing they could gather to Florida which then was belonging to the Spanish but he had a band of Tories who stole every thing they could get and whilst our men was engaged they were robbing there farmes. he killed & sent off to Florida by his company very hansom fortunes. he had first joined my Uncles Company but as his Family had gotten large Bounty Lands from the King of England to turn against America and cheat the Indians he try to deliver my Uncles Company when Charleston was first invaded. he was detected was Court Marshalled convicted and sentanced to be whiped. the Court called on one of my Uncles Company & Oliver Toles to carry out the order of the Court. he did. for that he swore to be revenged. he was expelled from the Company & left it went to the British officer & got a commision to raise a band of Tories. the worst enemies that the Americans had for they lived in our midst and were so unprincerpal in every way but after his revenge was setted at the close of the war he left this Country and died in obscurity. his end was that of an outcast to Society. at the close of the war Uncle Johns Widdow stayed with his Mother untill His Estate was all settled to the satisfaction of all the parties she got the Half of his large landed estate for several of the negroes came back to there wifes & Children many years after. I will try and give you all the History of my Grand Mothers life. I have followed her through a long life in which she did her duty as a good Christian she raised a Noble Family of Sons & Daughters all to be grown and Married. she taught them the rudiments of useful knowlege untill they were advanced. she strove to instruct them in the straight way they should walk to follow there Lord & Master for she was a strict follower of her Blessed Lord & saveiour Jesus Christ. almost the first act of her Sons life when he moved his Widdowed Mother to South Carolina was to Build a Hous of Worship for his Mother & gave the Land to the Presbyterian Church by the name of Little River Church it was one of the oldest Churches built in Newburry Tis there all the family used to worship God before the war had invaded this section of South Carolina. all Grand Mothers large Family were all members of that Church all the Caldwells, but after that gineration of the Old Church had all passed away the younger ones who wished to move the place of worship to a new place they sould the Church & Land but the 3 acres that was given for a Graveyard where the doners gave for that perpose I have heard they reserved that as sacred It is my wish they keep it and some who have friends Burried there will keep it sacred to the spot for which my Uncle & my Father William Thomas Caldwell

gave to the Church bury there dead not that there is any of my Family buried there they all are Buried where Cap Caldwell was killed by Coningham in the close of the war he was the first grave but in that sacred place it is on the same spot where he was shot by that notorious Tory before he left this Country it was said in a Pamphlet published at Clinton that the Legacies was payed for the Land I am the Soul one of my Fathers Family alive I did not know that the Church had been moved for I left that part of the District when I was quite young the only thing is now expressed that those who did would keep up the graves of there dead as I have many friends there I used to attend that Church when my Parents worshiped there it is a dear place to my memory now. If I could I would be glad to go up there and visit the dear old spot again & think over my childhood & all that has gone before me. My Grand Mother spent a long & active life she lived to see all her Children Married and settled around her she died 1807 in her 99 year. I will now tell you who her Children all Married. after the war was over they were all engaged during the war so they all considered best to wait and see how it would end so they had not long before Peace after My Father & Mother were the first of the Family then Grand Mother sent for the Families who lived in Abbeville to come over and they would get the Presbyterian Preacher to come and have it all over in the day time and they all could go to their own homes as the most of them had homes provided so they all consented for she wished to see them settled before she got past enjoying any thing so the day they all assembled at Grand Mothers and all their Choice men & they had made a Large Tent for the Feast they came up for the ceremony by age as they were Born. Maj. John Richey to Miss Margaret Caldwell of Laurens District. Mr. Josiah East of Laurens District Dr. John Moore of Newberry Dist. to Miss Elenor Caldwell Newberry Dis. Mr. Robbert Gillam to Miss Elizabeth Caldwell Dr. Martin to Miss Sarah Caldwell Bothe of Newberry. the three last lived very near to their Brothers there Plantations joined for they owned a fine body of Land and it was their wish that they should be so divided that by His Brother that each of his Sisters should have 100 Acres of Land near to their Husbands & two good hands to help them work John Caldwell was a dear Brother he made his will before he went into the war. he left his wife the half of his estate & the Other Half to be divided between his Brothers & Sisters which was done he had left Lands to his Brothers. My Father got the home place and lived there as long as he lived. he had many tracts of Land. he sold to his friends as they married off. after my Uncles Widdow saw all the Family well Married off she returned to North Carolina and Married Dr. Martin her Cousin they had one daughter. (I have been wrong in saying every House was burnt but the Large Darey & Smoke house. but they stole every thing my Father and Mother lived in the Darey after they were Married, until my Father built to the Chimneys left standing from the Old Home.) her Daughter was very wealthy they came by to see all the family when they moving to Florida shortly after it was annexed to America. I was a child then but I thought they had a great many servants and was very Happy. My Grand Mother was a Noble woman she raised a fine family of Christians she was kind and good to all I remember seeing her only when she was sick. I was then in my fourth year. My Father was sent for to come to see Grand Mother. she was very sick it was a very busy time in the Crop so he took me in his lapp, & Mother rode behind him on the same Horse but we got on finely found her very sick she was perfectly Sensible she was ready for the Change. Death had no terrors to the Christian she was very soon brought to my Fathers house & buried by her Son, Cap. John Caldwell & where all my our family are interred a sacred Spot to me & my Family although I do not own any of the Land only what is enclosed under the Ditch. it was sold when I was so young My Husband had the spot enclosed by the Ditch as sacred to my Family it was payed for by him to Mr. Edward Pitts Family. I will now give you the History of my Grand Father Maj. John Williams the Family was among the early settlers they first settled in Pennsylvania. they were originally of Welch stock, but were

fourced to leave the Old Country from persecution. they came over to America verry soon settled at the North, but did not remainn long before they came to North Carolina Hillsborough where they lived for many years. there was a large fource of persons came over about the same time by the name of Atwood, & Forvall (?), they mostly connected & young people the Heads of families they all were very clannish & wanted to be near together so they very soon concluded as South Carolina was being settled up they would come and see this Country so the two brothers came to Newburry to seek for homes they very soon found out they could get good Land and in a fine Country they got acquainted with the people & chose out a fine place and selected a place for there Settlement on Little River & Mudlick. they got a Large Boddy of Land and commenced to settler there rest of the Families who came out the Forvall & Atwoods chose there homes in Newburry, as they wished to be near there relatives who had been farming for some time. then the Indians were very friendly that was also a great thing for they had been cheated by the Tories and those who got Lands by the Kings bounty. My Mothers Family were good Whigs her Grand Father had been in the war he was Maj. John Williams. he was one of his Eldest Sons they moved to America amoungst the first settlers of America they lived in Pencilvania for many years he Married in England and Grand Father John was an infant when they moved to America he was a Major of Cavalry when the Indians rebelled he raised a company of young men for there were a great many Families came to America about the time he and his wife sought a new Country they were a brave number of there connections who came over before the war he had been in the service before he left the Kingdom, so he was trained and was ready to command a regiment of Souldiers. I do not remember the name of his Wife he searved in Pensylvana for several years his family were increasing and the new comers wished Homes so his large Connections moved to North Carolina he and his Wife were Baptist. they settled in Rockingham, North Carolina. many of there large connections had moved to So. Carolina and as they often kept up a correspondence with there friends they persuaded them to come to the south Carolina leaving his Sones at school for he had a Large Family. he found many Friends and was very much delighted with the state and he very soon bought a Large settlement on Little River & Mudlick from the Indians, where he settled for life. he was very much delited to find so many fine neighbours for many had after the First siege at Charleston & the British being driven back to the North by our Brave troopes. They had a Long rest only the troopes was called out by Gen. George Washington to protect Virginia, which they nobley did. My Mothers Grand Father Williams was now getting Old and he had Began a new home for his Family so he very soon sent for them to move out to South Carolina but his Sones were then in the Armeey. so he went for them they his Sone James Williams had been Elected or appointed Captain by the Commander of the United States the noble George Washington. his Brother John had been a Maj. of North Carolina Company he was commisioned being the Eldest Brother they remained at there old Home untill the worst of the seage was fought by the war they bothe were brave James was firs elected to his Fathers Company they were bothe valient Souldiers worthy noble young men as History will inform you. Maj John Williams after the war of North Carolina visited his Parents in South Carolina and Married Miss Mary Atwood of South Carolina there was a large number of noble Families who had moved to this state and settled the first Old Mr. Forrest (?) and a large amount of kindred Jame Torice (?) was from Ireland and they setled firs in North Carolina near to the Williamses but there family had connections in South Carolina and were very anxious for them to come south to Newburry for all were doing well so my Mothers Grand Father was of that family his Mother was a Miss Mary Atwood she was the eldest Daughter of Maj. John Williams & Miss Mary Atwood they in Virginia Miss Atwood was of the English family but being a large connection they all very earley before the war was declared mooved to America There was many Noble strong Families came to

Newburry Laurence & Abbeville the Indians were very good and quiet for they had not then felt the Trouble of the Kings Bounty so heavy but sold there Lands to all that would pay them for it the Districk of Newburry was settled by mostly by men who knew there duty and Many of them did fear God and very sooon established the worship of God by Building up Houses of worship I have toled you that the Church at Little River was donated by my Uncle John Caldwell & my Father the first amoungst those all my Grand Mothers large Family were Presbytereans so before her Sons brought there Mother to South Carolina they had given the Land to that Church for all of there Large Family were Presbytereans and the House of God was built for Col. Williams had settled near his Family was connected with all the sect of Christians it was near to where he had selected for his home for Life he lived and all his Family were Christians and Belonged to that Little River Presbyterian Church my Uncle & Father gave a lott of Land for the Church and 3 Achers for a Buring Ground But after standing untill a third Generation had arisen who knew not the Doners of the Land nor how dear a place it was to the memory of one of the Descendants of the noble family that Old Church was for my Parents often took me to worship at that old House of God but they sould the old Church & Land and moved the Church to a new place I never heard of it untill Mr. Griffin Williams mentioned it to me and I saw from a Pamplet Published at Clinton after saying that the Church was sould & the Legatees had been payed for the Land I am the sole legatee of William Caldwell living in 1886 I am in my 84 year of my age all I ask of those who sold the dear old Hous of Worship & the Land for that sacred plot where the Graves of Gods people may be kept sacred for those three achres were the gift of my Father to burry the members of the Little River Presbyterean old Church for none of my Family are there but two Infant Sons of my Brother John Caldwell and my Sister his wife my family are all buried at the Home of the Doners of the Land he was the first of a very large Family he was Killed by Coningham at the close of the war and his band of Tories who murdered him in his own Home and then robed his wife of every thing setting fire to evry House on the place & leaving after stealing every thing they could run off to Florida by a band of Tories he had a place to store all his stolen plunder. he made a large fortune after he had finished he then went up to Gen. Hayses Station & there he took vengeance on many youth belonging to my Mothers Family you can find it in the History of the war. His Sister Elizabeth Caldwell had seen the Flames from my Grand Mothers House as they were near neighbors she left his wife and Children when she saw the Flames at her Brothers Happy Home and met Coningham and the Tories in the Lane and as she asked him Cap. Coningham what have you done his answer was you can go and see how I have my revenge she was the first to meet her Dear Brother for he had robed the Family of every thing of value and had sent a detachment of his Tories of to carry his stolen Plunder for he did not leave any thing but the young negroes that they could not carry he had all the conveyances Laded and was in a hurry to leave his Friend & neighbour lying where he shot him there was a young Lady Miss Martha Campbell & Mrs. Finie for my Uncle had no Children the Ladies & negro Women had taken her to there quaters as her hous was in flames I have often heard my Aunt Gillam say she found his Head cut off & bothe of his hands she took them in her Apron and layed them by his Boddy when she went to find the rest of the Family left they all that was able came and they took him and caried him to the quater where she found his Wife destracted the neighbours soon came as they saw the Flames from the different houses consuming they put out the Smoke Hous and a Large Dayrie for they had many Cattle that they did not steal or drive of after the War my Father and Mother were the first of Grandmothers large Family of children that was married except Uncle John & Aunt Calhoun they Married before the War in Charlotte North Carolina before they came to South Carolina. he had a happy home and was a noble man and a Christian beloved by all that knew him as evry act of his life showed but the Tories hated him for

they were all unforgiveful?) Enemies to all true Patriots But the Mark of (Cain?) was put upon him and he never dared show his Face in South Carolina after the Battle of Kings Mountain where they were so completely killed by our Brave Mountain men from Tennessee & Kentucky. Col. McDowell the Seviars noble family of Patriots with Col. James Williams the brave Commander of his noble Brother James Williams came to the Call of South Carolina to meet them at Cowpens where the Tories were gathering in vast numbers all the South Carolina Troopes from all quarters went my Uncle James Caldwell was Elected Capt. after his Brother John Company was warned to go. This was after the fall of Savannah, Charleston, Augusta, Cambridge were given up but this was the Last Battle of the Revolution Corn Wallace the British Commander life

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