

# Journal of Thomas B. Chaplin

Thomas Benjamin Chaplin

Born 27 April 1822

married 11 April 1839

Purchased Dec. 1928 \$10 from New

So. Ca. Hist'l Society



Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> 1845) Weather very windy and dry. (began on Page 2)

Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> 1845 Went to Church. The Major D. P. J. returned with me to dine. Weather quite windy and chilly - but clear.

Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> 1845 All hands getting out P. A. yellow cotton. 13 carts at the Composed. Sent John to Beaufort. Answered Mr. Rouse letter received on the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. Weather the same. We were very much astonished about 10 o'clock at night, by January from H. Hill at the door; he brought letters to Capt. D. Jenkins and myself, the purport of which was that the Sheriff had taken 27 negroes from the Point Place, under a mortgage to Ladson & Bee & Co. It is my firm belief that R. L. Baker was at the head of this mean transaction and brought it about by making Ladson believe that he would not get his money unless he proceeded against the property immediately, or something to that effect. It is nothing but a spirit of revenge on the part of Baker.

Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> 1845 I rode over to the Captain's to see him about the letter; found him making a coffin for a little negro that died last night from being beat by one of his women (Mary). He answered mother's letter by January who returns tomorrow. The Major and William left for the main this morning. I saw John Chaplin and engaged him to attend to my crop this year. Borrowed three cotton bags from the Capt.

Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> 1845. Killed beef for Market - which is the last. John L. Chaplin rode over in the morning. I gave him a list of 35 full hands to plant for this year. January returned to the main today. Sent John to Beaufort. Rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from S. W. Frazer. Tom Fripp dined with me today. Rode over to the river side to learn if the Sheriff had been there also as we heard. Rode with wife over to Uncle Ben's in the evening.

Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> 1845 Went with J. L. Chaplin (to) the constable to take old Cuffy - found him at Cuthbert Basmwell's and brought him off and left him with Old Rentyz as he requested - until Saturday when he is to be tried. The old fellow is very cunning - there is no getting a straight story out of him - he denies beating old Sancho for which he is to be tried. I agreed to take two rafts of boards of Saw. Picked one bag of P. A. yellow cotton.

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> 1845. Went to Beaufort with Sophy. She called on Mrs. Kirkland. Paid Bolger & Mr. Falus - both bills I think very extravagant. Returned about 8 Pm. Two bags of P. A. cotton (yellow) packed.

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> 1845. Went to the Clubhouse to attend the trial of Old Cuffy - an old Negro doctor and fortune teller. As I was the prosecutor I was in hopes that he would be sentenced to leave the parish. The Magistrate however decided otherwise - his being found guilty - he was sentenced to receive thirty-five lashes - which he took without a murmur. Commenced ginning Big Ocean. Cloudy and very much like rain all day, commenced to rain about dusk and rained all night with heavy wind, cold all night.

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 1845. A very disagreeable, windy drizzly day - quite cold. Staid indoors all day. This weather produces a great deal of sickness. I have had 8 or 9 down with fever & chill Charles Seno, Army Jr., Betty & John are now sick with fever. Bought 3 gallons of Brandy



6 3 of Whiskey on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>.

Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> 1845 Weather continues very cold & wet, but calm. I intended sending to Beaufort for Mrs. Kirkland but the weather prevents. January heard up today. Killed the 5<sup>th</sup> hog for bacon this year. Ben killed 4 ducks on the Island.

Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> Went to Beaufort for Mrs. Kirkland & Mr. Wright returned with them about 6 o'clock. Weather very fair and cool. Received a letter from Mr. Webb.

Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> Went to the Island with Uncle Ben, Paul and D. Jenkins, D. P. Jenkins & Dr. W. J. Jenkins. Had very poor sport; Dr. D. killed one hog, the Major 2 raccoons. Weather pleasant.

Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> Sent to Beaufort yesterday for a piece of bagging and a barrel of Sud Irish potatoes. Today I rode over the field with John L. Chaplin. I think he understands the nature of my lands better than any man on the Island. He has given me several very good ideas of planting. The weather looks very cloudy today; the sun set in heavy clouds last night. It commenced to rain about nine o'clock, rained all evening. My large Sorrel mare broke out last night. p. 4

Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> The distemper today. I also saw a dog with the distemper and think it is occasioned by the brisk sudden changes in the weather as it is nothing more than violent cold. The 2<sup>nd</sup> bale of Big Grain cotton packed today. I bought a filly colt the 17<sup>th</sup> instant of Lev Law, a bay mare called Fanny Douglass, four years old. I bought her especially for my wife and hope she will like her as a saddle horse.

Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> The Major & J. L. Chaplin went to Edings Island with me to take a hunt. Had a long and very exciting chase at an old buck but did not succeed in killing him. He took to the marsh at Creek. & Sam were getting out on the Island today. Yesterday eve it

clouded up and commenced raining very hard about dark. The wind blew violently. Mrs. Wright thought the house would blow down but it has stood many heavier blasts.

Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> Went with Mrs. Kirkland & Mrs. Wright to Beaufort - very windy - did not expect to get across the ferry. Succeeded however in crossing about 2 o'clock, the wind & tide having fallen. The ladies were a little , not being accustomed to boat work. Met Mrs. Cook and T. Perry at the ferry. She had been to Joseph Perry's to attend his wife. I remained in Beaufort a few hours in conversation with Bell & B. Johnson. I returned home about 9 o'clock. Rose was confined last night and brought forth a boy. I name him David.

Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> A very beautiful day - went to Church - the Capt. dined with me. I lent him my horse & sulky to go to Beaufort tomorrow.

Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> Took a hunt on Edings Island. J. L. Chaplin went with me. We got two deer: a doe & yearling. J. L. C. killed both, one with each barrel as they jumped together. Had a delightful day; returned after dark. Peter sick - fever.

Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> a very delightful day, like spring weather. Rode over to the Captain's in the morning. Finished ginning cotton. Planted Irish potatoes. Carpenters still working on the Island getting out posts. Sent Isaac & Prince to the Bridge for rafts on Monday last. They have not yet returned though the weather has been so fine. page 5

Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> Was advised by J. Chaplin to use spirits of turpentine up a horse's nose for distemper. It is to be done with a syringe. I have tried it on the Sorrel mare & Bay colt; they both appear to be better. Louisa & Hannah sick with fever. Dr. Jenkins



presented his bill a day or two ago; I was very much surprised at the large amount. Notwithstanding I have lost nine negroes the last year. Mrs. C. & myself rode over on horse back to Uncle Ben's.

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> Packed the last bag of cotton. Prince & Isaac not yet arrived with the rafts. The rest of the men hacking ditches & grubbing. Tony getting out stakes - Anthony, Sr. sharpening tools; Stephen getting out short stakes. Wind blowing hard from the north in the morning. Calm towards evening. Mrs. C. & myself rode over on horse back to Uncle Ben's.

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> John Chaplin and Anthony, with Stephen commenced running out land, Sam fixing cart. Tony with Sammy on the Island sawing. Jarrum the painter came over; paid him \$10- which is all I owe him. The Major & Wm rode over in the morning, the former dined with me. I expected to give him a haunch of Venison for dinner but from the carelessness of the servants, the dogs got hold of and devoured it all last night. Sent all of my cotton to Beaufort: 17 bales in all packed, B. Cream 4, Pq 10, Stained of both kinds 3 bales. Admond, Paul, Titus & Anthony Jr. went with the flat. Commenced in marsh today with the women; men clearing off ground. Old Cash came over from the main on the 27<sup>th</sup>, returned on the 28<sup>th</sup>. I sent some sugar cane to Saxby. I received a letter from mother by Castle.