

Charles Davant

The Island of Hilton Head is nearly cut in half by two creeks penetrating from opposite points, towards the center, leaving but a narrow strip of land connecting the extremes. Upon this spot is located the Episcopal Church. This Island was remarkable during the Revolutionary War for the staunchness of its Whig inhabitants as was the neighbouring Island of Dawfusky, notorious as the stronghold of the Tories. Frequent incursions were made upon the territory of each other. A party of Whigs went to that portion of Hilton Head next to Dawfusky, having some intimation that a visit might be expected from their neighbours, they were prepared to give them a warm reception; but seeing no hostile movement from the opposite shore, they concluded their information was incorrect, they therefor disbanded and returned in small parties to their respective homes. In the meantime, the Tories, under their leader, Martinangel (with a number of British soldiers) had crossed over to Hilton Head unperceived, ascended one of the creeks to the center of the Island, and here having ascertained that a body of Whigs had gone to meet them at the other end of the Island, they placed themselves in ambush to await their return. Charles Davant and John Andress had separated themselves from the rest of their party, after passing the spot where the Church now stands, a few hundred yards, they were fired upon by the Tories. Davant, who was a good and true Whig, fell dead, pierced by several balls. Andress more fortunate, escaped untouched - two large oak trees are pointed to as the spot upon which Davant fell. Davant left an only son, or believe, who continued to reside on Hilton Head until within a few years, he has a number of descendants. The present estimable and highly respected Commissioner of this District is a grandson of the Revolutionary Whig. G.P. Elliott, Bluffton, S.C.

An article taken from THE MAGNOLIA or SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN, a literary magazine and monthly review. P.C. Pendleton and Burges and James, Publishers and Proprietors, 143 Meeting Street, Charleston, S.C. 1843 Volume II. (Copy sent me by Cousin Louisa Crawley, about 1930. I have also read it in the magazine.) Hardin Davant Hanahan.

Revolutionary War ancestor

Buried in the Cemetery at

References: Please cite author and title, volume and page of publications. Quote Bible, church, court, cemetery, census and other records to establish birth, death and marriage dates and relationship.

- 2nd Gen. All records are taken from "A Place in History". The Davant Family, 1972. by Hardin Davant Hanahan, Knoxville, Tennessee, Library of Congress Catalog Card No. 72-90515
- 3rd Gen. And Genealogy of the Davant Family of South Carolina, written by Carlisle Courtney, see copy
- 4th Gen. And "Our Family Circle" written by Annie Elizabeth Miller, page 305
- 4th Gen. See above documents, Page 14-16 The Family Bible of Richard Bostick, see
- 5th Gen. See above documents, Article dated October, 1903, concerning Dr. Charles Davant-Pendleton, South Carolina Newspaper
- 6th Gen. See above documents
- 7th Gen. See above documents, The combined Richard Bland-Davant Bible. Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution, see copy
- 8th Gen.
- 9th Gen.
- 10th Gen.
- 11th Gen.

Do not encroach on this margin, which is needed for binding.

References to ancestor's Revolutionary War services. (1.) Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution, see copy. (2.) Article from THE MAGNOLIA or SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN, a literary magazine and monthly review... P.C. Pendleton and Burges and James, Publishers and Proprietors, 143 Meeting Street, Charleston, S. C., 1843, Volume II, (Copy sent me by Cousin Louisa Crawley, about 1930; I have also read it in the magazine... Hardin Davant Hanahan, 13.) Letter dated June 2, 1885 from Johnny Davant to Cousin Lou Crawley, sent me by Cousin Virginia Crawley about 1930, who adds that it is what Dr. Henry Talbird told Cousin Johnny about his grandfather's account of his father's death... (That is Charles Davant's account of the above Revolutionary Charles Davant... Hardin Davant Hanahan)

MAILING ADDRESS

of applicant
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 Zip Code 28605

State Registrar
 Application verified and approved 1986

AFFIDAVIT IS REQUIRED

Signed by the applicant as being true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief, on this 11th day of June 1986

Signature [Signature]
 Occupation Physician (M.D.)
 Subscribed and sworn to before me at Blowing Rock, North Carolina
 this 11th day of June 1986
 Official Signature [Signature]

(L.S.)

Recd. at Nat. Hdqrs. [JUL 25 1986] 19
 Registered by Nat. 19
 Certificate dated 19

Sent to Nat. Hdqrs. 19

C. A. Shepherd Jr. 5-1982

Letter by Cousin Johnny Davant

" It is so many years since I left Hilton Head Island and my mind has been so fully occupied in other matters as to have driven from my recollection many of the traditions connected with the period to which you refer. It occurs to me that your grandfather was a stern, uncompromising hater of Toryism in all its forms. On one occasion I asked him to explain to me the ground of his decided and strong feeling on the subject. We were seated at the time on the front piazza of his residence. Pointing in the direction of the "Two Oaks" he said in substance, "When I was a small boy I heard a number of guns fired in that direction. While inquiring with myself the meaning, I saw my father riding at the full speed of his horse as if unable to restrain him, but coming towards the house. On arriving he fell from the horse wounded to death. Tories had waylaid him at the "Two Oaks". In any case they were too many for him to contend with but even as it was they assassinated from an ambush. In one respect of his character your grandfather was a stern man, in another his feeling was of almost womanly tenderness. With quivering lips and tearful eye he pointed to a spot in the yard and said "He fell there, and lived only long enough to tell how he had been shot, and to name two of his murderers." And standing over his dead body I, as a boy, vowed that I would kill those men if I lived to be a man. Happily for me they both died while I was a child. But the feeling of the moment have grown with my growth and strengthened with my strength and I hate treachery and toryism in all its forms. This is a subject which always harrows my feelings and unmans me. I do not like to speak of it. - Henry be true to your God, your friend, and your country" and the stern old man put his hands to his face and wept. I could by sympathize in his deep emotion and an impression was made on me that is almost as fresh now as when it was first stamped on my youthful soul." This letter was written from Starke, Florida June 2, 1885.

This is part of a letter, written to Cousin Lou Crawley by Cousin Johnny Davant, many years ago, sent me by Cousin Virginia Crawley, about 1930, who adds that it is what Dr. Henry Talbird told Cousin Johnny about his grandfather's account of his father's death. (That is, Charles Davant's account of the above Revolutionary Charles Davant.) Hardin Davant Hanahan.