

"translation" of attached white sheet

## The Dewitt Family

"History of The Old Cheraws."

Bishop Gregg 1905, DAR, Wash, D.C.

53: The Welch Neck Baptist Church was located near Sparks Ferry, across the Pee Dee River from Society Hill, Darlington Co. in S.C. It was founded by James + Phillip James (also Thoma Evans) and others from Pennepac, Chester County, PA (and some ~~others~~) to Welch TRACT baptist Meeting, near Newark, Del) during the years 1735-37. >

\_\_\_\_\_ was in this group. He was in public service \_\_\_\_\_ the Revolution, but died during that period. His son, John Terrell, lived in Marlborough (see Records: Allen FAM herein).

Terrell, Jr., was appointed Deacon in 1778, and Martin \_\_\_\_\_ was appointed Trustee in 1796, in the vacancy of Judge Joseph J. Evans, deceased. The church was moved into Society Hill in 179- when Capt William Dewitt donated two acres there: (above paragraph from "SC Baptists - 1670 - 1805 L. Townsend)

Martin<sup>2</sup> Dewitt came from Fredricksburg, Va, and settled on Black Swamp near lower Black Creek in Darlington County, S.C. (near Florence, S.C.) (inserted here is ... " before after 1763). He married Ellen Douthol (2). His sons, Capt William, Harris, Thomas + John, came with him. He served in the Revolution at an advanced age, and died at his original plantation.

Thomas Dewitt (probably the brother of Martin) came from Virginia about the same time, and located at "Dewitt's Bluff" in Marion County, further down the Pee Dee River.

His sons were: Thomas, William + Charles.

see next page

(2)

(DeWitt descendants listed from this book and other sources, shown on foregoing page.)

p. 280

In St. David's Parish, the St. David's Society (academy & social facilities, at Society Hill) was funded on or before Dec 13, 1777 by Captain William DeWitt, Capt Thomas Ellerbee, William Terrell, William Pegues, Abel Wilds, Thomas James and others.

On Jan 31, 1778, Thomas Rowe, William Ellerbee, Joshua Terrell, John —, Capt. Claudius Pegues and others joined the Society

p. 304 The home of Capt William DeWitt on Cedar Creek was burned by the British about July 2, 1780. ~~and Capt DeWitt about July 2, 1780.~~ And Capt. DeWitt took his family (including his son John) age 14-15, who later lived at Society Hill) to Guilford, N.C. Immediately he returned and served in the Revolution to the end.

p. 328

<sup>(?)</sup> On Nov 26, 1783  
Capt. William DeWitt, ~~was~~ Thomas Rowe, and others were

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"History of the OLD CHURCHES" Bishop Gregg, 1905: P. 118, 119, 120  
p. 53: The Welch Neck Baptist Church was located near Spear's  
Farm, on the west side of the River from Society Hill, Darlington Co.  
in South Carolina. It was founded by James and Philip James (also  
Philip Evans) and others, from Pamunoc, Chester Co., Pa. (and some  
via the Welch Neck Baptist Meeting, near Newark, Md.) during the  
years 1735-37.

WILLIAM DEWITT was in this group. He was in public service  
during the Revolution, but died during that period. His son, Capt  
John DeWitt, lived in Darlington. (See records: ALLEN FAM herein)  
WILLIAM DEWITT, Jr., was appointed Deacon in 1770, and WILLIAM  
DEWITT was appointed Trustee in 1796, in the vacancy of Judge Jos-  
eph J. Evans, deceased. The Church was moved into Society Hill in  
1770. For Capt WILLIAM DEWITT donated by James DeWitt. (Above men-  
tioned from "South Carolina Baptists, 1670-1805," T. Townsend)

WILLIAM DEWITT came from Warfield'sburg, Va., and settled  
on lower Black Creek in Darlington Co., S.C. (near Florence, S.C.)  
\*after 1763. He married Ellen Southol (2nd wife?). His sons, Capt  
William, Harris, Thomas and John, came with him. He served in the  
Revolution at an advanced age, and died at his original plantation.

WILLIAM DEWITT, "probably the brother of Martin"  
came from Virginia about the same time, and located at  
DARLINGTON DEWITT in Marion Co., Another town on the west side of the River. His  
sons were Thomas, William and Charles. DeWitt descendants listed  
in the book and other sources, shown on following page).

p. 210: In St David's Parish) the St DAVID'S SOCIETY (academy  
and social facilities, at Society Hill) was founded on or before  
Dec. 12, 1777, by Capt William DeWitt, Capt Thomas Allarbee, William  
Farrell, William Pegues, Abel Wilds, Thomas James and others. On  
Jan. 31, 1778, Thomas Powe, William Allarbee, Joshua Farrell, John  
Wells, Capt Flaudius Pegues and others joined the Society.

p. 301: The home of Capt William DeWitt on Cedar Creek, was  
burned by the British about July 2, 1780. Capt DeWitt took his  
family (including his son John, see 14-15, who later lived at Soc-  
iety Hill) to Guilford, N.C. From there he went to Ireland and served in  
the British Army.

pp. 328; 415; on Nov. 26, 1783, Capt William DeWitt, Thos Rowe  
and others were elected junior members of the House  
of Representatives, from St. David's Parish. William DeWitt  
was elected Sheriff (Darlington Co) on Feb. 24, 1784  
Capt. William DeWitt was elected State Senator on Nov.  
30, 1784. William DeWitt, Charles DeWitt and others were appointed  
Justices of Darlington Co., Mar. 21, 1785.

p. 332: ALLEN CHAPMAN came shortly af-  
ter the Revolution, from Westmoreland Co., Va., to Chesterfield Co.,  
S.C. Allen was in the Virginia Line (Regular Army). He m-1st, Ra-  
chel Rowe, (daughter of Thomas + Rachel Allen). m-2nd, Eleanor  
DeWitt, daughter of Capt William. Later he settled a few miles a-  
bove Cheraw, S.C., where he died.

U.S. CENSUS 1790.  
William DeWitt. males over 16, two. Males under 16, four. Females,  
7. ? Harris DeWitt 2-1-6; John DeWitt 2-0-5; 5 slaves.  
Charles DeWitt 3- -1; 9. Thomas Rowe -1-3; 34 slaves.  
Allen Chapman 2-0-2; 20 slaves.

CUMPEPER CO. VA: ORD Bk. ; (Martin & Son em to S.C: after 1763  
p. 303; 3/19/1763; B. Davenport vs J. Shroveshire, Ja DeWitt, Surety  
p. 337; 5/20/1763; Jos James + MARTIN DeWITT vs Beaumont Sutton  
8/20/1763; J. Slaughter vs Hubbard, MARTIN DeWITT, Surety

DARLINGTON CO. S.C: DEED Bk. CD; p. 88;  
To MARTIN DeWITT from Claudius Pegues, 8/4/1767, being 1000 acres  
on BACK SWAMP (near lower BLACK CREEK) on southwest side of PEEDEE  
RIVER, originally granted to Paul Trapier in 1740

DARLINGTON CO. S.C: WILL Bk. 1; pp. 77-79; 11/14/1791;  
Estate of REUBEN DeWITT: MARTIN DeWITT, Admr.



CHESAPEAKE CO. VA: OLD BK. 1; p. 245; 435; 1/23/1744;  
CHESAPEAKE DeMITE vs Nathaniel Hedge Man. (now in Culpeper Co)  
p. 416-17; 6/23/1745; CHESAPEAKE Co: T pd 100 pds tobacco, and  
CHESAPEAKE DeMITE pd 200 pds tobacco (Chris Homes vs Rich Bridges)  
p. 498; 6/27/1746; CHESAPEAKE DeMITE, Adm., Rebecca Chisum, Deed.  
WILLIAM RUSSELL, Surety.

CHESAPEAKE CO VA: OLD BK. 1; p. 35; (9/7/1749-2/21/1749)  
CHESAPEAKE DeMITE, Jr., to Frederick Fishback. 7/16/2/6 for 50 acres in  
St. THOMAS PARISH, purchased of Dr Deatherage, Deed., lying on N. E  
side between RIVER ROAD and HILLMAN ROAD. (Sgd) CHESAPEAKE DeMITE, Jr.  
Att., John Chisum, Nathan Meltschler, Jos Counce, John Dutton.  
(now about 14 miles southeast of Madison, Madison Co Va)

CHESAPEAKE CO VA: OLD BK. 1; p. 207; (3/2/1750-3/14/1750)  
CHESAPEAKE DeMITE of CHESAPEAKE CO., to Andrew Rose; Alexander Deed  
Corrball of THE GEORGE CO. 7/15 for 200 ac in Culpeper Co in the  
WATER RUN of APPAMONOC RIVER, NEAR JOHN Carter, JOHN CHISUM,  
John Grim, the Deatherage, AND JOHN WISLON, Henry Utterback and  
Green, being GRANTED to CHESAPEAKE DeMITE by Proprietors 16, June 1746  
and BY HIM acknowledged in Orange Court to CHESAPEAKE DeMITE, Junr.  
Att., George Home, Tho's Slaughter, Chas Strother, Rich Fishback.  
(now about 15 miles south east of Madison, Madison Co. Va)

CHESAPEAKE CO VA: OLD BK. 1; p. 231; (11/9/1750-11/15/1750)  
CHESAPEAKE DeMITE of St THOMAS P.R., CHESAPEAKE Co., to John Simpson.  
7/1/-/- for 3 ac in part of land... (Sgd) CHESAPEAKE DeMITE  
Att., JOHN CHISUM, JOHN WISLON, John Simpson.  
(now about 10 miles west of Madison, Va)

CHESAPEAKE CO VA: OLD BK. 1; p. 346; (9/19/1751-9/19/1751)  
CHESAPEAKE DeMITE & MARY his wife and ST THOMAS HAMILTON & Mather his wife  
of St THOMAS P.R., CHESAPEAKE Co., to WILLIAM HAMILTON of St THOMAS P.R.,  
VA, CHESAPEAKE Co. 7/13/15/- for 100 ac in St THOMAS P.R., VA, CHESAPEAKE Co  
beginning on the... (Sgd) CHESAPEAKE DeMITE & MARY  
Att., JOHN CHISUM, JOHN WISLON, John Simpson.  
(now about 10 miles west of Madison, Va; from Culpeper 1700)

DEWITT FAMILY

CHARLES DEWITT, King & Queen Co. Va: 900 ac; Quit Rent; 1704;  
 m- , MERCY ; who m-2nd, , Robt Coleman, Jr.  
 His Estate: Orange Co. Va; Will Bk.1; p.153; 5/29/1741

CHILDREN(Tentatively identified in following and other records)

- A. CHARLES, Jr; Pat'd 400 ac; King Wm Co. 1723, adjoining father.  
 m- , Catherine Son, Joseph, Culpeper Co. 1750.
- B. JOHN, Pat'd 400 ac; Spotts (now in Culpeper) Co Va; 1728.  
 m- 400 ac; Orange (now in Culpeper) with MARTIN.
- C. MARTIN, Pat'd 400 ac; Orange (now in Culpeper) Co. (above)  
 m- , Mary ?m-2nd, , Ellen Douthel,

Sold his plantation west of Madison, Va., 9/19/1751, and probably came to S.C. after 1763. Bot 100 ac; 8/4/1767 a few miles N.E. of Florence, S.C., on BACK SWAMP adjoining BLACK CREEK. Served in Revolution at advanced age, and died at his original home.

Children

(a) Capt William, lived on CEDAR CREEK. Was Revolutionary Soldier.  
 m- , Mary Devonald, of David

His Will: Darlington Co. S.C: Bk.1; p.13;(7/14/1813-7/27/1813)(5)  
 Children(pp.97; 280; 328; 415; 432; "Hist of Old Cheraws")

- (1) Maj John, b-c1765  
 m-c1799, Nancy Powe, of Thos & Rachel(Allen) See ALLEN FAMILY
- (2) Charles M., Unmarried; His Estate 1/26/1821
- (3) Daniel, died young.
- (4) Dorothy, Gr-son, Wm DeWitt Evans, d-c1909, Societh Hill  
 m- , Josiah J. Evans (U.S. Senator 1852) son of Thomas,  
 who came from Wales to Penna. 1700; to Welch Neck, S.C., 1736.
- (5) Harriet, died young
- (6) Mary, m- , Edward Edwards, of Abel & Sarah(Douthel)
- (7) Sarah, m- , James, m-2nd, , Samuel Ervin.
- (8) Eleanor, d-1860 (pp.432; 442; "Hist of Cheraws") See ALLEN FAM.  
 m- , Allen Chapman, who m-1st, , Rachel Powe. " " "
- (9) Elizabeth, m- , Samuel Wilds; m-2nd, , Thos Smith
- (10) Margaret, m- , Enoch Hanford.

(b) Thomas, died young

(c) Harris,

(d) John W. Cpl; 2nd Co; 2nd S.C. Regt; 1779-80  
 Children: Rich'd B; Wm; Jno W; Mary; Sarah.

m- , Eliza: Brockington, of Richard; m-2nd, , Pawley

(e) James, Sons, Alfred; William.

(f) Sarah, m- , Charles McCall

(g) Charles, d-1/ /1800; Darlington Co; Will Bk.1; p.73(12/1/1799  
 m-1771, Massey McCall, Will Bk.2; p450; 1/14/1805  
 She m-2nd, , Nathaniel Sanders,

D. JAMES?

E. THOMAS,

m-

"Came from Virginia about same time as BROTHER MARTIN. Settled further down PEEDEE RIVER, at DEWITT'S BLUFF, Marion Co. S.C"

Children

(a) Thomas, ?(Marion Co. S.C: Will Bk.1; p.75;(2/21/1811-4/8/1811)

m-

Children: Micajah; Dolly; Sarah; Martin; Mary Wiggins

(b) William,

m-

(c) Charles,

m-

F. WILLIAM, Orange Co. Va; Tithes; 1734-39;

m- , Frances?

Children(possibly of above E. THOMAS or A. CHARLES, Jr)

(a) Sarah, (1750-1792) See ALLEN FAMILY herein.

m-1754, "Chesterfield Co. Va" William Allen, b-8/17/1731

Children: DeWitt; Sarah; William; James; Thomas; Chas; Frances

(b) See ALLEN FAMILY herein.

m- , Susannah Allen, of Erasmus Withers & Sarah

Children: Erasmus; Sarah; William; James; Thomas.

## SAINT DAVID'S SOCIETY

In St David's Parish, S.C., the "Planters Club" was organized shortly before the Revolution. "Including the rugged Welsh pioneers, later joined by Scotch and English, the Planters Club concerned itself mostly with the best methods of agriculture--". However, by 1777, they realized the undeniable need of education for coming generations.

On Dec. 13, 1777, Capt William DeWitt, Capt Thomas Ellerbee, William Terrell, William Pegues, Abel Wilds, Thomas James and others organized the St David's Society "for the purpose of instituting and endowing a seminary of learning in the district of Cheraw to instruct and educate youth in the necessary and useful branches of knowledge."

On Jan. 31, 1778, Thomas Powe, William Ellerbee, Joshua Terrell, John Wilds, Capt Claudius Pegues and other joined the society. And it was incorporated in that year. Subscriptions of 8898 Pounds, (Local Currency) were made by 168 people of Society Hill, the community which derived its name from the Society. Dues of 20 Shillings yearly, were charged each member, for the teachers and officers. In addition to local students, boarding students were accepted from all parts of the country, in the study of Latin, Greek and Mathematics. Charleston, the Capital,

When/was overrun by the British, most of the boarding students were called home, until after the Revolution, in 1785. But by that time, many other communities were starting their own schools. In 1786, the first school building was eventually erected on the same hill as the Welsh Neck Baptist Church was brought into the village, after Capt William DeWitt had <sup>donated</sup> two acres in 1798.

In 1795, the Society's rules provided for fines of officers and members, for negligence or non-attendance at meetings. In February 1813, the first St David's Academy was burned, and classes were moved into the Church, until the second building was erected further down the hill, in front of where the present one stands. In 1944, the second building was destroyed by fire, and the pupils moved back to the Church for a year and a half.

When \$90,000 tendered as the lowest bid on the new building, Society Hill citizens proceeded to build it themselves for \$57,500. The school subsequently received the \$500 audio-visual award, of the National Association of Secondary Teachers, and was selected by the state as a small "model school." St David's is today an integral part its community's past, present and future.

SOURCES: "History of the Old Cheraws" Gregg, 1905; p.280;  
"The Florence Morning News" Florence, S.C., Feb.1, 1956