

BIOGRAPHICAL  
DIRECTORY  
OF THE  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

VOLUME II  
THE COMMONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
1692-1775

by  
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and  
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STANYARNE, ARCHIBALD (Stanyarn) (d. 1773). Son-in-law of THOMAS ELLIOTT (1699-1760); brother-in-law of CHARLES ELLIOTT (1737-1781).

Archibald Stanyarne, the son of Joseph Stanyarne, was a planter on the Stono River in St. Paul Parish. In 1766 he received a grant for 500 acres in Colleton County, and upon his father's death in 1772, he inherited two plantations on the Stono. Stanyarne also owned property in Charleston and 153 slaves. St. Paul Parish elected him to the Twenty-eighth Royal Assembly (1768) of the Commons House, and as a member, he was one of the "Unanimous Twenty-six" who voted to consider the Massachusetts and Virginia Resolutions. Reelected to the Twenty-ninth Royal Assembly (1769-1771) by St. Paul, the election was declared null and void due to an irregularity at the polls caused by a qualification dispute which necessitated the closing of the polls a day earlier than allowed by law. When elected in a new election, he declined to serve. He was also quartermaster of the First Regiment of Horse (1757).

On or before 19 May 1759, Stanyarne married Sarah Elliott, daughter of Thomas and Susannah Elliott. No children were born to their marriage before Sarah Stanyarne died on 27 October 1767. In his will, Stanyarne provided for the manumission of a slave woman Bess and her offspring and further provided her with an annual income of £60, a slave girl, and a residence on either of his plantations. Archibald Stanyarne died at his plantation on the Stono River 25 June 1773 and was buried in the old cemetery of St. Paul Parish.

<i>Twenty-eighth Royal Assembly</i>	<i>St. Paul</i>	1768
<i>Twenty-ninth Royal Assembly</i>	<i>St. Paul</i>	1769**

SOURCES: Council Journals, 26(1757-1758), 80. Inventories, Z(1771-1774), 426-30. McCrady, 2: 610n. *Marriage Notices*, p. 21. Moore, *Wills*, 3: 176-77. Petit Jury Lists, 1751. Royal Grants, 14: 156. *SCHM*, 10: 169, 246; 15: 30; 34: 154; 50: 166. *Wills*, 15(1771-1774-B), 528-29.

STANYARNE, JAMES (Stanyarn) (d. 1703). Father of JAMES STANYARNE (d. 1717?); brother of JOHN STANYARNE; father-in-law of JOHN WOODWARD and RICHARD WOODWARD; brother-in-law of JONATHAN FITCH (d. 1715?) and JOHN LADSON (d. 1698).

James Stanyarne, the son of the immigrant Thomas Stanyarne and his wife Mary, arrived in South Carolina as a child in May 1675. Upon reaching adulthood, he obtained through land grants some 1,397 acres of land in Colleton County, 880 of it on the Stono River. In addition he owned three lots in Charleston and

was co-owner of the brigantine *Endeavor*. A wealthy planter, he also engaged extensively in trade with the Yemassee and Talapoosa Indians.

Politically active, Stanyarne in 1685 was one of the members of the unicameral parliament which was established under the Fundamental Constitutions. On 20 November 1685 he was excluded from that body for refusing to sign an oath of allegiance to the Crown. It was about this time that Stanyarne became a supporter of the Goose Creek faction which was opposed to the Lords Proprietors. By giving his support, Stanyarne, a Quaker, opposed his brother John and seemingly contradicted his dissenter status. He was elected to the First Assembly (1692-1694) of the Commons House for Colleton County. Reelected by Colleton to the Third (1696-1697), Fifth (1700-1702), Sixth (1702-1703), and Seventh (1703-1705) Assemblies, he continued his service to the province. Colonel Stanyarne, as he was known by his contemporaries, also served as receiver, for raising money for a watch on Sullivan's Island (1690) and agent, to buy Indian slaves (1703).

Stanyarne married Rachel Fitch, daughter of Jonathan Fitch. They had at least four children: Elizabeth (m. John Woodward), Sarah (m. Richard Woodward), James, and Thomas. James Stanyarne died sometime between 24 February 1703 when he was in the House and December 1703 when Hannah and John Stanyarne executed a bond for the administration of his estate.

<i>First Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1692-1694
<i>Third Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1696-1697
<i>Fifth Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1700-1702
<i>Sixth Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1702-1703
<i>Seventh Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1703*

SOURCES: Baldwin, Barnwell, *The Story of an American Family*, p. 23. Maria Locke Bell, *The Bells and Allied Families* (Columbia, SC, 1953), pp. 60-61. BPRO, 2: 107-11. Crane, p. 120. Moore & Simmons, p. 3. Royal Grants, 38: 271, 306, 361, 500. Sirmans, *Colonial SC*, p. 42. SCHM, 8: 33-35; 9: 18, 24; 12: 210; 13: 57; 27: 6, 170. *SC Statutes*, 2: 41, 212. *Warrants*, pp. 468, 469, 545-46, 562, 588, 597. *Wills & Misc. Recs.*, 52(1687-1710), 86, 122; 1694-1704, 119.

STANYARNE, JAMES (Stanyarn) (d. 1717?). Son of JAMES STANYARNE (d. 1703); son-in-law of JOHN GODFREY (d. 1717); brother-in-law of JOHN GODFREY (d. 1722), JOHN WOODWARD, and RICHARD WOODWARD.

James Stanyarne, the son of James Stanyarne and Rachel Fitch, was born in South Carolina. Still a minor when his father died in 1703, he was of age by 1710 when he was elected to the Commons House. A planter, Stanyarne obtained

through a grant 1,590 acres on the Ashepoo River in Colleton County and through purchase two tracts on the Ashley River in Berkeley County. He had 34 slaves on his resident plantation (600 acres). Colleton County elected him to the Twelfth (1710-1711) and Thirteenth (1711-1712) Assemblies, but he declined to serve in the latter assembly. He represented Berkeley and Craven counties in the Fifteenth Assembly (1716-1717). As a member of this last assembly, he signed a petition to the Crown asking for relief from the Lords Proprietors. Married to Jane Godfrey, the daughter of John Godfrey and Elizabeth Rixam, he was the father of one son, Benjamin. James Stanyarne died sometime between 23 March 1716 when he wrote his will and 9 May 1717 when it was proved.

<i>Twelfth Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	<i>1710-1711</i>
<i>Thirteenth Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	<i>1711**</i>
<i>Fifteenth Assembly</i>	<i>Berkeley and Craven</i>	<i>1716-1717</i>

SOURCES: Baldwin. BPRO, 6: 258-60. Royal Grants, 38: 389. SCHM, 8: 33-35; 12: 210; 13: 57; 16: 57; 20: 90; 27: 171. Wills & Misc. Recs., 1722-1724, 272-77, 318-20.

STANYARNE, JOHN (Stanyarn). Brother of JAMES STANYARNE (d. 1703); brother-in-law of JOHN LADSON (d. 1698).

John Stanyarne, planter in Colleton County, was the son of the immigrants Thomas and Mary Stanyarne. He was the recipient of grants totaling 1,210 acres on the Stono River and Bohickett Creek in Colleton County, 610 acres in Granville County, and 2,000 acres on the Pee Dee and Winyah rivers in Craven County.

Commons House service began for Stanyarne when Colleton County elected him to the Third Assembly (1696-1697), and he continued to represent Colleton in the Sixth (1702-1703), Seventh (1703-1705), and the Tenth (1707-1708) Assemblies. When elected by his home county to the Twelfth Assembly (1710-1711), he declined to serve. A Quaker, Stanyarne on 23 February 1703 walked out of the Sixth Royal Assembly along with other dissenters in protest of the Anglican faction and later exhibited his dissenting views by opposing the Church Act of 1704. He, unlike his brother James, supported proprietary rule throughout his political life, although he did in 1716 sign the petition to the Crown which complained of poor conditions in Carolina. He returned to the Commons House as a member of the Seventeenth Assembly (1720-1721), the last assembly under proprietary rule. Local offices held by John Stanyarne included tax assessor, for raising money for the defense of the province (1702); road commissioner, for Johns Island (1705); bridge commissioner, for Wadmalaw River

(1712); bridge commissioner, for Wappoo Cut (1712); bridge commissioner, for Stono Bridge (1713); and Commissioner of the High Roads for Johns Island, St. Paul Parish (1721).

<i>Third Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1696-1697
<i>Sixth Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1702-1703
<i>Seventh Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1703-1705
<i>Tenth Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1707-1708
<i>Twelfth Assembly</i>	<i>Colleton</i>	1710**
<i>Seventeenth Assembly</i>	<i>Member</i>	1720-1721

SOURCES: Maria Locke Bell, *The Bells and Allied Families* (Columbia, SC, 1953), pp. 60-61. *Commons House Journals, 1702-1703*, 52-53. Grand Jury Lists, 1720. McCrady, 1: 409. Moore & Simmons, p. 3. Petit Jury Lists, 1720. Royal Grants, 38: 305, 435, 503, 39: 12, 22, 24, 142, 440, 450. Sirmans, *Colonial SC*, pp. 42, 80, 98n. *SCHM*, 12: 210; 27: 170, 171; 62: 94. *SC Statutes*, 2: 183; 9: 10, 24-25, 27, 31, 52. *Warrants*, pp. 611, 624, 626, 660.

STANYARNE, JOHN (Stanyarn) (1695-1772). Son-in-law of JOHN WHITMARSH, SR.; father-in-law of ROBERT GIBBES (1732-1794), WILLIAM MATHEWES, ROBERT SAMS, and EBENEZER SIMMONS, JR. (1735-1770).

John Stanyarne, wealthy planter, was a resident of St. Paul Parish in Colleton County. He owned some 2,560 acres on Johns Island, including Hickory Hill plantation (100 acres) and his main plantation of 586 acres. In addition he owned a plantation on St. Helena's Island in Granville County (1,040 acres), a Charleston town house, Kiawah Island (1,350 acres) in St. John Colleton Parish, and more than 286 slaves. At least part of his lands were used to grow indigo.

Stanyarne was elected to the Fifteenth Royal Assembly (1746-1747), but he declined to serve St. John Colleton Parish. Local offices he held included tax receiver and collector for Johns Island (1724); tax inquirer for Johns Island (1731); commissioner, for St. John Colleton upon the creation of St. John Colleton Parish (1734); commissioner, for regulating patrols for Johns Island (1737); vestryman (1737-1738, 1744-1745, 1754-1762) and churchwarden (1738-1741, 1746-1754) for St. John Colleton; commissioner, for cleansing Wappoo Creek (1741); and commissioner, for St. John Colleton, under the Church Act (1745).

Married three times, Stanyarne's first wife was Mary Whitmarsh, daughter of John Whitmarsh, Sr., and widow of Robert Seabrook (d. 1720). Mary Stanyarne was buried 12 July 1730, and sometime after that date, he married his second

wife, Magdalen. She was buried 21 April 1739, and on 18 August 1740, he married his third wife, Sarah Harvey, a widow. At least seven children were born to his marriages: Edith (m. William Mathewes), John, Ann (m. Robert Gibbes), Jane (m. Ebenezer Simmons, Jr.), Mary (m. 1st Arthur Mowbray, 2d Robert Sams, 3d [?] McGillvray), Elizabeth (m. Francis Hext), and Sally (m. James Brisbane). John Stanyarne died 16 December 1772 and bequeathed his estate, valued over £146,000, to his surviving daughters and numerous grandchildren.

*Fifteenth Royal Assembly*

*St. John Colleton*

1746\*\*

SOURCES: *Commons House Journals, 1746-1747*, 4; 1748, 7; 1749-1750, 7. *Council Journals*, 15 (1747-1748), 28, 97, 236; 17, part 1 (1748-1749), 257; 18, part 2 (1751-1752), 390, 560; 20, part 1 (1752), 57. *Grand Jury Lists, 1731, 1740, 1751*. *Henry Laurens*, 2: 407. *Inventories, Z (1771-1774)*, 305-11. *Moore, Wills*, 2: 56, 60, 73, 184; 3: 22, 109. *Petit Jury Lists, 1731, 1740, 1751*. *Pringle Letterbook*, 2: 521n. *Royal Grants*, 26: 494. *St. John's Colleton Vestrybook*, pp. 1, 5, 9, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 34, 37, 39. *SC Gaz.*, 25 Aug. 1764. *SCHM*, 6: 33-34; 10: 169; 13: 40, 218, 220; 14: 131; 17: 14-25; 37: 11, 14; 64: 45-46. *SC Statutes*, 3: 238, 309, 375, 459, 651; 9: 129. *Wills, 15 (1771-1775-B)*, 369-88.

#### STARK, ROBERT.

Robert Stark was a prominent settler in Camden District just prior to the American Revolution. Between 1768 and 1771, he received grants for some 1,250 acres on the Wateree River in Craven County. Stark was active in the Regulator movement and in 1769 was appointed one of the building commissioners for Camden District under the Circuit Court Act of that year. Prince Frederick Parish chose him in a special election to the Twenty-ninth Royal Assembly (1769-1771), and he qualified 10 April 1770. In July 1771 Robert Stark was named a justice of the peace for Craven County.

*Twenty-ninth Royal Assembly*

*Prince Frederick*

1770-1771\*

SOURCES: Brown, pp. 105, 118, 208n, 211n. *Royal Grants*, 16: 236; 18: 418; 23: 633, 635. *SCHM*, 8: 10n. *Woodmason*, pp. 123n, 285n.

#### STEVENS, JOHN (Stephens, Stephen) (d. 1720).

John Stevens, Berkeley County planter, was in South Carolina by 10 August 1678 when he received a land warrant. Between 1679 and 1711 he was the recipient of grants totaling 6,420 acres on the Ashley River, but 4,050 of those