

How did I get started working on the Blanton history! In 1942 I was living in Fort Worth, Texas. A long-time friend, Lucile Knox, asked me to do her a favor and I agreed. This seemingly innocent request was to change my life immensely.

Lucile's great-aunt had spent years compiling a "family tree" of the Davis and allied families. Lucile needed to make enough copies to go around in the family. She asked me to cut the stencils for the copies, which I did. On an impulse I asked for a copy of this family record and sent it to my father, George W Blanton, who was living in Cordova, Alabama. He thought it interesting and expressed the desire that we have that kind of information about our Blanton Kin.

After my mother passed away in 1945, he had to do something to fill the lonely hours, so he began seriously trying to gather family information. His immediate goal was to get together the vital statistics on all his father's children and their descendants. This was no small task for his father was married twice and had large families by each wife. In 1956, he published a booklet containing the data he had collected. Even though it is brief and the scope is narrow, that document is a treasured one to members of his family.

Before he published his booklet, he was afflicted with arthritis and it became increasingly difficult for him to write. Knowing his love of this hobby, I agreed to do his writing and copying for him. Soon, I was doing it all - the BUG HAD REALLY BITTEN ME!

Through Mrs. Margaret Gray Blanton, Mrs. Louise McDonald had learned of my father and had written to him. Louise and I started working together and in 1955 we sent out more than 2,000 letters to Blanton families all over these United States. If everyone had answered and if they had been able to give us accurate records of their family, we could have finished the Blanton project in short order. We felt that we did get a wonderful response and those who answered helped. We are grateful for their co-operation, even though we have not as yet been able to connect all the links.

Mrs. McDonald and I have spent hours at the microfilm readers searching out Blantons on Census records. My husband and I have spent several vacations in Washington, D.C. working at the National Archives. We studied the entire 1850 Census of Alabama and Georgia - book by book. I checked the Soundex records for many States. We take every opportunity to search court house records, library records, old cemeteries, and interview members of the family.

My husband tells everyone that our vacations are spent in court houses and cemeteries. Even so, I feel that our lives have been enriched by becoming better acquainted with our staunch pioneer ancestors who did so much to make our country great.

Irene BLANTON Smith
2612 Alden Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75211

16 November 1971

North Carolina Colonial Records (&) State Records of North Carolina
Index:

BLANTON, Geo.	Vol 8, pg 149
	9, 1260-2
James	22, 56
John	24, 698
John, Jr.	7, 866-7
Rowland	10, 944
Blanton's	16, 522

Page 867, Vol. 7 North Carolina Colonial Records 1765-1768

"From MSS Rec'ds in Office of Sec'y of State.

"To His Excellency Wm TRYON, Esq. Gov. of North Carolina:1768.

Now mett at Newbern. Petitioners (monies for taxes) John Blanton, Jr.

Page 149 Vol 8 -State Records of North Carolina Nov 10, 1769.

New Bern. "Ordered that the following men be added to the Commissioner of Peace:Geo. Blanton....."

Page 1260-62 Vol 9

1775

"To The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council:

The humble petition of your Majesty's dutiful subjects...Geo. Blanton."

Page 944 Vol 10 Colonial Records of North Carolina 1775-1776

"Thurs. Nov 28, 1776.

"Met according to adjournments, etc.

Resolved, that the following be appointed Ensigns in said Battalion of Volunteers, Edenton District: Rowland BlantonEnsign.

Page 521 Vol 16 State Records of North Carolina

Gov. Thos. BURKE to Col. Burton.

Halifax, N. C.
Feb 25, 1782

"Sir

I am so entirely without horses that I can not inspect several affairs that require my presence. One which was sent here under one of your Assistants I can get no account of - he was a sorrel about 14 Hands high, remarkably well made, a Short Dock, full thigh and fine Head and Neck. Another which you sent down, I am told, died at Blanton's. Be so good as to enclose me copies of the receipts and descriptive Lists of the Horses you delivered for the Army after my Capture.

"My compliments to your Lady and Col WILLIAMS and his Lady. I am sir, etc., THOS. BURKE."

Page 56 Vol 22 North Carolina Rev. Pensioners under the Acts of 1818 and 1832, as reported by Sec'y of State to Congress in 1835:

"James Blanton, Private - Infantry and Cavalry."

Page 698 Vol 24. An Act to Establish the Town of Morgan, etc. In Burke County at a place called Alder Springs. "Be it further enacted by the authority of the aforesaid, that Gen McDOWELL, John Blanton, and Alexander IRWIN, be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners of the said town of Morgan...."

Laws of North Carolina 1784.

NORTH CAROLINA ARCHIVES - Land Grants - Halifax County, N. C.

File 253. CHARLES BLANTON. Entered 11 December 1778 Grant 49-1 No 127.
Vol 31 p 151. March 1780. 100 acres. Begin at A W MORRIS' corner.

WARREN COUNTY, North Carolina Vol III. Abstracts of Will Books 1779-
by Mary Hinton KERR. 1814.

Will Bk 3 p 51 JAMES BLANTON and WM BLANTON bought at Estate Sale of
May Court 1780. GEO TUCKER.

Will Bk 4 p 178 CHARLES BLANTON of Halifax County, N. C. to his
5 Apr 1786 daughter Martha KIMBAL/KIMBALL of Warren County.
Gift of a negro; retains life ownership.
Jul Court 1786 Witness: Gideon HARRIS & Benja KIMBALL (Jurat).

Book 4 p 195 RICHARD BLANTON to James KIMBALL Mortgage on
14 Aug 1786 furniture, tools & horse to secure 100 pounds paid
October Court 1786 as security to John NICHOLSON.
Witness: David KIMBALL; & WM KIMBALL (Jurat).

Will Bk 9 p 3 Acct Estate Sam'l MANNING; JAMES BLANTON
3 Mar 1794 August Court 1796

Will Bk 11 p 70 Acct in Estate BENJ ELLIS; JAMES BLANTON
Feb Court 1801

Will Bk 11 p 275 Acct in Est JOEN CLARK; JAMES BLANTON; WILLIAM BLANTON
February Court 1801

Will Bk 14 p 97 Aug Court 1807 Est JNO PETTWAY. JAMES BLANTON.

Will Bk 15 p 172. Feb Court 1810 Est Robert ALEXANDER. JAMES BLANTON,
Sr.

Will Bk 4 p 129 Witnesses: Reubin GUTHERIE; RICHARD BLANTON.
16 Jul 1784

Deed by Elias HARRIS of Halifax County, N.C. to Wm GREEN of Warren
for Virginia State Warrant for 1,000 acres in Kentucky County, State of
Virginia.

Note: Long before any white man had explored the entire Kentucky area,
it was claimed by Virginia as part of her Augusta County. It was
included in the Virginia County of 1784.

During Daniel Boone's activities in the section, Kentucky was designated
as Kentucky County, Virginia.

On June 1, 1792 Kentucky became the 15th state admitted into the Union.

Abstracts of DEEDS - HALIFAX COUNTY, North Carolina. Chas. Blanton.

May 17, 1762. Book 9, p 160. Alexander McCulloch to CHAS. BLANTON
250 acres for 30 pounds. Begins at Geo. Page's corner on west side of
Marsh Swamp.

Sep 10, 1762. Book 8, p 260. John Frohock (Frolock) to CHAS. BLANTON
250 acres land in Elk Marsh Swamp for 10 shillings lawful money of
Great Brittain.

Mch 9, 1767. Book 9, p 494. CHAS. BLANTON to Joseph Eubanks. Chas.
BLANTON of Halifax County in the Province of N. C. to Joseph Eubanks
of King William County, Province of Virginia, 254 acres of land and
premises in Elk Marsh Swamp for consideration of 40 pounds Virginia
money.

Mch 9, 1767. Book 9, p 477. CHAS. BLANTON to Wm. Brown. CHAS BLANTON
to Wm. Brown of King William County, Province of Virginia, 250 acres
more or less in Elk Marsh Swamp for sum of 170 pounds of Virginia money.

May 17, 1770. Book 11, p 109. CHAS. BLANTON and Mary, his wife, to
Joseph Eubanks, for 40 pounds Virginia money 254 acres land in Elk
Marsh Swamp bounded by Joel Hurt and Isaac Rivers.

May 17, 1770. Book 11, p 56. CHAS. BLANTON and Mary, his wife, in
Halifax County, to William Brown (William Blanton Brown). Release of
interest of Chas. & Mary Blanton in Estate. 250 acres land in Elk
Marsh Swamp, Halifax County, 170 pounds Virginia money.

Dec 29, 1771. Book 13, p 235. John Swinney and Rosy, his wife, to
CHAS. BLANTON of Halifax County, of the Government of North Carolina,
for 100 pounds Virginia money or 133 pounds, six shillings and 8 pence
proclamation money.

Mch 1, 1780. Book 18, p 514. BENJ. BLANTON (son of Chas. Blanton) of
Halifax County, to John Green, for 5 silver dollars, 35 acres, begins
at Blanton's corner in Jeneto Swamp.

1780. To CHAS. BLANTON, 100 acres on Blanton's side of Jeneto,
all woods, waters, mines and minerals, 50 shillings per 100 acres, to
be paid into Treasury by CHAS. BLANTON, paying such sums yearly or
otherwise as our General Assembly directs.

By his Excellency's Comd.

Wm Shepperd, D. Sec.

Rd. Caswell

Aug 6, 1787. Book 17, p 35. CHARLES BLANTON to Isham Meadows of Warren
County, 70 acres land by estimation, begins at Anthony's Branch at John
Wood's line.

The above abstracts were made at Halifax County Court House, May 1955, by
Miss Martha Blanton of Griffin, Georgia. Copied by Louise McDonald.

Feb 14, 1799. Deed Book 18, p 420. BENJAMIN BLANTON to Thos. Turner of
the County of Halifax, and State of North Carolina, "land, bounds of
which will fully appear by a deed from Willis Alston to my dec'd father
CHARLES BLANTON."

This indenture made this 20th day of August in the year of our Lord, . 1785, between CHARLES BLANTON of Halifax County, in the State of North Carolina, of the one part, and MARY BLANTON of the other part, being of the said county,

Witnesseth, that for the natural love and affection the said CHARLES BLANTON hath for the said MARY BLANTON, hath given, granted, bargained and sold and by these presents do give, grant, bargain and sell unto the said MARY BLANTON, her executors, administrators and assigns forever, one negro man named Cambridge, one sorrell mare named Appollo, and her choice in one bed and furniture, which said negro, bed and mare I do give to the said Mary Blanton, her heirs, executors, and administrators, or assigns, forever only reserving to myself the said negro man Cambridge and sorrell mare and bed and furniture during my natural life and I do warrant and forever defend the right, title and interest of the above given or indentured negro man Cambridge and sorrell mare and bed and furniture to the said MARY BLANTON, her heirs, executors, administrators or assigns forever against myself, heirs, executors, administrators or any other person or persons whatsoever that may or shall lay any claim to the above given or indented negro man Cambridge and sorrell mare and bed and furniture, as witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this day and year first above written.

Chas. Blanton (Seal)

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in the presence of us:

Gideon Harriss
 BRWJ. BLANTON
 Jno. Allen
 John Wood

Halifax County, 1st Feb 1786.

Then this deed of gift was exhibited in open court and acknowledged in due form by CHARLES BLANTON one of the parties thereto, to be registered.

Test. Wm Wootten, Clk.

State of North Carolina
Department of Archives and History



This certifies that the following information is recorded in a manuscript volume located in this Department titled "Revolutionary Army Accounts" (Volume III, Page 6, Folio 3):

Heading: Statement of the Accounts of the Non Commissioned Officers & Privates of the North Carolina line, in the late Army of the United States, as passed upon by the Commissioner of Army Accounts.

Number: 344

Name and rank: Richard Blanton p[ri]vate]

Amount charged: 61 dollars, 29 cents

Amount credited: None

Balance paid & charged by the State: 61 dollars, 29 cents

Balance actually found due: None

Difference between actual balance & what was paid by the State: None

Remarks: Rejected, Q. M. d. charges from 15 Ap^l 81, on discharge
N. Long D. Q. M.

Other information: None

Raleigh, North Carolina

C. A. [Signature]
State Archivist

18 December _____, 1968.

State of North Carolina
Department of Archives and History



This certifies that the following information is recorded in a manuscript volume located in this Department titled "Revolutionary Army Accounts" (Volume II, Page 13, Folio 1):

Halifax July 25th 1783.

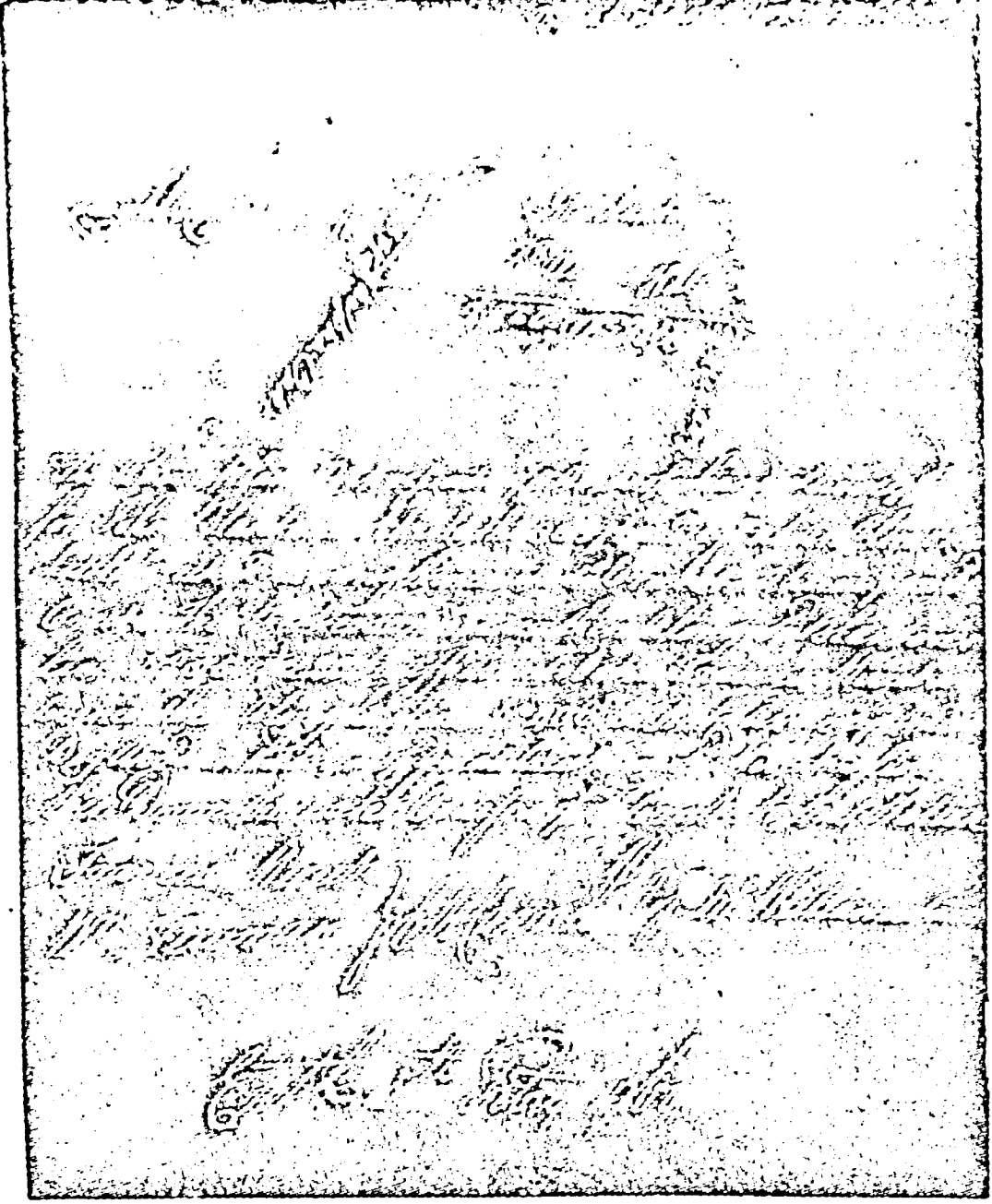
Journal of the proceedings of the Commissioners appointed by Act of Assembly passed in May 1783. to liquidate and finally settle the accounts of the Officers & Soldiers of the Continental Line of the State of North Carolina.

Allowed <u>Richard Blanton</u> Soldier includ ^d Interest to the first of August 1783. 3½ Months not settled)24.10.7.
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Raleigh, North Carolina

Carroll
State Archivist

18 December, 1968.



The above plan represents 78 acres of land surveyed for John Blanton April the 30th 1760. Beginning at an Elm on Little Creek running thence up said Creek to a Hickory on said Creek at Thos. RICHERTSON'S corner thence along said Blanton's line No 85 W 220 to a Spanish Oak at Frances MIRICK'S corner, then along his line No 43 E 58 poles to a Hickory and Dogwood in the bend of Great Creek in said MIRICK'S line, then down the water courses of said Creek to the Station.

Francis Mirick)
 Wm Newman)

Job McWilliams, Jun.

Proclamation



THESE AS CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
COMMISSIONER OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
DAVID G. BROWN, Director of the
Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

THE STATE OF MONTANA
COUNTY OF _____

Yours faithfully,
David G. Brown, Director

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Witness my hand and the seal of the Bureau of Land Management
at Washington, D.C. this _____ day of _____ 19____

Whereas the _____
and the _____
of your _____
in the _____
the _____

That _____
of the _____
of the _____
of the _____
of the _____

Very truly yours,
David G. Brown, Director

(Handwritten signature)

(1) *William Blanton*
George Blanton

Witnessed deed of John Blanton (signature below) of Halifax County 1764,
to George Freeman for sale of land lying
Lunenburg deed Bk.8, p.59 in Lunenburg Co. Va. on both sides of Cott
Creek for 120#

John Blanton

(2) Mecklenburg Co. Va. deed book 8, 408 deed from William Blanton to Moh.
Judson Worsham 500 pounds. Two St. Tamary lots.

William Blanton

(3) Mecklenburg Co. Va. Deed Book 2, pg. 77 Dec. 12, 1767
300 acres deeded by William Blanton to James Blant

William Blanton

(4) Amelia County deed book 5, pg.88 Nov. 22, 1753 John Blanton of Amelia
deeds 150 acres in Amelia Co. on Namoseen Creek
to Dancy Stanley of Chas City Co. for 220#

John Blanton

(5) William Blanton of the Parish of Meherrin to Reubin Blanton
Brunswick County Order Book 2, pg.267-8
for 500# sells 247 acres dated Apr. 16, 1782.
Also deed to Negro "Ben" same signature (dated Sep.26,1778

William Blanton

(6) Lunenburg Deed book 4-388 John Blanton 1756 sells to Sherwood Bugg
129 acres on South side of Roanoke (bought from Abbott)
for 150#

John Blanton

20

State of North Carolina
Department of Archives and History

21



64, Feb.
ng
Cotton

h.1794

This certifies that the following information is recorded in a manuscript volume located in this Department titled "Revolutionary Army Accounts" (Volume XII, Page 28, Folio 2):

Heading: An Account of Specie Certificates paid into the Comptrol[er]'s Office by John Armstrong Entry Taker for Land in North Carolina
_____ (Vizt) _____

Number: 929

By whom granted: Erwin & McKissick

To whom granted: John Blanton

Date: Jan^y [17]82

Sum: 2 pounds, 15 shillings

Interest: 7 shillings, 7 pence

To what time: 25 May 1784

Total amount principal and interest: 3 pounds, 2 shillings, 7 pence

Other information: None

Ralrigh, North Carolina

Edw. Wilson
State Archivist

18 December _____, 1968.

11a

1790 US Census		White	White	F	S	NORTH CAROLINA	
Index	Page	males	males	e	l	Bureau of Census	
	HEADS OF FAMILIES	16	under	a	v	Government	
		years	16	l	e	Printing Office	
		& up	yrs	e	s		
119	Blanton, Burwell	1	3	2	0	Morgan District Rutherford County	
63	Blanton, Charles	1	0	1	2	Halifax District Halifax County	
117 118	Blanton, Clayborn	1	0	2	0	Morgan District Rutherford County	
191	Blanton, James	2	3	1	0	Wilmington District Duplin County	
117	Blanton, John	1	3	4	5	Morgan District Rutherford County	
191	Blanton, John	4	3	4	0	Wilmington District Duplin County	
192	Blanton, Joshua	1	1	2	0	Wilmington District Duplin County	
119	Blanton, Reuben	4	2	5	2	Morgan District Rutherford County	
69	Blanton, Richard	1	4	2	1	Halifax District Nash County	
112	Blanton, Zech	1	2	2	0	Morgan District Lincoln County	

A History of Halifax County, North Carolina by William C. Allen:

"All of the early settlers of the Northern portion of North Carolina came from or through Virginia. The reason for this is obvious. The coast of North Carolina being destitute of good harbors and known to be dangerous to shipping, all immigrants for the Colony of Albemarle landed in Virginia and came to their destination by an overland route.

It is also well known that many of the residents of the Old Dominion came to the Southern Colony as soon as the way was opened.... When Bertie Precinct was organized in 1722, the tide of immigration had flown westward across the Chowan River and was finding places of settlement along the banks of the Roanoke and on both the south and north sides of Fishing Creek."

North Carolina was first settled about 1660 by Virginia Colonists.

1790 US Census VIRGINIA .

Index p 34

; JAMES BLANTON, Mecklenburg County2 white
11 black

VIRGINIA LAWS & STATUTES -Henings Index

1762. Fri 19 of Nov 3rd GEO III.

"Resolved that the Petition of Sundry Inhabitants of the County of LUNENBURG praying that a ferry may be established from the land of Richard FOX, over Roanoke River, to the land of JAMES BLANTON, opposite thereto, is reasonable."

1762. V VII p 588 "Whereas it is represented to this present General Assembly that public ferries at the places hereafter mentioned will be of great advantage to travellers, and others; Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governour, Council, and Burgesses, of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that public ferries be constantly kept at the following places: ... in the County of Lunenburg, over Roanoke River, to the land of JAMES BLANTON...."

Dec 7, 1791. p 296. Passed. -Towns of St. Taminy, in Mecklenburg Co.

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly that fifty acres of land, the property of JAMES BLANTON, lying on the Roanoke River, in the County of Mecklenburg, shall be, and the same are hereby vested in (names of 7 gentlemen) trustees, to be by them or a majority of them, laid off into lots of half an acre each, with convenient Streets, and established a town by the name of St. Taminy."

Dec 7, 1791. p 298. "So soon as the lands of said JAMES BLANTON shall be laid off into lots, the trustees of each, or a majority of them, shall proceed to sell the same at public auction...and to pay the money arising from the sales of said lots to the proprietors of said lands respectively, or their legal representatives."

Oct 27, 1792. p 574 "Whereas it has been represented to this present General Assembly that it would be of great utility to establish a warehouse for the reception and inspection of tobacco in the Town of St. Taminy, and County of Mecklenburg;

Be it therefore enacted, that an inspection of tobacco shall be, and in the same is hereby established on lot Number Nine in the plat of the said town, the property of JAMES BLANTON, who shall build convenient warehouses at his own expense, to be called and known by the name of St. Taminy's Warehouse.

p 575. "So soon as convenient houses for the reception of tobacco shall be built by the said JAMES BLANTON, the Court of the County of Mecklenburg shall recommend fit persons to be commissioned Inspectors thereof."

30 Jun 1792. Blanton & Hutcheson. List of Warrants issued by Auditor.

LAND PATENTS and LAND GRANTS - RECORDS IN LAND OFFICE, Richmond, VA

JAMES BLANTON May 12, 1770. Book 39, page 33.

"George III. To all ye, Know ye that for divers good causes and considerations but more especially for and in consideration of the sum of 40 shillings of good and lawful money in this our Colony and Dominion of Virginia. We do give, grant and confirm unto JAMES BLANTON one parcel of land containing 400 acres lying and being in the County of Mecklenburg in the Fork of Great Creek - bounded by Wm JONES; HARWELL'S: THOMAS': SANTFORD: RAINEY'S. By Botetourt Lt. & Gov General of Colony at Williamsburg, Virginia.

JAMES BLANTON May 12, 1770. Book 39, page 37.

....for 40 shillings ...grant unto JAMES BLANTON 400 acres being in County of Mecklenburg in the Fork of Great Creek...beginning at DONALD'S and DOUGLASS' corner....on the South Fork of said creek...to JONES' corner; RANEY'S: BOAZMANS', etc.

JAMES BLANTON Dec 11, 1780. Book E, Page 822.

314 acres, for 36 shillings. Survey dated Nov 5, 1773, in Mecklenburg County, on the branches of the Great Creek; Lambert's corner pine; DONALD'S corner; FIELD'S; to Stephen JONES' line. By Thomas Jefferson, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

MECKLENEBURG COUNTY VIRGINIA - Personal Tax List

1803. No Elanton family		1813. Millison Blanton	1
1804. Jas. Elanton	1	1814. Millison Elanton	1
Millison Elanton		Jas. Elanton	1
son Green Blanton		Green Elanton	1
Jas. Blanton, Jr.	1		
1805. Jas. Elanton, Sr.	1	1815. Millison Blanton	
Millison Blanton		Jas. Blanton	
son Green Blanton		Green Blanton	
Jas. Blanton, Jr.	1		
1806. Millison for WM.		1816. Millison Elanton	
Blanton's Estate	1	Green Elanton	
Jas. Blanton, Jr.	1	Wm. Elanton	
1807. Jas. Elanton	1	1817. Millison Blanton	1
Millison Blanton	1	Green Blanton	1
1808. No List		1818. L. James Blanton	1
		Millison Blanton	1
		Green Blanton	1
1809. Jas. Blanton	1	1819. Millison Elanton	1
Millison Elanton		Green Blanton	1
1810. Millison Elanton		Wm. Blanton	1
1811. Millison Blanton	2	1820. Millison Blanton	1
1812. Millison Blanton	2	Green Blanton	1
Jas. Blanton	1	Wm. Blanton	1

There were some freed Blanton
Negroes in Mecklenburg Co. Va.
One was known as "Buck."

Mecklenburg County Virginia. Book 4, p 375. 14 Dec 1801.

Will of WILLIAM ELANTON, wf Milly (Millison).

Son: Green Blanton
 " William Blanton
 " James Ludson Blanton
Dau.: Peggy Elanton

Book 10, p 75. To Millison Blanton his wife.

Mecklenburg County, Virginia Marriages

ELANTON, Green & Nancy D OVERBY	15 Feb 1810	
LAMBERT, Isham & Salley BLANTON	17 Jun 1796	-James Elanton,
STROUD, Willis & Eliza. BLANTON	11 Sep 1792	{ George Sec.
		{ SMALL, Security.

MARRIAGE BONDS - Warren (Old Bate) County, North Carolina

<u>BLANTON</u>			<u>Bondsman & Witness</u>
Christopher & Patty Thompson	Oct 4, 1780		John Williams Thos. Macken, w.
Green & Elizabeth Lambert	Dec 28, 1852		William Mallet Jno. W White, w.
James & Elizabeth McDaniel	Jan 23, 1799		Sam'l Lambert Shd. Green, w.
William & Millison Worsham	_____		Jechorias Toler M Duke Johnson
William & Priscilla Ellis	Nov 16, 1834		Wm U Meacham
William A. & Rebecca Burton	Apr 3, 1841		Marey Jones Burl. Pitchford, JP
Louisa Victoria & Robert Cannon	Dec 1860		David W. Harris Wm A White
Harriot & Osmond E King	Sep 7, 1830		Green Blanton C Drake

MARRIAGE BONDS - Lunenburg County, Virginia

BLANTON

Jane C & Jesse Crenshaw	Jan 14, 1805	
Martha W & Bartlett Stokes	Apr 30, 1802	

MARRIAGE BONDS - Wilkes County, North Carolina

BLANTON

Ann & Elija Church	Oct 10, 1815	John Crain W W Martin
Rebecca & Jesse Laws	Apr 12, 1832	James Ayers B W Cass

General Index to Deeds—Mecklenburg County, Va.—GRANTEES

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* Leads given by reference to Keynote at foot of this column. FROM MARCH 11, 1765 TO DECEMBER 31, 1933

DATE RECORDED	SOLICITS	GRANTEES			GRANTORS	Kind of Instrument	Book	Page
		A B C D E F G H	I J K L M N O	P Q R S T U V W X Y Z				
13 Jan 1768	Elmston		James		Elmston William	Deed	2	77
13 Mar 1769	Do		James		Kindrick John etal	Deed	2	169
18 Sep 1772	Do		James		Booy James	Deed	3	498
8 Feb 1773	Do		James		Lambert John	Deed	3	531
8 Feb 1773	Do		James		Booy James	Deed	3	544
12 Apr 1773	Do		James		Murphy Drury	Deed	4	28
11 Oct 1773	Do		James		Lambert John Sr	Deed	4	177
11 Oct 1773	Do		James		Cole John etal	Deed	4	182
10 Apr 1775	Do		James		Lambert William etal	Deed	4	420
10 Mar 1777	Do		James		Fox Richard	Deed	5	20
9 Mar 1778	Do		James		Roberts Thomas	Deed	5	204
8 Jun 1778	Do		James		James Hardy	Deed	5	267
12 Apr 1784	Do			William	Lambert Jarvis	Deed	6	362
10 Sep 1792	Do		James		Saint Taming Town of by Tra	Deed	8	167
10 Sep 1792	Do			William	Saint Taming Town by Tra	Deed	8	193
8 Sep 1794	Do			William	Holmes John	Deed	8	448
15 Dec 1796	Do		James Sr		Harrison Robert	Deed	9	193
9 Apr 1798	Do			William	Daniel Peter	Deed	9	416
12 Dec 1803	Do		James Sr		Johnson An Est by Adm	Deed	11	474
12 Jan 1807	Do	Stacy			Elmston James Sr	Deed	13	169
21 Feb 1814	Do	Green			Elmston James	P of A	15	247
22 Mar 1814	Do		James		Knoll William Comr	Deed	15	268
19 Aug 1815	Do	Green			Bennett William etal	Deed	16	291
6 Sep 1820	Do		James L		Travis Edw etal	Deed	22	194
18 Sep 1825	Do		James L		Boyd Richard etal	Deed	22	205
14 Nov 1827	Do		James L		Elmston Wm etal	Deed	23	45
24 Nov 1827	Do		James L		Elmston Wm etal	Deed	23	46

WHAT THE CENSUSES ARE AND HOW THEY WERE TAKEN
Genealogic Company, CENDEX Div., Austin, Texas

The Revolutionary War (1776-1783) taught our forefathers that war is an expensive business in terms of manpower. When the English who survived the attempt to impose their king's will on the American colonies finally boarded their troopships for the long voyage back to England, one of every three families in America was headed by a widow. And there was the probability that the English would rearm and return.

Our government, as we know it, began when the 13 colonies who had won their freedom combined into a federal union. They became united states, and named their new nation, which came to exist in 1789. The new nation had a constitution, the same one we use today. The Constitution was written by men who remembered the military necessity for accurate manpower estimates. Accordingly, the Constitution required--and still does--that a population be taken every ten years, and the first one was taken in 1790.

In the early days, the censuses were taken by United States Marshals and their assistants. On instructions from Washington, the marshals visited the inhabitants in their districts and wrote down the names of the heads of household and the number of free white males and females within certain age groups. Thus, a young man 13 years old in 1840 would be shown as one free white male at least ten years old and under 15 years old. He was not further identified. Slaves were similarly listed, but almost never shown by name.

The marshals and population in those days were not well educated, with the result that names were spelled in various ways. It is a good general rule that spellings on the census cannot be depended upon. It is also a good general rule that the handwriting takes skill to read. Additionally, it should be remembered that there were few roads and bridges in those days of wilderness, and not a few households were omitted entirely simply because they couldn't be found or reached.

Starting with the census of 1850, every person was shown by name, age, sex, occupation and state or country of birth. Thus, the information shown on the 1850 and later censuses enables the researcher to learn the names and ages of fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters. In the 1880 census, the state or country of birth of each person's father and mother were also listed when known.

Census records are kept confidential by the government for about 70 years, after which they are turned over to the National Archives and Records Service and made public. The last census of any value to be made public was the census of 1880. The census of 1890 was almost completely destroyed by fire in 1921; only parts of a very few counties survived. The 1790 census of Virginia was destroyed when the English burned our capital during the War of 1812 (our forefathers were right when they thought that the British would return), but a substitute census was made from the tax rolls of the state in 1792. Portions of other censuses have been lost or destroyed by other means.

The marshals who visited the households and gathered information had little idea of the genealogical value of their work to future generations. They were simply doing a job, and the sooner it was finished the better.

There was no care taken in spelling or in writing, and their lists were not indexed. When a census was finished, it was published and posted in public places in each county (quite a variation from today's secrecy about such things) for all to see. Another copy was made and sent to Washington. Once the statistics were drawn therefrom and interested military men knew how many young men were available to fight a war, the censuses were bound together and stacked away to gather dust for many years.

In the early 1900s, a lobby of wealthy and influential genealogists and historians succeeded in getting the government to index the 1790 census. The job was so expensive that a congressional appropriation had to be made to finance the project. After that, no source of money big enough to pay for indexing the other censuses has been tapped. Not until lately. Thus, no indexes.

In the 1930s, microphotography made its appearance, and the bound census volumes were filmed. Libraries and researchers then equipped themselves with microfilm readers and bought film from the government. It is a very common sight today to see researchers in libraries across the nation patiently spending hour after hour and month after month reading microfilm in the hope of locating and identifying ancestors. With the growth of interest in genealogy, census indexes have become sorely needed. Libraries cannot afford all the microfilm readers they need to satisfy their patrons.