

OUR FAMILY STORY

Winter 2005

Hello everyone;

Welcome to the **tenth** issue of our family newsletter. As the descendants of **Jerre' Moreland** and **Pearl Scruggs** we all share a common heritage. It is my desire to pass along to you and your families some of the chronicles that I am collecting on our ancestors. I hope that you will share it with your children so that they can also understand how firmly rooted we are into the history of our country.

May I remind you that the entire family can access our family tree on the internet. The database was uploaded to the World Connect site at Rootsweb.com. You may access our family tree by going to <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/> . On that page you will see on the left column a box entitled "jump to a specific tree". Type in *jemoreland* and click on "go" or just search for any name in the database and you will be taken to the record.

OUR GRANDFATHERS AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

I'm sure that many families would be pleased to know that they had a grandfather who fought for the independence of our nation. I'm pleased to say that we can count at least six (6) of our grandfathers who warrant that honor. As such I've created brief sketches of what is known of their service during the Revolutionary War. To read more about these ancestors go to our Family Tree on the Internet.

Nicholas Bishop III (1760-1843) - Nicholas Bishop was a Patriot of the American Revolution having served as a Private in the South Carolina Militia. Around 1776-77 Nicholas, at the age of sixteen, entered the service of the United States in Chester District South Carolina as a private in the foot service. He volunteered for a three-month tour before he was of sufficient age to be required by law to do duty. He then marched under the command of Capt. Hugh Whiteside to Charleston. From there to the Two Sisters ferry on the Savannah River. He was there stationed to the end of the three months and was then continued in service for several days longer, waiting for recruits. Sometime after performing the aforementioned tour, he was drafted for a three-month tour and marched from Chester District to the Four Holes in South Carolina. Nicholas was there stationed and continued doing his duty to the end of the tour, and was then dismissed. After the fall of Charleston, and at the time the British marched into the country, he volunteered in a unit under the command of his brother Captain Henry Bishop. Nicholas then moved with his unit to Clems Branch near the border between North and South Carolina and there joined rebel forces under the command of General Thomas Sumpter. The army then marched from there to Rocky Mount South Carolina where they engaged the British on July 20, 1780. Subsequent to this encounter Nicholas and his unit moved on to the area of Hanging Rock creek where they again encountered the enemy in battle. Nicholas's brother's John and Captain Henry Bishop also fought in the Battle of Hanging

Rock. Unfortunately his brother Henry died of wounds received during the fighting. Nicholas was then put under the command of his future father-in-law, Major Michael Dickson, and continued with General Sumpter's army until his defeat at the Battle of Fishing Creek on August 18, 1780.

Michael Dickson (1731-1825) - In 1777, Michael was a Captain, under Colonel Samuel Jack, in the regiment of Minutemen serving the state of Georgia. Many of his kinsmen also served in Georgia, including Cousin David Dickson, son of William Dickson, who later became a General. The proposed purpose of the South Carolina Militia's service in Georgia was to defend against Indian attack. But, this was the first year after the signing of The Declaration of Independence, and the service was likely twofold. Upon his return to South Carolina, Michael was promoted to the rank of Major. Major Dickson served with General Sumter's patriot forces after the fall of Charleston in May 1780. He was present on August 6, 1780 at the Battle of Hanging Rock. It is interesting to note that 13-year-old Andrew Jackson observed the battle that day. It is probable that Major Dickson also participated in the Battle of Kings Mountain on October 7, 1780. Somewhere among his Bates descendents are some small silver spoons made from the epaulettes he wore on his uniform. On September 2, 1937, an article in The Duplin Times entitled, "Our Yesterdays", by A.T. Outlaw, stated, "Michael Dickson was, an outstanding Patriot during the Revolutionary War, and served as an officer in South Carolina and Georgia".

Robert Douglass (1758-1837)- On September 3, 1777 Robert enlisted into the Continental Army and served at various times during the Revolutionary War, amounting to 8 months. His rank was that of a private with the Virginia Troops. He served under Capt. John Talbot and Colonels Mason and Vance and was present at the siege of Yorktown. Robert Douglass was pensioned on Certificate 22 052, which was issued under the Act of June 7, 1832.

James Johnson (1740-1849)- During the American Revolution he served in the Army as a Ranger with a unit from Westmoreland county Pennsylvania. James's patriotic service during the Revolution is acknowledged in DAR records.

Peter Pinnell (1755-1845)- Peter served with the South Carolina State Troops during the American Revolution. He enlisted into the Army in the month of November 1781 to serve under Colonel Wade Hampton who was attempting to raise a company of cavalry in the regular army but did not succeed. In consequence Peter was assigned to a regiment under the command of a Colonel Wayman. In the fall of 1782 after the British had taken Charleston he was taken into the foot service regiment under a Colonel Ennis and he served in this regiment until peace was proclaimed in April 1783. That same time after peace was proclaimed he was selected, under a Lieutenant Ballard, as one of the four taken from each company to guard the goods from Charleston to Augusta that had been given by treaty to the Cherokee Indians. On his return from which expedition he found that the troops had been discharged in his absence and his officers dispersed.

A record has also been found that prior to his service in the American Army, Peter had also enlisted on 15 February 1781 at Camden, South Carolina for 60 days as a member of Captain George Dawkins', South Carolina Royalists, and that he mustered in with this group from 24 February 1781 to 24 April 1781. If this is true our Grandfather Peter had the distinction of serving on both sides during the American Revolution!!

Samuel Scott Scruggs (1757-1830) - On August 22, 1777 Samuel Scott Scruggs, Sr. enlisted in James Franklin's Company of Foot (infantry) under the alias of Scott Martin.

He was 19 or 20 years old at the time. Captain Franklin's company was mustered in Amherst County as Company 3 of the 10th Virginia Regiment. Until September 28, 1778 the 10th VA Regiment was part of the 3rd (Weedon's) Brigade of the Continental Army (7). Probably fought at the Battle of Germantown on October 4, 1777. There is little doubt that Samuel spent the infamous winter at Valley Forge when General Washington chose to winter the Continental Army not far from Philadelphia. On June 28, 1778 he participated in the Battle of Monmouth and was probably wounded during this event. After Monmouth, Gen. Washington took the Continental Army to White Plains, New York. From December 1778 to March 1779 his service record shows that Samuel was at Camp Middle Brook in New Jersey. He is reported at Camp Haverstraw, NY in November 1779, and present at Morristown Nov-Dec 1779, the 1779-80 winter headquarters for the Continental Army. This winter was as hard or harder on the troops than the winter at Valley Forge. In his pension application Samuel Scruggs indicated that he had served for two years and was discharged in Pennsylvania. It is likely that he was discharged shortly around November or December 1779.

DID YOU KNOW?? !!!

That our direct ancestor to have the longest life was Grandfather James Johnson who lived to be 109 years old!! Remember you can now read more about James and his descendents on the Internet.

A QUOTE TO NOTE

"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."

--- Mother Teresa

Always open for suggestions as to what you might want to look for in future issues of "Our Family Story". Best Wishes for a Happy New Year to all!!

*Frederick Siler
889 Dante Court
Mantua, NJ 08051
Phone: 856.468.9394
Email: silrem@comcast.net*