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Independent Republic Quarterly, 2011, Vol. 45, No. 1

Horry County Historical Society

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Horry County Historical Society, "Independent Republic Quarterly, 2011, Vol. 45, No. 1" (2011). The Independent Republic Quarterly. 153.

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The Independent Republic Quarterly

A Publication of the

Horry County Historical Society

Volume 45, No. 1 ISSN 0046-8843 2011

2011 Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Membership Meeting on Sunday, June 26
- Membership Meeting on Sunday, October 9

The mission of the Society is:

I) to discover and encourage the preservation of all written records and oral traditions touching on or pertaining to the history of Horry County, South Carolina and to aid and encourage individuals and associations in compiling and publishing historical material pertaining to Horry County. 2) to encourage preservation and restoration of historic buildings and sites in Horry County.

The Independent Republic Quarterly

Submit materials and comments for the newsletter to:

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Web Site: http://www.hchsonline.org

War Related Notices from the *Horry Dispatch*, October 3, 1861

Headquarters Peo Dec Legion. MARION C. H., Sept. 28d 1861.

FOROKE NO 11

I. The following companies within the limits of the SEd Regiment, S. C. M., having reported their muster rolls for service in this kegion are organized into a Regiment in the servine will be denominated and rank affirst Regiment thereof:

1. Wachitaw Rifles, Capt. Nesbit

2. Bull Oreck Rangers, Capt. Smark

All Saints Rifles, Capt. Bessant
 Conwayboro' Palmetto Guards,
 Malloy

Cool Springs Home Guard, Capt. Mish.
 Blanton's Cross Roads Volunteers, Capt.

7. Floyd Guerillas, Capt. Grainger

8. Waccamaw Guerillas, Capt. Todd.

9. Dog Bluff Home Guards, Capt. Best,

II An election is hereby ordered for a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major to command said Regiment, to be held on Saturday, the fifth day of October next, at the respective Company muster grounds of the Companies above named.

III. The Captains of Companies respective ly in said Regiment, will duly notify their Companies of said election, and will, on the day of election, call to their assistance two of his Licutenants, manage and hold the same, (taking only the votes of his Company,) opening and closing the polls at the usual times for military elections, and upon closing the polls the Managers will proceed to count the ballots and make a return thereof, certified by the Managers, to the commanding General at this place, to the care of Captain R. F. Graham.

By order of General W. W. HARLLEE, Commanding Pee Dee Legion.

R. F. GRAHAM, Acting Adj't-Gen'l. Sept 26 20 2t

CAROLINA GREYS.



TTEND drill of your Company at Conwayboro' on Saturday the 5th of October. Punctual attendance required. By order of T. S. GILLESPIE, Captain. Oct 3

State of South Carolina.

ADJUTANT AND INSP'TOR GEN'L'S OFFICE. [SPECIAL ORDERS NO. 270.]

South Carolina, having approved of the organization proposed to be raised by Gen. W. W. Harllee, in the Districts of Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg, Marion, Marlboro' and Darlington, it is hereby ordered:

I. That W. W. Harlles, of Marion District, S. C., be fully empowered to issue all necessary orders and to take all necessary measures for the organization of the Peo Dec. Legion, in accordance with the plan submitted by him to this Department.

II. General Harlice will report from time to time his progress in the execution of this order, and will send copies of all orders &c. issued by him, to this Department.

By order of the Governor.

S. R. GIST, Adj't Insp. Gen'l of S. C.

Sept 26

In observance of the 150th Anniversary of the War Between The States, the Horry County Historical Society would like to collect copies of photographs, original letters and diaries from that era of veterans from Horry District to add to our collection and for possible future publication. (See contact information listed on the left)

President's Letter

Our Horry County Historical Society is fortunate to have a lovely, renovated, historical home as its headquarters. Without a physical presence, an organization desirous of making its mission a force in the community is at a marked disadvantage. As you might imagine, maintaining this property requires significant funding. We have a few fund-raising projects in progress but welcome other ideas. With no paid staff, we have a tremendous task of not only preserving this property but also fulfilling the scope of our mission.

I thank our many volunteers without whom we would literally cease to be. All of you deserve a standing ovation. The group is varied, native Horryites as well as newcomers, but all with a heart for the community they call home. Volunteering can be rooted in altruism, belief in the group's mission, a desire to reconnect with old friends or make new ones. You do not even have to be a history buff. Why you serve is not the most important thing; my experience has been that the whole is always greater than the sum of its parts. The critical thing is the coming together for a common goal. And who does not wish to have an even more vital community?

Just think about it. What would it be like if those who came before us did not bother to preserve the past? Unfortunately today our culture has a "throw-away, one-night-stand" mentality. We need a commitment, large or small, from all of our members, to support the Horry County Historical Society's mission in whatever manner works for them now. Your commitment is tangible evidence of your belief in the importance of the long-standing values and traditions that have made the Independent Republic of Horry a wonderful place to live today.

In conclusion I quote author, historian, and teacher, Gerda Lerner: "All human beings are practicing historians. We live our lives; we tell our stories. It is as natural as breathing. It is as important as breathing, too. History shapes our self-definition and our relationship to community; it locates us in time and place and helps to give meaning to our lives."

June Thompson Brown, June 2011

2011 Horry County Historical Society Officers

June Thompson Brown	President
J. Benjamin Burroughs	Past President
Sandra Bellamy Wrenn	Vice President
Shirley Long Johnson	Secretary
Judy Brown Gidney	Treasurer
Janice Gardner Cutts	Director
Carlisle E. Dawsey	Director
B. Pratt Gasque, Jr	Director
Sharyn Barbee Holliday	Director
Emma Lou Thompson Johnson	Director
V. Chyrel Stalvey	Director

The Independent Republic Quarterly

V. Chyrel Stalvey.....Editor

Staff

J. Benjamin Burroughs Carlisle E. Dawsey B. Pratt Gasque, Jr. Sharyn B. Holliday Shirley L. Johnson

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The Bull Creek Democratic Club

After the War Between the States, the United States Federal government did not allow citizens of South Carolina to continue having local militia units. As a result, "political associations" of various names began to be formed throughout the state. One such "association" was the *Bull Creek Democratic Club* which was made up mostly of the citizens of the area of Horry County near Bull Creek. Below is a copy of the first page of the club's original constitution followed by a transcription of the entire document. The wording of the first paragraph is extremely interesting as it gives the reader an insight into the political feelings of the members. The document is undated, however it would have probably been written sometime between 1868 and 1876.

the Colub there after

Constitution of the "Bull Creek Democratic Club"

We the undersigned do hereby agree to form a political association to be known as the "Bull Creek Democratic Club," for the purpose of co-operating with the Democratic party of the State of South Carolina, in perpetuating a sound Government, maintaining the Federal Constitution, and the rights of the States in their original purity, as handed down to us by our Fathers, and opposing by all legal and peacable [sic] means in our power the odious and despotic rule of the Radical Party: And the more effectually, to carry out the objects of our association, we agree to be governed by the following rules, regulations, and pledges of honor.

Art I

The officers of this Club shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Committee; who shall be elected by ballot and serve for such period as may be determined by the Club, and all vacancies shall be filled at the first meeting of the Club there after.

Art II

The Executive Committee, shall consist of five members whose duty it shall be to collect and dissiminate [sic] information, and to advise the Club with regard to such policy as in their judgement [sic] shall subserve and promote the general good and success of the Club.

Art III

It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep record of the proceedings of the Club and act as corresponding Secretary.

Art IV

The Treasurer shall pay out no money except upon the order of the Executive Committee, approved by the President of the Club.

Art V

The [slated or stated?] meetings of this Club shall be held once every fortnight but special meetings may be called whenever necessary by the President, or, in his absence by the next highest officer.

Art VI

The rules of order for the government of this Club shall be such as are usual in all parlimentary [sic] bodies.

Art VII

All good citazens [sic] are cordially invited to join this club upon signing these rules regulations and pledges of honor

Art VIII

There shall shall [sic] be an active working committee, to consist of ten members, whose duty it shall be to take the cencus [sic] of the voters of this beat ascertain their political bias and obtain any other statistical information which may further the objects of this association. They shall also ascertain what persons have not registered their names and use all legitimate means to induce them to register, and during elections to canvass thoroughly this beat-use their best endeavrs [sic] to persuade all doubtful voters, to vote for the candidate of the Democratic Party.

Art IX

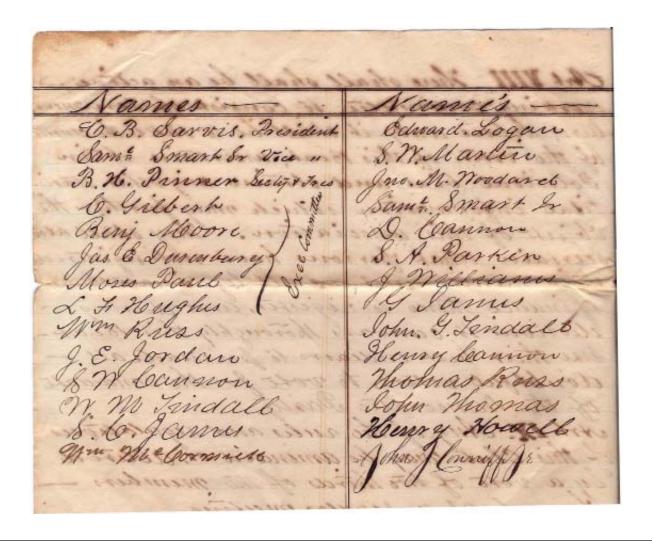
Any of the rules and regulations of this Club may be amended or altered by a vote of two thirds of the members present at a regular meeting.

Art X

The following pledge shall be signed by every person upon becoming a member of the "Bull Creek Democratic Club."

I the undersigned do hereby pledge my honor as a man to stand to and abide by the rules and regulations of this club, to vote for the nominees of the Democratic Party and to promote by every ligetimate [sic] means in my power the object of its formations.

Names		Names
C. B. Sarvis,	President	Edward Logan
Sam¹ Smart Sr.	Vice President	S. W. Martin
B. H. Pinner	Secty + Tres	Jno. M. Woodard
C. Gilbert	Exec. Committee	Sam ¹ Smart, Jr.
Benj Moore	Exec. Committee	D. Cannon
Jas E Dusenbury	Exec. Committee	S. A. Parker
Moses Paul	Exec. Committee	J Williams
L F Hughes	Exec. Committee	G James
Wm Russ		John G. Tindall
J. E. Jordan		Henry Cannon
S W Cannon		Thomas Russ
W M Tindall		John Thomas
S. C. James		Henry Howell
W ^m M ^c Cormick		John J Conniff, Jr



History of the Burroughs High School Class of 1912 by Gussie Vaught, '12

Transcribed from *The Contonian* Vol. II., No. 3, May, 1912

To record all the sins of omission and commission of the Class of '12, since we began our career in Burroughs Graded School, ten long years ago, would require too much time; however, we want to recall the most important events with a few brief remarks.

[1902] We, John Jernigan, Frank Thompson and myself, entered school together September 21, 1902, with several other pupils, at the old school building, with Miss Mary McLauchlin as teacher, who was liked by all very much. During this year I thought that more pleasure could be had at school than at home playing dolls.

[1903] After the first year we all enjoyed the three months' vacation, but were ready to start back again in September, when I found a new girl in our grade - Donna Coleman — with Miss Lauchlin still our teacher. She was kind and good to us, so, with love for our teacher and books, the second year passed away.

[1904] After another three months' vacation, we again started to school, in the third grade, with another new member added to our roll — Lee Nicholas—under Miss Rosa Melton as teacher. This was the year in which we began the study of arithmetic, "that great book," and you know we felt as if we were nearly grown. We studied hard, and at the end of this term received our promotion cards to the fourth grade from our superintendent, Mr. Wells.

[1905] The next September we met two new pupils—Emma Sweet and Evan Howell—and Miss Ella Roland was our teacher. This year our lessons became harder and harder. We now began to see that school was not all fun, but work, and began to study more. During this term our new school building was completed, and we moved into it. This was certainly a treat to the pupils and teachers, and I am sure we appreciated it very much. We all felt encouraged, and found that we could do more and better work. At the close of this term we received our promotion cards to the fifth grade.

[1906] Again the next September we started with a new teacher, Miss Atwater, but to our surprise found no new members to join us. We studied hard this year, and at the end of nine months were promoted

to the sixth grade.

[1907] With a new teacher and a few new arrangements, we found ourselves going to school again the next fall. Also we had four new members to be added to our roll—Alexander Doak, Mary McMillan, Richard Nichols and George Dietz. Mr. P. W. Bethea was our principal this term.

[1908] When we entered the seventh grade the next year, we found a new superintendent and principal, Mr. J. M. Mitchell and Mr. R. C. Hunter. Luther Williams, Granville Wright and Ross Johnson joined our class. This was the year in which we began to study algebra and Latin. We found these studies to be very hard at first, but after careful study and instruction from the teachers, we began to like them very much. At the close of this term, the teachers and pupils parted to spend another three months of enjoyment.

[1909] With Mr. Hunter as superintendent and a new principal, Miss Daisy Pate, we began the next September, and met in our grade the new pupils, Honor Sarvis, Douglas Burbage and Francis Holliday. Now our grade was getting to be very large, but at the end of this term, when the final examinations were held, our number had fallen off some, as some of the pupils had moved away.

[1910] When we entered the ninth grade we found eight new members in our class—Joe Sarvis, Grace Haselden, Lena and Annie Johnson, Isla, Minta, Charley and Pearly Page—also another new principal, Mr. E. S. C. Baker, and several other new teachers. We found our work very hard this year, for we were preparing for the last and happiest year of all. This year our little magazine, The Contonian, was published at the suggestion of Mr. Baker.

[1911] With Mr. Hunter still our superintendent, but with a new principal, Miss Ferrell, we entered the tenth grade with one happy thought, and a sad one also. The happy thought was that this was our last year of school; the sad one was that we had lost our brightest schoolmate, Richard Nichols. From the time Richard entered our grade, in the sixth year, he led our class, and it was sad, yes, very sad and very hard, for us to begin our senior year without him. Now we have finished our course in this school and are just starting upon life's journey.

To the members of the ninth grade I will say that you may rest assured that wherever it may be our lot to dwell, or whatever fortune may betide, the members of the Class of 1912 will ever look back upon their school days, their association with you,

their defeats by you, and their victories over you as the happiest and sweetest of memories. But the senior year, the ideal year of school life, is the one which has centered in it our happiest memories.



1912
The Graduating class of the Burroughs High School.

Reading From Left on Bottom Row is: Frank A. Thompson, President; Donna Coleman, Secretary; Mary McMillan, W. Kenneth Suggs. Second Row - Lee Nicholas, Gussie Vaught, Lena Johnson, Emma Sweet, John M. Jernigan, Grace Haselden, Annie Johnson, Ross Johnson.

From the *Horry Dispatch*, March, 27, 1862

The women of the West are offering their preserve kettles and other utensils of suitable metal in response to the call of Gen. Beauregard for bell metal for costing.

The women of the West are offering their preserve kettles and other utensils of suitable metal in response to the call of Gen. Beauregard for bell metal for casting.

From *The Horry Herald*, Conway, SC Thursday, July 27, 1911

DROWNING AT BEACH The Cruel Waves Claim Life of Two Children A NOBLE YOUNG HERO DEAD

A Very Sad Occurrence Took Place at Myrtle Beach Last Thursday Which Cast A Deep Gloom Over the Entire Community.—A Son Of Mr. R. B. Nichols Gave Up His Life to Save Those of His Sisters and Little Miss Annie Sessions.

Myrtle Beach was saddened last Thursday morning by the drowning of Richard Nichols, 18 years of age, and Miss Annie Sessions about 14 years of age. The remains of Miss Sessions were brought over on the afternoon train and the interment took place on the following day at Lake Side Cemetery and those of Mr. Nichols were interred in the family burying ground at Cool Spring in the presence of a large crowd of sorrowing relatives and friends.

Early on Thursday morning Miss Annie Sessions and her two smaller sisters, Julian Lewis a young lad and Maude Nichols were bathing in the surf. There was no grown people in with them it seems and none nearby at the time. It was low tide but the sea was smoother than usual at that hour. The girls seemed to get beyond their depth and made out cry. Richard Nichols, a brother of Maude Nichols, was not in the surf, but he saw the trouble of the children and went in with his clothes on to save them. He saved two young girls, and went back to get Miss Sessions but at this time he became exhausted and went down himself, and when rescued was past recovery.

Messrs J A Garran and J S Stanley also Goul Stevens, a negro carpenter, were at work on some new cottages on the beach and they all went as quickly as they could to render assistance. Mr. Garran brought Richard Nichols out by hard efforts.

He could not be revived. Goul Stevens succeeded in saving the life of Maude Nichols. As to Annie Sessions, she was brought out by J S Stanley and Joe Sirkis [Sarkis], but too late to revive her, and it seems that she was already dead when rescued from the water. This unfortunate occurrence took place just before 9 o'clock.

A message reached Conway quickly and Dr. H H Burroughs was taken over to the beach in an automobile of H L Buck. Dr J S Dusenbury went over on the special train which left here for the beach as soon as an engine could be obtained. Dr. Scarborough was called from Burcol. Everything possible was done to bring the drowned children back to life but without success.

Richard Nichols was the eldest son of R B Nichols. He had accepted a position with W Boyd Jones, the merchant at Justice, S. C., and was with a family party to spend a few days at the beach. Annie Sessions was a daughter of Mrs R G Sessions, and a lovable little girl.

A number of people in Conway, upon hearing the distressing news on Thursday morning, went over to the Beach on the special train.

The bodies were met at the depot late in the day by a large number of the associates and friends of the dead.

HCHS 2011 SPRING TOUR

The Horry County Historical Society's held its quarterly General Membership meeting on Saturday, April 9, 2011, at the Horry County Museum's L.W. Paul Living History Farm located at the corner of Harris Shortcut Road and Highway 701 N. just outside of Conway.

Following a brief business meeting and lunch, Walter Hill, Director of the Horry County Museum, gave a walking tour of the farm, including community buildings, the homestead area and the planting area. "Minnie" the Mule kept a close eye on the group as our members walked by while he and his master, Wayne Skipper, were hand-plowing the corn field.

In 2006, Horry County Council designated 17 acres of land for use by the Horry County Museum for a living history farm. Larry Paul, a local businessman with a rich farming heritage in Horry County, offered to fund construction of the buildings for a family farm depicting farm life in Horry County from 1900-1955.

Guests to the "living history farm" are able to observe and participate in activities that would have been commonplace on traditional family farms between 1900 and 1955. Plowing with mules, making lye soap, grinding grits, blacksmithing, curing meat, preserving vegetables, milking cows and harvesting crops are only a few hands-on activities the farm offers.



HCHS members meet at the L.W. Paul Living History Farm



HCHS members get a tour of the L.W. Paul Living History Farm by Horrry County Museum Director Walter Hill.



"Minnie" the mule pulling the plow. See article on page 11 about "Minnie's" work.

From the Horry Dispatch, 1861

[The following was written at Camp Marion, a Confederate military camp located on the Georgetown coastline.]

CORRESPONDENCE CAMP MARION, Aug 21st, 1861.

Dear Dispatch:--Well, here I am to pen the "Camp news," and using the soldier's desk, namely, lying flat on my face, and the ground supporting my paper. Our men are improving fast, and bid fair to make as [fine] a Regiment as any in the Confederate [serv]ice. The fact of the business is we have officers to make us so. I have full confidence in them, and especially my Colonel; [and] if he was to tell me, "you will dine in Boston on Sunday next," I should shave, put on a clean shirt, and brush my shoes. However, I hope to avoid an arrest, as according to the Regulations, we must not "praise" our superiors or inferiors.

Come let us stroll through the camp, and you will get a glimpse at human nature. Here around this rude table, you see the "city gentlemen," playing a social game of whist or euchre. At this table, you see the true military genius, with his files of "knights, pawns, bishops, queens and kings," moving in this direction and that, flanking, filing, and ploying and deploying his columns on the board. At this table, you find the good, old-fashioned Methodists, with note books, and singing "This is the road that leads to death," (appropriate) while the next group chimes in "Dixie." They appear more lively than the sage Wesleyites.

We pass on, and here is a crowd used to rural pursuits, who are amusing themselves with "three hops and a jump," and immediately in their rear, a foot-race is coming off, and "side bets run high." The next street, and we and our boys suddenly changed to "Yankee Sullivans," and "Tom Hyers,"* and the shouts indicate that some "prince of the ring," has had a pelter bestowed on his smeller; and on nearer approach we find "Doo L." bestowing his special attention to the lower jaw of "the baby." Listen, here's a private fe_ng in his pocket for a chicken. [torn area] our ventriloquist "Laurie" is in the neighborhood. But here comes "Shaw" and his amused crowd; and here goes "Duggan" with his banjo to amuse the Staff with his "Grape Vine Waltz." We are now entering "Beauregard Avenue," and here is the "Governor." The Governor, you know, is a "gentleman of color," is a capital cook, and is special aid to our Second Sergeant, S.?. A crowd near him of course, plaguing him about his corps, the "Guards." A bystander remarks, "I saw a Brooks Guard man in the Guard House today." "Not so," replies the "Governor," "two tings you nebber see in de Guard House, a Brooks Gard, and General Beauregard, and you nebber see no ting

dere but a blackgard, so look out for yourself." And the "Governor" thinks he is very fortunate in his [illegible].

Here comes a squad of the "Mingo Men," at "double quick," and we will "file right" out of their way. Here are some of the officers of the "Rifle Guard," and a squad of "Companies B., C., and D.," learning the Zouave drill, a "blow to the right," a "blow to the left," with a few more lessons in "rear right vault," and they will be a dead match for the "pet lambs."

The boys are all well, and getting fat on good substantial fare. "They take" the duties of a soldier well, and it is noticeable how quick and regular they are in their habits. You constantly hear "left," "right," "one," "two," three." In fact, when they eat, it is by numbers, and when they take a chew of tobacco, it is "attention," "take a chew of tobacco," "one," "two." When they go to bed and one wishes to move, it is, "right turn," or "left turn," and over go the contents of the whole tent. In fact, we are a military set now. More anon.

Yours. PETER SIMMONS

* Yankee Sullivan and Tom Hyer were Champion prizefighters in the years before the War Between the States. Hyer defeated Sullivan in a widely publicized boxing match on February 7, 1849, and won \$10,000. Hyer retired in 1851 and Sullivan claimed his title.

From the Horry Dispatch, Sept. 26, 1861

The Pee Dee Legion.
We publish Gen. Harllee's orders in this issue; and sincerely hope that the Horry Regiment, in selecting its field officers, will have an eye single to competency, and not popularity. The signs of the times indicate that the Legion may very soon, have work to do, and its Regiments should have leaders who will understand and perform their duty.

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From the Horry Dispatch, Aug. 29, 1861

CORRESPONDENCE

[For the Horry Dispatch.] CAMP "BEP," RICHMOND, VA. August, 22d 1861

Dear Editor:--The Horry Rebels, after quite a pleasant journey on the Railroad, are now in camp enjoying some of the [sights?] of a soldier's life. The weather has been anything else but agreeable since we came here. When it is not raining, it is hot as thunder.

There are ten companies here (all full but two.) under command of Major Smith--Col. Gregg being in South Carolina but is daily expected. Major Smith is a pleasant looking unassuming, military gentleman, and is well liked through the regiment.

There are many Regiments here from other states, and if I am informed correctly, there are some men near this city. The 14th North Carolina Regiment, Col. Clarke commanding, arrived yesterday in a rain storm and are encamped quite near us.

The "Rebels" attract the attention of the whole camp, they being the most lively and consequently the most noisy set of "boys" on the hill. Our "street" from 8 o'clock at night till 9 o'clock, is a perfect circus, each man trying to make a different noise from anybody else. We are well equipped with everything a soldier needs. The fact is our Captain is just the man; so far he has made the comfort of his "boys" his greatest study. You may believe me when I say that the "Horry Rebels" are the best equipped corps in the 1st Regiment S. C. V.! And this is all owing to the capability of our Captain, and the knowledge he has of the different departments. The fact is for a captain to get what is due his men in this service, he must know how to pull the ropes.

As to how long we shall stay here is something I don't know, and I very much doubt if anybody else can tell anything about it.

If a person wants to get out of the world, as regards the news, he has but to go into camp in Virginia! It is a singular fact that persons anywhere else, are better posted as to war news, than the officers themselves in the camps.

It is rather a curiosity to see the Lincoln prisoners in this city. On one street there are six five-story buildings full of them. The windows are filled all the time with a variety of countenances--some calm and apparently contented, others rough and look "daggers."

[Torn area here is missing]

...has just passed through our camp, leaving at the soldiers' tents little bundles of pins, needles and thread.

These little things tell the feeling of the Virginia ladiestheir hearts are with us, and their hands doing. See even the little girls, (whose hearts are as large as the State of Rhode Island) are mindful of the soldiers' comfort.

The merchants of Richmond, I must not neglect, they too are mindful, never forgetting to charge a soldier twice as much for an article as they do anybody else. Just think of charging me fifteen cents for a drink of poor whiskey, when the Major used to offer the good liquor for nothing!! O! Major, if I could take one more "nip," with you, I think I could fight better!

A few of our boys are complaining, but nothing serious, the change of climate and water is perhaps the cause.

Hope to hear soon that you have entirely recovered from your attack of sickness.

We would be glad to get the *Dispatch* occasionally or any paper from that way.

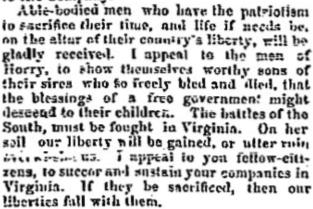
I intended mentioning a few little things connected with our journey to this city, but will not make this already lengthy letter any longer.

You may again hear from A "Rebel."

From the Horry Dispatch, Sept. 26, 1861

NOTICE.

AJOR T. H. HOLMES, will not as Recruiting Master, to recruit for the ranks of the "Horry Volunteers," now in Virginia. Authority will be conferred on him to give free transportation by Railread to the Company.



Sept 26 30-if T. W. BEATY.

HARLLEE & WALSH ATTORNEYS AT LAW

AND SOLICITORS IN EQUITY Office-Conwaybore', S. C.

Gen. W. W. HARLLEE, JOS. T. WALSH. Feb 28

"MINNIE" POWER

By Pratt Gasque

The Horry County Historical Society (HCHS) held its General Membership Meeting for Spring 2011 at the Larry Paul Living Farm Museum just north of Conway, S. C. The purpose of this Museum is to show what life was like on a small farm located in Horry County during the early and mid-Twentieth Century. There are fields and beds used to grow various crops, farm buildings used for particular purposes, and different sources of mechanical power to help increase the productivity of running the farm and increasing its output.

After an excellent oral description by Walter Hill of what life was like on a typical farm like this one fifty to a hundred years ago, the members went outside to become aquainted with the specific aspects and equipment of the farm. It should be remembered that a typical farm of that era usually had only one family living and working on it. Humans are only so strong and have only so much energy, and thus these farmers were always seeking new ways to increase their output with less drudgery imposed on themselves.

The first exhibit was a large field being plowed by a farmer and a mule. The first thing noticed was how long and straight the plowed rows were, and then how, after plowing several rows, the mule and farmer got up on the narrow piece of land between the rows and then plowed that piece of land. What was unusual or questionable about this activity?

First, why a mule? A mule is a cross between a male donkey (a jack) and a female horse (mare). A donkey is notoriously stubborn. Put another way, it is a creature of habit and does not vary much as it goes through its motions. So this trait, diluted somewhat in a mule, is good while pulling a plow because the farmer has to put both hands on the plow to make sure it cuts right. But if he had to constantly guide the mule with the reins to keep the rows straight, the plowing would be much more erratic, and the output per acre less. A horse needs more guiding, and a donkey might not go at all. So once started, a mule tends to go straight at a steady pace without much guidance.

A mule is as large as a horse, and one gets as much pulling power from a mule as from a horse, but more than from the smaller donkey. Also a mule has a relatively small hoof for its size, and thus does not tear up the ground or crops as much as a beast of burden with a large footprint, such as an ox.

As a hybrid, a mule has no offspring or mating instincts, and thus no "downtime" from these activities. Finally, a mule is a low maintenance animal that normally does not require a lot of food or special treatment or care.

In our modern age, it is hard to visualize that the introduction of the telegraph had a much bigger impact on daily life and commerce than the later introduction of the internet. In the same way, we can only imagine how positive an impact the acquisition of a mule had to the life of a small farmer in years gone by.

Incidentally, the mule at the farm is named "Minnie".

WE'RE READY TO MEET YOU ON THE PORCH!

By Emma Lou Johnson



Our Historical Bryan House Tours have started, and we hope you will come meet us on the porch soon to enjoy a tour. Tours are available every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. They last about forty-five minutes and cost only \$5.00. Most visitors have been out-oftowners, some from as far away as Canada, but they all loved rocking on the porch before their tour began. We have pictures to show, stories to tell, and plenty of good ole southern hospital to share. So far there has been only one lady from Conway to come. She has lived in Conway for a short time and wanted to learn more about the history of her "new hometown." If you have guests at your home this summer, consider bringing them to the Bryan House and let us tell them some stories about your roots even you may not have heard. All proceeds go to help with the upkeep of this wonderful historical home that is also the headquarters of the Horry County Historical Society. Our tours are appropriate for ages ten and up. The upstairs is not handicap accessible, but the wonderful rocking chairs are always available on the porch to enjoy while other group members make their way upstairs for that part of the tour.

Advance tickets are available at the Conway Visitors Center on Third Avenue. A limited number of tickets are sold for each tour, so we can treat you like "home folks" stopping by for a visit. Many faithful volunteers have been planning and working for almost a year to make these tours interesting and available to our local folks and visiting guests. The Historical Society encourages you, your family and friends to support our efforts by attending a tour and telling your friends about them. We're ready to see you on the porch, so "Y'all come now, you hear?"





Can You Help Identify?

Burroughs & Collins Tenant Farmers c. 1952-53

Above photo contributed by John Lewis whose father is on the left of the last row holding a child - Henry R. Lewis with daughter, Carolyn L. McDowell. Edward Burroughs, of Burroughs & Collins Co., is on the far right wearing a tie.

Whittemore Training School Class of 1935

The school was located at the corner of Racepath Avenue and Thompson Street in Conway and Robert E. Rhue was Principal. Front L to R: Unknown, Cornell E. Bellamy, Ruth M. Rogers, Maria E. Rhue (Vice-president), Unknown; Middle: Mattie L. Moore (Secretary), Unknown, Leila V. Page [Mention], Otto M. Banta [Conway] (assistant Secretary); Back Row: Unknown, Joe L. Watson, and Lee Roy Rainbow (President).

Commencement was held on May 10, at Bethel A.M.E. Church. Other members of the class include Daisy A. Bellamy, Jessie H. DeWitte (Poetess), Frankie M. Graham, Tharie E. Moore, Retha F. McNeil, Ruth M. Rogers, and Izora J. Suggs.

Class Motto: By our own efforts we hope to rise

Class Flower: Cream Rose Class Colors: Blue and Silver

Photo provided by Kia Lighty, Joe Watson's daughter; and, Brewsena Mention Jackson provided a copy of her mother's Commencement Exercise Program. Thanks to Mrs. Mary (Covel) Moore for helping with this project.