



# LOWER CAPE FEAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc. BULLETIN

Volume XXXVII, Number 3

Wilmington, North Carolina

May 1993

## PROFILE OF AN IRISH LADY: BRIDGET DAY BEATTY

by George W. Willcox

From its beginning in 1739 Wilmington had grown by 1754 to a town of 70 families with about 100 ships entering its harbor that year. By the summer of 1770 it had grown to about 1000 inhabitants and was the leading town of North Carolina. It extended some five blocks along the river and five blocks east along what is now Market Street.<sup>1</sup>

Aboard one of the ships that arrived at the docks that summer of 1770 was a young Irish lady, Bridget Day Beatty, who had come to join her husband and her uncle. The happy day of debarkation soon turned to a day of sorrow when she was told that both had died. This is the story of the struggles of this young lady in making her way alone in this strange new country and of the great heritage that she left for many generations of her family.

Bridget Day was born in County Dublin, Ireland, about 1748. Her father was Keightly Day and her mother was Jane Bray, the daughter of Robert and Jane Parker Bray, of Portenure in County Longford. Bridget was one of four daughters and three sons, John, Edmond and Francis Day.<sup>2</sup>

Her grandmother was Jane Parker, the daughter of Sir John Parker and Margaret Sanky Parker.<sup>3</sup>

Bridget's father, Keightly, was the son of John and Maria Day of Dublin. He had three sisters and a brother, John Day, Jr., and also another brother, Bunbury Day.<sup>4</sup>

Bunbury Day, had come to Wilmington sometime prior to 3 Sep 1766, when the records of the county court show that "Christopher Brandadge, comedean" was ordered to appear to answer for debts due Bunbury Day.<sup>5</sup> Bunbury prospered in Wilmington. He operated a business, received a warrant for 640 acres in New Hanover County, purchased land in Brunswick County, and appears in the court minutes several times by 1768.<sup>6</sup> In 1768 Bunbury began to acquire land in the Black River, Colley Swamp, and South River areas, and by 1769, he had accumulated more than 2000 acres in Bladen County.<sup>7</sup>

Bridget's brother, John Day, emigrated to Nova Scotia where he established a successful business.

About 1767, Bridget was married to Samuel Beatty. They lived in Dublin and on 15 Dec 1768 they had a son, William Henry Beatty.<sup>8</sup> There is a strong family tradition that Samuel Beatty was a sailor, possibly a ship's captain, who sailed to Wilmington to join Bridget's uncle, Bunbury Day. No proof of Samuel's occupation as a ship's captain has been found; however, there is proof that he was in the Wilmington area. Samuel was a chain bearer for a survey of land granted to Bunbury in New Hanover east of Black River. This survey was made on 14 July 1769.<sup>9</sup> A deed of 6 Sep 1796 from William Henry Beatty to Charles Bannerman shows that Samuel Beatty also received a grant for 340 acres on the east side of South River.<sup>10</sup> There is a marker in the Beatty Cemetery beside Highway 210 in Bladen County that states: "Captain Samuel Beatty, Head of the line, Married Bridget Day in Dublin 1767, died 1768 near Beatty's Bridge."

In the summer of 1770, Bridget Beatty left her son behind in Ireland and came to join her husband and uncle in America. Upon her arrival in Wilmington she was faced with the tragic news that her husband and uncle were both dead.

Consolation and advice were received from Bridget's brother, John Day. A copy of a letter written in Philadelphia on 8 Oct 1770 by John Day to Bridget Beatty has been preserved.<sup>11</sup> The letter was addressed to Mrs. Bridgett Beatty, Wilmington, North Carolina, to the care of Archibald McLaine, Esq. John wrote:

Phila<sup>8</sup> Oct. 8th 1770

My Dear Sister,

By letter from Mr. Archibald McLaine I received the melancholy acct of the death of my Dear Old uncle and of my brother Beatty,

*Continued on page 2*

---

## LOWER CAPE FEAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### BULLETIN

Volume XXXVII, Number 3    Wilmington, NC    May 1993

---

#### OFFICERS

President ..... Diane C. Cashman  
Vice-President ..... Robert P. Loweth  
Secretary ..... Merle J. Chamberlain  
Treasurer ..... W. Lee Williams  
Archivists ..... Diane Cashman & Merle Chamberlain  
Counsels ..... William J. Boney, Jr.  
..... James D. Carr  
Executive Director ..... Jean S. Scott  
Coordinator ..... Shirley Ballou

#### DIRECTORS

Louise C. Brooks	Dorothy M. Moore
Tracy Pope Conlon	Rebecca T. Rhine
John J. Hooton	H. Margaret Willetts
Lt. Gen. James E. Lee	Joseph S. Gurganus
Katherine G. Taylor	Bronwyn J. Morgan
Martha DeFelice	Gerry M. Myerow
J. Michael Hutson	Nola S. Nadeau
Capt. David Oliver	

#### BULLETIN STAFF

Editor ..... Susan Block  
Editorial Committee ..... Beverly Tetterton  
..... Tom Broadfoot  
..... Diane C. Cashman  
..... Merle J. Chamberlain  
..... Jean S. Scott  
*Manuscripts may be submitted to the committee for review.*

---

#### Continued from Page 1

I cannot easily describe the shock it gives me, your situation appears to be truly distressing, and afflicts me the more as I cannot properly quit this place in order to any assistance, for I am connected in business with a man who knows nothing of it and of course the whole world would stand still were I to go to you. Considering this I have another consideration equally Interesting. My own affairs have greatly embarrassed these few years past and I have waded through a sea of usury and apprehension in order to preserve a valuable estate to my family which I now find will be Impossible ...and as there is no one in Nova Scotia able to purchase my estate I am necessitated to dispose of it by lottery which is to make its appearance next week. Thus situated, My Dear Sister, I cannot go to your assistance without injuring my family more than I can do you service. I now write to Mr. McLaine respecting your affairs. Let me request it of you to exert yourself and be industrious to bring your matter to a speedy conclusion for the endeavors of your best friends will not succeed

unless you stir yourself. Let me beg you to avoid lawsuits, they have been destructive to your family. I would further recommend it to you not to leave N. Carolina until you are finally settled otherwise depend upon it they never will, at least I never could learn that any person could ever get their matters closed in that province in their own absence. When you can, with advantage to yourself and safety of your property leave that country and would chose to come to this province my house and a hearty welcome from all that in it is at my Dear sister's service. Mrs. Day sincerely joins me in condolence to you. I am, my Dear Biddy,

Very affectionate Brother,  
John Day

Bridget took her brother's advice. She gathered her strength and went about the task of settling the estate of her husband and uncle. She became administratrix of the estate of Bunbury Day. On 13 July 1771, seven lots near Church Street and the river in Wilmington were sold by the sheriff to satisfy a judgment of Bridget Beatty against the estate of James Wimble for debts due Bunbury Day.<sup>12</sup> These lots were purchased by Archibald MacLaine.

Bridget appears to have been a warm and very capable business woman for quickly she established a trusting relationship with her business associates. On 6 May 1772, the lands and sawmill of Bunbury Day were sold by James White, Sheriff of Bladen County, to satisfy the debts of Bunbury Day. As administratrix Bridget was involved in these transactions. John Burgwin, prosperous merchant then of Wilmington, purchased the Day property.<sup>13</sup> The records are not clear but Bridget appears to have worked out an arrangement with John Burgwin for her to maintain possession of this property, for this property was in her possession in 1774.<sup>14</sup>

Bridget appears to have lived in Wilmington for some time prior to moving to the land of Bunbury Day on Black River. It was probably through the transactions of the Sheriff's sale of Bunbury's property that Bridget met James White. By the first of June 1774, Bridget was married to James White. At that time they bought the other half of the property which had once belonged to Bunbury Day.<sup>15</sup> A house was built on this property which was later known as "Glen Etive" and this became the family home for many years.

James White was a active and prominent citizen of Bladen County. He was one of the trustees appointed to design, build and establish the town of Elizabethtown in 1773. He represented Bladen County in the General Assembly and in the Provencal Convention of 1775.<sup>16</sup> Between 1766 and 1779 he was granted more than 3300 acres in eleven tracts in the Elizabethtown, Black River and South River area.<sup>17</sup>

After getting settled, Bridget had her son, William Henry Beatty, brought from Ireland. Bridget and James White had four children. They were: James Bunbury

*Continued on page 3*

*Continued from page 2*

White, Burgwin John White, Ann Jane White and Hays Graham White.<sup>18</sup>

Bridget's second husband, James White, died about 1789. Before his death he had become heavily indebted and a special law was passed to permit William Henry Beatty, administrator of White's estate, to sell property for the support of Bridget and her children.<sup>19</sup>

At the time of the 1790 census Bridget was living in the household of William Henry Beatty, who was then twenty-one years old. The household included age categories which matched the ages of William, Bridget and her four other children. They also owned twenty-one slaves.<sup>20</sup>

Bridget Day Beatty White was married for the third time to John Anders of Bladen County. The date of the marriage is unknown but occurred between 1790, when she was living with her son, and the death of John Anders, about 1800. Little is known about John Anders. He was born about 1725 in England and lived the later part of his life in the South River area of Bladen County. He was a large land owner and is said to have been a native of Bristol, England.<sup>21</sup>

Bridget spent the rest of her life near her children and near the land that she helped turn from forest into plantation country, and it was there that she died in 1804. She was buried in the Beatty Cemetery on land where she settled soon after her arrival in North Carolina. On her gravemarker is written: "Here lies the remains of Bridget Anders, formerly Bridget Day, daughter of Cately Day of Ireland. Born in the County Langford in the year 1748 and died A.D. 1804, age 56 years. In life she intermarried with Samuel Beatty, James White and John Anders."<sup>22</sup>

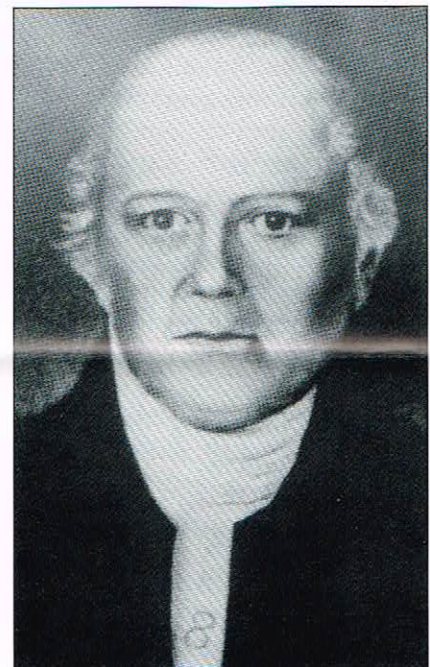
## GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY: THREE GENERATIONS

1. **Bridget<sup>1</sup> Day**, born about 1748 in County Langford, Ireland; died in the year 1804 in Bladen County, North Carolina. She was the daughter of Jane Bray and Knightly Day. She married Samuel Beatty, in Dublin, Ireland in 1767; James White, about 1773, in Bladen County, NC; and John Anders, in Bladen County, in 1790s. Bridget had one child by Samuel Beatty and four by James White. They are as follows:

- + 2 i. **William Henry<sup>2</sup> Beatty** was born in Dublin, Ireland, on 15 Dec 1768 and died at his home "Pleasant Retreat" in Bladen County on 13 Jun 1853.
- + 3 ii. **James Bunbury<sup>2</sup> White** was the oldest son of Bridget Day Beatty and James White. He was born in Bladen County on 31 Dec 1774 and died in Columbus about 1819 or early 1820.
- iii. **Burgwin John<sup>2</sup> White** was the son of Bridget Day Beatty and James White. He was born 22 Dec 1776 in Bladen County and died at sea about 1800.<sup>23</sup> He was named for John Burgwin, of Wilmington, a friend and a financial

supporter of Bridget and James White. After leaving home, he lived near Wilmington and was engaged in the stave making business. He died prior to Sep 1800.<sup>24</sup> A family record shows that, "... he was lost at sea on his way from North Carolina to the West Indies with the vessel and whole crew."

- iv. **Ann Jane<sup>2</sup> White** was the daughter of Bridget Day Beatty and James White. She was born 13 Nov 1776 in Bladen County and died at "Pleasant Retreat", the home of her brother, William Henry Beatty, on 5 Feb 1820. She never married. In her will she left her slaves to her brother and asked that her brother J. B. White's body be brought "to this place".<sup>25</sup>
- v. **Hayes Graham<sup>2</sup> White** was the youngest son of Bridget Day Beatty and James White. He was born 6 Oct 1780 in Bladen County. He probably lived in or near Wilmington for several years around 1800. On 25 Feb 1809 he bought half of a 1660 acre tract and saw mill in Sampson County. Hays G. White, of Sampson County, gave power of Attorney to William H. Beatty and John Bryan on 1 Sep 1812. A deed for this 1660 acres and saw mill was executed by William H. Beatty and John Bryan on 22 Jan 1823.<sup>26</sup> Nothing more is known of Hays. It is likely that he became one of the many who sought their fortune in the west.



William Henry Beatty (1768-1853)

2. **William Henry<sup>2</sup> Beatty** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>) was born in Dublin, Ireland, on 15 Dec 1768 and died at his home "Pleasant Retreat" in Bladen County on 13 Jun 1853.<sup>27</sup> He was the son of Bridget Day and Samuel Beatty. He was married to Sophia Elizabeth Gibbs, daughter of Margaret Barksdale and George Gibbs, of the third

*Continued on page 4*

*Continued from page 3*

generation, on 8 Jan 1792 in Bladen County, NC. The Gibbs family is an old and distinguished family which came to the Cape Fear from Bristol, England, via New Jersey.<sup>28</sup>

#### THE GIBBS FAMILY

George Gibbs, the father of Sophia Elizabeth Gibbs, was the son of George Gibbs and grandson of George Gibbs, one of the earliest settlers in of the lower Cape Fear. George Gibbs, the senior, came to the Cape Fear in 1728 and made claim to three tracts of land on the North West Cape Fear River near Blue Banks and near the mouth of Black River. In a petition to the Colonial Council, he described his hardship in coming to settle in Cape Fear. Roger Moore had challenged his headrights for the quantity of land that he had entered. He wrote to the Council,

"... I have a great family of children and a few slaves but not enough to secure the whole by my rights but if your Excellency and honorable Council please to consider the charges and hardship I have been at in Settling of the land first in coming to take it up [1728] and returning back to the Jerseys to my family then coming within two years after by land from the Jerseys I was five weeks upon the journey I am sure I road a thousand miles to come here after I went back for my family hired a Sloop to bring them in bought a great deal of provisions with me but when that was expended I had hard work to get more and was forced to live hard for a time and now I have brought myself in a way that I could live comfortably... I have three sons and I hope your Excellency will consider that a tract for each of them will not be too much..."<sup>29</sup>

An unnamed traveler visited the Cape Fear area and lodged at George Gibbs's home in 1734. Following is a part of his journal starting after he had visited Roger Moore's Orton Plantation:

... The next day we came to another plantation belonging to Mr. Roger Moore, called Blue Banks, where he is a-going to build another very large brick house. The bluff is at least a hundred feet high, and has a beautiful prospect over a fine large meadow, on the opposite side of the river [called The Thoroughfare]; the houses are all built on the southwest side of the river, it being for the most part high champaign land; the other side is very much subject to overflow, but I cannot learn they have lost but one crop. I am creditably informed they have commonly four score bushels of corn on an acre of their overflow land. It very rarely overflows but in the wintertime, when the corn is off. I must confess I saw the finest corn growing there that

I ever saw in my life, as likewise wheat and hemp.<sup>30</sup>

We lodged there that night at one Captain Gibbs', adjoining More's plantation, where we met with very good entertainment...<sup>30</sup>

George Gibbs, the elder, and his son, George Gibbs, lived on the Cape Fear near the mouth of Black River throughout their lives and are buried there. George Gibbs of the third generation, the father of Sophia Elizabeth Gibbs, moved to Lake Waccamaw and built a large house there called "Summerton".<sup>31</sup> George Gibbs' brother, John Gibbs, moved to the east side of White Marsh Swamp about five miles from Lake Waccamaw. His property was near the present town of Hallsboro. John built a large house called "Gibbs Castle". There was said to have been a straight road between the brothers houses that was called "Gibbs Avenue". It was at "Summerton" that Sophia Elizabeth Gibbs lived until she married William Henry Beatty in January of 1792.

William Henry Beatty appears to have been living in the house of his mother and former step-father when the 1790 census was taken. William built a new house called "Pleasant Retreat" a short distance from his mother's home on South River. The date when the house was built is unknown but is said to have been at the time of his wedding. "Pleasant Retreat" was William's home for the rest of his life and it was here that he raised a large family and became one of the most respected and wealthiest men in Bladen County. The records generated paint a clear picture of a warm, compassionate, industrious man engaged in many activities.

William operated a mill near his home and carried on a large farming operation. In May of 1792 approval was given by the county court for William to build a bridge over Black River.<sup>32</sup> The bridge at this location is still known as "Beatty's Bridge." The tax returns show that in 1802 he owned the first cotton gin in Bladen County.<sup>33</sup> In 1806 he advertised his shoe manufacturing business in a Wilmington newspaper: "The Subscriber respectfully informs his customers... that he carries on the Shoe Making Business as formerly, and will execute all orders... for Negro Shoes with dispatch, at ninety cents per pair; application may be made to Loyd & Anderson in Wilmington, or to the Subscriber on South River, Bladen County."<sup>34</sup>

William was involved in harvesting the pine forest for lumber, tar and turpentine.<sup>35</sup> He was a large land owner. From 1793 to the end of his life he received at least 54 land grants and purchased numerous other tracts. Most of his land was in Bladen but he had considerable holding in Columbus and New Hanover counties.<sup>36</sup>

William was one of the founders of the Black River Presbyterian Church.<sup>37</sup>

William was wealthy not only in terms of possessions but also as a human being. He died at "Pleasant Retreat" on 13 Jun 1853 at age 85 years. An obituary stated the following, "Mr. Beatty was a native of Ireland, but came

*Continued on page 5*

*Continued from page 4*

to this county when a small boy, and has lived at Pleasant Retreat ever since, rearing a large family of most estimable sons and daughters, and living to bury them all, wife and children, except one only son. He was in many respects a remarkable man, remarkable not less for originality of expression and never failing humor, than for a liberal patriotism, a generous hospitality and a boundless charity to the poor within the range of his acquaintances."<sup>38</sup>

His compassion and consideration for others is shown in the provisions that he made for his personal slaves. His will provided for the disposition of his property to his heirs. The property included 45 slaves and more than 17,000 acres of land. He also directed his executors to provide support for his personal slaves. Three tracts of land and annual funds were provided for their use until death. Two of these tracts were a part of the original property of Bunbury Day.<sup>39</sup>(140)

William's wife, Sophia Elizabeth, died 3 Apr 1827 at the age of 54 years. Both are buried in the Beatty Cemetery on Highway 210 near Beatty's Bridge in Bladen County. Their children were:

- i. **Elizabeth Margaret Beatty**, born 10 Nov 1792; died 19 Mar 1814; she never married.
- +4 ii. **William Gibbs Beatty**, born 3 Nov 1794, died 28 Sep 1832, in Wilmington, NC.
- +5 iii. **Sophia Sarah Beatty**, born 6 May 1796; died 26 Feb 1829.
- +6 iv. **John Day Beatty**, born 15 Jul 1798; died 28 Mar 1849.
- +7 v. **Margaret Ann Beatty**, born 5 Feb 1801; died 15 Feb 1826.
- vi. **George Samuel Beatty**, born 7 Feb 1803; drowned in the mill race near his home on 26 May 1810.<sup>40</sup>
- vii. **Henry Bunbury Beatty**, was born 4 Oct 1805; died 28 Oct 1841; married Isabella Evans, daughter of Eliza and Jonathan Evans of Fayetteville on 19 Dec 1831; married second Eliza Jane Morisey, a descendant of Thomas Kennan.<sup>41</sup>
- viii. **Caroline B. Beatty**, born 27 Dec 1808, died at age of two.
- +8 ix. **Annabella Beatty**, born 20 Mar 1810; died 22 Feb 1844.
- +9 x. **Hays White Beatty**, born 4 May 1812; died 17 Feb 1897.

3. **James Bunbury<sup>2</sup> White** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>), born 31 Dec 1774, in Bladen County, the oldest son of Bridget and James White; died about 1819, in Columbus County, NC.<sup>42</sup> James was 14 when his father died. He lived with his mother, Bridget White, and at age 21 became guardian of "the orphan children of James White late of Bladen County" and was given permission by the court to sell estate property for support of the children.<sup>43</sup> James lived in Wilmington in 1800 and on 31 Dec 1804 purchased several large tracts of land on the west side of White Marsh Swamp which included the White Marsh Castle

and the land on which Whiteville was built. This land and the house "White Marsh Castle" was earlier owned and occupied by John Burgwin, before he moved to Wilmington.<sup>44</sup> About this time James B. White was married to Rebecca Shipman, of Columbus County and daughter of Ann and Daniel Shipman, Jr.<sup>45</sup> Rebecca was heir to a large portion of her father's estate which included eleven slaves and a large share of land.<sup>46</sup>

James B. White continued to buy and sell land and accumulated large land holding. He was granted at least 98 tracts for 10,750 acres.<sup>47</sup> James was in the House of Commons from Bladen in 1806 and when Columbus was formed from Brunswick and Bladen, in 1808, he was on the committee to fix a site for the court and jail. James was the first senator from Columbus County and in 1810 the town of Whiteville was laid out on his land and was named for him.<sup>48</sup>

James made a will in 1816 which was probated at the February Term of Court in 1820, thus ending the life of this energetic and successful business man at age 45.<sup>49</sup> James and Rebecca had no children. Rebecca was later married to John H. White, probably a relative of James, and they moved to Barbour County, Alabama in 1834.<sup>50</sup>

4. **William<sup>3</sup> Gibbs Beatty** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>, William Henry<sup>2</sup>) born 3 Nov 1794, died 28 Sep 1832, in Wilmington, NC.<sup>51</sup>; married on 17 Feb 1822, Eliza M. Pearson, daughter of Eliza Mumford and Richmond Pearson, of Davie County, NC.<sup>52</sup>

Richmond Pearson was born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, and moved to the Fork of the Yadkin in Rowan County, NC, in 1772. He was a colonel in the Revolution and his family became one of the most prominent families in North Carolina during the late 1700s and early 1800s. One son, Richmond Mumford Pearson, became Chief Justice of the NC Supreme Court.<sup>53</sup>

William Gibbs Beatty purchased one half of a 20,000 acre tract of land in Bladen and Sampson counties in 1822 with grist mill and saw mill. In 1825 he sold this property and invested in a Steam Rice Mill in Wilmington.<sup>54</sup> At that time the Wilmington area produced about 14% of the nation's rice. William and Eliza led an active life in Wilmington. They lived in the house that is now the home of Mary and Heyward Bellamy at 6 Church Street. He was a vestryman at St. James and they had five sons. The oldest, William Henry Beatty, and the youngest, Douglas Pearson Beatty, both became doctors and both moved to Alabama and left large families. The other three sons died in childhood.<sup>55</sup>

5. **Sophia Sarah<sup>3</sup> Beatty** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>, William Henry<sup>1</sup>) born 6 May 1796; died 26 Feb 1829; married Charles Peter Mallett the son of Sarah Mumford and Peter Mallett.<sup>56</sup>

Peter Mallett came from Connecticut to Wilmington about 1769 where he was owner of a merchant sailing ship, and a member of the Committee of Safety and Collector of Customs in 1775.<sup>57</sup> He was a colonel in the Revolution and a successful business man who left many successful descendants.

Sarah and Charles Peter Mallett lived in Fayetteville and had seven children. She died 26 Feb 1829 and is

*Continued on page 6*

Continued from page 5

buried in the Mallett Cemetery in Fayetteville.<sup>58</sup>

6. **John Day<sup>3</sup> Beatty** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>, William Henry<sup>2</sup>) born 15 Jul 1798; died 28 Mar 1849; married Jane Smith Hunter Holmes, daughter of Mary Smith Hunter and Gabriel Holmes, of Sampson County, Governor of NC in 1821.<sup>59</sup>

John was in business with his father and lived at "Gravelly Hill", about seven miles up South River from his father. He and Jane had a large family, he died 28 Mar 1849 and Jane died 6 Jun 1875 and both are buried at the Beatty Family Cemetery.<sup>60</sup>

7. **Margaret Ann<sup>3</sup> Beatty** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>, William Henry<sup>2</sup>) born 5 Feb 1801; died 15 Feb 1826; married 28 May 1823, Hardy Lucian Holmes, son of Mary Smith and Gabriel Holmes, brother of Jane Smith Hunter Holmes, who married Margaret's brother, John Day Beatty.<sup>61</sup> Hardy was a law graduate of UNC and practiced law in Sampson County, NC.<sup>62</sup>

8. **Annabella<sup>3</sup> Beatty** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>, William Henry<sup>2</sup>) born 20 Mar 1810; died 22 Feb 1844; on 9 Oct 1832 married John Stokes Pearson, son of Col. Richmond Pearson and brother of Eliza Pearson, who married Annabella's brother, William Gibbs Beatty.<sup>63</sup> John and Annabella lived in Fayetteville and John died in 1849. They had two children who went to Alabama with other members of the family.

9. **Hays White<sup>3</sup> Beatty** (Bridget<sup>1</sup>, William Henry<sup>2</sup>) born 4 May 1812; died 17 Feb 1897; on 4 May 1842 married Elizabeth Robinson, daughter of Eliza and Doctor Benjamin Robinson, of Fayetteville.<sup>64</sup> Elizabeth died 26 Feb 1843 and Hays married Catherine McLaurin, daughter of Neill and Jane McLaurin, of Wilmington. The McLaurin family originally settled near Laurinburg, NC, which was named for this family. Hays and Catherine lived near his father's home, at the site of the house where Bridget and James White had lived. Their home was named "Glen Etive", said to have been named for her ancestral home in Scotland. They had a large family of eight children.<sup>65</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Donald R. Lennon and Ida Brooks Kellam, *The Wilmington Town Book 1743-1778*, (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1978), p. xxxiv.

<sup>2</sup> From research by Genealogical Office, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland, report of May 5, 1964, Will of Keightly Day of Kevin's Port, Dublin, gentleman, proved in the Prerogative Court, dated 6 Apr 1768, proved 12 Dec 1771 and Will of Jane Day, proved 6 Feb 1778; **Note:** Data for this report comes from a study made by the writer for Mrs. Ashton B. Collins, 2324 Madison Road, Apt 2003, Cincinnati, OH, 45208 and was published as: *A History of The Beatty, Day and Gibbs Families of Southeastern North Carolina*, 1991, hereafter cited as, Willcox, Beatty, Day and Gibbs.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, abstract of Sir John Parker's will of 1696.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, Prerogative Administration, John Day, gent., 16 Nov 1730.

<sup>5</sup> North Carolina State Archives, New Hanover County, Civil Action Papers 1758-1770, folder for 1766.

<sup>6</sup> Alexander McDonald Walker, *New Hanover County Court Minutes, Part I* (Bethesda, MD: By the author, 4887 Battery Lane, 1959), pp. 72, 76, 83, 85, 88, 89, 97.

<sup>7</sup> Land grants to Bunbury Day, North Carolina Land Grant Office, Office of Secretary of State, Raleigh, NC, Bladen County, File No. 0153, 0154, 0156, 0261, 1916.

<sup>8</sup> Gravemarker for William Henry Beatty, Beatty Cemetery, in Bladen County, beside Highway 210 about two miles north of Beatty's Bridge.

<sup>9</sup> North Carolina Land Grant Office, Bladen County, File No. 0570.

<sup>10</sup> New Hanover County Deed Book M, p. 173.

<sup>11</sup> Letter to Bridget Beatty, 8 Oct 1770, Edmonston [Ninian] Family Papers, 1770, 1807-1930, Microfilm Private Collection, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

<sup>12</sup> Deed from Arthur Benning, Sheriff, to Archibald Maclaine, 16 Jul 1771, New Hanover County, NC, Deed Book F, p. 291.

<sup>13</sup> Deed from James White, Esq. to John Burgwin of Wilmington, Bladen County, NC, Deed Book 23, p. 211.

<sup>14</sup> Deed From Thomas Henderson to James White and wife Bridget, Bladen County, NC, Deed Book K, p. 36.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>16</sup> William L. Saunders, *The Colonial Records of North Carolina, Volume IX 1771-1775* (Raleigh: Josephus Daniels, Printer to the State, 1890), pp. 1178 and 1188.

<sup>17</sup> Land Grants to James White, North Carolina Land Grant Office, Raleigh, NC, Bladen County, File Nos. 815, 1709, 1814, 2269, 3400, 3678, 4263, 4440, 4669, 4723, 5130.

<sup>18</sup> Beatty family birth and death records, Beatty Family, ca. 1835, Manuscript Collection, South Caroliniana Library, Columbia, SC.

<sup>19</sup> Walter Clark, *The State Records of North Carolina, Volume XXV, Laws 1789-1790*, (Goldsboro, NC, Nash Brothers, 1906), p. 47.

<sup>20</sup> 1790 US Census, Bladen County, NC.

<sup>21</sup> Deed from John Anders to his son James Anders, 1 Apr 1798, Bladen County, NC, Deed Book M, p. 508; Deed from John Anders, Senr. to John Anders, Junr, 20 Aug 1784, Bladen County, NC, Deed Book 26, p. 40; Letter from Dr. C. Birmingham to Mrs. Campbell 9 Mar 1782, Anders Family File, Bladen County Library, Elizabethtown, NC.

<sup>22</sup> Headstone inscription for Bridget Anders, Beatty Cemetery, Bladen County, NC.

<sup>23</sup> Beatty Family Papers, ca. 1835, Manuscript Collection, South Caroliniana Library, Columbus, SC.

<sup>24</sup> Administrative Bond for estate of Burgwin J. White, 29 Sep 1800, New Hanover County, NC, Estates Records, NC State Archives.

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

<sup>25</sup> Will of Ann Jane White, 18 Dec 1819, Bladen County, NC, Will Book 2, p. 336.

<sup>26</sup> Deed from George Taylor to Hayes Graham White, 25 Feb 1809, Sampson County, NC, Deed Book 14, p. 505; Power of Attorney from Hays G. White, 1 Sep 1812, Sampson County, NC, Deed Book 17, p. 173; Deed from William H. Beatty, agent, 22 Jan 1823, Sampson County, Deed Book 19, p. 403.

<sup>27</sup> Headstone inscription for William Henry Beatty, Beatty Cemetery, Bladen County.

<sup>28</sup> Family birth and death records, Beatty Family Papers, ca. 1835, Manuscript Collection, South Carolina Library, Columbia, SC.

<sup>29</sup> Robert J. Cain, *The Colonial Records of North Carolina [Second Series], Records of Executive Council 1735-1754*, (Raleigh: Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, 1988), Vol VIII, pp. 13 and 14.

<sup>30</sup> James Sprunt, *Chronicles of The Cape Fear River 1660-1916*, (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Printing Co., 1916), p. 42.

<sup>31</sup> Advertisement of sale of "Summerton", Raymond Parker Fouts, *Abstracts from Newspapers of Edenton, Fayetteville, & Hillsboro, North Carolina, 1785-1800*, p. 80.

<sup>32</sup> Alexander McDonald Walker, *New Hanover County Court Minutes 1786-1793*, May Term. p. 88.

<sup>33</sup> Bladen County Public Tax Record for 1802, Treasurer's & Comptroller's Papers, Box 21, North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>34</sup> Business Advertisement, 8 Jul 1806, Raymond Parker Fouts, *Abstracts from Newspapers of Wilmington, North Carolina, 1804-1806, Volume IV*, p. 145.

<sup>35</sup> Agreement on lumber sale between William Johnson and William H. Beatty, ca. 1828, Bladen County, NC, Deed Book 8, p. 405.

<sup>36</sup> North Carolina Land Grant Office, Office of Secretary of State, Raleigh, NC, Bladen County, fifty-four files in the name of William H. Beatty between 1793 and 1853.

<sup>37</sup> Deed for land for Black River Chapel, New Hanover County, Deed Book Y, p. 155.

<sup>38</sup> Wanda S. Campbell, comp., *Bladen County Newspaper Items from the Fayetteville Observer Files*, p. 9.

<sup>39</sup> Will of William H. Beatty, Bladen County, NC, Will Book 1, p. 222.

<sup>40</sup> Headstone marker for George S. Beatty, Beatty Cemetery, Bladen County, NC.

<sup>41</sup> Letter by Beulah C. Beatty, Beatty Family File, Bladen County Public Library, pp. 5-10; Note: Beulah C. Beatty was a well known Bladen County historian and was the wife of John Day Beatty of Elizabethtown, a descendant of William H. Beatty; Note: Mrs. Laura Day Rosser of Broadway, NC, is a descendant of this branch of the family.

<sup>42</sup> Family birth and death records, Beatty Family Papers, ca. 1835, Manuscript Collection, South Carolina Library, Columbia, SC; Will of J. B. White, 10 Sep 1816, probated February Term 1820, Columbus County, NC, Will Book 1, p. 27.

<sup>43</sup> Deed for land of James White, 1 Dec 1797, Bladen County, Deed Book 35, p. 87.

<sup>44</sup> Deed from John Waddell to James B. White of New Hanover County, 31 Dec 1804, registered 12 Apr 1825, Columbus County, Deed Book D, p. 218.

<sup>45</sup> Deed from James B. White and wife Rebecca, 15 Apr 1805, Bladen County, Deed Book 34, p. 85.

<sup>46</sup> Will of Daniel Shipman, 18 Sep 1799, Bladen County, Will Book I, p. 392.

<sup>47</sup> *The News Reporter*, (Whiteville, NC), 22 Aug 1957, Columbus County Library, Whiteville, NC.

<sup>48</sup> James B. Rogers, *Columbus County, North Carolina*, (Whiteville: *The News Reporter*, 1946), p. 32.

<sup>49</sup> Will of J. B. White, Columbus County, NC, Will Book 1, p. 27.

<sup>50</sup> William White Walker, "History of My Family Tree," (Unpublished n.d.), Columbus County Library, Whiteville, NC.

<sup>51</sup> Headmarker for William Gibbs Beatty, Beatty Cemetery, Bladen County, NC.

<sup>52</sup> Wanda Suggs Campbell, comp., *Bible and Family Records of Bladen County, North Carolina*, (Elizabethtown, NC: Bladen County Historical Society, 1846), Volume 3, p. 63; hereafter cited as Campbell, *Bladen County Bible and Family Records*.

<sup>53</sup> George Raynor, "Pearson Family: A Story of Colonial Wealth and Power," *The Salisbury Post*, a series of articles beginning in September 1986.

<sup>54</sup> Settlement of estate of William G. Beatty, Bladen County, Deed Book 10, p. 255, and New Hanover County, Deed Book U, p. 436.

<sup>55</sup> Willcox, *Beatty, Day and Gibbs*, p. 11.

<sup>56</sup> Campbell, *Bladen County Bible and Family Records*, p. 62.

<sup>57</sup> Leona H. McEachern and Isabel M. Williams, *Wilmington-New Hanover County Safety Committee Minutes*, (Wilmington: American Revolution Bi-Centennial Asso., 1974), p. 129.

<sup>58</sup> Willcox, *Beatty, Day, and Gibbs*, pp. 16-18.

<sup>59</sup> Campbell, *Bladen County Bible and Family Records*, pp. 62 and 63.

<sup>60</sup> Headmarker for Jane S. H. Beatty and John Day Beatty, Beatty Cemetery, Bladen County.

<sup>61</sup> Campbell, *Campbell County Bible and Family Records*, page 62.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

<sup>62</sup> Sketch of Holmes family, Willcox, Beatty, Day, and Gibbs, pp. 18 and 126.

<sup>63</sup> Campbell, *Bladen County Bible and Family Records*, p. 62.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>65</sup> Jane F. Cronley, "The McLaurin Family in North Carolina," 1915, from the Archives of the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society; Note: Mrs. George Chadwick, Jr. of Wilmington is descended from this branch of the Beatty family and owns the land where Pleasant Retreat and Glen Etive once stood.

**George W. Willcox** is a native of Moore County. He is a graduate of Carthage High School and an Industrial Engineering graduate of North Carolina State University.

His work life was spent in textile manufacturing, where he was a vice-president with Burlington Industries.

He now lives in Wilmington, NC, where he is involved in management consulting, and historical and genealogical research. He is a Certified Genealogical Records Searcher and has published several family histories and is the present president of the Old New Hanover Genealogical Society.

LOWER CAPE FEAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 813

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28402

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 306

Wilmington, N.C.