

A FAMILY RECORD OF EVANS FAMILY

Richard Evans was born January 10, 1741. Catherine McCarter Evans, wife of Richard Evans was born October 9, 1753. They had nine children:

Mary, John, Samuel, James, Isaac, Hannah, Catherine,
and Anna. *Moses + Mollie*

Grand-father Evans' grand-mother was a Bates. They were of Welch descent. The Bates, McCarters and Evans first settled in Pennsylvania near Philadelphia. Afterwards they moved to Abbeville, S. C. Catherine Bates married a McCarter (John, I think). Her daughter Catherine married Richard Evans whose family were English. They lived about three miles from Chester, S. C.

They reared a large family of high-toned, honorable children with more than the average intelligence.

Grand-father Evans was a large, handsome man, with more cultivation than ordinary, being very fond of books. He died, sitting in his chair, from heart failure. He was a Revolutionary soldier. He lived with his family very peacefully on his farm until the war broke out. Then he had to leave his wife and three small children, take down his shot gun, join Sumter's men and fight for his country. He fought in the battle of Kings Mountain, Cowpens, and Hanging Rock, Ninety-Six, Eutaw Springs, and other battles in this part of the country.

Grand-mother had to make a living for her children, the oldest about 10 years old. They were surrounded by Tories, some being near neighbors. Once when the children had small-pox, the Tories came at night--masked, and put out the light, threw water on the fire, stripped the clothes off the bed, and left the little children without covering. She kept her spoons and forks by taking up the stones of the hearth and hiding them there. They hid a jug of honey by burying it in the ground. The Tories tried to find it but could not; so they told John, her little son, if he would tell, they would give him a gun. So boy like, he wanted the gun and showed them the jug; but never got the gun.

The tories also fed their horses on THE GRAIN CATHERINE HAD HARVESTED AND STORED.

After the war, in their comfortable home, all seated around the huge fire place at night, the girls would card rolls to spin next day. The boys would roast apples and potatoes and drink cider while one would read a good book. Katie and Annie had benches inside the fire place, which was ~~was~~ white washed. They could look up at the stars from; their seats.

The boys made a big bench for Katie ~~for Katie~~ to walk on so she spin on the big wheel.

The old folks had a small plastered room for themselves, which was something in advance of the times, where they sat at night and read.

Katie and Annie each owned a colt. They would run off to the pasture and make bridles of grass for their colts and stand on backs and gallop around the fields. Katie was a good rider when she was over seventy years of age.

On Saturday they baked bread for the week. They filled the brick oven with bread, potatoes and apples. They had coffee when the preacher came. They drank milk, made their own butter and cheese. GrandMa had a shelf overhead in the kitchen where the cheese was laid to dry. Saturday was spent rubbing their pewter plates and dishes which they kept as bright as silver.

They traded in Charleston and rolled their tobacco in hogsheads, a distance of two hundred miles.

The Evans sisters were a very handsome set. I have heard my father say that Aunt Hannah Curry was the most beautiful woman he ever saw. They were of Grecian type, dark eyes and hair, fair complexion, splendid heads and almost perfect limbs.

I think GrandMa must have been superstitious. When one of her cows got sick she would send for one of her neighbors who professed to be able to cure cows. He would pass the cow through a blue hand and she was cured.

Great-grand-father McCarter was a very intelligent man. He had a controversy with John C. Calhoun's father.

Katie Evans was sent to her Grand-mother's in Abbeville to school. She went to school with Patrick and John C. Calhoun to Dr. Moses Waddel, who taught some of the first men of our state, and who was called "Carolina's Dr. Arnold". *Dr. Moses Waddel was John C. Calhoun's brother in law. He served as President of the University of Georgia. Robert Toombs attended at this time.* Among the men of National reputation he taught were Hugh S. Leagare, Attorney General, Foreign and Cabinet Minister; George McDuffie, North Carolina Governor, and U. S. Senator; D. L. Warlaw, Judge; F. H. Wardlaw, Chancellor; A. B. Longstreet, a Judge and President of S. C. College; A. P. Butler, U. S. Senator; P. M. Butler, Governor and Colonel of the Palmetto Regiment in War with Mexico, and James Perigree, eminent lawyer.

Katie married Maj. John Kennedy Jan. 29, 1807, when about 18 years of age. They had nine children and raised all but one. They all settled in Chester but John who married Martha Potts and moved to Mississippi.

My father and mother lived on Chester on the hill, in the same house ~~on the hill~~ for 65 years. Father lived to be 97 years of age and Mother 83.

Grand-father Evans was a good Baptist. I have some of his writings as good Baptist doctrine as I ever read.

I can recollect Aunt Polly going to Woodward Church of which she was a member. Sunday morning she would mount old "Ginny", a good, quiet, old horse, buttoned up in her riding skirt till she looked like a sack of meal, with her black silk bonnet on, which was so large she had no need of an umbrella, and trot off to Church five ~~xxxxxx~~ miles alone.

Annie Evans married Peter Wylie who served as Judge of Ordinary in Chester Co. from 1828 till 1853. They had twelve children, all of whom were honorable and high toned, inherited from both father and mother. The same character is seen in their children and great-grand-children. The names of the children,

Richard Evans, Isabella, DeKalb, Catherine, (who died quite young) Alexander Pearson, Katherine, William, Hannah, Susan, Mary, and two infants who lived a few hours.

I have a house-wife made of a piece of calico from GrandMa Evans' dresses bought a short time after the Revolutionary War. She paid \$75.00 a yard for it. I also have a chest and table which was her dining table before the War.

Uncle Curry brought from the Warm Springs, the first hyacinths that were ever in Chester.

My father hunted deer on the hills of Chester where the town now stands. There was no house except a blacksmith shop.

The land was owned by a man of influence named Stuart, and being the cross roads, it was determined to have the town at that place. It is said the community met at the Big Springs and had a jug of whiskey. Influenced by Stuart and his good whiskey, decided the matter.

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