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CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA MILITIA

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From the end of the eighteenth century until relatively recent years the South Carolina militia had medical officers designated at various time as surgeon general, physician general, apothecary general, or by a combination of these titles. Whether these officers were always active and regularly compensated or whether they held largely honorary positions remains somewhat obscure. Possibly the only occupant of the office who was called on for real service was Dr. Robert Wilson Gibbes of Columbia, who had many responsibilities during the Confederate War.

Dr. George Carter was mentioned as "Director General of the State Militia Hospitals in South Carolina" during the Revolution.[1] Dr. George Logan, Jr., was mentioned in 1790 as "State Physician," but nothing indicates that this office was equivalent to that of surgeon general.[2] Dr. James Lynah held the position of "Director General of all the Military Militia Hospitals" in the state.[3] The relationship of these offices to the later one of surgeon general is not clear, nor are the responsibilities of the positions.

The early militia acts up to and including that of 1794 make no provision for appointment of medical officers on the state level. Records indicate that the position of surgeon general was held as early as 1800, that of apothecary general as early as 1799.

The first evidence of establishment of these offices is found in the militia act of 1815, which directed the appointment of one "physician and surgeon general" with the rank of lieutenant-colonel and one "apothecary general" with the rank of major. In the act of 1815 the

[1] In his book, *A Physiological Essay on Yellow Fever* (Charleston, S. C., 1806), Dr. Carter styled himself thus. Earlier he was mentioned as "Director General of the Militia State Hospitals of South Carolina." *South-Carolina Gazette,* Sept. 28, 1780.

[2] George Logan, Jr., who wrote on pediatrics and other subjects, was physician to the Charleston Orphan House for many years.

[3] James Lynah, a well-known surgeon of Charleston, held this office until his death in 1809. He had been mentioned as "Surgeon General of the State of South Carolina." This *Magazine,* XL (1939), 87, 90.

[4] "An act for organization of the staff of the militia," *Statutes at Large,* VIII, 528.

physician and surgeon general (now holding a combined office) was charged with the government of hospitals and regulation of the duties of surgeons' mates. He was attached to the suite of the commander in chief and subject to his orders only. The apothecary general was made responsible for medicines and surgical instruments and received his orders from the surgeon general.

A later undated manuscript, possibly a draft of an act, indicates that the surgeon general was an appointee of the governor, who would hold the rank of colonel, but with no salary stipulated. He was to have an office in Columbia and was allowed an assistant-surgeon or clerk while on active duty. His duties were to consist of assigning surgeons and assistant surgeons to their posts in military hospitals or elsewhere. He was to draw up proper regulations and was to control the hospitals "both of the Army and Navy of the State." He was also to name a board of examiners for applicants to the medical department of the militia, and to direct the activities of the surgeons and assistant surgeons under his command. He held power over the matter of discharge from the service of the state or excuse from military duty.[5]

The act of 1841 provided for a physician and surgeon general with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. The position of apothecary general was continued until 1865, perhaps later. No record has been found of the appointment of a surgeon general from 1866 to 1873.

The list below has been compiled from a number of reliable sources, chiefly from the almanacs of the period. There are many gaps. Only the verified names and dates are included. The names from 1872 were obtained largely from official records.[6]

	Physician General	*Surgeon General*	*Apothecary General*
1799			Levi Myers
1800		Matthew Irvine	Levi Myers
1801	Jas. Lynah	Matthew Irvine	Levi Myers
1807	Jas. Lynah	Matthew Irvine	Levi Myers
1810	Matthew Irvine	John Ramsay	Levi Myers
1811	Matthew Irvine	John Ramsay	Levi Myers
1813	Matthew Irvine	John Ramsay	Levi Myers
1814	Matthew Irvine	John Ramsay	Levi Myers
1815	John Ramsay	Jos. Glover	Levi Myers
1817	John Ramsay	Jos. Glover	

[5] An unidentified manuscript in the file on military affairs, 1830-1859, 201/55/4, S. C. Archives.

[6] Major General Frank D. Pinckney, Adjutant General, SCARNG, kindly furnished the list of appointees since 1872.

	Physician General	*Surgeon General*	*Apothecary General*
1819	John Ramsay	Jos. Glover	Levi Myers
1820			Levi Myers
1821			Levi Myers
1822			Levi Myers
1823	John Ramsay	John Ramsay	
1824-1834	Jos. Glover	Jos. Glover	Thos. Broughton (1824)
1825			Thos. Broughton
1836	I. M. Campbell		Henry Boylston
1839	I. M. Campbell		Henry Boylston
1838-1841	I. M. Campbell		Henry Boylston
1840-1842	I. M. Campbell		Henry Boylston
1844-1850	Thos. T. Starke		Henry Boylston (1844-1846)
1851	R. W. Gibbes		Henry Boylston
1851-1865		R. W. Gibbes	Henry Boylston
1855		B. W. Lawton	
1866	John Lynch	Benj. C. Fishburn	
1870-1872		vacant	
1873-1876		Robert Lebby, Sr.	
1877-1878		John Lynch	
1879-1886		vacant	
1887-1890		B. M. Badger	
1891-1894		W. C. McCreight	
1895-1896		J. A. Mood	
1897-1898		J. R. Hopkins	
1899-1902		E. J. Wannamaker	
1903-1907		G. A. Neuffer	
1908-1910		A. Johnston Buist (Office listed as being in Medical Corps)	
1911-1913		J. William Wessinger	
1914		(Office listed as part of governor's staff)	
1915-1918		James E. Poore	
1919-1921		(No medical officer assigned to state headquarters)	
1922-1934		Theodore Maddox (Maddux) (Listed as chief surgeon)	

CHARLESTON IN THE 1850's: AS DESCRIBED BY BRITISH TRAVELERS

IVAN D. STEEN *

During the decade of the 1850's the urban population of the United States increased by approximately seventy-five percent. This growth was most dramatic in the mushrooming cities of the West, but was also quite apparent in the Northeast. The cities of the South, too, were growing, especially New Orleans, which profitted from the nation's westward expansion. Yet during these years Charleston experienced a population decline, from 42,985 in 1850 to 40,522 in 1860.[1] Charleston, Robert Russell observed in 1855, was "not advancing much in wealth or population." [2] Clearly, this South Carolina city was not typical of urban America. But it was its uniqueness that made Charleston a city that many British travelers considered worth visiting.

The weary traveler's first concern upon arriving in Charleston usually was to obtain lodgings. By the 1850's most American cities could boast of one or more large and comfortable hotels. In this regard, Charleston was no exception. The city's two principal hostelries were the Mills House and the Charleston Hotel, both of which were located on Meeting Street. The Mills House was the newer and the more popular of the two. Walter Thornbury called it "a noble palace of an hotel," while Amelia Murray claimed that it was "much better ordered than Willard's, at Washington; or even than the St. Nicholas, at New York, in point of real comfort. . . ." John Vessey was even more enthusiastic, and proclaimed it "the best house" he had encountered in the United States.[3] The food at the Mills House was worthy of special praise. Jane and Marion Turnbull reported that they "found the table better supplied with every description of game than that of any house in the United

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[1] *Seventh Census of the United States, 1850,* p. 1ii; *Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Statistics of the United States,* p. xviii.

[2] Robert Russell, *North America, Its Agriculture and Climate* (Edinburgh, Scotland, 1857), p. 162.

[3] Walter Thornbury, *Criss-Cross Journeys* (2 vols.: London, 1873), I, 271; Amelia Murray, *Letters from the United States, Cuba, and Canada* (New York, 1856), p. 199; John H. Vessey, *Mr. Vessey of England: Being the Incidents and Reminiscences of Travel in a Twelve Weeks' Tour through the United States and Canada in the Year 1859,* ed. by Brian Waters (New York, [1956]), p. 58.

States." [4] Eyre Crowe, who accompanied William M. Thackeray on his 1853 tour of the United States, stayed at the "huge" Charleston Hotel "The entance hall of the hotel," he wrote, "presents rather an animated scene. . . . The piles of trunks form perfect barricades, which can be contemplated from the convenient lounging-benches on all sides by the numerous smokers there assembled." [5]

Once lodgings were secured the traveler could roam about the city. In most cases he would begin his comments with a general observation about the streets. It was noticed that Charleston, like most American cities, was laid out according to a more or less rectilinear plan, although it appeared less monotonous than other cities with a more rigid gridiron arrangement. Generally, the streets were thought to be wide and airy; however, some of them were regarded as being too narrow. The most distinguishing feature of the streets of Charleston was the trees which lined them. True, other cities had trees planted along their avenues, but Charleston's palmettos and magnolias were considered much more attractive than the usual plantings.[6] The principal street of the city was Meeting Street, which the Turnbull sisters described as "a most noble road, many miles in length; of considerable width, and kept in excellent repair. . . ." Meeting Street began at the Battery and ran beyond the city limits.[7] Although King Street, according to the Turnbulls, was a "narrow dirty street," it was fashionable and contained the "best shops." These Englishwomen also noticed that the "ladies and gentlemen" of Charleston would "promenade up and down" King Street beginning at about four o'clock in the afternoon.[8]

All visitors to Charleston agreed that the city's leading physical attraction was the promenade along the water's edge known as the

[4] Jane M. and Marion T. Turnbull, *American Photographs* (2 vols.: London, 1860), II, 92.

[5] Eyre Crowe, *With Thackeray in America* (London, 1893), pp. 145, 148. 150.

[6] Henry A. Murray, *Lands of the Slave and the Free: or, Cuba, the United States, and Canada* (2 vols.: London, 1855), I, 377; George Ranken, *Canada and Crimea: or Sketches of a Soldier's Life* (London, 1862), p. 108; Clara F. Bromley, *A Woman's Wanderings in the Western World* (London, 1861), p. 16; James Robertson, *A Few Months in America: Containing Remarks on Some of Its Industrial and Commercial Interests* (London, [1855]), p. 49; Henry Ashworth, *A Tour in the United States, Cuba, and Canada* (London, [1861]), p. 33; [William Kingsford], *Impressions of the West and South, during a Six Weeks' Holiday* (Toronto, 1858), p. 77; Charles Mackay, *Life and Liberty in America: or Sketches of a Tour in the United States and Canada, in 1857-8* (2 vols. : London, 1859), I, 306-307; Vessey, *Mr. Vessey*, p. 61; Thornbury, *Criss-Cross* Journeys, I, 283.

[7] Turnbull, *Photographs*, II, 92-93; Vessey, *Mr. Vessey*, p. 61.

[8] Turnbull, *Photographs*, II, 96.

Battery. This attractively landscaped park contained walks and benches and was, according to William Ferguson, "the universal resort" of Charleston's population.[9] Charlestonians went to the Battery, especially in the early evening, "to inhale the pure and cool breezes . . . and to enjoy the view."[10] This delightful promenade, Charles Mackay wrote, was "their Hyde Park, their Prater, and their Champs Elysées, and they are justly proud of it."[11] Yet, other than the Battery, the Turnbulls noted, there was "a great deficiency of public squares."[12] But most American cities were inadequately provided with parks. However, since the cities were not very large, it was not especially difficult to escape to the country. Often, the objects of such drives were the rural cemeteries which were popular resorts for the urban populace during these years. The principal burial ground in the Charleston area was Magnolia Cemetery. This picturesque place, with its tall trees draped with Spanish moss, was considered by John Vessey to be "the most appropriate spot for a burying place" he had ever seen.[13]

The architecture of Charleston's public buildings did not receive enthusiastic praise from British visitors, yet several were considered handsome and substantial structures. The buildings most often mentioned were the Exchange and Customhouse, the Courthouse, the City Hall, and the Citadel.[14] The Turnbulls, who were in Charleston in 1854, did not think much of the Customhouse, which they called a "disgrace to the city." But a new customhouse was soon to be erected. In 1857 James Stirling reported: "In the lower part of Charleston there is a magnificent structure rising near the river, of beautiful Massachusetts granite. This beautiful and substantial edifice is to be—the Custom-house. . . . "[15] Several English visitors to Charleston commented favorably on

[9] William Ferguson, *America by River and Rail; or Notes by the Way on the New World and Its People* (London, 1856), p. 114.

[10] Turnbull, *Photographs*, II, 92.

[11] Mackay, *Life and Liberty*, I, 308. For other comments on the Battery, see Bromley, *Woman's Wanderings*, p. 16; Kingsford, *Impressions of the West and South*, p. 78; Vessey, *Mr. Vessey*, p. 62.

[12] Turnbull, *Photographs*, II, 91.

[13] Vessey, *Mr. Vessey*, p. 65. See also A. Murray, *Letters from the United States*, p. 201; Thornbury, *Criss-Cross Journeys*, I, 281.

[14] Ranken, *Canada and Crimea*, p. 108; Bromley, *Woman's Wanderings*, p. 16; J. Benwell, *An Englishman's Travels in America: His Observations of Life and Manners in the Free and Slave States* (London, n.d.), p. 184; Turnbull, *Photographs*, II, 91; James Stirling, *Letters from the Slave States* (London, 1857), p. 255; Kingsford, *Impressions of the West and South*, p. 77.

[15] Turnbull, *Photographs*, II, 91; Stirling, *Slave States*, p. 254. See also Thornbury, *Criss-Cross Journeys*, I, 286.

St. Michael's Church.[16] However, J. Benwell was not at all pleased with the management of St. Michael's. He went there to worship one Sunday in 1853, "but was obliged to leave the building" since, he was told, "no accomodation for strangers" was available. Angrily, Benwell stated that he "afterwards went into a large Independent chapel in another part of the town," where he "was more courteously treated."[17]

Charleston's houses, especially those inhabited by the wealthier citizens, gave a distinctive flavor to the city. Most of these seem to have been built of wood and painted white, or of red brick. The most noticeable architectural features were the verandas and terraces. Unlike the houses these travelers had seen in northern cities, those of Charleston characteristically contained courtyards or had gardens attached to them embellished with beautiful plants and flowers. The finest of these homes, it was noticed, were in the vicinity of the Battery.[18] However, less aristocratic Charlestonians, James Stirling reported, occupied houses that were "small and poor-looking."[19]

Charleston's citizens, it would appear, had a variety of good shopping facilities available to them. The finest shops, on King Street, were "fitted out in good style" and contained merchandise "of the best description."[20] But "in the back streets," according to Stirling, "with a few exceptions," the shops were "singularly mean, and many of them such as would be thought shabby in an ordinary Scotch village."[21] In 1859 John Vessey noted that Charleston had "a very good market for vegetables and fruits."[22]

[16] William E. Surtees, *Recollections of North America, in 1849-50-51* ([London, 1852]), p. 27; H. A. Murray, *Lands of Slave and Free,* I, 378; Turnbull, *Photographs,* II, 91; Kingsford, *Impressions of the West and South,* p. 77.

[17] Benwell, *Englishman's Travels,* pp. 181, 183.

[18] A. Rugbaean *[pseud.], Transatlantic Rambles; or a Record of Twelve Months Travel in the United States, Cuba, & the Brazils* (London, 1851), p. 56; H. A. Murray, *Lands of Slave and Free,* I, 377; Ranken, *Canada and Crimea,* p. 108; Bromley, *Woman's Wanderings,* p. 16; Robertson, *Few Months in America,* p. 49; Turnbull, *Photographs,* II, 90-91; Russell, *North America,* p. 162; Stirling, *Slave States,* p. 250; Kingsford, *Impressions of the West and South,* p. 77; John A. Nicholls, *In Memorium: A Selection from the Letters of the Late John Ashton Nicholls, F.R.A.S., & c.* [ed. by Mrs. Sarah Nicholls] (Manchester, Eng., 1862), p. 335; Mackay, *Life and Liberty,* I, 308; Vessey, *Mr. Vessey,* pp. 65-66.

[19] Stirling, *Slave States,* p. 250.

[20] Benwell, *Englishman's Travels,* p. 180. See also Turnbull, *Photographs,* II, 96; Kingsford, *Impressions of the West and South,* p. 77.

[21] Stirling, *Slave States,* p. 250.

[22] Vessey, *Mr. Vessey,* p. 65.

Visitors to Charleston discovered that, in addition to looking over the physical aspects of the city, they could find activities to amuse them. Amelia Murray "saw much of interest" in a museum that she visited in 1855.[23] William Kingsford reported that there was an "excellent" theater in the city, where the audience was able to "both see and hear." As a matter of fact, he claimed, except for New York and New Orleans, Charleston was "the only place" where he witnessed "even decent acting."[24] But the "gay time" in Charleston, H. A. Murray pointed out, was in February, when the horse-racing season was in progress.[25] The Turnbull sisters were astonished at the size of the crowds attending these races and noted with surprise that women were among the spectators. The Turnbulls were fortunate to obtain tickets admitting them to the grandstand, since these were available only through members of the Jockey Club. Opening day of the races was indeed a gala occasion, with the citizens of Charleston trying to outdo each other in the display of fine clothes and handsome carriages. According to the Turnbull sisters these interesting and exciting races lasted for six days.[26]

But for many Charlestonians life could not have been filled with so much gaiety. For orphans, for the poor, for the disabled, and for the physically and mentally ill, the amenities of the city were apparently few. While attempts were being made in many American cities to provide care for these unfortunate citizens, Charleston, judging from the lack of comment by English visitors, possessed few establishments dedicated to this purpose. The only institution singled out for comment was the Orphan Hospital. James Stirling considered this the "most imposing edifice in Charleston," and wrote of the "massive grandeur of its sandstone architecture." A visit to the Orphan Hospital convinced Stirling that it was "physically unimpeachable, clean, airy, [and] elegant." However, Stirling questioned the wisdom of this establishment's policy of taking in foundlings, for, he stated, "to treat thus magnificently the progeny of the reckless and sinful, is to encourage improvidence, and hold out a premium on prostitution."[27]

Charleston may have been an attractive city and an entertaining one, but its visitors did encounter some discomforts. The heat, for ex-

[23] A. Murray, *Letters from the United States,* p. 206.
[24] Kingsford, *Impressions of the West and South,* p. 78.
[25] H. A. Murray, *Lands of Slave and Free,* I, 381.
[26] Turnbull, *Photographs,* II, 97-100.
[27] Stirling, *Slave States,* pp. 252-253.

ample, could be oppressive. As H. A. Murray lamented, "when you go out to enjoy a stroll, if the air is still, a beefsteak would frizzle on the crown of your hat . . . . " But even a mild breeze created other problems, for it carried with it a "sandy dust" which, Murray complained, "laughs at all precautions, blinding your eyes, stuffing your nose, filling your mouth, and bringing your hide to a state which I can find no other comparison for, but that of a box intended to represent a stone pedestal, and which, when the paint has half dried, is sprinkled with sand to perfect the delusion." [28] William Baxter pointed out another problem encountered by visitors to Charleston. During the hours of darkness, he reported, "the lamps are so few and the holes in the thoroughfares so deep, that a stranger finds it dangerous to walk abroad . . . . " [29] But judging from the testimony of other observers, Baxter must have strayed from the principal streets in his nocturnal walks, for these were noted to be paved and kept in good repair. Indeed, James Stirling remarked that they were the first surfaced streets he had seen since his departure from New Orleans.[30]

According to Amelia Murray the streets of Charleston appeared to be clean. [31] This observation was a tribute to the city's unofficial, airborne sanitation department. Throughout the decade, debris was removed from Charleston's streets by a squadron of turkey buzzards. William Surtees reported that he had seen "as many as twenty buzzards sitting on the roof of the market-place, whence, as tame as pigeons in a farm-yard, they would fly down, and, almost under the wheels of the carts and the feet of horses that were passing, would devour any scrap of meat that was tossed away from the butcher's stalls. Never were buzzards so petted as these," Surtees continued, "and, unless their having been protected and pampered so long has precluded all thought on the subject (which if buzzards have any feelings of humanity must be the case), they must suppose that for their roost the roof has been raised, and for their dinner the cattle have been slaughtered." [32] The city authorities obviously were not blind to the good services performed by Charleston's feathered friends, for they imposed a fine of several dollars upon anyone who wilfully killed one of them. These buzzards seemed to have fared well indeed. J. Benwell

[28] H. A. Murray, *Lands of Slave and Free*, I, 377-378.
[29] William E. Baxter, *America and the Americans* (London, 1855), p. 175.
[30] Stirling, *Slave States*, p. 250; Turnbull, *Photographs*, II, 93.
[31] A. Murray, *Letters from the United States*, p. 199.
[32] Surtees, *Recollections of North America*, p. 30.

remarked that "many of them appeared well conditioned, even to obesity." [33]

The birds undoubtedly were of value to the city, but some of the beasts were not. Benwell complained that at night "scores of dogs collect in the streets, and yelp and bark in the most annoying manner." He reported that Charlestonians customarily dispersed these "midnight interlopers" by shooting at them from a window. "At first my rest was greatly disturbed by their noisy yelpings," Benwell related "but I soon became accustomed to the inconvenience, and thought little of it." [34]

By the 1850's police protection in most American cities was not very highly organized. Uniforms were just beginning to be adopted in a few places, and the presence of policemen on city streets scarcely was noticed. Yet in Charleston, according to William Kingsford, an 1857 observer, the "police organization" was a "perfect *gens d'armerie.*" As he passed by the police barracks he was "attracted by the sentry who was marching his regular distance accoutered with side belts and musket." Unlike other cities he had visited, Charleston had "a strong force constantly in readiness to act," while "at all hours" patrols circulated within the city. He was told that this surveillance was necessary because of Charleston's position as a seaport, which resulted in "a great many desperate men" congregating there. "But," Kingsford stated, "it struck me that the principal cause of anxiety might be, after all, the slave population." [35] This view was shared by an earlier visitor, Arthur Cunynghame, who was informed by one of the city guards that the regular patrols were necessary for " 'keeping down the niggers' . . . . " [36]

"One of the most striking sights" in Charleston, according to H. A. Murray, was "the turn-out of the Fire Companies on any gala day." The engines of these companies were "brilliantly got up" and "decorated tastefully with flowers." In addition to these embellished fire-engines, Murray observed "banners flying; the men, in gay but business-like uniform, dragging their engines about, and bands playing away joyously before them." The city's fire-fighting personnel, he reported, were organized into eight companies, each containing one hundred

[33] Benwell, *Englishman's Travels,* pp. 203-204. See also Rugbaean, *Transatlantic Rambles,* p. 58; Arthur Cunynghame, *A Glimpse at the Great Western Republic* (London, 1851), p. 264; Ranken, *Canada and Crimea,* p. 128; Turnbull, *Photographs,* II, 96-97.

[34] Benwell, *Englishman's Travels,* p. 204.

[35] Kingsford, *Impressions of the West and South,* p. 77.

[36] Cunynghame, *Great Western Republic,* p. 264.

men. These companies, like those of other cities, were composed of volunteers; but while elsewhere fire companies harbored "all the rowdies of the town," in Charleston the members were "generally speaking, the most respectable people in the community." [37]

English visitors to Charleston frequently commented on the inhabitants of the city. One peculiarity of the population was noted by James Stirling, who observed that there seemed to be "no middle class; only rich and poor." [38] It was with the rich that Englishmen had their most frequent contacts. These contacts seem to have been very pleasant ones for the travelers, who were received with the utmost hospitality by the "refined" and "intelligent" members of Charleston society.[39] George Ranken, an 1853 visitor who had an eye for ladies, maintained that the women of Charleston were "nicer looking, and more feminine and lovable than their Northern sisters." [40] That a "considerable portion" of the city's residents were of French descent was noted by Henry Ashworth in 1857.[41] Four years earlier J. Benwell had commented on the Jewish element of the population. However, his remarks must be taken with considerable caution, since it is obvious that he had little love for this group and was willing to repeat what was merely hearsay. "The Jews are a very numerous and influential body in Charleston," he wrote, "and monopolize many of its corporate honours." [42]

But English travelers were most interested in Charleston's Negro residents. Visitors were struck immediately by the great number of Negroes they saw in the streets. Indeed, it seemed to some observers that the blacks out-numbered the whites in the city. George Ranken, for example, reported that the "great number of darkies is very striking at first. You see, even in the main streets, two or even three of these to every white man, and in the back streets you see no one else." [43] Charleston, like other southern cities, did not permit Negroes to be on the streets after nine o'clock in the evening. At that time, the ringing of the bells of St. Michael's Church and the beating of drums at the headquarters of the city guard notified all Negroes without

[37] H. A. Murray, *Lands of Slave and Free,* I, 380.

[38] Stirling, *Slave States,* p. 250.

[39] H. A. Murray, *Lands of Slave and Free,* I, 377; Robertson, *Few Months in America,* p. 50; Turnbull, *Photographs,* II, 104; Russell, *North America,* p. 162; Ashworth, *Tour in the United States,* p. 33.

[40] Ranken, *Canada and Crimea,* p. 110.

[41] Ashworth, *Tour in the United States,* p. 33.

[42] Benwell, *Englishman's Travels,* pp. 205-206.

[43] Ranken, *Canada and Crimea,* pp. 109-110. See also Rugbaean, *Transatlantic Rambles,* p. 56; Benwell, *Englishman's Travels,* p. 191.

passes to return to their homes. Those who remained in the streets could anticipate being locked up for the night and flogged by the city guard.[44] In addition to this restriction upon the black population, J. Benwell claimed, in 1853, that they also were prohibited from walking on the sidewalks, and the men were required to "salute every white they met." He pointed out that although these regulations were "falling into disuse," they had not yet been abolished. Thus, he recalled having seen "several negroes from the plantation districts, walking in the road instead of on the pavement, in accordance with this law, touching their hats to every white passer-by; they were consequently obliged to be continually lifting heir hands to their heads, for they passed white people at every step." With regulations such as these, it was not surprising that Benwell would observe that the "general appearance of the majority of the coloured people in the streets of Charleston denoted abject fear and timidity. . . ."[45]

Several English visitors attended slave auctions while in Charleston. It was noted that these sales took place outdoors in the vicinity of the Exchange. There was "a large house" in this area, where the slaves were "lodged and taken care of," according to John Vessey. This was, he stated, a "sort of depot for slaves where there are always some on sale, and where you can purchase one at any time, or at the auctions that take place weekly."[46] George Ranken, like others among his countrymen, visited a slave auction out of curiosity, but then viewed the proceedings with abhorrence. "The scene," he wrote, "was most painful, humiliating, and degrading. I became quite affected myself, and was obliged to hurry away, for fear of showing what I felt."[47]

A walk down to the docks brought the English visitor into contact with the basis of Charleston's economy. The city functioned as a major port for the exportation of cotton and rice. This was facilitated by Charleston's excellent harbor, which, George Ranken noted, was "well sheltered by islands, and a projecting tongue of land."[48] Charles Mackay found that Charleston's wharves, while "not so busy and bustling as the Levée of New Orleans," nonetheless presented "an animated

[44] Rubaean, *Transatlantic Rambles*, p. 57; *Benwell, Englishman's Travels*, pp. 184-185; Ferguson, *America by River and Rail*, p. 125; Mackay, *Life and Liberty*, I, 310-311.

[45] Benwell, *Englishman's Travels*, pp. 186-187, 190.

[46] Vessey, *Mr. Vessey*, pp. 63-64.

[47] Ranken, *Canada and Crimea*, pp. 117-118. See also Crowe, *With Thackeray*, pp. 150-151; Stirling, *Slave States*, p. 259.

[48] Ranken, *Canada and Crimea*, p. 108.

spectacle." The port, he observed, was crowded with ships, "principally from Liverpool and Greenock," which were being loaded with "huge and multitudinous bales [of cotton] for the mills of Manchester and Glasgow . . . . " These vessels, he claimed, brought coal from England and Scotland in exchange for the cotton.[49] John Vessey apparently was surprised that the bales of cotton were not stored "under shelter," but were "piled up [to] a considerable height and quite exposed to the atmosphere . . . . "[50]

Yet despite its busy waterfront, Charleston seems to have lacked the bustle and excitement of New Orleans and the seaports of the Northeast; nor did it exhibit the frenzy of growth to be found in the cities of the West. Charles Rosenberg wrote that he "was somewhat astonished on wandering through Charleston . . . to find it so different in its character from any city in the States which we had hitherto visited . . . . " Charleston, to him, appeared to be a city which had been "dipped in the Lethe of the past," and which was "gradually subsiding into forgetfulness." All in all, he regarded this South Carolina port as "a very staid and remarkably slow" place. Yet he considered Charleston a "somewhat worthy city," and one in which he "should very decidedly relish settling," although not until he "had passed that fatal half-century which leaves man dragging on his path towards the tomb, among the various brilliant or chequered memories which the past has heaped upon him."[51]

[49] Mackay, *Life and Liberty*, I, 308-309. See also Rugbaean, *Transatlantic Rambles*, p. 56; Russell, *North America*, p. 163; Ashworth, *Tour in the United States*, p. 33; Vessey, *Mr. Vessey*, p. 62.

[50] Vessey, *Mr. Vessey*, p. 61.

[51] Charles G. Rosenberg, *Jenny Lind in America* (New York, 1851), pp. 100-101.

JOSIAS AND MARTHA DUPRÉ AND SOME OF THEIR DESCENDANTS

PETRONA ROYALL MCIVER *

The DuPrés, French Huguenots fleeing from persecution, brought to this country no records of their ancestry; at least none have been discovered. In a search for facts concerning the forebears of Josias and Martha DuPré, the names of French notables, who may have been connected with the family, have been gleaned from Lempriere's *Biographical Dictionary* (Richmond, Va., 1826). John DuPré de Guyer, a hermit, who was among the earliest to bear the name, built in the solid rock, with only the help of his servant, the hermitage at Friburg, the chimney of which rises to ninety-eight feet. Mary DuPré, a learned lady of the seventeenth century, studied rhetoric, poetry, languages, and philosophy. Lewis DuPré d'Aunay, a native of Paris, wrote on scientific subjects and died in 1758. This given name of Lewis occurs often in the earliest DuPré families in America. Nicholas Francis DuPré, de St. Maur, a native of Paris, translated Milton and Addison into French and died in 1774.

The persons named above all exhibit traits which characterize the family in America, except, of course, John DuPré de Guyer, the hermit. No DuPré in this country, as far as is known, has been anti-social; on the contrary the records show the members of the family to be, and to have been, gregarious and friendly—notably so.

The name DuPré is found in the list of surnames drawn from the registers of French churches at Dublin and at Portarlington. This name is mentioned in "The Huguenot Settlements in Ireland," *Transactions of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina*, No. 47, pages 23-30.

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Josias DuPré, his wife Martha, their three sons and two daughters, and Samuel DuPré (probably father of Josias), a Huguenot family of

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