

HUEY FAMILY

Among the early families of Rock Hill, the Hueys can be numbered, having moved to the town in the year of 1892, living first on the then fashionable neighborhood of Railroad Avenue, later on W. White Street, and finally on North Confederate Avenue, in 1897, then called Academy Street, where the house built in 1901 now stands. The number is 119 North Confederate. We lived first in 125 until my Mother had the present house built in 1901. My father died in 1897.

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All of the children, seven in number, attended Central School, where they all graduated: Daisye Livingston, Azilee Buford, Ida Marie, Jessie Ruff, Thomas Walker, William Anderson, and Mary. All the children were born in Union County, North Carolina, where my father owned a large farm, except Mary who was born in Rock Hill. We moved from the farm when we located in Rock Hill. One might wonder why a family well located on a farm and dependent upon its products for a living would leave same to take up residence in a far away place (25 miles) and have to continue to farm for a living, but my father and mother both valued the advantages of an education and determined to have as much as the public schools could then afford the children. Not many years later, Winthrop College was moved to Rock Hill and this proved a double reason from an educational standpoint.

My, father, Semeon Hyder Huey, was born in 1845, educated in the old field schools of his day, prepared to enter the University of South Carolina in 1860, taking along his servant, but upon reaching Lancaster Court House enlisted in the Confederate Army, serving until severely wounded in the Battle of Gettysburg. He was cared for by a Virginia family until he could return home. My father was married twice: First, to Alice Hunter, daughter of Rev. Hunter, preacher for 35 years, of Sardis, from which union were born two children, Frank Vernon, and Margaret; Second he was married to Mary Elizabeth Robertson, and the seven children mentioned above were from this union.

Tracing the background of the two families, I will mention those of my paternal side first. Simeon Hyder Huey was the son of Thomas Walker Huey and his wife, Margaret Crockett. Thomas Walker Huey was the son of James Huey and his wife, Jane Walker, who came to this country from Antrim, Ireland, near Belfast, both being very young when arriving here. James Huey fought in the Revolution under General Sumter and was a Captain as stated on his tombstone in old Tirzah Presbyterian Church graveyard. His wife, also buried there, once made a journey to Camden during the War, to take provisions to her brother, Thomas Walker, and to Hugh and Andrew Jackson, later the seventh President of the United States. It is said that she rode all night in order to get away from enemy territory before dawn, changed horses, when she found one hobbled out to graze, not knowing the owner, but realizing that all patriots were willing to give themselves and possessions for the cause of liberty. Jane's brother, Andrew Walker, had a commission from the Governor to serve as Captain and raise troops which he did by enlisting most of the cowboys on his father's large plantation. He was able to capture 13 Tories who were foraging in the neighborhood and these were exchanged on the basis of two for one with the British. Among those exchanged were his brother, Thomas Walker, and Andrew Jackson; Hugh Jackson having died of wounds he sustained in the Battle of Waxhaw, and later in prison.

Margaret Crockett (wife of Thomas Walker Huey) was first married to Dr. Massey and had one child, Molivia, who married a Crawford of Lancaster. As the wife of Thomas Walker Huey, she bore three children,

Amanda, who married Willard Hood; Robert E.A. Hood, who married Lizzie Key, and my father, Simeon Hyder, who married Mary Elizabeth Robertson.

The said Margaret Crockett was the daughter of Andrew Crockett and Nancy Dunlap. Andrew fought in the Revolutionary War and was a kinsman of the famous hero of Alamo, David Crockett. Nancy was the daughter of Nancy Craighead and George Dunlap. She was a Revolutionary War heroine and George fought in the war. Nancy was first married to the Rev. William Richardson in 1759, who was pastor of Waxhaw Church, S.C. No children were born of this union but they had the pleasure of adopting and raising William R. Davie, who became an outstanding man of his generation, serving as General in the Revolution, later as Governor of North Carolina, and founder of the University of North Carolina, together with many other services to this state and nation.

On the maternal side of the family: Mary Elizabeth Robertson was the daughter of Margaret Anderson and John Wesley Robertson of the Rossville Section of Chester County. William Robertson (father of John) and his wife Mary, lived at Great Falls, where they owned extensive farms and a beautiful colonial home which was burned by General Sherman as his army passed through this section, ravaging and destroying as they went. I have often heard my great-aunt Eliza Robertson, tell of the burning and the destruction of all food, furnishings, clothing, etc., in the house. William, at the time, had crossed Catawba River and was camped on an island with a few of his horses. Later they moved to Chester, bought some land and built a house, now standing just back of the Angus Macauley House. The house once stood on the same lot as the Macauley house but was rolled back to make place for the new one. However, the old mantles, which are very beautiful, were taken out of the old house and placed in the new. The old house was built in 1873. The Robertsons came originally from Virginia and it is claimed they were related to the Princess Pocahontas. I once read a large volume on the descendents of the Princess Pocahontas by Windham Robertson but was not sufficiently versed on the family history to determine if kinship existed between this branch of the Robertsons and Pocahontas.

The Andersons came over with the Stephensons and many others from Ireland in the year 1772, under the leadership of Rev. William Martin. William Anderson married Nancy Stephenson just before they sailed and when they reached America settled on Rocky Creek, near the falls of Catawba River, in Chester County, South Carolina. According to the history of the Stephenson family by J.C. Stephenson, "Mr. Anderson was a man of some means; the Stephensons were not then possessed of means."

William Anderson volunteered for the war, leaving his wife and three children: Mary the oldest, Robert, and William. Quoting: "He left a bountiful supply for his wife and children--horses, cattle and hogs, and a crib full of corn, and a smokehouse well supplied with provisions, old ham and well cured side meat. But, oh, the uncertainty of this world's goods! On the return of the British and Tories from the vain pursuit of William Anderson, her husband, they, knowing his skill and bravery and being chagrined on account of his escape, destroyed and carried away everything she possessed. Soon after this, Mr. Anderson was surprised and killed on Fishing Creek, near where Fort Lawn now is." Nancy Stephenson afterward married Daniel Green but no children came of this union. However, Mr. Green, proved a wonderful father to the Anderson children.

So much for the ancestors, though I might write much more of tradition and history and taking up the history of the immediate family will say that my father, continued to farm the acreage in

Union County, North Carolina, and did some cabinet work in Rock Hill for he was an expert cabinet maker and has left to us several pieces of furniture of excellent design and workmanship. After his death, my mother carried on the support of the family largely with her needle, though it was an art she had to learn when circumstances forced her to do so. Many are the long hours, far into the night she stitched and designed and measured, so that her children might have food, clothing and shelter while they were getting an education. As said in the beginning, all were graduated from Central High School, all in the same building. While going to school the children were required to study in the afternoons and a lickin' at school meant another one at home. They were raised with a hickory stick on one side and the catechism on the other. My mother often expressed regret that the children had to be raised without a father's advice and care but she did a fine job of instilling right principles into each one. My mother was an exceptional person, always cheerful and full of life, entered into the play with her children and rarely, if ever, lost her temper. She was deeply religious, charitable and kindly disposed toward every man. I could never say enough in gratitude and admiration toward my Mother.

All are married except one, or have been married. Daisy married Max M. Brown of Lake City, Florida, Attorney and Banker.

One Child: Mary who married Emory Butler

Azilee is the sweet old maid, who has been the fairy god-mother to all the grandchildren, helpful and comforting to every one.

Ida Marie married Frances Heyward Moore of McConnellsville and had Five Children:

1. Heyward, oldest died when in the prime of life
2. Simeon married in Florida and is now Sheriff of Madison County and has two children.
3. Elizabeth married Barber Sykes and has two children
4. Joe Palmer married Mary McMaster of Winstboro and has three children
5. Marion married Louise Nicols and they have two children.

Jessie Ruff married first, John M. Cannon, of Laurens, who died in 1914 and had one son:

John Marvin Cannon, now living in Detroit, Michigan, married First to Mary Mormand, they had two children
Second to Virginia Ferrara, M.D. of Detroit, they had two children. John is in the newspaper advertising business and has been public relations director for the American Tool Engineers.

Jessie married second time to Burton H. Massey, had one child who died in infancy, and third time to C. Fred Laurence.

Thomas Walker Huey married Hazel Thompson of Richmond, Va. and has one son:

Thomas Walker Huey, Jr. married Katherine Shee of Conn.

They have three children:

1. Thomas Walker Huey III
2. Nancy
3. Katherine

Thomas Walker Huey, Jr. is a physician and lives in Charlotte, N.C.

William Anderson Huey married Olga Crosland of Bennettsville and had one child:

Norine Elizabeth married Wilson Lynch, and had one child, Wilson Lynch, Jr., second husband was John Wallace of Savannah.

William Anderson Huey now lives in Columbia where he is engaged in the Real estate business and preaches in the First Baptist Church of Summerton, S.C. He has been assistant pastor and musical director in some of the largest Baptist churches in the south.

Mary, born in 1893, married Robert Lee Adams of Gastonia in 1918. They had three children:

- 1. Martha Elizabeth born 1919 married Samuel Black Bledsoe, Jr. who was born in 1920, in 1942. They have two children:
 - Samuel Black Bledsoe III born in 1946
 - Mary Huey Bledsoe born in 1949
- 2. Robert Lee Adams, Jr. born in 1924 in Gastonia who married Jean Kelly of N.C.
- 3. Simeon Huey Adams born in 1927 in Gastonia.

My Mother, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Robertson was twice married, first to Simeon Hyder Huey (my Father) and second to T.K. Cunningham of Lancaster, S.C. in 1918. Mr. Cunningham died a few months after the marriage.

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