

## Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine

---

Vol. V.

JULY, 1923.

No. 1.

---

### A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE, IN VIRGINIA, 1793.<sup>1</sup>

By the Rev. JOHN JONES SPOONER, A. M. A. A. S.,  
Rector of Martin's Brandon, in said County.

This county is bounded on the north by James river, which washes it about thirty-five miles; on the east, partly by upper Chippoah creek, and partly by the Surry line; on the south, by Surry, Sussex, and Dinwiddie counties; and on the west, by Appomattox river.

It is in length about thirty miles; its breadth is various; the medium is sixteen miles. It originally formed part of Charles City county, which is now confined to the northern side of James river.

The river is here about one mile wide at the points; but in the bays, from two to three miles; at the confluence of the Appomattox is City Point, which with Bermuda Hundred, on the opposite side of the Appomattox, forms the port of this district. Vessels of five hundred tons may here load and unload. At Hoods, about eighteen miles below, a British ship of forty-four guns has lain.

Appomattox is navigable for square rigged vessels seven miles; from this to Petersburg, it is only navigable for vessels of less than sixty tons.

The James is one of the most noble rivers in the United States.

---

<sup>1</sup>Reprinted from "Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society," for the year 1794, Vol. III., pages 85-93. Rev. John Jones Spooner was afterwards rector of St. John's Parish in Hampton, where he died September 13, 1799, aged 42. His tombstone is in the Hampton churchyard.

### THE MAGNOLIA GARDENS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Why dream of Paradise when one can see it with his own eyes by going to Charleston in March when the Japonicas or Azalias are in bloom? Many places have been designated as the wonder of America, but this area of forty acres, an astonishing combination of a park and a flower garden, has no real competitor. It is doubtful whether a more beautiful spot exists on earth. Go and see it in the month of March. Charleston, too, combining its old grandeur with modern development, is the most remarkable of American cities.

Rice has been banished from its old habitation in the mud flats of the Ashley and Cooper rivers, and the noble houses of the rice planters were burnt during the War for Southern Independence, but the magnolia gardens and the Middleton gardens above them give some idea of the magnificence in which the Southern planters lived. When these lords of the earth and negroes moved down the aisles of the United States Senate in Washington, the New England representatives grew green-eyed and vengeful.

---

### PRESBYTERIANS IN YORK COUNTY.

At a court held for York County in the town of York at the Court House on Monday the 17th day of June, 1765, and in the fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third.

\* \* \* \* \*

These are to certify the worshipful court of York that we intend to make use of a House in the City of Williamsburg situate on part of a lott belonging to Mr. George Davenport as a place for the Public Worship of God according to the practice of Protestant Dissenters of the Presbyterian denomination which we desire may be Registered in the Records of the Court and this certificate we make according to the direction of an act of Parliament called the Act of Toleration.

P. S. As we are not able to obtain a settled minister we intend this place at present only for occasional worship when we have opportunity to hear any.

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| <u>William Smith</u> | Edward Cummins         |
| John Connelly        | Thomas Skinner         |
| Walter Lenox         | Daniel Hoyer           |
| James Holdcroft      | John Bell              |
| Robt Nicholson       | <del>James Smith</del> |
| John Ormeston        | William Brown          |
| James Douglas        | Jo Morris              |
| William Gemmell      | Charles Hankins        |

---

## MARRIAGE BONDS IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY.

28 June, 1775, John Bruce & Elizabeth Clay, sec. Jno. Clay.

2 March, 1778, Joel Townes & Franky Gains, d. of Richard Gains, sec. Richard Gains.

15 Oct., 1768, Edward Wade & Letty Martin, spinster, dau. of Abraham Martin, sec. William Wade.

12th Feb., 1779, Thomas Tinsley & Tabitha Spencer, spinster, dau. of Ahimas Spencer, sec. Ahimas Spencer.

23 August, 1770, Thomas Totty & Mary Mann, sec. Burwell Vaden.

14 Januy., 1772, George Jude & Anne Watson, sec. Matthew Watson.

25 June, 1771, Letter of Richd Jones to clerk consenting to marriage of his son Richard Jones to Lucy Clay.

28 Dec., 1776, William Moore & Susannah Washborn, sec. James Sanson.

1 May, 1780, John Smith & Jeane Brent, spinster, daughter of John Brent, sec. John Brent.

10 May, 1773, Wm. Watkins to Thomas Read, clerk, consenting to his son's applying for a license to marry Elizabeth Parrish. Witness John Breedlove.

21 Feb., 1780, Berkeley Martin & Rachel Clay, spinster, d. of Henry Clay (consent of Henry Clay, Witnessed by William Vaughan, Sally Clay & Tabitha Clay).

19 June, 1772, James Adams, jun. & Jenny Cunningham, spinster, sec. Samuel Cunningham.