

HILTON HEAD ISLAND
AND
OUR FAMILY CIRCLE

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TALES
OF
ANTE BELLUM
ISLAND
FAMILIES

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By

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Hilton Head Island,
South Carolina.

1970.

Hilton Head Island got its name as a result of the publication of Captain William Hilton's Account of his exploratory visit here in September 1663 in his ship, The Adventure.¹ Less than three years later in June 1666 Captain Robert Sanford reached Hilton Head on behalf of the Lords Proprietors. He put ashore the first English settler of Carolina, young Dr. Henry Woodward,² who lived with the native Indians until the Spaniards captured him. They imprisoned him at St. Augustine, that supposedly impregnable bastion, whence he was freed in a surprise raid by buccaneer Robert Serle, only to be shipwrecked and cast ashore on the Island of Nevis in an exciting hurricane in August 1669. There the expedition under Governor Sayle stopped in March 1670, took him aboard and sailed directly to Hilton Head Island, Port Royal and eventually up to the Ashley-Cooper confluence to settle Charles Towne. Dr. Woodward got into Our Family Circle³ by the marriages of his only two sons, John and Richard, to two sisters, Elizabeth and Sarah Stanyarne, nieces of Mary Stanyarne Ladson, great-grandmother of Dorothy Phoebe Norton, Mrs. George Mosse, of whom more later.

On 10 December 1717 Col. John ("Tuscarora Jack") Barnwell received the first recorded land grant on Hilton Head Island, 1000 acres later known as Myrtle Bank Plantation. In 1724 he bequeathed 500 acres of it to his daughter, Katherine Barnwell Bryan, who died childless in 1740, the other 500 acres to his daughter Bridget Barnwell who married Captain Robert Sams.⁴ Robert was a younger brother of William Sams⁵. ~~whose daughter Mary Sams was the third wife of Captain William Lawton⁶ of Edisto Island and the mother of his son, Joseph Lawton of Mulberry Grove Plantation, St. Peter's Parish.~~ *Oralote ** When Bridget's son, Robert Sams, Jr., inherited Myrtle Bank Plantation in 1760 and died childless, it was sold to William and Phoebe Jenkins Waight of Beaufort. Phoebe Jenkins Waight was a

daughter of Joseph Jenkins and Phoebe Chaplin, daughter of John Chaplin and Phoebe Ladsen of St. Helena's Island, of whom more later. Phoebe Waught's daughter, yet another Phoebe, a charming and vivacious heiress with many ardent suitors, inherited Myrtle Bank and in 1787 married William Elliott, II who there first grew in 1790 the famous long-staple Sea Island cotton which quickly supplanted rice as the basis of the fortunes of the ante bellum southern planters. It was William Seabrook⁷, grandson of Captain William Lawton, who devised the use of black salt marsh muck as fertilizer for the cotton fields every other year, with ground oyster shells for intervening years. The cotton fields were divided into quarter-acre squares, 105 by 105 feet, each called a "task", the basic work unit assigned each slave. In the next generation, William Elliott, III, that most remarkable gentleman, planter of no less than nine great plantations, Phi Beta Kappa, recipient of an honorary degree from Harvard, M.A. from Cambridge, legislator, senator, poet, sportsman, agriculturalist, author, playwright and Intendent of Beaufort in which capacity he entertained Lafayette in 1825, got doubly into Our Family Circle by marrying Anne Smith, granddaughter of Roger Moore Smith,⁸ member of the Provincial Congress, grandson of the II Landgrave Thomas Smith of Westcohen. Their grandchildren were the Gonzales brothers who ultimately inherited Myrtle Bank Plantation. They lived in Columbia where they founded The State Newspaper which still comes to Hilton Head Island daily.

The second grant on the Island was made jointly to Edmund Ellis and Samuel Green for 900 acres along Port Royal Sound eastward from Myrtle Bank to the Atlantic Ocean. Edmund Ellis⁹ in his will dated 5 January 1775 left his 685-acre Island Plantation divided between his sons Thomas and Edmund. His descendant, Richard Washington Ellis,¹⁰ married in 1875 a granddaughter of Rev. James Jehu Robert and Charlotte

Ann Lawton, Ida Rhodes, whose nephew, George Augustus Rhodes, married the same year Julia Ellis Baynard¹¹. of the same Ellis family, forebears of the wife of the Hon. Robert E. McNair, Governor of South Carolina.

Meanwhile, Island planter Samuel Green in his earlier will¹². of 24 February 1767 left his Fish Hall Plantation, where he lived, to his son Samuel and his Colginse (later Coggins) Point Plantation to his daughters Sarah and Susannah. Eventually Sarah Green, named for her mother, Sarah Norton, became sole heiress to all this and married William Pope, Sr., their heirs being the largest property holders on the Island in 1860, owning 700-acre Fish Hall, 400-acre Pine Barrens, 1000-acre Cotton Hope, 1750-acre Point Comfort, 800-acre Coggins Point (now Port Royal Plantation), 2000-acre Leamington (now Palmetto Dunes) and 1000-acre Pineland Plantations, all in Our Family Circle since Sarah Norton Green was a sister of Dorothy Phoebe Norton, Mrs. George Mosse, their mother being a Chaplin and their grandmother a Ladson.

Now must be introduced a gentleman whose family is truly the catalyst in uniting Hilton Head Island and Our Family Circle, his wife already twice mentioned above. History invariably refers to him as Doctor George Mosse. His 1808 Obituary¹³ states he was a graduate of the University of Dublin, although that venerable institution is presently unable to locate his records. He arrived in South Carolina from Ireland before October 1767 when he married Elizabeth Martin¹⁴ in the Parish of St. Thomas and St. Denis. After she died in childbirth, he moved to St. Helena's Parish and by 1771 married Dorothy Phoebe Norton whose father, Jonathan Norton,¹⁵ was a Vestryman of the Parish as early as 1751. With his son William, Jonathan Norton built the Chapel of Ease on St. Helena's Island, a tabby building now known as the White Church although it is in ruins, having been accidentally

burned in a forest fire in 1888. Dr. Mosse practiced medicine and operated an extensive tannery and leather business. He planted grapes from which he manufactured sugar and wines, indigo, cane from which he made sugar and rum, and benne or sesame, prized for the valuable oil extracted from its seed. His bills to the Commissioners of the Treasury of the State of South Carolina for many of these items during the years 1782 - 1785 may still be seen in the Department of Archives in Columbia. It has been recorded that Dr. Mosse owned land on Hilton Head. Although its exact location is not now known, it is thought to have been at the south end. At any rate he knew the Island well enough, having surveyed it and made a detailed map of it in 1783, dividing it into land lots for further development by Benjamin Bayley as agent for Henry Bayley, heir of Landgrave John Bayley of Ballinglough, Tipperary to whom most of the Island had been granted as early as August 1698. Dr. Mosse's knowledge of the area is illustrated by the story recorded by his granddaughter that he was made a prisoner of war by the British following Cornwallis' victory at the Battle of Camden in May 1781 where he served as a surgeon, was marched to Charleston and imprisoned there in the harbor aboard the Prison Ship Torbay. Official records indicate he was also imprisoned on the Prison Ship Pack Horse. The granddaughter's version says the prisoners were being shipped southward to St. Augustine and, having been allowed the freedom of the deck because of the heat and crowded conditions in the quarters below deck, when the ship passed Hilton Head Island Dr. Mosse dived overboard and swam ashore to freedom.¹⁶ Dr. Mosse and Dorothy Phoebe Norton were parents of seven children, all daughters, all of whom they raised and lived to see well-married.¹⁷ The first five children were all baptized in St. Helena's Church but in

1789 Dr. Mosse was talked by Rev. Joseph Cook of Euhaw into joining the Baptists, as were ultimately his brother-in-law, William Norton,¹⁸ and even his sister-in-law, Elizabeth Norton Graham. This wealthy and highly respected lady, known by all the Mosse sisters as "Aunt Graham", was the wife of the Rev. William Eastwick Graham who was sent by the Bishop of London in 1775 to be Rector of Prince William Parish. Following the barbarous destruction of his elegant Church at Sheldon by General Augustine Prevost in May 1779, he espoused the American cause and was frequently associated with Dr. Mosse in ventures on behalf of the patriots. He was also the owner of plantation lands on Hilton Head Island adjoining his nephew, William Pope, Sr. Shortly after 1790 Dr. Mosse moved his family to Savannah where they lived on the southeast corner of Broughton and West Broad Streets. In February 1793 his sixteen year old daughter, Elizabeth, there married James Stoney of 770-acre Otterburn (variously Otter Hall and Otter Hole) Plantation, Hilton Head Island.¹⁹

In the post-Revolutionary period the Stoneys were easily the Island's largest landholders. In addition to Otterburn, James and John Stoney also owned 350-acre Fairfield, 1000-acre Possum Point, 1765-acre Shipyard, 1000-acre Braddock's Point and 1000-acre Honey Horn Plantations, the last bought at John Hanahan's estate sale in 1805 and later sold to William Graham of Grahamville.²⁰ Being Episcopalians they were chiefly responsible, with the Davants and the Popes, for building Zion Chapel of Ease in 1788. The Rev. William Graham often officiated until his death in October 1800 in Beaufort where he was Rector of St. Helena's Church from 1798.²¹ Rev. Philip Mathews was priest-in-charge until 1839. Rev. Alsop Woodward, who married into the Pope family and his descendants into the family of Rev. Pierre Robert, was in charge 1839 - 1853. Rev. James Mosse

Stoney was Pastor 1853 - 1861 when it was abandoned and quickly demolished by ex-slaves and undisciplined federal soldiers. Its handsome pair of eucharistic chalices dated 1834 were discovered in a Philadelphia pawnshop in this century, were entrusted to St. Helena's, Beaufort until the Church could be re-established on Hilton Head and now are again used regularly in St. Luke's Church on Pope Avenue.

James and Elizabeth Mosse Stoney of Otterburn had fifteen children, only two of whom survived to maturity. One was a son, Dr. George Mosse Stoney, born 1795, who practiced medicine and planted Otterburn which he inherited. Its deep water dock on Broad Creek made it conveniently accessible to most Island plantations. Dr. Stoney married (first) Catherine Jenkins, daughter of Isaac Rippon Jenkins of Jenkins Island Plantation and his wife, Hannah Scott of the Grasslawn Plantation family. His second wife was Sarah Woodward Barnwell, a relative, by whom he had five children, including a daughter, Emma, who married Middleton Stuart and inherited Otterburn which thus remained in the family until the Direct Tax Commission sold it for unpaid extortionate federal taxes in 1865. Earlier that same year their only son, George Mosse Stoney, Jr., a lieutenant in the Beaufort Volunteer Artillery, was mortally wounded in action in North Carolina and there buried.²²

The U. S. Direct Tax Commissioner, who had the perverse pleasure of confiscating his Aunt Elizabeth's and other relatives' estates on Hilton Head and St. Helena's Islands, was one of those near-great, tragi-comic members of Our Family Circle, Dr. William Henry Brisbane.²³ He was born in 1806, son of Adam Fowler Brisbane, Charleston aristocrat, and Mary Ann Mosse, who were married at the home of her

father, Dr. George Mosse, in Savannah in 1803. At the age of six, in 1812, William Henry was officially adopted by his wealthy and childless uncle, William Brisbane²⁴ of Milton Lodge-on-the-Ashley, named for the great Milton Lodge estate of the Brisbanes in Scotland to which he laid unsuccessful claim. Doubtlessly young William Henry stood beside his adopted father in 1817 when William's handsome gift of the carved Italian marble font was consecrated in the Church now the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston. Then in 1821 William Brisbane died, leaving "to my nephew and adopted son, William Henry Brisbane" Milton Lodge-on-the-Ashley, all books, furniture, etc., including a gold seal with the Brisbane coat-of-arms, 22 slaves, No. 39 Meeting Street, a fine, furnished town house in the most fashionable part of Charleston and Pew No. 9 in St. Paul's Church - all this and Heaven, too! But then there was that tragic streak of perversity in the Brisbane family. William Henry's grandfather, James Brisbane, married (first) to a daughter of the elegant Richard Baker, Esq. and Mary Cater of Archdale Hall, and (secondly) to a daughter of John Stanyarne of that ancient family of dissenters, stubbornly espoused the British cause, was banished from South Carolina as early as 1775 because of his violent attitude, lost all of his property and died in exile in Nassau in 1794. William Henry married in 1825 his first cousin, Anne, daughter of Benjamin Themistocles D'Ion Lawton of St. Peter's Parish and Jane, another of the seven Mosse sisters.²⁵ Four of their seven children were born at Lawtonville where William Henry became: first, a Baptist preacher, and secondly, an abolitionist. Like his grandfather, he obviously could not remain in South Carolina. One account says that around 1840 he sold all of his inheritance except his slaves which he moved to Ohio and set free. Another account insists that his original quarrel was with the Lawtonville Baptists over the

issue of freedom of speech, resulting in his sale of his inheritance and move to Ohio where he first became an abolitionist, a development which led him to return to South Carolina and repurchase his former slaves whom he then moved north for manumission. As a candidate for President of the United States on the Abolitionist Party ticket, William Henry Brisbane was a spectacular failure. But when Hilton Head Island fell to the invading Yankee troops in November 1861, he was not long in appearing on the scene with an appointment as Chairman of the U. S. Direct Tax Commission²⁶ and the unsavory job of dispossessing all of his Hilton Head and St. Helena's Island relatives of their land titles. Despite considerable wrangling and carpet-bagger-nefariousness, with the power of a federal army behind him, he succeeded all too well in that unnatural endeavor, fled to Wisconsin at the war's end and died there in 1878.

Over on Scull Creek John Talbird and his wife, Mary Ann Ladson, had a pre-Revolutionary War plantation which was given to him by his father, Henry Talbird. This land had been granted Henry Talbird in part payment for his supplying the bricks and building the first Tybee Lighthouse. Mary Ann Ladson Talbird added to this her inheritance from her grandfather Conyers of his adjoining plantation. Their daughter, Ann Talbird, married circa 1811 Dr. Samuel Fyler who had come to Hilton Head Island from Torrington, Connecticut to practice medicine and had purchased an adjoining plantation. After Dr. Fyler died on 11 October 1821 and was buried in Zion Churchyard, his widow sold her island lands and took their only child, John Samuel Fyler, to Connecticut where she became the wife of Dr. Luman Wakefield. During the Revolutionary War the British burned every plantation home in the Scull Creek area, including that of Lt. John Talbird, and carried off every slave they could catch for resale in the West Indies.

Also in the pre-Revolutionary period, circa 1760 four Davant brothers: John, James, Isaac and Charles, sons of John Davant of Edisto, settled on Hilton Head, variously owning Point Comfort, Gardner's, Mathew's Folly Field, Marshlands and other plantations. Charles was killed in ambush at Two Oaks, also called "Big Gate", at the head of Broad Creek by Tory Captain Martinangel of Daufuskie, an act which resulted in a raid by patriots who destroyed his estate there. But the Davants flourished, Charles, Jr. moving to Gillisonville, county seat of Beaufort District, a descendant into Our Family Circle by marrying a granddaughter of Captain William Maner. Here on Hilton Head, Rebecca Davant married Rev. Philip Mathews, priest-in-charge of Zion Chapel, and inherited 500-acre Folly Field and 600-acre Sand Hill Plantations, both near the head of Broad Creek. Their son, Dr. Theodore Dehon Mathews,²⁷ named for his father's bishop, married in May 1841 Mary Elizabeth, youngest child of Benjamin T. D. Lawton and Jane Mosse. They settled in Albany, Georgia where her father died while visiting them in April 1846. By 1848 they had moved back to Robertville where Dr. Mathews practiced medicine until his death in 1860. His sister, Sarah Mathews, had married in December 1835 Winborn Benjamin Lawton,²⁸ eldest son of Rev. Winborn Asa Lawton, frequently visiting pastor to Hilton Head Island Baptists, and his first wife, Mary Cater, widow of Thomas Rhodes of nearby Calliwassee Island. Their cousin, William Henry Brisbane, did a fairly thorough job of looting them of their island lands. Of their 1100-acre heritage only 200 acres could be recovered in 1874, not enough to support either lady, so they sold out to William P. Clyde. Carpetbagger W. D. Brown got 500-acre Folly Field from the Tax Commission for \$110; William Wilson got adjacent 400-acre Grasslawn Plantation the same day for \$90. Brown and his wife were ultimately murdered by negroes, their skulls

crushed and their house burned down over them. Apparently Wilson was more fortunate in selling out at considerable profit after only three months of ownership, although his subsequent story is unknown.

The other surviving child of Elizabeth Mosse and James Stoney of Otterburn was Martha, named for her aunt, Martha Mosse, born 1789, who married in 1809 another remarkable gentleman, Alexander James Lawton,²⁹ father of General Alexander Robert Lawton (Commissary General of the Confederate States of America), grandfather of General Henry Martyn Robert (author of Robert's Rules of Order and U. S. Chief of Engineers), collector of The Lawton Papers,³⁰ appraiser of estates, executor of wills, trustee of estates, Justice of the Peace, Deputy Surveyor of Beaufort District, Postmaster of Robertville, planter of Mulberry Grove Plantation, Treasurer of Robertville Baptist Church, partner of James Bordeaux Jaudon in merchandise in Savannah, Colonel in the South Carolina Militia and much else. Martha Stoney married a handsome young Island neighbor, Thomas Henry Barksdale, born 1795, son of George Barksdale and Ann Agnes Bona who was born in 1776, daughter of Revolutionary soldier Lewis Bona who had married in 1774 the widow Sarah Parmenter. Thomas Henry Barksdale was eighteen when the British landed in force on 22 August 1813 and burned most of the Island homes adjacent to deep water. He was only thirty-six when he died in August 1832; his estate was administered by Martha's uncle, Col. Alexander Lawton, and it was considerable. Scull Creek Plantation where they lived had 2600 acres worked by eighty slaves. Then there was Calibogia Plantation with 1820 acres worked by 156 slaves; it included vast rice fields which required considerable labor. And there was Baldwin Plantation with 290 acres, making a total of 4,710 acres. There were no Barksdale children born to Martha and Thomas Henry, so Thomas Henry's relatives contested Martha's being sole heiress. Three

of them won handsome cash settlements which necessitated Martha's auctioning off her Scull Creek Plantation with its residence, furnishings and slaves. One immediately wonders just where were the 2600 acres that comprised vast Scull Creek Plantation, the largest until then ever assembled on an Island where 400 acres was average. Research has disclosed that 1000-acre Cotton Hope Plantation was formerly known as Scull Creek Plantation, meaning that the tabby ruins currently known as the ruins of Squire Pope's Cotton Hope Plantation house were originally Barksdale's Scull Creek House with its great double avenue of Magnolia Grandiflora stretching westward to Scull Creek itself. And to piece together another 1600 acres in that area certainly means that Scull Creek Plantation then included a conglomerate of lands formerly held by Ladson, Talbird, Fyler, Currel, Conyers and Wallis families. This was the 1600-acre tract long known as Seabrook Plantation since it was bought in 1832 by Captain William Lawton's grandson, William Seabrook,³¹ the elegant planter of Edisto Island who had so lavishly entertained the Marquis de Lafayette there in 1825. His heir in 1860, Joseph Seabrook, was unable to raise the money necessary to redeem it under the Redemption Act of 1875 and it was lost to the family although it has retained the name of Seabrook. Thus Scull Creek's 2600 acres were divided, auctioned off and have never been rejoined as such. Martha bought most of the furnishings and moved them inland where she became a Lawton in 1836 by marrying her first cousin, Rev. Joseph Alexander Lawton, son of Col. Lawton's brother, Joseph James Lawton who had married Phoebe Mosse, another of the seven daughters of Dr. George Mosse. Joseph Alexander Lawton was born on the banks of the Mississippi River near Natchez in December 1811, his father and two uncles, Benjamin T. D. Lawton and Thomas Polhill, husband of Thirza E. Lawton, having emigrated through Georgia and the

Creek Nation of Indians in October 1810. They found the Indians in Mississippi unfriendly and returned to South Carolina in 1812.

Rev. Joseph and Martha, using funds generated from the operation of Martha's Calibogia Plantation, bought 1205 acres in Barnwell District on the headwaters of the Coosawhatchie River and built Rose Lawn Plantation. Then they built a home and a Baptist Church on Calibogia Plantation where the Rev. Joseph sought to convert his wife's slaves with the assistance of his uncle, Rev. Winborn Asa Lawton, and the numerous other Baptist preachers in Our Family Circle. Rev. Joseph was a graduate of Madison University and later a Trustee of Furman University. His Rose Lawn Plantation home still stands near present Allendale, having been spared by Kilpatrick's arsonists in 1865 after a dramatic plea by its white-haired owner. He and Martha were parents of a son, Samuel Lawton, who inherited 1820-acre Calibogia Plantation, by then known usually as "Lawton's". It was seized by William Henry Brisbane's Direct Tax Commission but Samuel was able to borrow the money to redeem it under the Redemption Act. When he was forced to sell it at public auction in 1889 to satisfy its mortgage holder, his wife, Harriet Brooks Lawton, bought it, eventually selling it to William Clyde at a profit. But she wept bitter tears of regret as she signed the deed.

Two other plantations well within Our Family Circle's ken were 400-acre Chaplin, between Mathew's Folly Field and Pope's Leamington, and adjacent 400-acre Marshlands Plantations. The name of Chaplin is one of the oldest in England and in America.³² The coat-of-arms used by this South Carolina family is from silver which has descended in the family and was originally granted in 1593 to our forebears of Stoneham, Huntingtongshire. John Chaplin arrived in South Carolina in

April 1672; Chaplin Creek near the confluence of the Stono and Kiawah Rivers marks the area of his residence. His son, John Chaplin, Jr., was born here in 1682, married Phoebe, daughter of John Ladsen who arrived in Carolina from Barbados in August 1679 and his wife, Mary, daughter of Thomas Stanyarne who with his wife, five children and four servants arrived in Carolina from Barbados in May 1675. The young couple settled on St. Helena's Island before 1716 when their first child, Mary Ann Chaplin, who later married Jonathan Norton, was born there.³³ Their second daughter, Phoebe Chaplin, is the ancestress of the Jenkins and William Elliott families.³⁴ Their third daughter, Martha Chaplin, married John Barnwell, Jr. in 1737; among her descendants were Martha Bulloch, mother of President Theodore Roosevelt, and many of the DeVeaux and Barnwell families.³⁵ They also had three sons: William, Church Warden of St. Helena's Parish 1770, Benjamin and John, all large planters on St. Helena's Island. John and Benjamin were the Chaplin brothers to whom Dr. John Rutledge³⁶ sold plantations which his wife, Sarah Hext, had inherited from her uncle, Edward Hext. From the Chaplin family history it is not clear just which Chaplin bought the 400-acre ocean-front plantation bearing the family name and later added 400-acre Marshland Plantation formerly owned by Thomas (1767-1830) William Fripp Chaplin, a grandson of Church Warden William Chaplin, was their owner in 1820; he married (1) Catherine Webb, husband of Lydia Davant. Both estates were seized by their Toomer by whom he had 15 children and (2) Harriet Martinangel by whom he had an additional 10 children. Owner's cousin, William Henry Brisbane, and his Direct Tax Commission and were given to former slaves whose descendants still have them.

As early as 1798 William and Samuel Fickling lived on Hilton Head Island, Samuel's wife being Elizabeth Davant who apparently inherited 1000-acre Possum Point and 1765-acre Shipyard Plantations. Their heirs still owned portions of both in 1861, all lost to the Direct Tax Commission and unredeemable. William and Samuel Fickling belonged to the family of Samuel Fickling of Edisto who married the

widow of Captain William Lawton after his death in October 1757.

Shortly thereafter the Samuel Ficklings moved to Prince William Parish and Mary Sams Grimball Lawton Fickling died in St. Peter's Parish ^{St. (Nov. 1803)} in January 1804.

Just south of Lawton's Calibogia Plantation was 1000-acre Braddock's Point Plantation, named for Daniel Cutler Braddock, Captain of the Scout Boat maintained as a lookout against the Spaniards from 1740 until the 1763 Treaty of Paris. It belonged to the Stoney family until circa 1840 when it became the property of William Eddings Baynard who also then purchased the handsome Davenport House, now a museum, in Savannah and erected the well-known Baynard Mausoleum in the Churchyard of Zion Chapel of Ease. His father, Thomas Baynard, planter of Edisto Island, had bought 600-acre Spanish Wells Plantation from the Mungins circa 1790. His uncle, William Baynard, in 1791 married Sarah Black and settled on 850-acre Muddy Creek Plantation which he purchased in 1792. Uncle William died childless in 1802 and ultimately William Eddings Baynard inherited both Muddy Creek and Spanish Wells Plantations. Local tradition recalls his poker-playing proclivity which is credited with winning for him the deed to Braddock's Point. The high-staked game was reputedly played in Bluffton's "Card House", later the residence of William's son, Ephraim, whose daughter eloped from its second-storey rear window to marry an Ullmer, carrying to him Baynard's Buckingham and Hunting Island Plantations on the mainland. In case one owns a copy of Virginia Holmgren's invaluable book, Hamilton Head - A Sea Island Chronicle,³⁷ one should not be confused by her slight error in claiming the three Baynard sisters: Cecilia, Elizabeth and Florence, who married three Willingham sons of Phoebe Sarah Lawton and Thomas Willingham, Jr., as offspring of poker-playing William. They were in fact

daughters of William's elder brother, Archibald Calder Baynard,³⁸ born 1798, who married in 1821 Martha Sarah Chaplin, daughter of Benjamin Chaplin. The sisters' eldest brother was a respectable Baptist preacher, Rev. Calder A. Baynard, whose stained-glass memorial window is in Euhaw Baptist Church, ^{Grahamville.} Another brother, Thomas, married Sarah Ellis and their daughter, Julia, married the Hon. George Rhodes' grandson mentioned above. Another sister, Juliana, married a Baptist preacher, Rev. Wilson Hall. Still another sister, Sarah, married a son of Deacon Benjamin T. D. Lawton and Jane Mosse, Dr. James Stoney Lawton, a brother of their mother-in-law - a simple example of typical relationships frequently encountered in dynastic families.

But despite all this aura of holiness, the girls had another fun-loving, life-long-bachelor uncle, Ephraim Mikell Baynard, born 1796, millionaire planter of Edisto Island, who in his mid-fifties still liked to impress the ladies and reputedly once broke up a preaching service in Lawtonville Baptist Church by racing his elegant match horses and spanking-new rig round and round the Church whose board windows stood wide open. In 1864 near the end of the Confederate War he saved the College of Charleston from certain extinction by a magnificent gift of \$166,000 for its endowment, the principal of which remains intact today. The story is told on a handsome marble memorial which the grateful Trustees erected in the assembly hall of the College. No explanation of why he is buried in Lawtonville Cemetery or why it was necessary for the Trustees of the College to erect a tombstone for him there has been found, ^{Except that he was murdered in 1865 by Union soldiers while refugeeing there}

Meanwhile in December 1860 Richard James Davant, born of Hilton Head Island in 1805, George Rhodes of The Hermitage Plantation, Lawtonville, born on nearby Calliwassie Island in 1802, Dr. Benjamin William

Lawton, born 1822, brother of Rev. Joseph A. Lawton of Hilton Head Island, along with the other members of South Carolina's Secession Convention, signed the Ordinance of Secession. And on 7 November 1861 federal troops landed and overpowered Fort Walker on Squire Pope's Coggins Point Plantation, despite reinforcements of 450 men of the Georgia Infantry dispatched by General Alexander Robert Lawton from Savannah. General Thomas F. Drayton, whose wife, Emma Catherine Pope, had inherited Fish Hall Plantation, was forced to surrender the Island. The following night Captain Stephen Elliott burned fourteen Island plantation homes in a scorched-earth program that did little to harass the invaders, their ships being well-provisioned.

General Thomas W. Sherman reported shortly thereafter, "Every white inhabitant has left the Island . . . the beautiful island estates of the planters with all their immense property left to the pillage of hordes of disaffected blacks." He might well have added, "and undisciplined soldiers". Nothing was left. Even the Island's ancient name was summarily change to "Port Royal" until 1872. All was ecstatic agony as Hilton Head Island regressed instantly from elegant civilization to barbarous savagery. Only as wealthy businessmen began buying the former plantations for hunting preserves some two decades later were the scars of war slowly covered.

Then in 1951 Jane Lawton's husband, Olin T. McIntosh, became one of the principals of the Hilton Head Co. in developing some two-thirds of the Island. A decade or so later, Alene Lawton Wyman's granddaughter, Mary, married Charles E. Fraser, President of Sea Pines Plantation, Inc. which includes all of Martha Lawton's Calibogia Plantation, the Stoney-Baynard Braddock's Point Plantation and the

Davant-Pope Point Comfort Plantation.

As thus demonstrated, precious little of Hilton Head Island has been unencircled by Our Family Circle.

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NOTES

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28. Ibid, p. 372.
29. E. L. Inabinett, The Lawton Family of Robertville, S. C., Evans, Savannah, 1964.
30. The South Caroliniana Library, University of S. C., Columbia.
31. Webber, Op. cit., p. 66.
32. Unpublished Chaplin Family Notes in the author's possession, with contributions by William E. Fripp, Laura Sams Sanders and Elizabeth Norton.
33. St. Helena's Parish Register, SCHM, Vol. XXIII, p. 47.
34. Stephen B. Barnwell, Op. cit., p. 48. Charles Fraser's miniatures of William Elliott II and Phoebe Waight are here reproduced.
35. Ibid, p. 22 and pp. 52-57.
36. Richard Barry, Mr. Rutledge of South Carolina, Duell, Sloan & Pearce, N. Y., 1942, pp. 24, 51-52.
37. Holmgren, Op. cit., p. 125.
38. Miller, Op. cit., pp. 376-390.