

George Howard m. Christina Platts  
17 June 1777- 16 March 1796-

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the Peckham Place, George + Christina

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# John Howard of the F

BY ELMER ORIS PARKER

John Howard was a young Virginia militiaman in 1755 when near Fort Duquesne in Pennsylvania he overheard Maj. Gen. Edward Braddock of the British Army rebuke his aide Col. George Washington for telling him he should not march his army through Indian country in strict military formation as its colorful uniforms and shining arms would make his men easy targets for the Indian warriors who would fight from behind rocks and trees, or so goes a time-honored and much cherished tradition in the Howard family. Soon Braddock was ambushed and mortally wounded but lived long enough to repent his error, saying, "Another time we shall know better how to deal with them." He was buried in the military road and his wagontrain allowed to pass over his grave so as to conceal its whereabouts from the Indians.

The French and Indian War began as a struggle between the English and French for ownership of the Ohio Valley. The Iroquois Nation occupied the territory between the French and English provinces. When the French heard that the English were preparing to settle this region, they began to build forts on the frontier. The English countered by building Fort Duquesne at the junction of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, now Pittsburgh. The French took it and General Braddock was sent over from England to retake it with two regiments of Regulars and a body of Virginia and North Carolina militia. Although there is no contemporary record that documents John Howard's service, there is no reason to doubt it. The account of it was told to his son George who related it to his son Jacob, who passed it on to his son John Stouton, and he in turn told it to his son Thomas Lee, who repeated it to this writer on a warm summer afternoon 30 years ago (on July 11, 1949).

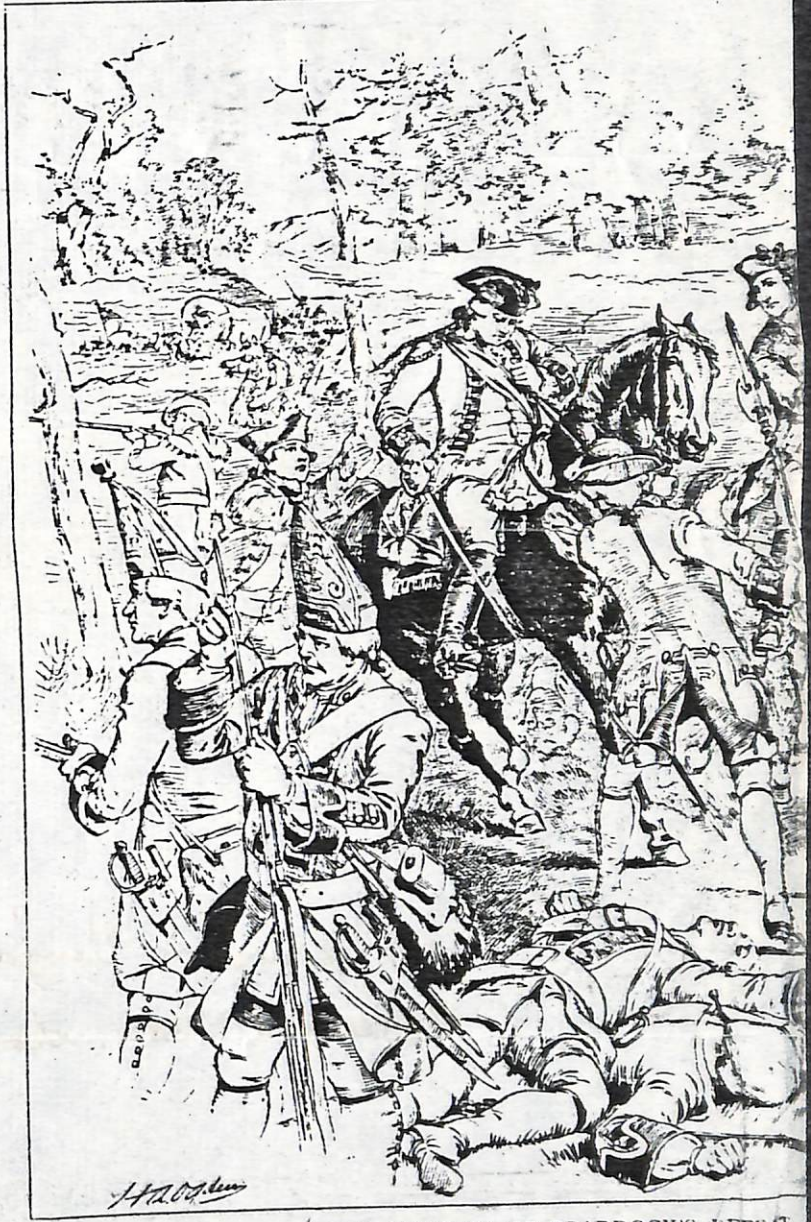
It was said that John Howard came from old England as a young man, and landed at Norfolk. He was indentured to a Virginia planter to pay for his passage to America. Something happened one day that displeased his master who took an ear of dried corn, stripped back the shuck, and brutally beat young John in the face with it, leaving scars that he carried with him to the grave.

Howard served out his indenture and sometime before the War for Independence, migrated to South Carolina and settled in the fork of the Saltcatchers near the line between Orangeburgh and Charleston districts, later Barnwell (now Bamberg) and Colleton counties. He married a daughter of John Inman and to them were born Catherine, Samuel, George, Jacob, John and Mary Elizabeth. Beginning in 1772 he received land grants from the state totaling 486 acres. In 1796, he deeded 200 acres to his son George, 100 acres to son Samuel, and 100 acres to son-in-law Jacob Folk. His

Catherine. Their daughter Anna Susannah Hiers was the last wife of William Hall Parker and mother of Solomon, William Hall Jr., George Washington, Anna Susannah (wife of Hendley Foxworth Horne), Catherine (wife of William Brewer), and Hampton Cling Parker.

Son George Howard married Christina, daughter of Jacob and Catherine Platts. The Hiers and Platts had come from Wurttemberg in the Black Forest of Germany on the good ship Anne, landing at Charleston in October 1751. John Howard died in 1799 at about 65 years of

had seven children and we learn their dates of birth as well as those of the parents from the eldest son's "cipher book"—"George Howard was born 17th June AD 1777, Christina (Platts) his Espouse Born 16th March 1776, Elizabeth, daughter of the above, born 10th June 1798, Mary, daughter of the same, was born 13th December 1799, Jacob, son of the same, was born 10th Nov. 1801, Anna S., daughter of the above, was born 6th January 1804, Hannah B, daughter of the above, was born 13th February 1806, John H., dec'd was born 30 April 1808, Miley, daughter of



THE TRAGEDY OF BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT.

age, and was buried in the Howard family cemetery.

George Howard received grants totaling 705 acres in Barnwell District and became a prosperous planter. On one of his business trips to Charleston he increased his slave holdings by the purchase on December 11, 1805, of a negro woman named Mary from Moses Lazarus for \$350. George and his brothers Samuel and John moved to Liberty County, Georgia, but the latter two soon removed to Early County. In July, 1811, George bought from Charles Flowers, 200

the same was born 31st October 1810." Elizabeth married Robert Middleton; Hannah married Joshua Fletcher; and Miley married Simon Harrington, son of Thomas, formerly of Barnwell County, S.C. Anna's husband Daniel Francis Sullivan was a sergeant in Capt. Andrew F. Fraser's Company of Col. John Minton's Battalion Georgia Militia during the Seminole War and was with Gen. Andrew Jackson when he captured Fort St. Mark's, Florida in 1818. After he

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