

(This is extracted from The Journals of William and Jasper Bartell, 1823-1864, Vol. I):

INTRODUCTION

Vaguely, yet proudly, most of our oldest families are aware that they have a Revolutionary War ancestor or two who fought with Francis Marion in the turgid Pee Dee swamps. Marion drew his hardy militiamen from the experienced woodsmen or these very swamps, and their toughness--both of body and spirit--enabled them to prevail.

Few are perhaps aware of another side of their Revolutionary War heritage; and to some it comes as a surprise that several generations ago a Powell, Poston, Stone, Ard, Creel, or Prosser married the heir of a Hessian mercenary fighting "on the wrong side." Along with his brother, thought to have been named Silvester, Jacob Bartell was taken captive at the skirmish at Black Mingo. Silvester Bartell soon left the state and out of the area's history. Jacob, however, with the practicality of his German heritage, married and settled down to rear an American family. It appears that his wife, Mary Ervin (variantly spelled Irvin and Irwin), was from Marion District, and it was there, north of the Pee Dee, that the Bartell children were born. Whether Jacob Bartell was accepted cheerfully or grudgingly by his former enemies, one does not know. It seems likely, however, that they found his skills useful to them in building their own homesteads. He could read and write; he even kept a diary; and he must have taught his sons much about working with metal and wood, about watch-making, building and masonry, gun-making and weaving. Some years after the Revolution, the United States was eager to receive German immigrants for their inventiveness, creativity, passion for order and capacity for hard work which made them invaluable citizens.

In turn, Bartell must have learned from his American neighbors how to survive in the swampy wilderness where fate had left him. These many skills he passed on to his three sons who survived him. His estate settlement of 1831 and Mary Bartell's will mention Philip, born Nov. 4, 1782; William, born 1769; and Peter, born 1791. A fourth son, Jacob, born Jan. 2, 1767, is listed in the Bartell family bible, but seems to have predeceased his parents. There were also two daughters, Elizabeth, born Jan. 5, 1785; and Mary, born about 1793.

The oldest son, Philip, married Frances Stone, daughter of Austin Stone of the American Revolution. Their children were Jane (called Jinny), born Sept. 29, 1805, who married John J. Ard; Eliza, born Feb. 9, 1809, and died at age 15; Lydis, born April 19, 1812; Silvester, born July 24, 1815, married sisters, first Sarah Stone, and second her sister Frances, daughters of Austin Stone, Jr. and Zilphia Taylor; France Bartell, born March 23, 1816, married Daniel S. Powell; and William, born Feb. 2, 1823, married Emily (Eaddy) Harrell, daughter of Henry Eaddy and Martha Stone. Martha Stone was a sister of Philip Bartell's wife, thus Emily and William were first cousins.

Elizabeth Bartell married James Creel, also of the American Revolution. Creel came to South Carolina from Virginia with Nathaniel Greene's army. James Creel's will of April 12, 1825, mentions his wife, a son Jesse, and a daughter Sarah Ann Bradley, but does not mention all of his children by name.

William Bartell married Senea Stone, a sister of Frances who married Philip Bartell and Martha who married Henry Eaddy. Their children were Elizabeth, born April 25, 1815; Hampton, born July 10, 1817 and died May 14, 1818; Caroline, born May 2, 1819; Jasper, born July 1, 1821; and

Peter, born Nov. 8, 1823. Elizabeth married Samuel Eaddy. Caroline married Elijah Powell, Jasper, who became a Methodist minister, married Sarah Barr. No evidence has been found to indicate that Peter ever married.

Peter Bartell, son of Jacob, appears in the 1850 census as head-of-household with Jacob Bartell, age 18, presumably his son. The writer, however, has not found a wife.

Mary Bartell married Edward Drake Eaddy, son of James Eaddy, Jr., of the Revolution and Marion's men. They became the parents of 12 children. Mary died in childbirth along with the twelfth infant, and her widower married second Zilphia Taylor Stone, widow of Austin Stone Jr. The Eaddy children were William, born June 29, 1814 and died early; Martin, born Dec. 25, 1815, married. Sarah G. B. Stone, a widow; Mary, born April 3, 1818, never married, but made a home for her three youngest brothers when they were orphaned; Taylor, born Jan. 25, 1820, married Margaret Stone, daughter of Austin Stone, Jr. and Zilphia Taylor; Lizette, born Dec. 13, 1821, married Levi Powell, son of Robert Powell; Dovey Rosanne, born Oct. 7, 1823, married John Gee Hanna; Robert James, born Oct. 8, 1823, married Mary Camellia Owens; Sarah Jane born Sept. 16, 1829, died in childhood; Gregory, born Sept. 13, 1829, married Jane C. Barr, sister of Sarah who married Jasper Bartell; Clark, born Nov. 4, 1831, married Margaret H. Barr, sister of Jane and Sarah; Oliver, born May 28, 1833, married Susanna Carter. Robert James and Gregory died in service in the Confederate Army. Oliver became a Methodist minister and transferred to the Florida Conference.

Before Jacob Bartell died, he relocated just north of Lynche's River near the present Hannah community. This river was the life-giving artery of the area. Its rivers provided fish and a "high-way" to almost all points, while its swamp furnished grazing for livestock and an astounding variety of wildlife that gave some variety to an inadequate and monotonous diet of peas, pork, rice, and grits.

At age 34, a married man and the father of five children, but still a pioneer clearing little fields in which to start crops of wheat, corn, or peas, William Bartell, like his father before him, became a diarist. Through his experiences as he set them down in his account books, along with a record of the weather and where he spent the night, we see in the diaries a way of life remote from our own.

By 1823, when his journals commence, Bartell was related by marriage or blood to practically every family between Muddy Creek and Brown Town on Lynche's Lake, and Snow's Lake and Smith Swamp on the river. From his vantage point at Bartle's Landing he set travelers bound on many errands "across the creek." He set about improving his farming methods and building conveniences to help ease his own lot and cleared fields to add to the acreage he could plant. There is a special pride in the tone with which he writes of these individual fields -- "my" Oldfield, "my" Bobsfield, "my" Petersfield, and others won by felling the trees, rolling the logs to the edge of the clearings, and burning them.

These few notes on the cast and scene are intended to help the reader to reconstruct a chapter or history in the building of America.

E. Y. Eaddy

May 1824

1. Was at home plowing in my new ground and finished breaking up it and then went a fishing.
2. Went over the creek in the morning to feed some pigs and went to Philips in the evening about a cow.
3. Was at home laying of my new ground to plant and cross plow'd and some and went to Philips.
4. Went to Philips and to Dottson Stones after Peters mare and crossed my new ground to plant.
5. Was at home laying the fence round the old field and made it rales high on creek side.
6. Went a driving up the swamp to Dottson Stones to muster and tax paying.
7. Was at home laying of Rice ground and planting rice and went a fishing in the evening.
8. Was at home making fence on the creek swamp sides of the old field and then planted some indigo.
9. Went to Dottson Stones and then went to Mrs. Sidwell Postons after my cow and stear and calf.
10. Was at home laying some rice ground to trench and planted some and put up some fence.
11. Was at home and laid of some ground to plant rice and then planted some.
12. Was at home working in my fields grubing some and laying it of to plant rice and planted some.
13. Was at home replanting corn and planting rice and went to Philip Bartells in evening.
14. Was at home planting rice on the creek swamp side of the old field and planted all that I had.
15. Was at Dottson Stones and John D. Eaddy came there and I plowed some in the evening.
16. Was at home till evening and Archibald Cox and wife came there then went about the fields.
17. Was at home making a foot tub for myself and went to Philip Bartells after his knife.

18. Was at home planting rice and finished planting it and then went a fishing in old field lake.

19. Was at home and cleaned out my shop and my shop yard and

June 1824

1. Was at home repairing gin for Frances Stone made handle and rollers and then went a fishing.

2. Was at home plowing in my new ground cross plowing it.

3. Was at home plowing in my new ground cross plowing it.

4. Went to Joseph Prossers and to Archibald Coxes and then went down to the pine Islands.

5. Went to Dottson Stones to the cort marshal with William Stone and Josiah Parsons.

6. Went to Philip Bartells after Caroline she was sick or drunk and went there in the evening.

7. Was at home plowing in my new ground and finished all ten rows.

8. Went to Philips Bartells after a cow and then went and finished plowing my new ground one way.

9. Was plowing my new ground the narrow way and had John Prosser working in there moulding it.

10. Was plowing in my new ground and finished it the narrow way and then went a fishing.

11. Went to Philip Bartells and hope him with his wheat and caught four rocks in the morning.

12. Went to Joseph Prossers and to Coxes and then went a driving in the Pine Islands and Crases Bay.

13. Went over the creek to Philip Stones and Robert Youngs and William McDaniel and home and over the swamp.

14. Went a fishing in the morning and then went and hope Henry Stone work with his wheat.

15. Was at home hewing pieces to make steps for my doors and saw'd them off and fixed one.

16. Was at home hewing the edges of the pieces for one door step and fished for some rocks.

17. Was at home turning wheel spokes and a nutt and a rimb and put them together for Mrs. Cox. {Feb. 4, 1825}

18. Went through the woods to Richard Hanna to him and his wife parting and then went Henry Eaddy.

10. Went a fishing with Henry Eaddy up the creek from his landing

1828

5. Was at end about home and in the evening Robert Cox came and staid all night. {Oct. 5, 1828}

6. Was at Home and heaped wood to make ashes and then draw'd cloth through the headles.

7. Went to Joseph Prossers and to Samuel Stones and then went a driving up to dry creek.

8. Went a driving over the creek Eaddys big Bay and by Ebenezer Singletarys.

9. Was at Henry Eaddys and was driling Henry Stones and my gun and came home.

10. Was at home and put a head in a tub and was fixing a stand to put butter in.

11. Was at home in the morning and then went to Mr Grahams to Brig Election.

12. Went to David D. Wilsons in the morning and then came to John Barrs and home.

13. Went and drove up the swamp to Dotts to an election for State Legislature.

14. Was at Home in the morning and then went to Dottson to an Election.

15. Went over the lake a driving and then to John Barrs after cotton Sam Stone and J. Prosser was with me.

16. Went to my steel traps in the Alagator branch and then put hinges to my fiddle.

17. Was at home in the morning and then went to Joseph Prossers and to W. Prossers.

18. Was at home in the morning and was opening path to Petersfield and went a fishing.

19. Was at home in the morning and went to Philip Bartells in the evening.
20. Was at home and begun to pick peas in my oldfield and picked till evening.
21. Was at home and was picking peas in my oldfield and got more than half done.
22. Was at home finish picking peas and then went a fishing in evening.
23. Was at home in the morning and then went to Philip Bartells and {missing text}

1829 February

4. Was at home and made sidepieces of a fiddle and bent them.
5. Was at home and made clamps and put a fiddle to-gether.
6. Was at and about home and was doing nothing hardly and hope Do?? move his boat.
7. Was at home and was making finger board of fiddle and put it o? fiddle.
8. Was at and bout home till the evening and then went over the creek.
9. Was at home and was fixing a piece to the end of finger board of fiddle.
10. Was at home and turned screw pen for a fiddle and fixed string to her.
11. Went a driving with Archabald Cox Jo and John Prosser kill'd deer river thicket. {Feb. 11, 1829}
12. Was at home in the morning and then went to feed hogs over cree?
13. Was at home and was geting a piece for a wheel bench and made it turned fore standard.
14. Was at home and put legs on wheel bench and turned an auger handle for P. Stone.
15. Went and hunted a cow and found her in the bog in water branch and got her out.

16. Went down to Peter Bartell and then went to Dottson Stones and then Home and to Peters again.
17. Went up to Dottson Stones with Samuel Stone to see a waggoner and bought tobacco.
18. Was at home and turned two Iron axeltree for wheels and made boxes for one.
19. Was at home in the morning and then went to Tax giving in at Dottson Stone.
20. Went over the creek to Barnabas Ards and hope him role logs and back home.
21. Was at and about Home and begun a fiddle bow and got half gallon whisky from Lawrence.
22. Was at and about home till the evening and then was about.

1831 JANUARY

19. Was going from David Parsons down to Town with Edward D. Eaddy to meet Eaddys boat.
20. Was in Georgetown went there with Edward D. Eaddy waiting on the boat.
21. Was in Georgetown geting things and puting them aboard of Henry Eaddys flat.
22. Was in Georgetown in the morning and then started and came home and Edward Eaddy came with me.
23. Was at home and about home and look in the thicket for ox bell.
24. Went and looked for a calf in the morning and then coupled rafters for mill and put them up.
25. Was at and about home in the morning and then went down the creek to set steel traps.
26. Was at home and got laths for my mill house and then went and sat my steel traps cain branch.
27. Went a driving over the Ferry with Samuel Stone and John Prosser and Archabald Cox. {Jan. 27, 1831}
28. Was at home and was working on my mill puting up the gable ends and laths.

29. Was at home and was working on my mill house fixing laths and begun to shingle it.

30. Was at and about home and had company Edward D. Eaddy and wife was here.

31. Was at Home in the morning and then went to Samuel Stones and skin'd otter.

End of the Month

1831 FEBRUARY

1. Was at home and was covering my mill house and begun to fix floor.

2. Was working about my mill fixing a piece to raise and lower her and went up swamp and kill'd turkey.

3. Went down to the ferry and to Hanna's Store and settled my account with Hanna.

4. Went up to Henry Eaddys and got a crowbar made and trigger to steel trap.

5. Was at Henry Eaddy's in the morning end then went to the big swamp to let out Bridge.

6. Was at and about Home and cut some wood on account of snow.

7. Was at and about Home till the evening and then went up the swamp to hunt turkeys.

8. Was at home in the morning and then went to my steel traps and skind otter and was about home.

9. Was at home in the morning and killed a hog and in the evening went up the swamp.

10. Was at home in the morning and then went up the creek to look for a place to set steel traps.

11. Was at home in the morning and then went down and hope Archabald Cox split some rales. {Feb. 11, 1831}

12. Was at home in the morning and then went and trimed through the creek swamp canoe path.

13. Was at home in the morning and then went to look at my steel traps and the path from Scoggins lake.

14. Went and hope Philip Bartell kill hogs in the morning and then split laths for my Pea House.

15. Was at home in the morning and then went and hope Humphrey raise his House.

16. Was at home in the morning and then went and sat one of my steel trap and went up the swamp.

17. Was at home in the morning and then went and hope Joseph Prosser kill a hog and bored shingles.

18. Went a driving up horse pen and long branch and Ports bay and then went to Swanston.

19. Went to my steel traps and then went and hope John Smith role logs and came home again.

20. Went and sat Humphrey over the creek and went up to Cain branch and brought down Philips canoe.

1831 MAY

24. Was at home and was plowing in my bobsfield and begun to plow my mare.

25. Was at home and was plowing in my Bobsfield and finished cross plowing and moulding it.

26. Was at home in the morning and then went to Henry Eaddys and went a driving with him.

27. Was at home in the morning and then went driving up dry creek long branch and about.

28. Was at home in the morning and then drove through the neck and went to Hanna's Store.

29. Was at home in the morning and then went in the woods after my oxen.

30. Was at home in the morning and was working upon a gun and then went fishing with Dott.

31. Went a fishing with Joseph Prosser and then worked some on a gin in the evening.

1831 JUNE

1. Was at home working on a gin and finished it and went a fishing with Dott.
2. Was at home in the morning and then went a driving with Samuel Stone and R. Powell.
3. Went a driving about dry creek and Cockfield Bay and down horsepen branch.
4. Was at home and made pair plow-lines and hooped hand tub and done about.
5. Was at home in the morning and then went Joseph Prossers and came home.
6. Was at home and begun to cross plow my Daves field and begun to mould it.
7. Was at home and was plowing in my Daves field and had the corn moulding.
8. Was at home and was plowing in my Daves field and finished plowing and moulding.
9. Was at home in the morning end then went a fishing in the evening.
10. Went down to Archabald Coxes and hope him with his wheat. {May 10, 1831}

1838 January

1. Was at Home in the morning & then went after Hogs up swamp.
2. Was at Home in the morning & then went on swamp after Hogs.
3. Went in the Neck a hog hunting & caught one of Robert Coxes. {Jan 3, 1838}
4. Was at Home in the morning & then went out to the river to see it.
5. Was at Home in the morning and then went up deep creek to hunt cypress.
6. Was at Home in the morning and then went in the Neck a hog hunting.
7. Was at Home and about Home & had to help up a Hog of R. Coxes.

8. Was at Home in the morning & then went up to Henry Eaddys after cotton money.
9. Was at Home in the morning & then went to Elijah Powells & hope kill hogs.
10. Was at and about Home untill the evening & then went & sat steel trap.
11. Was at home & in the evening turned a wheel axeltree Caroline a wheel.
12. Was at Home in the morning & then went & hope Philip Bertell dress his Mill.
13. Was at Home in the morning & then went to W. H. Stones to an election for 1st & 2nd Lt.
14. Went up to William Stones in the morning & to steel trap in Swamp.
15. Was at Home sheling corn & sending it to the mill to get ground to send to Town.
16. Was at Home & made a ramrod for James Brown & then went a fishing old field lake.
17. Was at Home in the morning & then went down to the Ferry & to the river.
18. Was at Home & killed a hog & went to my traps in Big Swamp.
19. Was at Home in the morning & then went to James Bosticks to singing.
20. Was at Home in the morning & then went down the creek to look otter signs.

Mrs. Bertha Cox Chandler's annotation (9/2002): "I haven't found another mention of Archibald Cox after 1838. He is in 1840 census but no more."