

George Samuel Boggan

By

Carrie Lee Pennington Boggan

The children of Mary (Dabbs) and Captain Patrick Boggan were:
 Frances, born 1772, married James Cash
 Margaret, born ____, married Igdosia Cash
 Jane, born about 1774, married Pleasant May (Jane Boggan May d. 1845)
 Eleanor, born 1776, married William Hammond
 Mary, born 1763, married John May (Mary Boggan May died 1830)
 Lydia, born ____, married Moses Coppedgo
 Patrick, born ____, married Martha Davidson
 Richard, born ____, married ____
 Flora, born 1782, married Col. Joseph Pickett

Article taken from "Charlotte Observer" Newspaper

ANSONIANS FIRST TO DEMAND POPULAR ELECTION
 REVOLUTIONARY TRIUMVIRATE OF ANSON COUNTY IMMORTAL

Marker Erected to Memory of Captain Patrick Boggan,
 Colonial Patriot, and One of Wadesboro's Founders,
 Who Built House Still Standing:
 Wade and Spencer Recalled.

By

Mary Virginia Horne

The erection of a marker in December to Captain Patrick Boggan by the Thomas Wade chapter, D.A.R., is a partial recompense for the long neglect of this founder of Wadesboro who was one of the three most prominent of Anson's citizens during the Revolutionary period. The recompense will be only when he assumes his rightful position as the chief founder of the town and the donor of the land upon which it is located.

Just how this indifference has come about, when the memory of the other founder, Colonel Thomas Wade, has been so well perpetuated in the name of the city itself, in one of its main streets, in one of its two D.A.R. chapters, and in its new million dollar mill, is difficult to explain. Perhaps it is due to the wider fame throughout the State of the other two of Anson's Revolutionary triumvirate, Thomas Wade and Samuel Spencer. Perhaps it is due to the fact that this man possessed the characteristics of modesty and self-effacement to a marked degree. Perhaps it is due to the presence of these same qualities in his descendants who have hesi-

tated to try to arouse the gratitude of people who should have displayed it freely. But because of the efforts of this D.A.R. chapter, Wadesboro has at last united in paying homage to this man to whom homage has so long been due.

Patrick Boggan, the son of Sir Walter Boggan, was born about 1725 in the ancestral home of his family, Castle Finn, in Donegal County, Ireland. With his two brothers, James and Benjamin, and his sister, Jane, he came to America in 1760, landed at one of the Northern ports, and immediately set out southward in search of a home. He remained for a while in Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina before taking up his abode in what is now Anson County. Some time after his arrival in Anson he married Mary Dabbs or Dobbs of Wake County, a woman of great culture and refinement, but an orphan whom an unscrupulous guardian had robbed of her inheritance.

Recovered Slaves.

Shortly after their marriage, Patrick and his bride mounted their horses and set out for her old home to obtain information about the forty slaves sold by her guardian. Near their journey's end, they chanced to spend the night with a farmer's family in Wake County. Suffering with a bone-felon, Mrs. Boggan was directed for relief to an old negro woman who made a practice of "doctoring." On reaching the woman's house, Mrs. Boggan recognized her as her own slave and former nurse. From her they learned the whereabouts of the other slaves and recovered them, whether or not by lawful means. Some say Captain Boggan met and worsted his wife's guardian in a terrible fight. This would not be hard to believe, as Patrick Boggan, when aroused, was a man of fiery temper and of implacable enmity. He was very large, agile and powerful, and apt to conquer in any physical combat. It is said of him that he could run and jump over a covered wagon body when placed on the ground.

The next few years of his life were evidently quiet ones, for nothing of record is known of him until he took up his relentless fight against the Tories in the early days of the Revolution. He became captain of the minute men of the Salisbury district with a commission signed by General Greene himself, and served throughout the war under the command of his great friend and brother-in-law, Colonel Thomas Wade. He pursued the enemy so ruthlessly that his name became a by-word of terror throughout the entire section. Determined upon his capture and death, a band of Tories succeeded one night in surprising him when he was paying a secret visit to his home. Quickly surrounding the place, they demanded his surrender. Concealing his wife's flax knife under his coat, Captain Boggan meekly gave up and followed them outside. Deceived by his mildness, his captors were suddenly

Colonel Wade in this document called himself a merchant, but he was also a farmer of vast estate, for he died possessed of 8,778 acres of land, as well as 19 slaves, 94 hogs, "one riding chair with harness, and two large stills, complete." Listed in his real estate was 150 acres of Wadesboro lands deeded to him by Captain Patrick Boggan and inherited by his daughter, Judy Wade, who married a Dr. Coleman of Alabama and whose descendants initiated but abandoned suit for certain business lots of the town many years afterward.

Thus passed away in honor the second member of Anson's triumvirate, and the elder of Wadesboro's two founders.

The writer is using the following sketch of Captain Boggan, as it has information not used in the preceding article.

SKETCH OF CAPTAIN PATRICK BOGGAN'S LIFE

Captain Patrick Boggan was born about the year 1725. He was the son of Sir Walter Boggan of Castle Finn, Donegal County North Ireland. With his two brothers James Boggan and Benjamin Boggan, and his sister Jane Boggan, he came to America about the year 1760. At about the same time there also came to America Colonel Thomas Wade. They landed at one of the northern ports, possibly New York or Philadelphia and came South, as a great majority of the earlier settlers in this nation did, through Maryland and Virginia, in which States they tarried for a while, thence to South Carolina, and about the year 1770 they came to Anson County and settled in the territory which is now embraced in Anson County.

Patrick Boggan married Mary Dabbs or Dobbs, of Wake County, North Carolina. She is said to have been a very cultured and refined woman for her day and was an orphan. She inherited a good many slaves, about forth (40) in number, from her father and mother. These slaves were taken from her by her guardian while she was young. After she was married she and her husband, Captain Patrick Boggan, made a special trip to Wake County, found the slaves, took them and brought them to her home in Anson County.

Captain Patrick Boggan's sister, Jane Boggan, married Thomas Wade, who afterwards became Colonel Thomas Wade, a patriot, soldier and civil leader during and after the period of the War of the Revolution until the time of his death.

Colonel Thomas Wade, Judge Samuel Spencer and Captain Patrick Boggan, were the three outstanding men of Anson County and this section, during and after the period of the Revolution so long as they lived.

Patrick Boggan was Captain of a Company of Minute Men of

the Salisbury District, in which was Anson County and fought with Colonel Thomas Wade during the War of the Revolution. It is said that Captain Patrick Boggan was one of the most relentless fighters against the Tories during the War of the Revolution in this entire section. There is a tradition that when he was spending one night at home three Tories, armed to the teeth surrounded his house and demanded that he surrender, they intended to kill him. He hid his wife's flax knife in his coat, went out meekly among the three Tories, made an attack on them, and killed all three with the flax knife before they could recover from their surprise. (I might add that it has been said by a very prominent old lady of the County, that a very old citizen of the County told her in her girlhood, that Captain Patrick Boggan was a very agile and powerful man physically and that he could run and jump over a covered wagon body placed on the ground.)

Near the close of the War of the Revolution, Colonel Thomas Wade, and other prominent men of this section, who had gone to Virginia when it appeared that the British soldiers and the Tories would overrun this entire section, were returning to their home, after the American soldiers had won victories and had cleared this section of the British and Tories, were camping over-night at what was known as Piney Bottom near Fayetteville, North Carolina. Near the dawn of the next day the Tories made an attack on the little party intending to destroy them. Among those whom they killed was a young boy whom Colonel Thomas Wade was bringing up, and of whom he was very fond. One of the Tories having split this boy's head completely open down to his shoulders, Colonel Wade came back to Anson County where he and Captain Patrick Boggan raised their Minute Men and went through that whole section. They found and punished the ring leaders among the Tories and scattered them to the four winds. * * * * *

For a full and complete description of this affair at Piney Bottom see Caruther's History of North Carolina, which, I think, is entitled, "The Old North State in 1776," covering the entire period of the Revolution.

The land upon which the town of Wadesboro was first built was bought from William Best for a Townsite. When it was decided to remove the first Court House from near PEE DEE River to the New Town, which was first called Newton or New Town, about the year 1782, the General Assembly of the State passed a law in the year 1783, that a Town be erected upon this land. Captain Patrick Boggan turned the Town Site over to Colonel Thomas Wade who divided it into lots, and thus began the present City of Wadesboro.

Captain Patrick Boggan built a part of the dwelling house now owned and occupied by Mr. P. R. Bennett in the Town of Wadesboro. He built this house for his daughter Nellie (Elinor)

Hammond, - the great-grandmother of the writer. He resided with her until his death. He died in the year 1817, at a very old age.

The grave of Captain Patrick Boggan is in the old cemetery a few hundred yards South of this marker erected to his memory.

The writer does not know who wrote the above sketch. It was mailed to her in 1934 by a Mr. Boggan of North Carolina.

The following information on descendants of the North Carolina Boggan family, who came to Mississippi and settled, was just recently received, and verifies the belief of the writer; the North Carolina and Mississippi Boggan families were closely related.

When Jesse James Boggan came to America, he was accompanied by his brother, Sir Patrick Boggan and his sister, Jane. Jane later married Col. Thomas Wade of Anson County, North Carolina. Much history is given about this family in a sketch of Sir Patrick Boggan.

Later sons of Jesse James moved to Mississippi, according to research made by members of the Boggan family.

Wilson Boggan, now Supt. of Baptist Mission work in the area of Lusedale, Mississippi, is the son of William Jesse Boggan. William Jesse Boggan's father was Alex Boggan. William Jesse Boggan, who came from Anson, North Carolina to Mississippi, was the son of Jesse James Boggan, who came from Ireland to America, accompanied by a brother, and a sister, all of whom settled in Anson County.

Most of the information has been furnished by Mr. Wilson Boggan, and has not been verified by the writer, but due to other research made, is accepted as no doubt true in most instances.