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*JOEL LANE,*

*PIONEER AND PATRIOT.*

*A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.*

*INCLUDING NOTES ABOUT THE LANE FAMILY AND  
THE COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY  
OF WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.*

BY

MARSHALL DELANCEY HAYWOOD.

*"REMEMBER THE DAYS OF OLD."*

RALEIGH, N. C. :

ALFORD, BYNUM & CHRISTOPHERS, Book and Job Printers,  
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TO  
"MY NATIVE HEATH"  
THE GOOD OLD COUNTY OF WAKE  
THESE PAGES  
ARE AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED.



# JOEL LANE,

A PIONEER AND PATRIOT OF WAKE COUNTY,  
NORTH CAROLINA.

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**T**HOUGH comparatively few of the name now remain in the State, the family of LANE was one of the most numerous, as well as influential, in the province of North Carolina. It is said to be collaterally descended from Sir Ralph Lane, who, with Sir Richard Grenville and other bold adventurers, sailed from Plymouth, England, in 1585, and founded (in what is now North Carolina), the Colony of Roanoke, of which Lane became Governor—the first English Governor in America. This Colony, as is well known, had no permanent existence, and Governor Lane returned to Great Britain where he died—in Ireland—in 1604, three years prior to the first permanent American settlement, at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. The father of this Sir Ralph was Sir Ralph Lane, of Orlingbury, whose wife, *nee* Parr, was a first cousin of Katherine Parr, the sixth Queen of that exemplary old Mormon, King Henry VIII.

Not many years after Jamestown was founded, several other members of the Lane family came to Virginia, and their descendants aided in the permanent settlement of North Carolina.

This alleged connection between Sir Ralph and the Lanes of Colonial Virginia, from whom spring the Lanes of North Carolina, is vouched for only by tra-

dition, but this tradition exists in many separate and divergent branches of the family. Whether it should be taken *cum grano salis*, let the reader judge.

“ I cannot tell how the truth may be ;  
I say the tale as 'twas said to me.”

After removing to North Carolina, the Lanes lived principally in the eastern section of the State. They were useful members of society and adherents of the Church of England. In Halifax County quite a number of the family settled, and there was born JOEL LANE, the subject of this sketch. His father, Joseph Lane, of Halifax, married Patience McKinne, a daughter of Colonel Barnabas McKinne, Jr.

Of this Colonel McKinne the writer is unable to speak further than to observe that he was a resident of North Carolina and died in the year 1736, leaving quite a number of descendants, several of whom bore his full name. Through him the name of Barnabas was also introduced into the Lane family.

The above mentioned Joseph Lane, of Halifax (who died about 1774), had five sons, all of whom left issue. They were : Joel, of whom this sketch will treat at length ; Joseph,\* who married Ferebee Hunter, and died in Wake County in 1798 ; James,† who married Lydia Speight, and died in Wake County on January 6, 1805 ; Jesse,‡ who married Winifred Aycock, and

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\*Joseph left a son and a grandson, both named Joseph. They should not be confused with General Joseph Lane, of Oregon, who, as hereinafter mentioned, was a grandson of Jesse Lane.

†There seems to have been a superfluity of James Lanes: (1) James Sr., above mentioned—Col. Joel's brother; (2) James, son of Col. Joel; (3) James, son of another Joel, and grandson of James, Sr. I think there were some Lanes in other parts of the State, who also bore this given name.

‡In the State Records, Vol. XVI., p. 1101, it appears that a Jesse Lane enlisted for a three years term of service on March 1, 1777, in Captain Jacob Turner's Company.

died in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1804; and Barnabas,\* who died about 1775. Barnabas had three children: Martin, Barnabas, Jr., and a daughter, Jean. His son Martin—born 1755, died 1825—served in the Revolutionary war, was one of the earliest landowners in Raleigh, and died in Giles County, Tennessee, leaving descendants.

General Joseph Lane, the "Marion of the Mexican War," who was Governor of Oregon and United States Senator, as well as a distinguished soldier, was the son of John Lane and his wife Betsey Street. This John was a son of Jesse and a nephew of Joel.

When General Lane was a candidate for Vice President of the United States in 1860, he visited Raleigh in July of that year and was entertained at the country-seat of his kinsman, the late Henry Mordecai, just north of the city. To this entertainment every member of the Lane connection, who could be found, was invited. Mr. Mordecai's residence was originally built by his grandfather, Henry Lane, eldest son of Joel; but afterwards, in 1824, was added to and remodeled under the supervision of William Nichols, who also altered the architecture of the old Capitol, which was destroyed by fire on the 21st of June, 1831.

It has sometimes been stated that the late Governor

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Third North Carolina Continentals. Captain Turner was killed at the Battle of Germantown in the following October. After Jesse's enlistment had expired, he again entered the service; for by reference to the manuscript books, entitled "Army Accounts," in the office of the State Auditor, at Raleigh, Vol. 13, Section A. A., p. 50, will be found the entry: "Allowed Jesse Lane for pay to the first of January, 1782, including interest, the first day of August, 1783 --- 175. 11. 6." Governor Swain, in the letter presently given, says that Jesse moved to Georgia before this (in 1779). Quære: Were there two Jesse's, or did Jesse of Wake send his family to Georgia, and follow them later?

\*See abstract of the will of his grandfather, Col. Barnabas McKlune, Jr., in the North Carolina Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. I., p. 61, (January, 1900).

Henry Smith Lane, of Indiana, was descended from the Lanes of Wake County. This, as the writer learns from a member of the family in Indiana, is a mistake; though the Governor was probably of the same stock, for his ancestors were of Virginia origin, as were also the Lanes of North Carolina.

After General Joseph Lane, of Oregon, had won a great reputation in the war with Mexico and was gaining distinction in national politics, a gentleman in Tennessee, desiring to know something of the history of the Lane family, wrote in 1859 to ex-Governor Swain (then President of the University of North Carolina, and a first cousin of the General), for the information desired. Governor Swain's reply was published in the *Memphis Avalanche*, and was afterwards copied in the *North Carolina Semi-Weekly Standard*, a paper published at Raleigh, in its issue of July 21, 1860, when Lane was a candidate for Vice President. Commenting upon it, the editor of the *Standard* observed that in old Buncombe where General Lane was born, there was a "Lane's Pinnacle," a "Lane's Mine Hole Gap," and "Lane's Iron Works," named for his family.

The letter of Governor Swain is so replete with information concerning the whole connection that we give it in full:

CHAPEL HILL, October 23rd, 1859.

*Dear Sir:*—Your letter of the 14th, owing to my absence in the discharge of official duties, did not reach me until a day or two since, and I avail myself of the earliest practicable opportunity to reply.

There is probably no family whose authentic history can be more clearly traced through every period of the annals of North Carolina than that of General Lane's. In proportion to numbers, comparatively few of its members have aspired to or obtained political dis-

inction, or indeed distinction of any kind. On the other hand there are probably few that have enjoyed greater average respectability.

General Lane's great-grandfather, Joseph (who signed his name Joseph Lane, Jr., in 1727), died at his residence near Halifax, on the Roanoke, in 1776.\* His three sons—Joel, Joseph, and Jesse—were pioneer settlers in the neighborhood of Raleigh, in 1741. Of these, Colonel Joel was the wealthiest and most conspicuous. He conveyed to the State 640† acres of land, the site of the present City of Raleigh. His dwelling-house, at the period of its erection the best within a hundred miles, is the present residence of William Boylan, Esq. All three were Whigs during the Revolution, and Colonel Joel and Jesse did service in the army, the latter as a private‡.

Jesse was the grandfather of General Joseph Lane and of myself. He was born in Halifax, July 4th, 1733, and married Winifred Acock. They had sixteen children—eight sons and eight daughters—all of whom lived to rear families. In 1779 my grandfather emigrated to Wilkes, now Oglethorpe County, Ga., where he resided until 1800; then he removed to St. Louis, where he died in 1804.

General Lane is the son of John Lane, the eighth child and fourth son of our grandfather Jesse. At the time of the removal of the family to Georgia (1779), Wilkes was a frontier County, and, during a series of years subject to frequent incursions from the Creeks and Cherokees. There were no members of the family able to bear arms, whose services were not put into requisition, and no one male, or female, who were not familiar with the horror of savage warfare. My mother beguiled many an hour during my infancy, in the recital of hair-breadth escapes, which, delicate woman as she was, rendered her personal history one of remarkable suffering and adventure.

I have no recollection of my grandfather or uncle John. The former visited my father on his way to Missouri, and the latter was an inmate of our family for some time previous to and subsequent to my birth. I heard much of him in my boyhood, and suppose that in all respects the son is a counterpart of the father, brave, enterprising, and generous. He was a universal favorite in the midst of the men who fought at the Cowpens and King's Mountain, and who considered a foray among the Indians as little less than a pastime.

\*Error—he died in the winter of 1773-'74.—M. DEL. H.

†At a later date, 1807, Governor Swain makes a more accurate statement (in his Tucker Hall Address) of the amount of land sold by Lane, to-wit : 1,000 acres, 400 acres of which were laid off into lots and the remainder held, for the time being, by the State.—M. DEL. H.

‡See last note on p. 6, ante.—M. DEL. H.

General Lane's mother was Betsy, daughter of James Street, the first Sheriff of my native County (Buncombe). The descendants of the sixteen children of Jesse are dispersed through all of the Western and Southern States.

I enter into these particulars simply to satisfy you that whilst the family of General Lane have no just pretensions to the pride of heraldry, there is no cause, on the other hand, why they should blush for his ancestry or his connections.

I write in unavoidable haste, but will be ready at any time to communicate more special information if it shall be called for.

Yours very respectfully,

D. L. SWAIN.

Many years before Wake County was formed, Joel Lane had settled at the point which afterwards became its county-seat, and was later the capital of the State. His place of residence was called Bloomsbury, and was then within the territory of Johnston County. Land was taken from Orange and Cumberland, as well as Johnston, for the formation of Wake, and Mr. Lane was one of the commissioners who laid out its boundaries. The new county was established by the colonial assembly in December, 1770, with a proviso that the act of creation should not take effect until March 12, 1771. Governor Tryon, for whose wife, *nee* Wake—and not “Esther Wake”—it was named, formally signed the charter on May 22, in the latter year.\*

The first court was held on the 4th of June, 1771. Theophilus Hunter was chairman, and Joel Lane and his brother Joseph were among the members of this tribunal.† The other justices were: Benjamin Hardy, James Martin, Hardy Sanders, Abraham Hill, Thomas Wooten, James Jones, Tingnall Jones and Thomas Crawford.

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\*Colonial Records, Vol. VIII., pp. 299, 333, 334. Copy of charter in court-house of Wake County. Chapter 22, Laws of 1770.

†Court Records of Wake County.

In the early spring of 1771, when Governor Tryon raised an army to suppress the insurrection of the Regulators, the principal place of rendezvous for his forces was Wake Cross Roads, where Raleigh now stands. Colonel John Hinton, Lane's father-in-law, then commanded the county militia and marched under Tryon to the scene of action, in which he bore a conspicuous part.\* Of Colonel Hinton's conduct on this occasion, and afterwards at the battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, during the Revolution, Governor Caswell says: "In both instances I was an eye-witness and can venture to assert he behaved with becoming bravery and resolution."† At Alamance the Regulators were routed in the battle fought on May 16, 1771. While waiting for reinforcements during that campaign, Governor Tryon located his headquarters near the present Fayetteville road at Hunter's Lodge, the residence of Theophilus Hunter. This was some distance southeast of Spring Hill, later the home of Theophilus Hunter, Jr. For three days, from the 5th to the 8th of May, the army remained there. As the old road was too rough to carry artillery over, Tryon had a new one cut in the direction of the Regulators' country. After a town in Kent, England, he called it "Ramsgate Road." That classic locality near Raleigh, now known as *Ramecat*, derives its name from this circumstance. When the army marched back from Alamance, Colonel Hinton's detachment was disbanded at Wake Court-House on the 22nd of June. On the day before this, Governor Tryon bade his army farewell, and left for New York, hav-

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\*Colonial Records, Vol. VIII., pp. 576, 704.

†State Records, Vol. XII., p. 707.

ing been appointed Governor of that Province.\* He was succeeded, as Governor of North Carolina, by Josiah Martin, who remained in office until driven out during the Revolution. Whether Joel Lane served in the Alamance campaign is not known, but he probably did, for his name appears as Lieutenant-Colonel of Colonel Hinton's Regiment on a roster made out in 1772.†

For many years Colonel Lane was a Justice of the County Court of Wake; and during the war for Independence, he was at one time its presiding Justice.‡ Throughout the entire conflict with Great Britain, he served with fidelity in many important civil stations. Together with John Hinton, Michael Rogers, Theophilus Hunter, Tingnall Jones,|| John Rand and Thomas Hines, he represented Wake County in the Provincial Congress at Hillsborough in August, 1775, and that body, on September 9, elected him a member of the Committee of Safety for the Hillsborough District.§ John Hinton and Michael Rogers were likewise elected members of this Committee. On September 9, 1775, the above named Congress also elected militia officers for Wake County as follows: John Hinton, Colonel; Theophilus Hunter, Lieutenant-Colonel; John Hinton, Jr., First Major; Thomas Hines, Second Major. When the militia was reorganized, on April 22, 1776, these officers were continued in the same rank.¶

Michael Rogers succeeded Hunter in 1778; for, by

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\*Colonial Records, Vol. VIII., pp. 675, 676.

†Colonial Records, Vol. IX., p. 344.

‡Court Records of Wake.

||This gentleman (whose signature I have seen) wrote his first name as here given, but I think his son and namesake signed himself Tignall or Tignal.

§Colonial Records, Vol. X., pp. 166, 215.

¶Colonial Records, Vol. X., pp. 207, 532.

the minute docket of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in that year, it appears that on the 19th of February, "Michael Rogers, Esq<sup>r</sup>, produced into Court a commission from His Excellency Richard Caswell, Esq<sup>r</sup>, Governor, constituting him Lieutenant Colonel for the County of Wake; came into Court and qualified agreeable to law." Hardy Sanders likewise held that rank at a later period, and James Hinton was either a Colonel or a Lieutenant Colonel.

In the Provincial Congress which assembled at Halifax in April, 1776, Colonel Lane again represented Wake County.\* His colleagues in this body were John Hinton, John Rand, Tingnall Jones, and William Hooper. The last named, though put down as a delegate from Wake, was not a resident of the county, but came from the eastern part of the State. He was one of those, who, a few months later, made their names immortal by signing the Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia. While a member of this Provincial Congress, Mr. Hooper was also a member of the Continental Congress.

Colonel Lane did not serve in the Provincial Congress which met at Halifax in November, 1776. The delegates from Wake County in that body were Tingnall Jones, Michael Rogers, James Jones, Britain Fuller, and John Rice.†

From February, 1778, till September, 1779, Joel Lane was Entry Taker;‡ and, for thirteen terms, represented Wake County in the State Senate. At that time the Legislature met annually, and sometimes

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\*Colonial Records, Vol. X., p. 501.

†Colonial Records, Vol. X., p. 915.

‡Court Records of Wake.

oftener. During the Revolution, James Jones was the first to hold the office of Senator, in 1777. The following year, Michael Rogers succeeded him and held until 1782, when Colonel Lane was elected. Up to the year of his death (with the exception of one term when his brother-in-law, James Hinton, defeated him in 1793), Colonel Lane continued to serve.\* Those who represented Wake County in the House of Commons during the Revolution were: John Rand, Tingnall Jones, Lodowick Alford, Hardy Sanders, Thomas Hines, John-Hinton, Jr., Nathaniel Jones, the elder† (of Crabtree), John Humphries, Burwell Pope, James Hinton, and Theophilus Hunter.‡

On June 23, 1781, while the war was raging with its greatest fury, the Legislature met at Wake Court-House.§ For want of a more commodious edifice, Col-Lane's residence was used as the place for assembling. At this session, Thomas Burke was elected to succeed Abner Nash as Governor.

A ludicrous reminder of the depreciation in paper currency caused by the gloomy prospects for the success of the American cause, is the official record|| that when Colonel Lane was paid for the house-rent, pasturage for horses, etc., used by the above Legislature during this session of less than one month's duration, the amount voted him was *fifteen thousand pounds!*

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\*Wheeler's History of North Carolina, Part II., pp. 421, 422.

†There were three gentlemen in Wake County bearing the name of Nathaniel Jones: (1) Nathaniel Jones, of Crabtree; (2) his father, Nathaniel Jones, Sr., mentioned above; (3) Nathaniel Jones, of White Plains. The last named was not connected with the Jones family of Crabtree except by marriage. In old county records they were usually distinguished by placing the letters O. T. for Crabtree, and W. P. for White Plains, after their names.

‡Wheeler's History, Part II., pp. 421, 422.

§State Records, Vol. XVII., pp. 794, 877.

||State Records, Vol. XVII., pp. 876, 977.

or about thirty thousand dollars (a pound was then only two dollars). This was many times as great as the sum paid by the State for the Lane plantation (where Raleigh is built) after the war, when money was worth more than the paper it was printed on.

During the Revolution those who occupied the office of High Sheriff of Wake (then a station of great importance) were : Thomas Hines, from June, 1775, till June, 1777 ; Thomas Wooten from June, 1777, till September, 1780 ; Hardy Sanders, from September, 1780, till September, 1782 ; Britain Fuller, from September, 1782, until after peace was declared.\*

After the end of hostilities, Colonel Lane exerted every effort to allay the bitterness which had arisen while the war was in progress, and befriended many Loyalists who were objects of hatred to a less generous element of the Whigs than that to which he belonged. Among other Tories, who had reason to be thankful for his good offices, was Colonel John Hamilton, whom he probably knew before the war, as both were from Halifax County. Hamilton was one of the bravest and most active officers siding with the King, and a man of character, who had treated American prisoners with more than ordinary kindness, though even this did not save his estates from confiscation. For some years after the Revolution, he was British Consul at Norfolk, Virginia, and finally went to England, where he died. Serving on Hamilton's staff was a young ensign, Dugald McKethen, who became a useful and respected citizen of Raleigh after the return of peace, and married one of Colonel Lane's daughters.

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\*Court Records of Wake.

In the time treated of by this sketch, Wake County abounded in large game, and hunting was a favorite pastime. Just inside, and westward of the southern entrance, of Capitol Square in Raleigh, there is still living a large sassafras tree, which was a famous deer-stand. The writer learned this from his father, the late Dr. Richard B. Haywood, who personally remembered one of Colonel Lane's nephews, Edmund Lane, who himself claimed to have killed nearly forty deer there.

Before the Revolutionary war, and during that struggle, the capital of North Carolina was somewhat migratory. It was, as a rule, located where the Governor happened to reside, for that functionary usually summoned the Legislature to meet at the place which best suited his convenience. So, after independence had been achieved, the State Convention, which met at Fayetteville in 1788, gave the General Assembly instructions to fix permanently the capital, provided it should be within ten miles of Isaac Hunter's plantation in Wake County, which radius was chosen on account of its central location. Nine Commissioners were appointed to purchase a site, but only six attended the meeting which was held for that purpose. Those present were: Frederick Hargett, Chairman, William Johnston Dawson, Joseph McDowell, James Martin, Thomas Blount, and Willie Jones. The members of this board were from different parts of the State. They had to choose from seventeen tracts which were offered. In reference to their decision, the Honorable Kemp P. Battle, in his 1892 Centennial Address on Raleigh, says that the Hinton tract on Neuse river received, on the first ballot, three of the six votes cast; the tract

offered by Joel Lane received two; and the other vote was cast for land owned by Nathaniel Jones, of White Plains, near the present village of Cary. As a majority was not received by either tract on this ballot, the board adjourned until next day. Continuing his address, Dr. Battle says:

“Willie Jones was a master of the art of persuasion and was an intimate friend of Joel Lane. Lane himself was a man of influence, who had served the State in the Colonial Congress and as Senator for ten years in succession. Very probably he offered new inducements as to price. At any rate, on Friday, the 30th of March, a second ballot was taken, with the result that Wake Court House received five votes, and the Hinton land received only one vote. Possibly Lane was adversely criticised for his tactics in winning the contest. There was abundant room for unpleasant talk on account of his entertaining the Commissioners at his house. They were acting as judges, and were certainly, notwithstanding their high character, liable to the criticism that they ate the bread of one of the litigants. I cannot find their accounts of expenses, but it is altogether probable that they paid for their entertainment. I notice that Lane was Senator from 1782 to 1792, both inclusive, but that in the next year James Hinton had his place. This is some evidence that the Hinton family resented his success in the negotiation and that the people took their side. If so, the displeasure was evanescent, for he was Senator again in 1794 and 1795.”

James Iredell (afterwards a Judge of the United States Supreme Court) introduced the Convention ordinance requiring the capital to be located in Wake

County, and the name "Raleigh" is said to have been first suggested for the new city by Governor Alexander Martin.

As Colonel Lane's residence was the most important house at Bloomsbury, or Wake Cross-Roads, before Raleigh was laid out, he was often inconvenienced by the number of travellers who claimed his hospitality. To get rid of those who were not his personal friends, he caused to be erected a small ordinary—or *or'nary* as it was called by the natives. This old inn was afterwards turned into a school-house, and is now used as an out-building to a residence on the north side of Hillsborough street, between McDowell and Dawson. It is about three-quarters of a mile in an easterly direction from where the old Lane homestead stands, and somewhat resembles the architecture of that building.

Two blocks north of Capitol Square, in Raleigh, one of the city's thoroughfares, running east and west, is called Lane Street in honor of the former owner of the soil.

Colonel Lane was one of the first Trustees of the University of North Carolina, and (on November 5, 1792,) offered that institution a gift of six hundred and forty acres of land, near the plantation of Nathaniel Jones, of White Plains, on condition that it should be located there, but the offer was declined.

Hinton James, the first graduate of the University, was a nephew of Mrs. Lane, whose father, Colonel John Hinton, had two daughters who married members of the James family. Hinton James was the son of Captain John James, of the Revolution, and his wife Alice Hinton. Alice's sister, Elizabeth, married Thomas James.

Colonel Lane was twice married. Both of his wives were daughters of the well known Revolutionary soldier and statesman, Colonel John Hinton, of Wake County, and his wife, Grizelle Kimbrough.

To his first wife, MARTHA HINTON, Colonel Lane was married on the 9th of December, 1762. She died on September 9, 1771, leaving three sons. They were :

I. Henry Lane, born March 6, 1764, who married his first cousin, Mary Hinton (daughter of Major John Hinton, Jr., of Wake County), and left descendants. He died in Wake County in 1797.

II. James Lane, who was born October 7, 1766.\*

III. William Lane, who was born October 15, 1768.\*

MARY HINTON, the second wife of Joel Lane, to whom he was married in 1772, bore him nine children, as follows :

I. Nancy Lane, born July 22, 1773.

II. John Lane, born March 6, 1775, who married Sarah Elizabeth Jones, daughter of Nathaniel Jones, of White Plains, Wake County, and left descendants. He removed to Marshall County, Tennessee, and died there in 1864.

III. Martha Lane, born February 19, 1778, who was twice married : (first), to Dugald McKethen, heretofore mentioned ; (second), to Jonathan Brickell. She was Mr. Brickell's second wife. Her death occurred in Raleigh, May 20, 1852. She had children, but no descendants are now living.

IV. Elizabeth Lane, born August 6, 1780, who was the first wife of Stephen Haywood, of Raleigh, where

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\*Where the marriages of Colonel Lane's children are not given, it is because I have been unable to ascertain whom they married. Some of his children may have died young. James and William were living in 1794 when their father made his will. As to other James Lanes, see note, page 6, ante.

she died March 7, 1805. She has descendants, but none are now living who bear the name of Haywood.

V. Mary Lane, born January 1, 1783.

VI. Thomas Lane, born September 12, 1785, who married Nancy Lane, daughter of his cousin and guardian, Martin Lane, heretofore mentioned. Thomas removed to Giles County, Tennessee, and died there March 29, 1832, leaving issue.

VII. Dorothy Lane, born December 13, 1787, who was the second wife of Dr. Allen W. Gilchrist, and left descendants. Her marriage took place on May 29, 1806. Dr. Gilchrist was from Halifax County, North Carolina, but afterwards removed from the State.

VIII. Joel Hinton Lane, born October 11, 1790, who married Mary Freeman, and died without issue, in Giles County, Tennessee, June 22, 1832. He was a volunteer from Wake County, North Carolina, in the War of 1812.

IX. Grizelle Lane, born June 13, 1793, who married George Lillington Ryan, and died without issue, in Raleigh, March 4, 1868.

Joel Lane's second wife, Mary, survived him less than a week, and died on the 3rd of April, 1795.

In things spiritual, Colonel Lane was most exemplary, and enforced strict religious observance upon all within his household. It has been noted that his ancestors were adherents of the Church of England; so, when this sturdy pioneer came to the wilds of Wake County, the Book of Common Prayer came also. Under the English Church Establishment of that time, the territory embraced in Wake was known as the "Parish of St. Margaret." Though the adjacent country was too thinly settled for the Church to thrive, the

Lane residence always remained the home of religion as well as of hospitality. Not only was the family called daily to prayer, but Colonel Lane himself observed each fast and other devotional exercise prescribed by the Church, in which he remained a communicant up to the time of his death. At intervals, some regularly ordained clergyman would pass through; and, on these occasions, younger members of the family were baptized. Among other clerical visitors, was Parson Micklejohn, of Hillsborough, whom "Shocco" Jones describes as "a high Churchman in religion and a high Tory in politics." When, some years after the Revolution, Bishop Ravenscroft came to Wake County to revive, under its new name, the Church of England, the Lanes could boast that in one quarter, at least, it had never been dormant.

The death of Joel Lane occurred on the 29th day of March, 1795. In an address delivered in Raleigh, on August 24, 1867, Ex-Governor Swain (Colonel Lane's great-nephew) refers to the last resting place of the old patriot, saying that his remains "moulder in the midst of other unrecorded dead beneath the shade of a mulberry on his ancient domain." There, indeed, is his grave, of which no vestige now appears. The spot is in an open field (upon which the town is fast closing in), and lies a few feet east of Boylan Avenue, about thirty-five yards south of Morgan street.

After the death of Joel Lane, his son Thomas, to whom he bequeathed his residence,\* sold it on December 31, 1808, to Dr. Allen W. Gilchrist who married Colonel Lane's daughter. It was afterwards bought

\*The Randall Etching Co., of Raleigh, is now preparing, and will soon have for sale, an etching of this building.

by Peter Browne, a native of Scotland, who was an able lawyer, but withal a miser and utilitarian, respecting nothing above its value in dollars and cents. Finding that the burying ground (where, also, many other early citizens, besides the Lanes, were interred) was an unprofitable piece of property, he had it plowed up and planted in cabbages! If one leaves this spot, and walks about a mile and a half eastward along Morgan Street to what Raleigh people now call the Old Graveyard, there he will find the slab which marks the grave of Browne himself. It states that he died October 26, 1833, "aged 67 1/2 years." Verily, one may think, Methuselah would turn green with envy, and feel youthful, could he read this. What means it? may be asked by another, less credulous. The solution is this: Originally the inscription read, "67" years; and some vandal, with a good knowledge of stone-cutting, did the rest by adding the two other figures. Thus the grave of this desecrator has not itself escaped desecration.

Before concluding our sketch, further mention should be made of the house in which Colonel Lane lived, and which was built by him. It still stands, and is the oldest house in Raleigh—much older than the city itself. William Boylan, editor of the *Minerva*, bought it from the aforementioned Peter Browne, in 1818, and it has been in possession of the Boylans ever since. It faces east on the avenue named for that family. To one of the present generation, it is an unimposing structure; but, when built, was considered quite palatial. Two stories, low in pitch, with a steep double-slanting roof and a small wing on the south side, is the house as it stands. But it seldom

fails to attract attention. Its quaintness of architecture speaks of a generation now passed into history—of Tryon, marching with his army against the Regulators; of Burke, Spaight, Lenoir, and their compatriots in the Revolutionary assembly which met beneath its roof; of the Hintons, Hunters, and Jones's, of early Wake.

“ A kind of old Hobgoblin Hall,  
 Now somewhat fallen to decay,  
 With weather-stains upon the wall,  
 And stairways worn and crazy doors,  
 And creaking and uneven floors,  
 And chimneys huge, and tiled and tall—  
 A region of repose it seems,  
 A place of slumber and of dreams ! ”



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