

## Biographical Sketches.

GEN. GEORGE GRAHAM.

He was a resident of Mecklenburg, and a brother of Gen. Joseph Graham. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1758, and came with his mother and family to North Carolina when about six years old. He was educated in Charlotte, and at an early age espoused the cause of his country. In 1775, he, with a few others, rode all night to Salisbury, seized the Tory lawyers, Dunn and Booth, brought them to Mecklenburg, and from thence they were carried to Camden and imprisoned. When Cornwallis lay at Charlotte, he was very active in attacking his foraging parties. He was the leader of the attack at McIntyre's, six or seven miles from Charlotte, on the Beattie's Ford Road, and actually, with twelve men, compelled the foraging party of four hundred English, to fall back in utter confusion. He was Major-General of militia of North Carolina. For a long time clerk of the court, and often a member of the Legislature. He died the 29th of March, 1826. He was buried in the old, or first cemetery in Charlotte. The following inscription is upon his tombstone:

"Sacred to the memory of Major-General George Graham, who died on the 29th of March, 1826, in the 68th year of his age."

He lived more than half a century in the vicinity of this place, and was a zealous and active defender of his country's rights in the Revolutionary war, and one of the gallant twelve who dared to attack, and actually drove four hundred British troops at McIntyre's, seven miles north of Charlotte, on the 3d of October, 1780. George Graham filled many high and responsible public trusts, the duties of which he discharged with fidelity. He was the peoples'

friend, not their flatterer, and uniformly enjoyed the unlimited confidence and respect of his fellow citizens.

WM. LEE DAVIDSON.

Wm. Lee Davidson, Esq., was a son of Gen. Davidson, who was killed in the battle of Cowan's Ford, and lived near Davidson College; in fact, the college was called for his father, and he did much to help get it in working order. He was a man of fine intellect, and did much for the county, but being a Whig in politics, was in a hopeless minority. In 1850 he moved to Alabama, and engaged in planting cotton. He was a large and successful farmer. He was married twice, but raised no children. He died about the close of the war, in 1865. He was an enthusiast in silk culture in 1845. He planted an orchard of (multicaulus) mulberry trees to feed the silk worms. He was very successful in raising the worms and also in having the cocoons spun, but could not find a market for the product, and of course, the industry was abandoned. This was a great "fad" over the country that yielded but little fruit, but left an experience that has served to warn against indulging in an industry that failed to "pay."

PATRICK JOHNSTON.

Patrick Johnston, a native of Ireland, came to this country in 1787; was an expert weaver by trade. He married Miss Annie Wall. They worked hard and were saving, and soon accumulated a handsome estate. He had three sons and two daughters. James Johnston and Houston Johnston lived near the home place, between Beattie's Ford and Davidson College. They were good citizens, accumulated property, were large tax-payers, but were a short-lived family.

Mary married Samuel Lowrie, a son of Judge Samuel Lowrie, and lived on the Beattie's Ford road, seventeen miles