

# **The Fox and the Hound: Francis Marion & Micajah Ganey**

**20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Francis Marion Symposium**



**October 20 & 21, 2022**



**Central Carolina Technical College – Manning, SC**



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**Introduction:** Thank you to Carole Summers and her dear late husband, George, and the Francis Marion Symposium Team for this life time opportunity to bring this project to fruition. Thirty five years of written notes, xerox copies, computer files, and a horde of bookmarks...now synthesized into this project which began out of a genealogical curocity after reading Robert Bass's *The Swamp Fox*. That curiosity has bloomed into studies of the Revolutionary War, and in particular the Pee Dee River regions of the Carolinas.

### **My Connections to the Revolutionary War:**

\* **Birth:** April 19 – the day “the shot was heard round the world.” I lived in Massachusetts for my 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and April 19<sup>th</sup> was a state holiday. I always got a holiday and a day off from school! Massachusetts changed the day of observance in 1969 to the third Monday in April – Patriot’s Day!

\***The Swamp Fox** – I lived in Massachusetts during Walt Disney’s The Swamp Fox TV series...and we played The Swamp Fox out in the forests!



“Our band is few, but true and tried , Our leader frank and bold; The British soldier trembles  
When Marion’s name is told.” by William Cullen Bryant

\***Work** - Last Assignment: U.S. Army Military Intelligence School (3 years) - Chief of Leadership and Military History: classes on Leadership & Military History.



**\*Teaching:**

US History General Survey courses - City Colleges of Chicago

Philosophy of Warfare - City Colleges of Chicago

US History General Survey courses – Cochise College

**\*Publication:**

US History General Survey Courses – Online Course Development Cochise College  
History 110 – History of the United States 1607-1877

**\*Award:** The LTC Thomas Knowlton Award from United States Army Intelligence School & Center Fort Huachuca, AZ September 1997 for 6 years of service to the greater Military Intelligence community. The award honors LTC Thomas Knowlton, who commanded Knowlton's Rangers, the first intelligence and reconnaissance unit in the Continental Army during the American Revolution.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas\\_Knowlton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Knowlton)

**\*Personal** - Major Micajah Ganey is a distant uncle. The brother of my 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, Samuel Ganey (2<sup>nd</sup> SC Regiment) who lived up in the Cheraw District. Samuel was so in awe of his brother Micajah Ganey, the controversial Loyalist combatant of Catfish Creek and the greater Pee Dee region, that he named his 1<sup>st</sup> son ... Micajah Ganey...my 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandfather!  
During the Revolutionary War there were Ganey/Gainey's that fought on both sides ...especially in the Carolinas.

**\*Address** – the numeric portion of my street address is – **1783!**

The Treaty of Paris, signed in Paris by representatives of King George III of Great Britain and representatives of the United States of America on September 3, 1783, officially ended the American Revolutionary War.

**\*Military** – I, too, am a Major Ganey. I retired from the United States Army with 25 years of service – 9 enlisted and 16 as a Chaplain retiring with the rank of Major, So, another link to my distant relative – Major Micajah Ganey.

**Purpose:** The overall objective of the project is to realize this opportunity to finally write up 35 years of research on Micajah Ganey, and to target the three Revolutionary War years 1780-1782 whereby Francis Marion and Micajah Ganey had many connections: Together at the onset of the war in the 2<sup>nd</sup> SC, fought against each other most of 1780-1782 and then fighting alongside each other at war's end in Marion's Brigade.

## **General Information**

**The name MICAJAH** is a given name and originates from the Bible in the Old Testament. In I Kings 22 and II Chronicles 18 Micajah is mentioned as a prophet of the Lord, in II Chronicles 17 Micajah is mentioned as a Prince of Judah, in Nehemiah 12 as a priest, and as a bearer of the words of Jeremiah to the King of Judah's court in Jeremiah 36. Micajah is also mentioned as the name of a female in II Chronicles 13:2.

The prevalence of the name Micajah in the 1700's and early 1800's is amazing and was used primarily as a given name to multiple hundreds of surnames throughout southern colonies and states. As an example go to Southern Campaigns Revolutionary War Pension Statements & Rosters <https://revwarapps.org/> and submit the name Micajah in the "Freefind Search" database.

Note: To assume that any Micajah is referred to as a Matthew is incorrect, infeasible, and a big stretch.

Pronunciation of Given Name: Micajah is pronounced as – MA-CAW'-YA, not as – MA-KAK-"J"A. Ask anyone who knows Hebrew.

## **Background of Micajah Ganey**

Born - about 1756 in the Carolinas. Death about 1830 and burial place is unknown.

Father - Stephen Ganey, Sr. Ganey's came into Carolinians from Virginia. Settled in the Pee Dee area earlier than 1750. The first Ganey in the New World was a William Ganey (an Englishman) about 1609 who helped to build the village of Kecoughtan, later Elizabeth City, and today Hampton, VA – the oldest, continuous English settlement in the New World.

Brother- Stephen Ganey, Jr. was married, and was murdered by a neighbor, William DeWitt, over a horse race.

Brother - Annainis Ganey served with him as a Captian in his Loyalist Dragoons.

Brother – Samuel Ganey who settled up in Cheraw in 1790 census. Samuel Ganey served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment South Carolina. My 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather.

Physical Description: described as a “large and powerful” man with an intellect “above the ordinary standard.” (Rankin, Francis Marion: The Swamp Fox). “...was a handsome, soldierly man, intelligent, but somewhat overbearing and truculent and, when aroused, hot tempered and violent.” (Bass, The Swamp Fox, pp.48-50. )

Lived in Carolina’s the Old Marion District or Liberty County and Craven County, as it was first known, which was created out of Prince Frederick’s Parish. Ganey, who lived on a large plantation between Catfish Creek in the Little PeeDee. Major Micajah Gainey, son of an Englishman, Stephen Gainey, who had settled at an early period on a spot six miles below the present town of Marion. Micajah Ganey had a respectable and large plantation.

### Revolutionary War Setting

During the Revolutionary War many colonials in South Carolina along the Little PeeDee (Catfish Creek and Drowning Creek) were still loyal to King George the III. These loyalists formed a regiment militia under the command of Major Micajah Ganey.

Micajah Ganey (1756-1830), Loyalist leader of the Pee Dee defeated by Francis Marion; 74 years of age. \*Dates to be verified.

The apprehension of this gave a serious alarm to those of the inhabitants who adhered to their interest. There was no part of South Carolina without the British lines which was not formally in the peace of the State, excepting a settlement on Little PeeDee. Major Ganey, at the head of some loyalists residing near that river, had refused to do militia duty under General Marion, the Brigadier of the district. They defended themselves in the swamps, and from thence frequently sallied to the distress of the whig inhabitants of the adjacent country. (Ramsay, p. 269).

Major Micajah Gainey, son of an Englishman, Stephen Gainey, who had settled at an early period on a spot six miles below the present town of Marion. He had a respectable property and at first took sides with the Revolutionary party, but considering himself aggrieved, he went over to the enemy, and was rewarded with a commission of major and put in command of the Tories of his neighborhood. He became a person of considerable influence on the Tory side in that section. (McGrady).

Tough old Micajah Ganey, a hard fighting Loyalist partisan commander, was one of Francis Marion's greatest opponents in the South Carolina Lowcountry. (Lumpkin, p. 53).

Micajah Ganey led Regiment of Tories. Besides being a war for American independence from Great Britain, the Revolutionary War in South Carolina during the years 1780-82 was a vicious civil war between South Carolinians loyal to the King -- called Tories -. and others who were rebels against him -- called Whigs. While there were both Tories and ' Whigs in the Pee Dee -- as elsewhere in the state--each group was more concentrated in some areas than in others. Whig sentiment, for instance, dominated the Williamsburg district, also Britton's Neck in what is now' lower Marion County between the two Pee Dee rivers. But above Britton's Neck along Catfish Creek and eastward to Drowning Creek (Lumber River) was Tory country. From this region a Tory regiment was formed under the leadership of Major Micajah Ganey"who lived on Catfish Creek about six miles below present Marion. Between the Little Pee Dee and Drowning Creek lived Captain Jesse Barcfield who was second in command of the Loyalist regiment. Both had personal reasons for fighting for the King unrelated to Loyalist conviction. Barefield had fought under Francis Marion in the Second Continental Regiment in 1776. But believing himself wronged by an officer, he resigned at the termination of his enlistment period, returned to his home, declared his loyalty to the British cause, and raised a mounted troop of Tory horsemen. If Ganey's explanation can be given credence as more than an excuse for his Tory affiliation, he fought against the Whigs because Captain Maurice Murphy, a violent and unprincipled Whig, had robbed him of some of his horses and refused to return one of them until he (Ganey) had returned all the horses he had lost. In a letter addressed to Marion dated "Peedee, September 8, 1781," Ganey said "I don't know his horses; I never saw them; and in like manner, they (the Whigs) detain several horses.. and a number of cows." It was for this reason, he declared, "that I first revolted my constancy to my country." In his "History of the Old Cheraws," Bishop Alexander Gregg scoffs at Ganey's explanation for taking up arms against his country and his kinsmen and declares it "readily framed for his traitorous course." But for whatever reason, Ganey was to the Tories of the Pee Dee what Marion was to the Whigs -- leaders around whom they rallied in a bloody civil strife. (Florence Morning News Florence, South Carolina Sunday January 20 1974, p. 4, James A. Rogers).

In his letter to Marion, Ganey gives a reason for having taken up arms against his country. If that which he assigned was the leading motive, and was founded in truth, it only proved that, like others, he allowed feelings of resentment against an individual, to extinguish every patriotic impulse. But his heart was not right in the matter, and an excuse was readily framed for his traitorous course. As a reward, and because of his influence, doubtless, he was promoted by the British to the position of major, which he subsequently filled. He lives six miles below the site of the present village of Marion, between catfish and the river. His father, Stephen Ganey, was an Englishman, and immigrated at an early period to this part of Carolina. In person, Major Ganey was large and powerful, and in mind above the ordinary standard. He had a respectable property, and might have made, if so disposed, a most efficient champion of liberty. He was, however, a man of violent passions and overbearing disposition and before the revolution, had made himself obnoxious to many of his neighbors. After the war, the feeling against him was so strong, that he was compelled to leave, and removed to Richmond County, North Carolina. It is said that 50 years after the struggle of the revolution had ended, there were men in Marion who would have killed him on site. (Gregg, pp.376-377).

The people on Catfish Creek, along the Little PeeDee, and up the branches of Drowning Creek, however, were still loyal to their king. They formed a regiment of loyalist militia under the command of Major Micajah Ganey. The Major, who lived on a large plantation between Catfish Creek and Little PeeDee, was a handsome, soldierly man, intelligent, but somewhat overbearing and truculent and, when aroused, hot tempered and violent. (Bass, *The Swamp Fox*, p. 48).

Major Micajah Ganey (also Gainey), from Marion County, Lieut. Col. Robert Gray's Regiment while not so much the military man as his Whig counterpart Francis Marion, Ganey (who had himself been a Whig early in the war) was a solid leader for the loyalists in what are now Marion and Dillon counties and sometimes could bring together a fairly large following. Though he never defeated Marion, he regularly kept him and other Whig leaders in the region fairly busy and was able to reunite his own men after being scattered. (Sherman, 48, 91).



An incident may be mentioned in connexion with a member of his family, illustrative of the summary method offending disputes, and of the bloody spirit that marked these days. Stephen, a brother of Major Gainey, was killed by William Dewitt of the same neighbourhood. They had agreed upon a race with two noted steeds. The winner was to take the horse of his competitor. Gainey won the race, and carried off the stakes. Dewitt claimed and took back his horse with violent hands, on the ground of some unfairness in the race. Gainey succeeded in recovering him, and at the same time took Dewitt, carrying him bound to his house. He went to sleep, leaving his prisoner tied. Dewitt managed to get loose (by the aid, it was said, of his captor's wife), took down Gainey's own gun, and shot him dead on the spot. (Gregg, *History of the Old Cheraws*, p. 377).

Major Micajah Ganey, son of an Englishman, Stephen Ganey, who had settled at an early period on a spot 6 miles below the present town of Marion. He had a respectable property and at first took sides with a revolutionary party, but considering himself aggrieved, he went over to the enemy, and was rewarded with the Commission of Major and put in command of the Tories of his neighborhood. He became a person of considerable influence on the Tory side in that section. (McCrady p. 119).

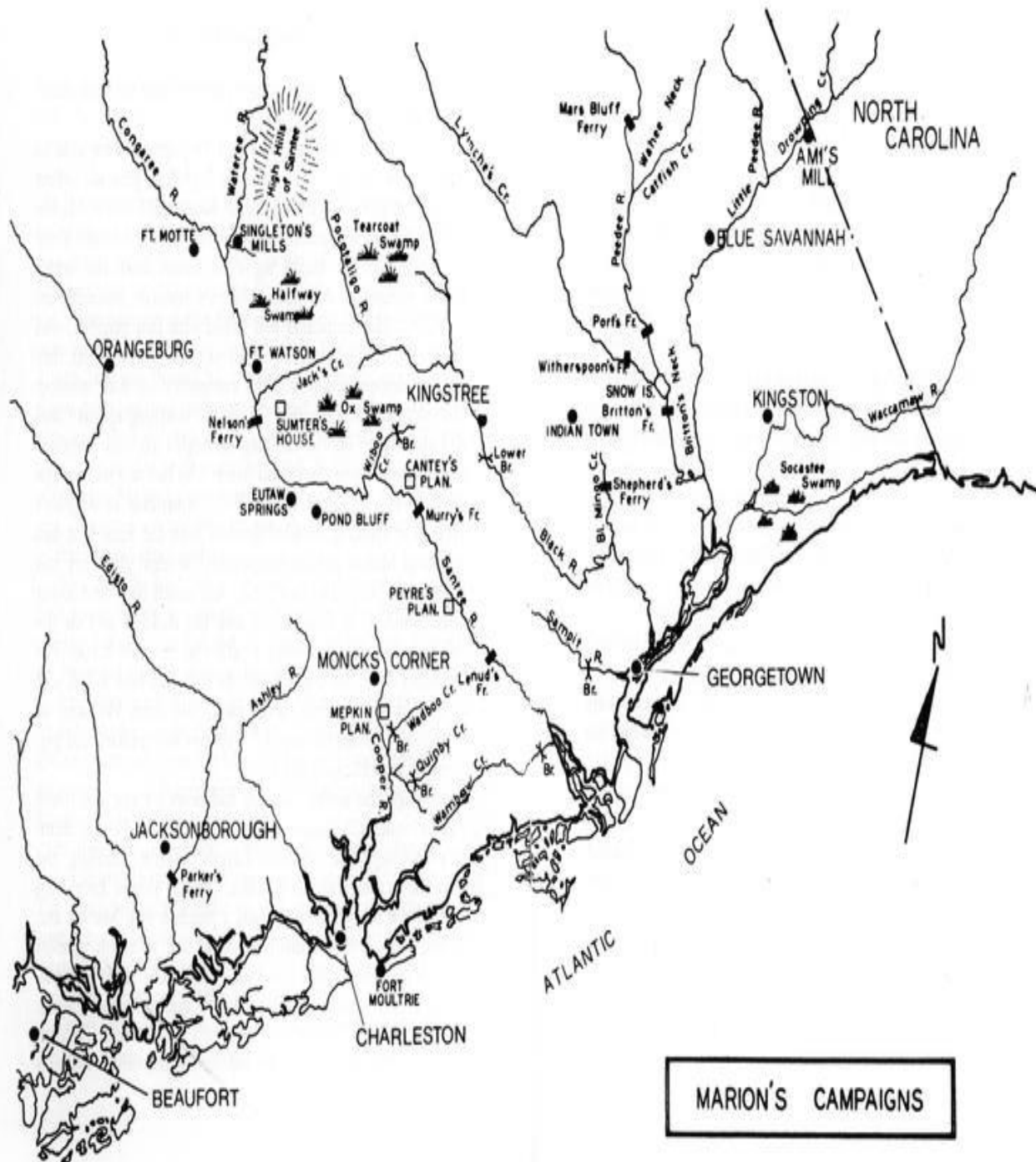
Record regarding Tory Major Micajah Ganey/Gainey, who was leader of the Loyalist militia unit of which Jesse Barfield was Captain. Marion County deeds show that Micajah Ganey had a land grant on Catfish bounded by John Smith and Nathan Evans. Micajah Ganey also had another 100 acres on Buck Swamp, bounding some of the Barfields and Moodys.

Colonel Gainey, who commanded the Tories in South Carolina between the Waccamaw, Pee Dee and Drowning Creek (Lumber River) and who was at this time under a truce with General Marion, by some means or other had notice of a party of the North Carolina Whigs being so near his district, and had collected about eighty of his adherents. The company was a troop of horse soldiers. The duty of the company was to ride through districts of North Carolina along the Pee Dee River and some across the river into South Carolina, for the purpose of protecting these districts from "the plunder and ravages of the Tories, with whom they had several skirmishes, particularly one with the notorious Tory Major Gainey. (James, pp. 123, 188).

Ganey, Micajah. Of South Carolina. He lived on the Little Pedee; and at the head of some Loyalists of that region, sallied out of swamps to distress the Whigs. Marion had required that he should obey his orders as brigadier of the district, but he refused. Yet, in 1781, when the Royal Army met with reverses, Ganey entered into a treaty of neutrality, which was renewed the year following. By the terms of the last arrangement, the Tory band were forgiven treason, secured in the possession of their property, and placed under the protection of the laws, on the condition of delivering up their plunder, and demeaning themselves as peaceable citizens of South Carolina; while those who preferred to leave the country, were permitted to go within the British lines, and to carry off or sell their effects. Ganey was considered an excellent partisan officer, and, in the judgment of some, able to cope with Marion himself. (Sabine- *Biographical sketches of loyalists of the American Revolution*, p. 458).



This illustration depicts Francis Marion making his escape from Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton.  
Image Source: New York Public Library Digital Images.



## **Micajah Ganey – Timeline**

### **1772**

Series: S213197

Box: 0002

Item: 00425

ignore: 000

Date: 11/25/1772

Description: Gany, Micajah, unrecorded plat for land not granted, 100 acres on PeeDee River, Craven County, surveyed by John Henderson.

Names indexed: Gany, Micajah; Henderson, John; Midelton, Martin

Locations: Craven County; Pee Dee River

Document type: PLAT

### **1774**

Samuel Wragg, 580 acres in Craven County on Catfish adjacent. Nathan Evans, Henry flowers, Abraham Buckholt, James Harvey, Micajah Ganey, Mr. Middleton, 28 October 1774. Plat certified 30 June 1774.

South Carolina Royal Grants p. 100 #34, 29.

### **1775**

Series: S111001

Volume: 0013

Page: 00465

Item: 004

Date: 5/1/1775

Description: Wragg, Samuel, Memorial for 580 acres on Catfish Creek, Craven County.

Names indexed: Buckholt, Abraham; Evans, Nathan; Flowers, Henry; Ganey, Macajah; Harvey, James; Middleton; Wragg, Samuel

Locations: Catfish Creek; Craven County

Document type: MEMORIAL

## 1779

Tax List 1779 - The first tax list after the establishment of Richmond County, NC was compiled ... Micajah Ganey 100 acres

Pay Roll of the SC Second Regiment 1<sup>st</sup> November 1779

Edmund Gainey. . . . . Private 3<sup>rd</sup> Co.

Southern Campaigns Revolutionary War Pension Statements & Rosters

<http://www.revwarapps.org/>

\*Edmund Ganey is a relative of Micajah Ganey. There were other Ganey's/Gainey's who fought on both sides of the Revolutionary War (see below under Revolutionary War Summation – Appendix A).

\*Samuel Ganey - SC 2nd Regiment 1778 aka Samuel Gany. My fourth-great grandfather.

## 1780 – May

Fall of Charlestown to the British

Major General Benjamin Lincoln surrendered all of the existing Continental Army in South Carolina, plus much of the South Carolina Militia and North Carolina Militia.

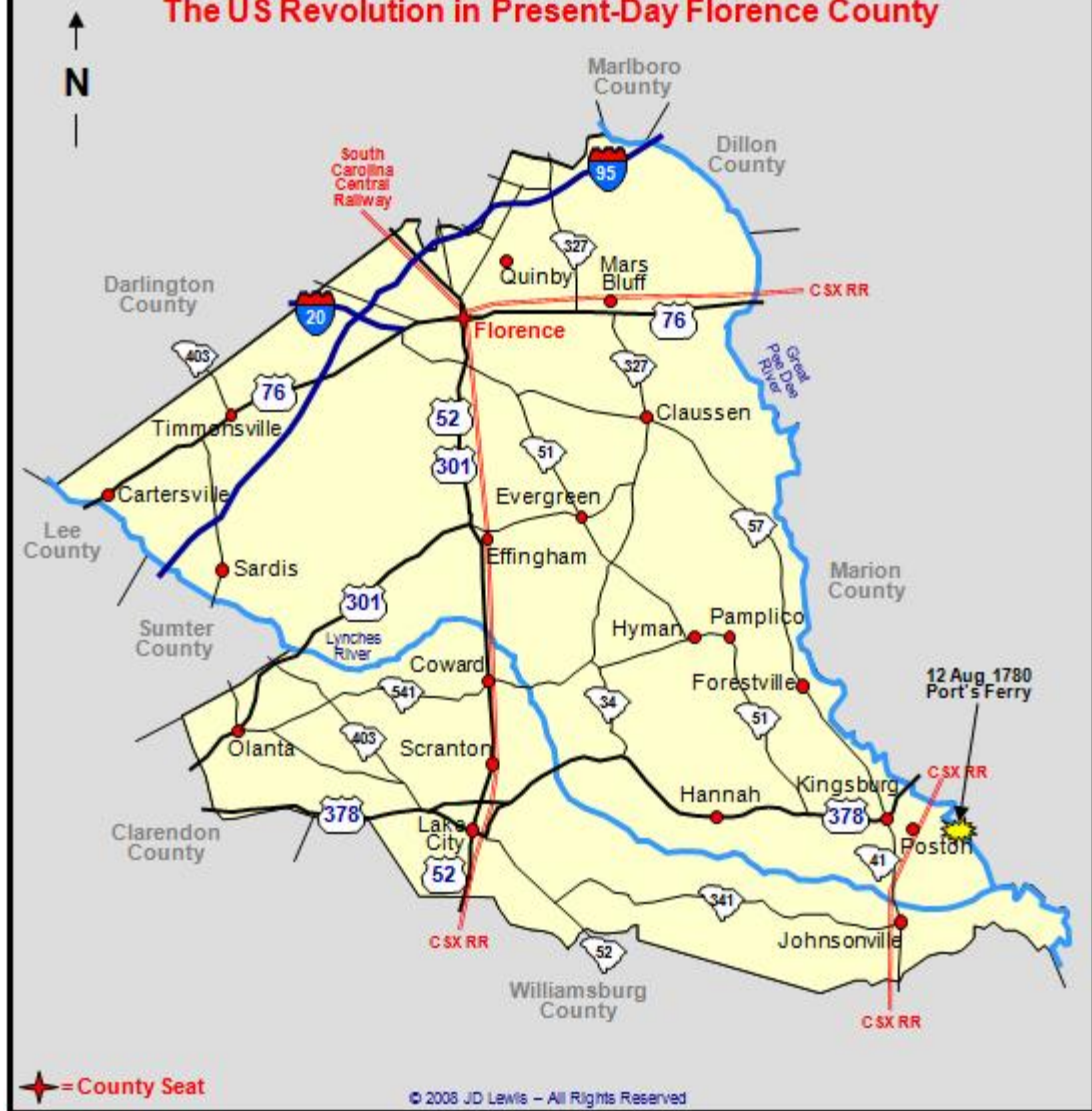
## 1780 – August

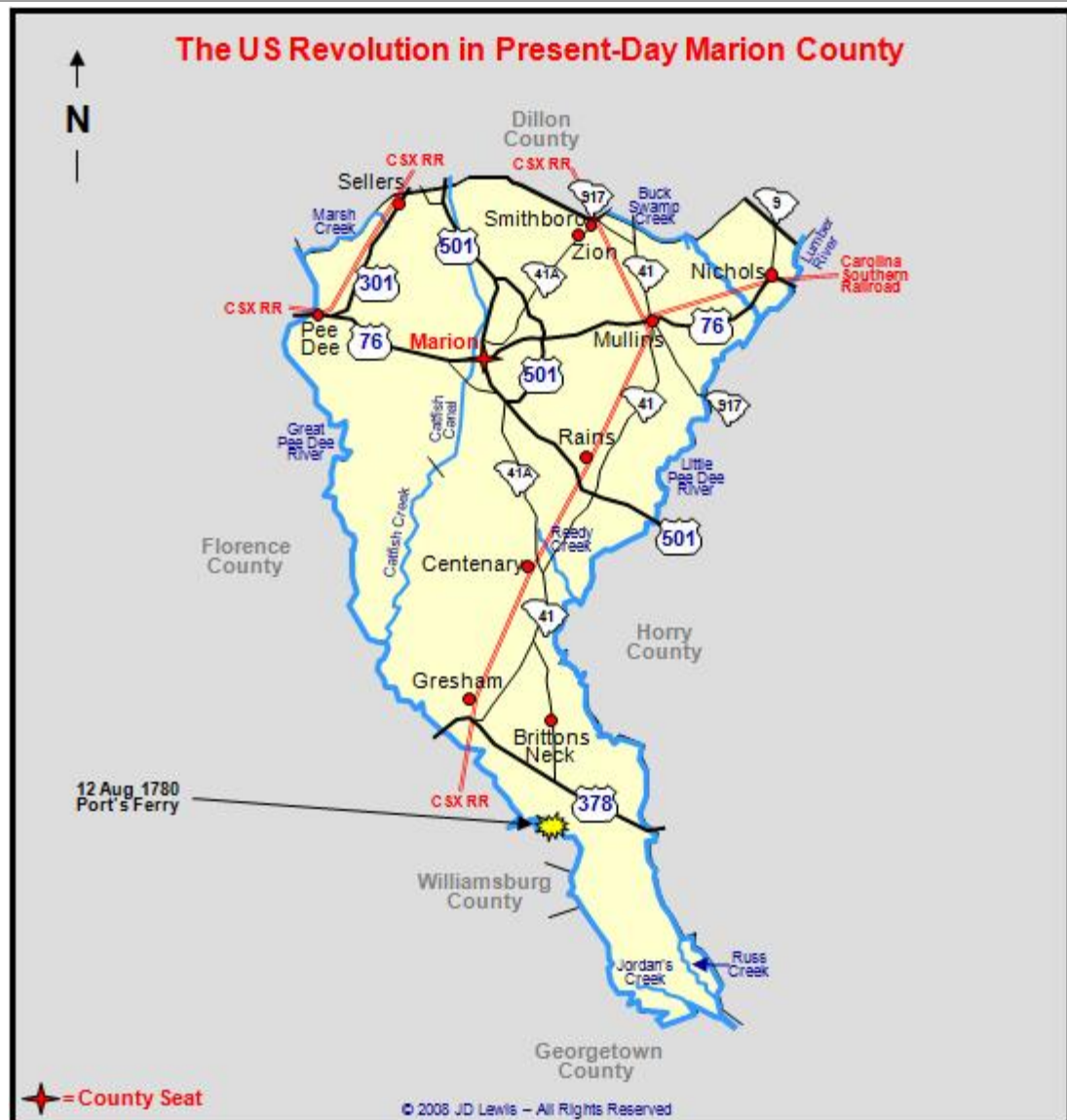
Port's Ferry August 12, 1780

Port's Ferry			
August 12, 1780			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Lt. Col. Francis Marion	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	2	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Florence County/ Marion County



## The US Revolution in Present-Day Florence County





Lt. Col. Francis Marion, the “Swamp Fox,” and his irregular cavalry force of 250, rout a party of Loyalists commanded by Major Micajah Gainey. Marion had two men wounded, while the losses of the Loyalists are unknown.

William Dobein James recounted this engagement as happening at Port's Ferry on August 12th, then wrapped up his description by stating that it ended at Blue Savannah.

It is very unlikely that the event happened on August 12th. The most likely is that William Dobein James got his dates mixed up and he is describing the events that took place on September 4th at [Blue Savannah](#).

To most historians, Francis Marion was still riding alongside Major General Horatio Gates in South Carolina, and he did not get orders to leave Gates until August 15th, when he was then sent to secure all boats along the Santee River, which he began immediately.

I leave it to the reader to decide for themselves on the date of this one.

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_ports\\_ferry.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_ports_ferry.html)

Lt. Col. Francis Marion fought his first skirmish (as Brigade Commander of SC Militia) with Tory calvary under Maj. Micajah Ganey. The Loyalists were routed and fled into the swamps. 1780 – 12 August – Port's Ferry.

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/SC\\_Revolutionary\\_War\\_Known\\_Battles\\_Skirmishes.htm](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/SC_Revolutionary_War_Known_Battles_Skirmishes.htm)

LTC. Francis Marion set his men in motion, two days after taking the command of the SC Militia and establishing Marion's Brigade. Crossing the Pedee at Port's Ferry, he advanced upon a large body of Tories commanded by Major Gainey, who held a position upon Britton's Neck. Gainey was considered by the British an excellent partisan officer, but he was caught napping. Marion moved with equal secrecy and celerity. (Simms, p.194).

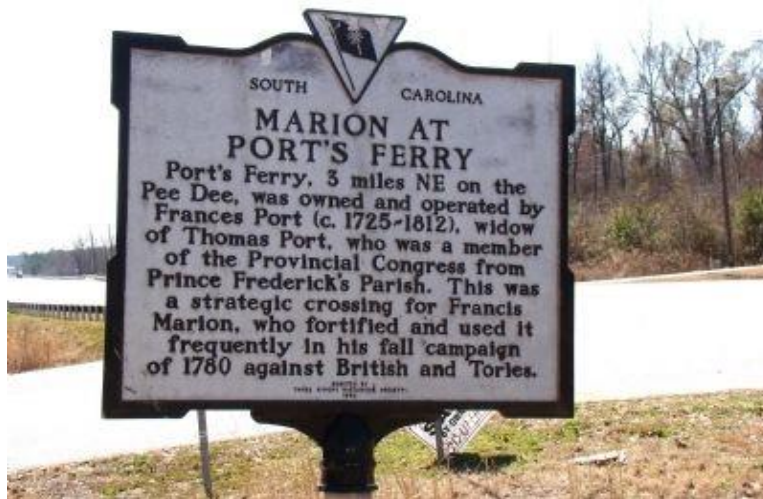
William Dobein James: "By the exertions of Gen. Marion and his officers, the spirits of the drooping militia began to revive. But about the 27th day of August, when, having the command of only one hundred and fifty men, he heard of the approach of Major Wemyss, above Kingstree, at the head of the 63d regiment, and a body of tories, under Maj. Harrison. Maj. James was instantly despatched, at the head of a company of volunteers, with orders to reconnoitre, and count them. Col. Peter Horry was called in, and the general crossed Lynch's creek, and advanced to give battle. The night after Maj. James received his orders, the moon shone brightly, and by hiding himself in a thicket, close to their line of march, he formed a good estimate of the force of the enemy. As their rear guard passed, he burst from his hiding place, and took some prisoners. On the same night, about an hour before day, Marion met the major half a mile from his plantation. The officers immediately dismounted, and retired to consult, and the men sat on their horses in a state of anxious suspense. The conference was long and animated. At the end of it, an order was given to direct the march back to Lynch's creek, and no sooner was

it given than a hollow groan might have been heard along the whole line. A bitter cup had now been mingled for the people of Williamsburgh and Pedee; and they were doomed to drain it to the dregs: but in the end it proved a salutary medicine. Maj. James reported the British force to be double that of Marion's; and Ganey's party of Tories in the rear, had always been estimated at five hundred men. In such a crisis, a retreat was deemed prudent.”(James, p. 399).

General Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox, fought his first skirmish with the Tory Cavalry, under the leadership of Major General Micajah Ganey, near Port's Ferry on the Big Pee Dee River, four miles south of Greshman, South Carolina. (Reed, p. 9).

In a few days after taking command, Marion led his men across the Pedee at Ports Ferry, to disperse a large party of tories commanded by Major Ganey, collected between the Great and Little Pedee. This Ganey was a great champion of the tories and stood high in their estimation as a partizan officer. Ganey and his band of Tories were encamped at a place called Britton s Neck. In secrecy, Marion formed his plan, marched rapidly all night, and came upon the tories at day-break. He paused not an instant, but rigorously attacked their camp, and the surprise and disaster was complete ; one of the Tory captains and several of their privates were slain. Of Marion s men not one was lost, and only two wounded. (Moore, p. 65).

Lieutenant Colonel Francis Marion had his men place white cockades on their hats to distinguish them from the Loyalists. They crossed the PeeDee river at Ports Ferry to attack Major Micajah Ganey and a large body of crown forces stationed on Britton's Neck between the Great and Little PeeDee Rivers. The tactical move surprised the Loyalists who lost a captain and several privates. Marion had only two men wounded. (Desmarais, p. 41).



### Marion At Ports Ferry Historical Marker

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=27932>

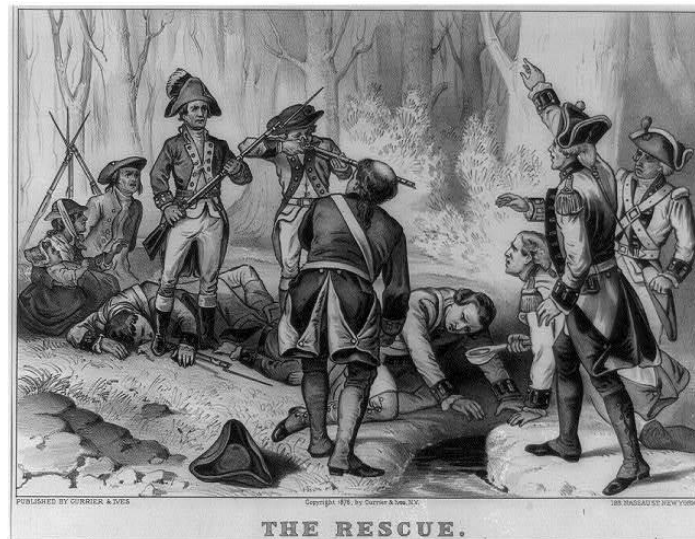
\*Additional commentary mentions Micajah Ganey.

### 1780 – September

Major Micajah Ganey led loyalist dragoons, including Capt. Jesse Barefield who had been a leader of the SC Continantal Regiments, against Marion with his 53 men, wearing white cockades in hats, on September 4, but Marion defeated the Loyalists. General Cornwallis sent Major James Wemyss against Marion on the Santee, and he burned the homes of Marion's men. Marion decided to break up his militia and flee to the NC border into the Great White Marsh. Wemyss continued to burn homes of rebels in SC, especially with help of Captain Amos Gaskens who was "an evil man whose soul had been soiled by hatred" who identified the rebel homes, and caused the Presbyterian church at Indian Town to be burned. Wemyss killed sheep and cattle and destroyed mills and blacksmith shops and allowed British units to plunder at will, ultimately, hung Adam Cusacks for breaking parole, and burned home of Dr. James Wilson who attempted to prevent the hanging. Wemyss burned over 50 homes by September 20, 1780. Marion went into hiding in the Great White Marsh until September 24, then went through the Little Pee Dee Swamp to Port's Ferry with 60 men. Marion defeated the Loyalists at the Battle of Black Mingo September 28. Marion was blamed for atrocities he did not commit, some of which were due to Captain Maurice Murphy who burned Tory



homes and killed innocent civilians. Col. Hugh Ervin also burned loyalist homes. Marion's forces fought against Tories and British soldiers again near Port's Ferry (near the Ariel Crossroads), at the Battle of Blue Savannah. Colonel Hugh Giles, the highest ranking military leader in eastern South Carolina during the Revolutionary War, served under Marion at Blue Savannah, joining in the defeat of the Tory forces commanded by Ganey. It was against Ganey's Tories that, Marion fought at Blue Savannah on the Little PeeDee in Marion's first engagement on Pee Dee soil after he took command of four companies of Williamsburg militia near Witherspoon's Ferry on Lynches River in the latter part of 1780. (Rogers, James A. *"At Blue Savannah The Tide Turned.."* Florence Moring News. Florence, South Carolina. Sunday September 30, 1973, p.4).



The Rescue: This 1876 drawing by Currier & Ives depicts Marion and his men rescuing 150 captured Maryland troops from the Battle of Camden, causing the British to go after Marion and leading to the Battle at Blue Savannah.

The action of the rescue was at Horse Creek, August 20, 1780, also known as "Nelson's Ferry and Great Savannah."

Action at Great Savannah/Nelson's Ferry

[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_great\\_savannah.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_great_savannah.html) and [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_nelsons\\_ferry.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_nelsons_ferry.html)

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In consistency with British policy of fighting Americans with Americans, General Cornwallis ordered the Loyalist militia to cooperate with Major Wemyss. In response Major Micajah Ganey called out the Tories between PeeDee and Little PeeDee Rivers. On September 4th, 1780, he marched to surprise Marion. But having learned of Ganey's plans, Marion also marched before day and at Blue Savannah on Little PeeDee ambushed and routed Ganey. (Bass, Gamecock, p. 89).

Although most of the Scotch-Irish of the Britton's Neck area were rebellious in nature, not all of their lineages were. On Catfish Creek, the little PeeDee, and the tributaries of Drowning Creek, many remained loyal to the crown. Under the leadership of Major Micajah Ganey they had formed themselves into a loyalist regiment of militia; they were joined by a number of Tories from Bladen County North Carolina. Serving as second in command of this unit was Captain Jesse Barefield, who at one time had served in one of the South Carolina Continental Regiments. The news that General Francis Marion was on Britton's Neck spread through the settlements. Major Micajah Ganey, a handsome and intelligent man, also had a violent temper which sometimes impaired his intellect, and now he felt compelled to eliminate this new threat to his future. Major Ganey sent out a call for his loyalist militia and at least 250 came in. Before daylight on September 4th, Ganey set out to surprise Marion. Ganey rode out in front with 45 man vanguard, while Barfield followed with the infantry.

Marion's man, Major James, an impetuous fellow, immediately gave forth with a huzza, and shouting for his men to follow him, plunged forward. His men came on behind him in a great rush. James recognized Ganey and selected him as a personal foe. As his men scattered before the sudden charge, Ganey wheeled his horse and fled. James, without looking back to see if his men were following, dashed off in pursuit. Within half a mile Ganey pulled up to join a party of his men who had halted and were preparing to defend themselves from the cover of a thicket. James realized his men were not following him. His mind working quickly, he drove forward, shouting back over his shoulder, "Come on my boys! Come on! Here they are! Here they are!" Without waiting to check the size of the group James supposedly was leading, the Tories leaped upon their horses and fled wildly through the forest. Of Ganey's advanced guard only 15 men escaped; the rest had all been wounded or killed. Later in the action Captain Barefield and his infantry

were defeated by Marion in a unique and daring ambushade.  
(Rankin, pp.69-71).

The Tories we're already coming after Marion. On September 3, 1780, while camped in the Britton's Neck area, Marion learned from spies that a large band of Tory militia from the Catfish Creek and Little PeeDee regions to the north were on the march and planning to attack him by surprise the next day. They were led by Major Micajah Ganey, a hotheaded ex-patriot who had served under Marion in the 2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina Regiment. Ganey had switched sides because a Whig (Captain Maurice Murphy) had stolen some of his horses. Ganey's second in command was Captain Jesse Barefield, also a former 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment member - he fought with Marion at Fort Sullivan - who joined the Tories because he felt he'd been insulted by a rebel officer. Now strident Loyalists, Ganey and Barefield would remain nemeses of Marion for much of the war, posing an ongoing threat to Marion's dominance in the PeeDee region north of Georgetown. (Oller, pp.59-61).

Blue Savannah - August 13, 1780 Historical Marker #1 (date incorrect ....  
September 4, 1780. <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=18080>



#1. Battle of Blue Savannah Marker

## Battle of Blue Savannah – Historical Marker Historical Marker #2

<https://www.scdar.org/bssf-scrapbook>



### #2. Battle of Blue Savannah Marker

(Front) On Sept. 3, 1780, Lt. Col. Francis Marion led his men to Port's Ferry, south of here, where they crossed the Pee Dee River. Before dawn on Sept. 4, Marion's mounted command of about 53 men marched and attacked an advance part of loyalist militia volunteers in Maj. Micajah Ganey's force, led by Capt. Jesse Barfield.

(Reverse) During a second skirmish, occurring roughly three miles north, in the vicinity of a Carolina Bay known as Blue Savannah, Marion again attacked and dispersed a larger detachment of approximately 200 loyalists. Marion's victory here encouraged new recruits to join his force. Reinforcements to the local Tory militia, however, soon forced the Patriot militia leaders to withdraw from here into N.C.

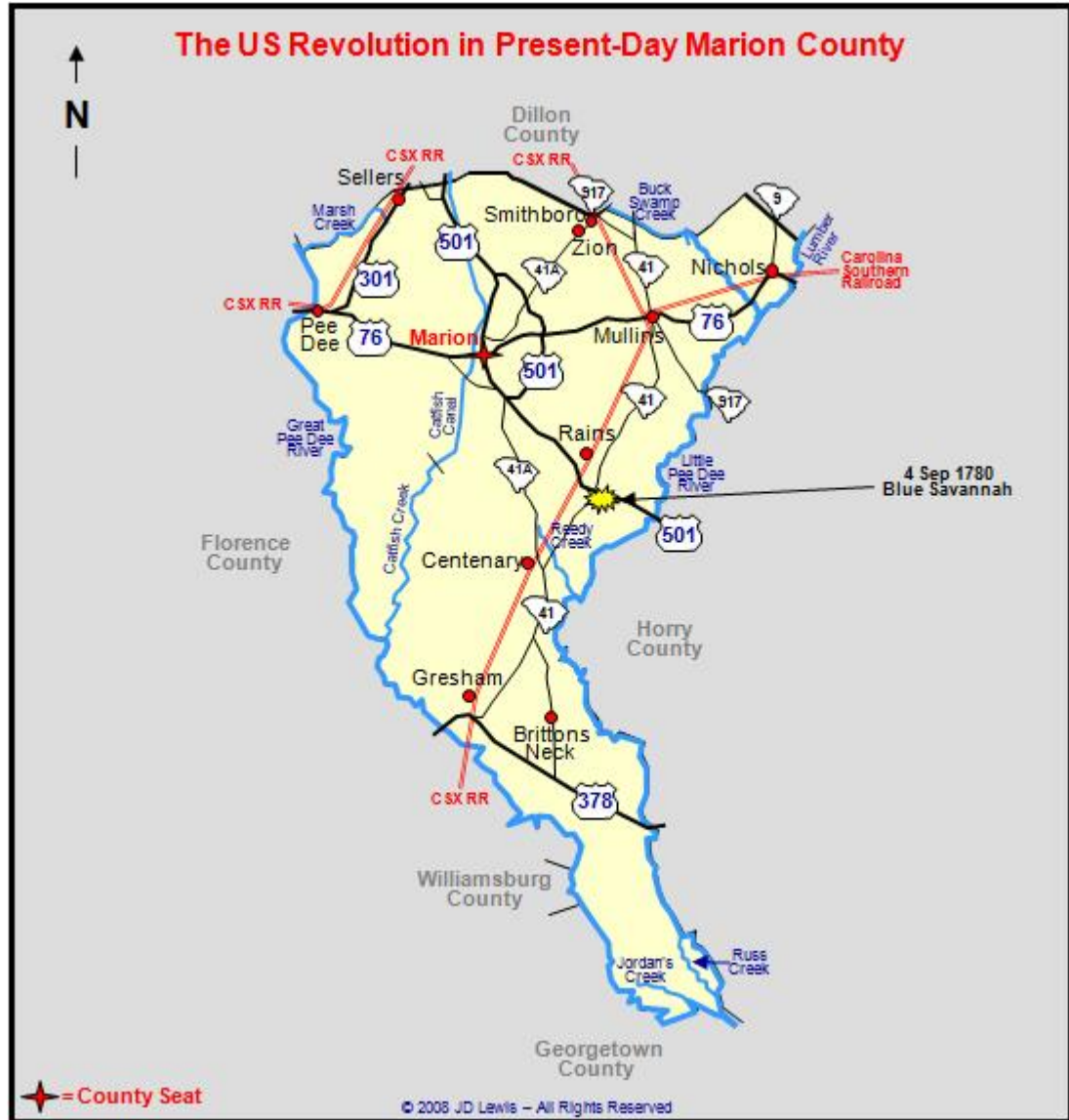
Erected by Blue Savannah-Swamp Fox Chapter, D.A.R., 2016

GPS Coordinates: 34° 4.202' N, 79° 18.421' W†

### The Battle of Blue Savannah

Blue Savannah			
September 4, 1780			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Col. Francis Marion	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	30

<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	4	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	included in above
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Marion County



Col. Francis Marion with a small force of Patriots successfully ambushed and drove off a large force of Loyalists that outnumbered him almost four to one.

At a Loyalist settlement on the Little Pee Dee River, Col. Francis Marion ran into a troop of Major Micajah Gainey's horsemen, who were blocking the road. Major John James charged them, and Major Gainey took off down the road as his men scattered.



Col. Marion learned that Major Gainey's camp was only three miles away. He rode towards them and in ten minutes met the Loyalists in full march towards his men. Loyalist Capt. Jesse Barefield formed his men into a line and stood his ground. Col. Marion knew to attack a much larger force like this was foolhardy, so he signaled a retreat and moved back to set up an ambush.

He concealed his men at Blue Savannah, an open sandy area surrounded by scrub pines. Capt. Barefield led his men right into the ambush. Col. Marion charged with 50 men, weapons firing and swords flying. Capt. Barefield's men sent one volley that hit three men, and then his men broke and ran. Col. Marion's men pursued to the edge of the nearby swamp but did not penetrate it. They knew that a cornered enemy was very dangerous.

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Col. Francis Marion - Commanding Officer	Major Micajah Gainey - Commanding Officer
Kingstree Regiment of Militia detachment led by Lt. Col. Hugh Horry and Major John James, with four (4) known companies, led by:	Col. Robert Gray's Regiment of Loyalist Militia detachment led by Capt. Jesse Barefield
- Capt. John James, Jr.	Little Pee Dee Company of Loyalist Militia led by Capt. "Unknown"
- Capt. John McCauley	Total Loyalist Forces - 250
- Capt. Robert McCottry	-
- Capt. William McCottry	-
Lower Craven County Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by:	-
- Capt. Henry Mouzon	-
Total Patriot Forces - 72	-

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_blue\\_savannah.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_blue_savannah.html)

4 September (also given as 12 or 15 August)<sup>410</sup>. [skirmish] Blue Savannah, also Port's Ferry (Marion County, S.C.) Marion, and Maj. John James, with (according to Marion) 52 mounted men dispersed Maj. Micajah Ganey and Capt. Jesse Barfield who had 200 to 250 loyalists in their camp on the Little Pee Dee River. Ganey and Barfield themselves had intended to attack Marion the next day. Along with Ganey was a small detachment of the 63rd Regiment. Ganey's own force had 45, 30 of these were killed or wounded, while Ganey and the rest of his force were dispersed. The same day, Capt. Jesse Barfield with 200 loyalists (and possibly included in this number a small detachment of the 63rd Regiment) attempted to attack Marion, but was himself ambushed in the attempt near Blue Savannah on

Britton's Neck where Marion had retreated after his attack on Ganey. Barfield's men fled into Little Pee Dee Swamp. Marion lost four men wounded, two horses killed. (Sherman, p. 122).

September 4, 1780, the Bravery of Swamp Fox wins recruits at Blue Savannah. Patriot Francis Marion's Carolina militia routs Loyalists at Blue Savannah, South Carolina, and in the process Marion wins new recruits to the Patriot cause.

Following their surprising success at Nelson's Ferry on the Santee River in South Carolina on August 20, Lieutenant Colonel Francis "The Swamp Fox" Marion and 52 of his militiamen rode east in order to evade pursuing British Loyalists. They were successful, but during their escape, another, much larger, force of Loyalists led by Major Micajah Ganey, attacked the militia from the northeast. Marion's advance guard, led by Major John James, routed Ganey's advance guard and Marion ambushed the rest, causing Ganey's main body of 200 Loyalists to panic and flee. The success of Marion's militia broke the Loyalist stronghold on South Carolina east of the Pee Dee River and attracted another 60 volunteers to the Patriot cause. (*The Swamp Fox wins the Battle of Blue Savannah* - September 4, 1780 <https://www.revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com/swamp-fox-wins-battle-of-blue-savannah.html>).

Marion would return to South Carolina when he learned that two former 2nd South Carolina officers, Jesse Barfield and Micajah Ganey, had switched sides, and were organizing a Loyalist militia in the area. Marion rode south, down the Lumber River, and would hit his former comrades at Blue Savannah. Blue Savannah was located where State Road 41 and US 501 cross in Marion County.

Although many of the Scotch-Irish in the Britton's Neck region supported the rebellion, some had remained loyal to the Crown. Under Major Micajah Gainey (Ganey), a former member of the 2nd South Carolina, the Little Pee Dee Company and other Loyalists had been organized from the Catfish and Downing Creek areas in the colony's northeast. Reinforced with elements of the 63rd Regiment and militia from Bladen County, just across the North Carolina border, Gainey intended to surprise his rebel adversary, and set off with a 45-man vanguard before dawn on September 4. The remainder of his force, some 80 mounted and 125 infantry militia, followed, likely under another former regiment member and competent commander, Captain Jesse Barfield (Barefield), who had left the rebel cause after being denied promotion. (Higgins, pp. 42-47).

Marion's engagement after Horse Creek occurred at Blue Savannah on September 4, 1780, against Loyalists commanded by Major Micajah Ganey. Ganey lived on a large plantation between Catfish Creek and the Little PeeDee River. Ganey raised a regiment of militia from the population of Catfish Creek, the Little PeeDee River, and the tributaries of Drowning Creek. Also, a number of loyalists from Bladen County, North Carolina joined these Tories led by Gainey. The regiment also contained a troop of 80 dragoons commanded by Captain Jesse Barefield, Gainey's second in command.

Once news of Marion's encampment reached the Loyalists, Ganey put out the call for the Tory militia. A force of at least 250 men gathered under the Royal banner at the Little PeeDee River.

Before dawn on Monday, September 4th, 1780, Ganey confidently led an attempt to surprise Marion's force with advance dragoons and directed Jesse Barfield to follow with the infantry. Marion, with his earlier intelligence set out to turn the tables on Ganey and his force by taking the Tories by surprise. Marion sent forth Major James and a select group of horsemen as an advanced guard. Major James made contact with his wily foe (Major Micajah Ganey) after two hours of mounted movement through the sandhills covered with scrub oaks and other brush and swamps containing black gum trees. During this movement a scout reported that a Tory company of 45 mounted men blocked the road ahead. James alerted his men and ordered a charge. During the charge, the patriots recognized Ganey as the Tory leader. Startled by the sudden charge, Ganey and his men scattered and soon fled. James followed and pursued only to find that his men were not behind him. The Tories, in the meantime, had halted about half a mile down the road and were preparing to defend themselves from the concealment of a thicket. James, in a deceptive move, quickly started shouting back over his shoulder, "Come on, my boys! Here they are!" The Tories, thinking that James men were close at hand, mounted their horses and fled, not stopping until they reached the Little PeeDee swamp. The retreat of Ganey's men was so sudden that no one had warned Jesse Barfield and the infantry. At that point in the engagement, Major James had one man wounded. Of Ganey's advance guard of 45 men, only 15 had escaped the rest were killed, wounded, or captured. Marion seeing that Barfield was within range with about 200 men quickly feigned a retreat and went as far as the Blue Savannah. Marion concealed his men in the thick underbrush behind a screen of pine saplings and waited to ambush Barfield's men. As Barfield's infantry reached the ambush site, Marion's men attacked, riding among the Loyalists. Many of the Loyalists managed one volley but with no mounted troops to protect them while they

reloaded, the terrified infantry broke and ran into the surrounding woods and the Little PeeDee swamp. Casualties were light, with three or four men wounded and two horses killed. Ganey's Loyalists no longer existed as an organized fighting force as they had sustained 30 casualties. Despite the route most of the Tories who escaped soon made their way back to their homes to be rallied for another day. After the engagement, Marion's men returned to Ports Ferry. Loyalist power east of the PeeDee River was temporarily broken. (Aiken, pp. 111-113).

#### 5- 8 September

The 5th, about 60 volunteers joined Marion, bringing his force strength up to about 110. On the 7th, he then proceeded to fortify Port's Ferry, on the eastern bank of the Pee Dee, having with him for that purpose two small field pieces. At the time, Wemyss was still in the neighborhood of Kingstree with roughly 270 men, and awaiting reinforcements from Camden. William Dobein James: "On the second or third day after his arrival, General Marion ordered his men to mount white cockades, to distinguish themselves from the tories, and crossed the Pedee, at Port's ferry, to disperse a large body of tories, under Major Ganey, stationed on Britton's neck, between great and little Pedee. He surprised them at dawn in the morning, killed one of their captains and several privates, and had two men wounded. Major James was detached at the head of a volunteer troop of horse, to attack their horse; he came up with them, charged, and drove them before him. In this affair, Major James singled out Major Ganey, as the object of his single attack. At his approach Ganey fled, and he pursued him closely, and nearly within the reach of his sword, for half a mile; when behind a thicket, he came upon a party of tories, who had rallied. Not at all intimidated, but with great presence of mind, Major James called out, "'Come on my boys! -- Here they are!' And the whole body of tories broke again, and rushed into little Pedee swamp. Another party of Tories lay higher up the river, under the command of Capt. Barefield; who had been a soldier in one of the South Carolina regiments. These stood to their ranks, so well, and appeared to be so resolute, that Gen. Marion did not wish to expose his men, by an attack on equal terms; he therefore feigned a retreat, and led them into an ambushade, near the Blue Savannah, where they were defeated. This was the first manoeuvre of the kind, for which he afterwards became so conspicuous." (Sherman p. 122).

By practicing the tactic of retreat Francis Marion prevented the destruction of his small force in August - September of 1780. He was faced with the convergence of larger British and Tory units under Major James Wemyss and Major Micajah Ganey, Marion temporarily left his area of operations for the great White Marsh in

North Carolina. This action prevented the British from destroying his partisan unit, which would have resulted in dire consequences for the revolution in South Carolina. (Aiken p. 39).



From *The Elusive Swamp Fox* by George F. Scheer – photo courtesy of Culver Service

7-8 September. Leaving 50 men to guard Port's Ferry, Marion marched with 100 men to Indiantown. But after then learning of the forces under Wemyss, Ball, Wigfall, and Ganey now reportedly moving directly against him, Marion retreated back to Port's Ferry, dismantled the fort, and withdrew the field pieces there. In the days which followed, he crossed the Little Pee Dee River, spiked his two cannon and then abandoned them in the swamp. He then proceeded to Amis Mill on the south side of Drowning Creek where he halted. After sending out Maj. John James on a scouting mission, Marion then took his force to the Great White Marsh, on the south branch of the Waccamaw River, (located in present day Columbus County, N.C.) and went into hiding. While there he kept in contact with Brig. Gen. Harrington at Cross Creek. Not a few of his men at this time were suffering from malaria and ague, including Col. Peter Horry. Marion, from White Marsh in Bladen County, N.C., wrote Gates on 15 September 1780:



Letter from Colonel Francis Marion to General Horatio Gates:

Sir;

I wrought you by Mr. Simons the 29th Augt (pr Express,) who is not yet returned. I have not been able to learn any thing of your Situation, which has very much Disparited the friends to America. I have sent the Prisoners I took the 25th, Augt. with the Continentals to Wilmington. Many of the later has left me, & my Situation growing more Critical, I could not possible harm them any longer.

On the 3d Inst: I had Advice that upwards of two hundred Toreys intended to Attack me the next day, I immediately marched with 53 men, which is all I could get. On the 4th in the morning I surprised a party of 45 men, which I mistook for the main body. I kill'd and wounded all but 15 which Escaped [Ganey was one of the 15 who escaped]. I then marched immediately to attack the main body, which I meet about 3 miles in full march towards me. I Directly Attackt them & put them to flight (though they had 200 men) & got in to an Impassible Swamp to all but Toreys. I had one man wounded in the the first action, & 3 in the Second, & two horses killed. Finding it impossible to come at them, I returned to Camp. The next day I was informed they all Disperst. On the 5th I was Joined by about 60 men; I then throughed np a small redoubt, to secure my camp from being surprised by the toreys should they again collect; on the 7th I crossed P. D, & Lynches creek with one hundred men, & Left 50 to secure my camp & the river, to attack a party of regulars & militia sd to be 150, which was in Williamsbourgh township, a Burning all the houses of those men who had Joind me. When I had got to Indian town Capt. James, who I had sent to reconetre the Enemy meet me; he had taken a prisoner belonging to Colo. Ferguson riffle regt., by whom I learnt that they was 200 British & a number of Toreys, & that Majr. Whimes with 200 more was to Join them that night. They was seen after Dark on their march, & by an Orderly book taken with an Officer's baggage with the above prisoner I found their Intention was to remove me & proceed to the Cheraws. I also had Intelligence that 200 men post regulars, had arrived in Georgetown from Santee, which Oblige me to return to my camp, which I did that Day On the 8th I had Intelligence that they Majr. Whimes had Crossed Lynches Creek, Come on my front, & those In Georgtown had crossed Black river & Whaney to fall on my rear. The Toreys which I had Lately Disperst [Ganey's Tories] was collecting on my right, which

woud Compleatly surround me & cut of my retreat, which Oblige me to retreat to this place with 60 men the rest Left me to see after their family, which had their houses burnt; they have Burnt a Number of houses on Black river, Lynches Creek & Wallaman (Waccamaw?) I shall remain here until I hear from you or I have an Oppertunity of Doing something.

I have the honour to be, with respect,

yr. most Obt. Serva.

FRAN. MARION.

Gibbes, Vol.14, pp. 616-618.

<https://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/index.php/document/csr14-0518>

Mid September. Cornwallis was encamped at the Waxhaws settlement. Bryan's refugees, 4 pieces of cannon, 50 wagons and a detachment of cavalry marched by Hanging Rock toward the Catawba settlement, while the British Legion with a three pounder crossed the Wateree, and moved up the east side of the river. Scarcity of forage in Waxhaws was cause of this dividing of forces. Around this same time, Colonel Hector MacNeil was embodying some loyalist in the Drowning Creek area of North Carolina, while Ganey's loyalists had collected at Catfish Creek along Little Pee Dee, and Barfield's between Drowning Creek and the Little Pee Dee. (Sherman, p. 126).

Black Mingo Creek, September 29, 1780

It was at this engagement that Francis Marion successfully avoided the converging forces of larger British and Tory units under Major James Wemyss and Major Micajah Ganey. They had been sent out to exact British vengeance on the Patriots but Marion had dispersed his men and retreated to the great White Marsh in North Carolina with only about 60 partisans. During Marion's absence, Wemyss ram sacked the Williamsburg district in an attempt to suppress the Patriot population.

Black Mingo September 28-29, 1780

[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_black\\_mingo.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_black_mingo.html)

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David Watts Revolutionary War Pension Statement

<http://revwarapps.org/s18267.pdf>

He (David Watts) was also in an engagement with the Tories commanded by Colonel Watson and Major Ganey [Micajah Ganey] at Black Mingo Bridge. In this affair General Marion completely surprised them by covering the Bridge with the

blankets of the soldiers and crossing men and horses over on them. The Tories were defeated, many killed and Major Ganey wounded.

After the battle of Black Mingo, Francis Marion received credit for the misdeeds of others. There had been atrocities, but some had been committed by those renegades who also found a way of taking advantage of unsettled conditions and roam about the countryside terrorizing and plundering the inhabitants, always claiming fidelity to the opposite party from that of their victims. Locally these men were termed “outliers,” and truly hated by Whig and Tory alike. But most of the troubles laid on the Loyalists at this time should have been blamed on one Captain Maurice Murphy. Patriot though he was, Murphy seems to have been an evil and sadistic man, who's greatest pleasure came from the suffering of others. After evicting the families of known Tories, he burned their homes. Upon one occasion, after Ganey's defeat at the Blue Savannah, he rode through the country in search of Loyalist survivors. On Catfish Creek he blatantly shot the father of three Blackman boys who were in service as patriots. Seemingly Blackman had refused to renounce his allegiance to his King, therefore he was trust to a gate post and flogged with 150 lashes. Captain Maurice Murphy was also reported to have shot his own uncle, Gideon Gibson, after an outrageous outburst. So there were many who were terrified of him and sought protest. Francis Marion had little use for Murphy or others of his ilk and referred to his raids as that “abominable work,” and he rightfully feared that he would receive the blame for Murphy's depredations. (Rankin, pp. 88-89).

Some men under Marion had indeed taken to house burning in retaliation for Major Wemyss's demolition policy. One of the homes Wemyss burned was that of Moses Murphy, a relation of Maurice Murphy a captain in Marion's brigade. Maurice Murphy needed little impetus to seek revenge. Murphy was a patriot of “unforgivable passion, which was often inflamed by strong drink.” He was the man who had stolen Micajah Ganey's horses, causing Ganey to become a Tory. Marion even wrote apologetically to General Gates to say that Murphy was still burning houses and Marion would have none of it. Depredations of that sort he told Gates, “will be the greatest hurt to our interest.” However, Murphy was allowed to stay, presumably with a stern warning by Marion and there were no more reports of house burnings by him. Later promoted to a militia major and then to colonel in Marion's brigade, he performed a valuable function by frequently engaging Ganey

and Barfield in the Little PeeDee region, keeping them occupied while Marion was attending to more urgent matters. (Oller, pp.64-65).



Francis Marion – the “Swamp Fox” – 1732-1795

## **1780 – October**

There were Patriots who burned houses, distressed women and children up on Drowning Creek and guilty of great malicious intent to steal and harm... the most notorious miscreant being Captain Maurice Murphy. Francis Marion despised Murphy. He detested any man who was cruel, overbearing, or bigoted. Marion's own motives were pure, his actions inspired by love of country, and to him the shooting of defenseless people, the flogging of a septuagenarian, or the burning of a home just emptied of women and children, was abominable. Marion condemned the Captain in his report to General Gates.

Letter from Francis Marion to General Gates.

Drowning Creek, S.C. 4<sup>th</sup> October 1780

Sir;

I sat out from the White Marsh on Sunday evening 24<sup>th</sup> September and took a tour to Kingston, from whence I turned and crossed Little PeeDee at Woodberry's and made a forced march across Big PeeDee to Black Mingo, where was a guard of 47 men of the militia of Saint James Santee and Saint Stephens, commanded by Captain Cummin Ball, which I immediately attacked about 12:00 o'clock PM on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September; they had intelligence of our coming and drew up near a swamp and received our fire within 30 yards which they returned twice and then took into the swamp -- we killed three dead on the spot and wounded one, took 13 prisoners, my loss was Captain Logan of the Continentals and one private killed,

one Captain and one Lieutenant and six privates wounded -- I have since heard that several of their men has been found dead, and buried in the swamp and adjoining woods -- all their horses and baggage fell in our hands -- it was my intention to break up another guard at Black River Church of 50 men, but so many of my followers were so desirous to see their wives and family which have been burnt out, that I found it necessary to retreat the next morning across Big PeeDee at Britton's ferry to this place, and have delivered Colonel Brown nine of the prisoners taken at Black Mingo and three of the 63rd regiment taken at the great Savannah sometime ago, which I parole to a house on account of their being sick and incapable of marching.

The prisoners taken are men of family and fortune which I hope maybe a check to the militia taking arms against us. I must beg that these men who have a cross before their names in the enclosed list maybe showed as much favor as possible, as they had showed themselves, before this last action to be good men -- I would not give them Paroles as I thought it would be acknowledging them to the British subjects and would give my followers great discontent, for the British imprison all those who are our friends and have hanged one Cusag for breaking his parole. I am sorry to acquaint you that Captain Murphy's Party have burnt a great number of houses on Little PeeDee, and intend to go on in that abominable work -- which I am apprehensive may be laid to me; but I assure you, there is not one house burnt by my orders or by any of my people, it is what I detest to destroy poor women and children ---

The British marched from Georgetown for Camden the 29th of September; It is said 220 men, part of the marines -- Major Wymess is at the Cheraw with about 90 men of the 63rd regiment burning and plundering negroes and everything in their way; The Tories are so affrightened with my little excursion that many are moving off to Georgia with their effects, others are run into the swamps. If I could raise 100 men, I should certainly pay a visit to Georgetown, my whole party has not been none more than 60 men of all ranks. I expect General Harrington will be by this near Cheraw, where I mean to join him with Colonel Brown (about 100) who is within 8 miles of me, and remove Major Wymess from his Post -- I have great fatigues but I surmount every difficulty and I am happy with the assistance of Major King and Captain Milton who are excellent officers. Major Vanderhorst I have received also great assistance from, the little time he has been with me -- I have sent him with a flag to Santee to get clothes and necessaries for the prisoners, by whom I hope to gain some intelligence.

Please present my compliments to General Hugar and Major Richmond.

I am with respect your Honors most obedant servant.

Francis Marion

(Bass, *The Swamp Fox*, pp.68-70).

Marion woke his men early on October 8 and rode 65 miles to Georgetown by noon. Stopping 2 miles short of the town, he scouted his objective to get an accurate idea of the defenses awaiting him. The following day he sent a 30-man vanguard ahead under Peter Horry to Georgetown's north end to draw the enemy garrison's attention, while the remainder of Marion's force wheeled around to attack the redoubt from a second direction. En route, Peter Horry clashed with Gainey's Loyalists before driving them back toward the town. During the subsequent pursuit, a man of Peter Horry's (one of the three who had joined Marion after Nelson's Ferry) thrust his bayonet into the Loyalist leader; the blade separated from the guerrilla's gun as Gainey remained in the saddle while his horse entered the town. Eventually recovering from the wound, Gainey found that his desire for fighting had been satiated, and eventually defected from the British. Meanwhile, Marion entered Georgetown without opposition, but found roughly 70 Loyalists taking shelter near the central brick jailhouse. Finding the nearby redoubt too formidable, Marion demanded their surrender but was curtly rejected by the commander, Colonel Cassells. After an attempt to bait the garrison from its position also failed, and word arrived that enemy reinforcements crossing the Santee River were en route, Marion paraded his men through the town, collected six of the garrison's horses and some baggage, and paroled several Loyalists. Not wanting to be cornered against the coast, Marion led his command over the Black River and headed for the swamps along the Little Pee Dee near the North Carolina border. (Higgins, p. 53)

Learning that Major Ganey had gathered the Tories drubbed at Blue Savannah and reinforced those under Colonel Benjamin Cassells at Georgetown, Marion decided to visit the little seaport. Upon the approach of Marion's advanced guard on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1780, Ganey and his Tories charged out to meet them. As the squadrons galloped past each other, redheaded Sergeant McDonald, a Scott from Cross Creek and one of Marion's staunchest fighters, slew Lieutenant Evans with his sword. When the furious swordsman turned upon other Tories, Ganey wheeled back and fled. For two miles the Scotsman pursued him, straining and slashing, while their horses heaved and snorted. As they turned Richmond corner,



McDonald stood in his stirrups and lunged with his musket, the polished bayonet plunging into the back and bursting through the breast of Ganey. “They were the most active persons against us,” Marion said in reporting the fight with Evans and Ganey, “and they were the head of all the Tories on the lower part of PeeDee.” (Bass, *Gamecock*, pp.94-95. )



South Carolina in 1776 (adapted by R. S. Lambert from James Cook, 1773)

Letter from Francis Marion to Horatio Gates

October 15, 1780

Volume 14, Pages 621-622

Sir;

On Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst: I set off from Mr. Grime's Sixty five miles from George town, & made a sure march, & gott in the town by 12 OC. the next Day my Advance party meet Captn. Garney (Major Ganey) & his Lt. Evanes about two miles from the town. They persued them & killed the Latter & mortally wounded the Captn. They ware the most active persons against us, & the head of all the torey's on the Lower part of Peedee. I found Colo. Cassell In a redoubt which enclosed the Jail, a Brick Building. After reconnoitring it around, I found it too strong to Storm it with such men as I had & it was Defended by Seventy men of the Militia, which I attempt to Draw out after their refusing to Surrender, but hearing of a Large party Coming over Santee I retreated over Black river, after parrading through the town, a Galley Laying before it. We took Six horses & some Baggage which belonged to the men in the redoubt. All the Dsaffected had removed with their property over Santee, as all most all the Inhabitants had done which Lived on the North Side. They are in the greatest terror Emaginnable. I sand by this Oppertunity Captn. Brown of Georgtown District, who is the Principle of those who are Against us in that part, & have taken Captn. M. Corthy & Number of other persons which I have Given Poroles, to remain at their Dwelling till you please to call for them. Mr. Drake & Roberts, taken in the Black mingo affair, I now send. They could not go on, on Account of their wounds. I hope these Last Gentlemen may be favored as much as possible, tho I wish they may be Detained as prisoners for a Check to the British, who have a number of our friends in Confinement. As soon as you move forwards I shall be Able to collect a body to prevent the Enemy from Driving off Stock from this side Santee.

I Believe it will be in my power to release the Officers that are Confined at Haddrels point, if they will be clear of their parole which they have Given to remain within Six miles of that place; if they will not, the attempt will not be worth Hazarding. I shall be glad to know your Oppinion on this head.

I have never yett had more than Seventy men to Act with me, & some times they Leave me to twenty or thirty &, it is with Great Difficulty I can again recruit. I wish I had some Authority to punish those who Leave me, for many who had fought with me I am Oblige to fight against. I have heard nothing from you since the 20 Sept; I am oblige to Act with the Greatest Caution Least I Shoud fall in their hands. I am Sorry to Inform You that Colo. Ervin has aDopted the Burning of

houses & Captn. Murphy still pursues it. I think it will be the Greatest hurt to our Interest. The former was with me a Little While, but has separated as I would not permit him to Burn any houses; Col. Giles has also Left me on Account of Sickness.

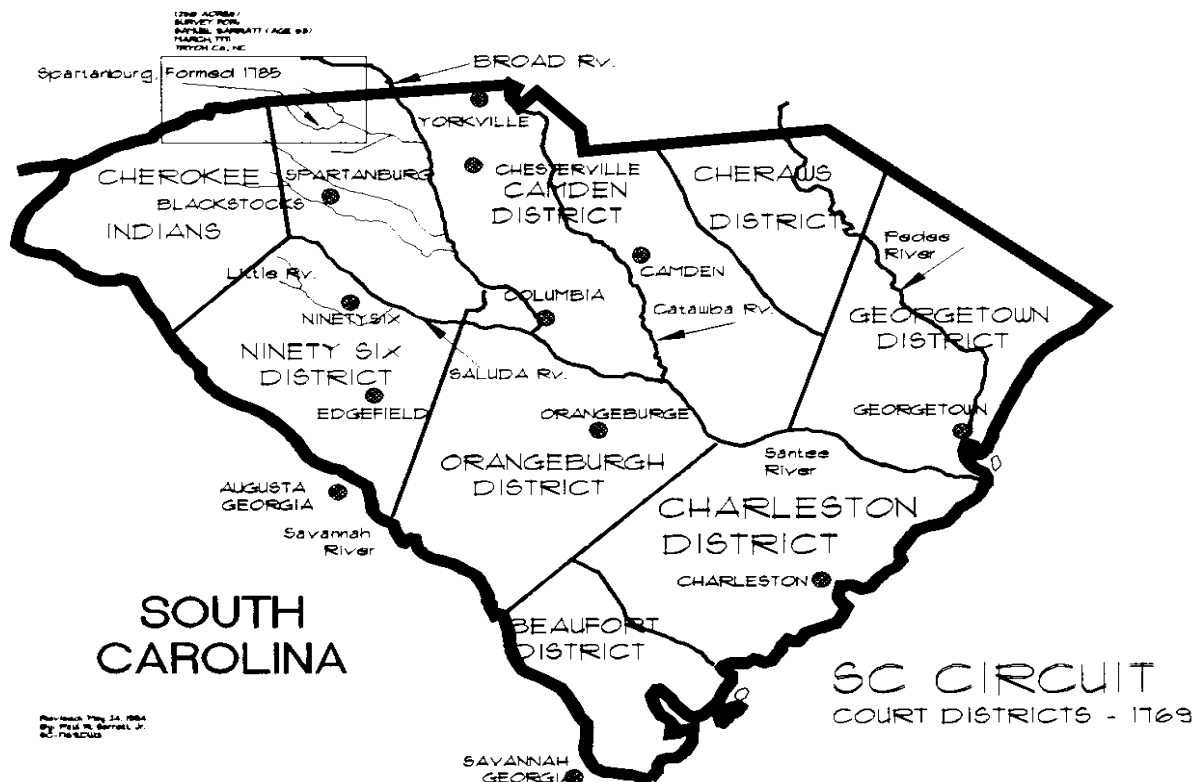
I am Informed that there is not more than five hundred men in Chs. town of the British, but they Expect a reinforcement Dayley, & the Inhabitants in General Believe that Lord Cornwallis is on the Lines of Virginia, & the most part of North Carolina have Laid down their Arms & Submitted to the British tyrant.

Their is no British Either on Pe Dee or between Chs. Town & Camden, & the Toreys are all Disperst Since the attack on Black Mingo. I have from a flagg I sent to Santee the Account of Seventeen men was wounded in that affair some of which died of their wounds. I wish to hear from you as soon as possible.

I have the Honour to be Yr. most bl Servt.,

FRAN. MARION.

N. B. Please Excuse the Scrawl, having no table to write on in this wild woods.



## 1780 - December

In December 1780, Balfour thought it prudent to have him move his command to Georgetown. At the end of that month, Ganey was involved in a skirmish just outside the town in which he was badly wounded. He recovered by April 1781 when he again raised men from his home district to temporarily assist Lieut. Col. John Watson. (Sherman, p. 91).

On 27 December 1780, Major Peter Horry and his SC Patriot Militia skirmished in Georgetown District with the forces of Loyalist Major Micajah Ganey. Major Ganey was wounded in the encounter.

Late in December of that same year, Ganey's Tories were in Georgetown when Peter Horry's horsemen, while making a probing raid to determine British strength at that point, were met by British Rangers who fled for safety in the town. Seeing their plight, Ganey's Tories, the fury of the clash, Ganey was deserted by his men and he, himself, turned back. Among Horry's troops was Sergeant McDonald, a red-headed Scot from Williamsburg, who gave chase to Ganey for a distance of two miles. Describing the chase later, Horry said, "Never on earth did two horses or two horsemen make greater exertions, fear impelling the one, fury urging the other." The chase took them to the edge of Georgetown where McDonald's horse came near Ganey yet too far away for use of the sword. Lifting himself in the stirrups, McDonald plunged his bayonet forward into Ganey's back and out through his chest. When he pulled back his carbine, it separated from the bayonet, leaving Ganey stabbed through as he reached the safety of the British redoubt. But miraculously, he recovered and took to the field again for yet more leadership at the head of Loyalist troops. (Rogers, James A. *"Micajah Ganey Led Regiment of Tories."* Florence Moring News. Florence, South Carolina. Sunday January 20, 1974, pp.4-5).

1780 24 December. The King's American Regiment, under Lieut. Col. George Campbell, along with Lieut. John Wilson's detachment of the Queen's Rangers of 15 men, arrived at Georgetown. By 28 December then, the Georgetown garrison consisted of 135 Kings American Regt., some Queens Rangers, and 100 loyalists under Maj. Micajah Ganey. (Sherman p.159).

1780 28 December (also given as 25 December). [skirmish] "The Camp" (Georgetown County, S.C.) Having been sent by Marion from Indiantown, Col. Peter Horry, Captain John Baxter and Sergeant McDonald with 30 men surprised and routed a small group of Queen's Rangers under Lieut. John Wilson at "The

Camp" (not far outside of Georgetown.) As the Rangers retreated to Georgetown, a mounted force under Maj. Micajah Ganey came out to counterattack Horry's men, but were beaten back and Ganey wounded. The wound prevented Ganey from returning to the field to fight till April 1781. (Sherman, p.160).

About two miles from Georgetown the advanced party met a group of Tory troopers under Major Ganey and Lieutenant Evans. The two groups came together in a clash of heaving horses, flashing sabers, pistol shots and the shouts and curses of angry men. Shortly after the shock of the first collision, Ganey's men wheeled and fled toward town and Horry's men in hot pursuit. Sergeant McDonald selected Ganey as the object of his attention. And for two miles they raced, with neither the pursuer gaining nor the pursued pulling away. Still too far apart for McDonald to effectively use his sword, he lunged forward with his carbine and bayonet. He thrust into Ganey's back with such force that the bayonet penetrated the Tory leader's body, the point coming out through his chest. As the Sergeant withdrew his weapon the bayonet twisted loose from the gun. The bleeding victim still managed to maintain his seat as he fled into Georgetown. (Rankin, pp. 106-107).

Horry District had its share of Loyalists. One was Major Micajah Ganey, who lived six miles from Marion between Catfish Creek and the Little Pee Dee River. He raised a band of Tories who raided from Georgetown to North Carolina. On two different occasions he had confrontations with two of the areas' leading patriots. Once, in a light skirmish, Richard Green recognized Major Ganey. Mr. Green shot at him. The ball hit Ganey in the mouth and knocked nearly all of his teeth down his throat. Later, on the afternoon of December 28, 1780, Ganey's Tories clashed with Marion's men at White Bridge. Sergeant McDonald spotted Ganey in the confusion. Ganey spurred his horse for Georgetown. Sergeant McDonald gave chase. The two riders galloped their mounts to the edge of Georgetown. McDonald caught up with Ganey at Richmond Corner. McDonald rammed his bayonet up to the hilt in Ganey's back; the point protruding from his chest. The force of McDonald's thrust was so great that the bayonet separated from his musket. Ganey rode into the Georgetown redoubt. Later, in Georgetown, while the bayonet was being removed; Ganey was asked how it felt. "It gives great pain," he replied, "But not nearly half so bad as when Mr. Green's ball knocked my teeth down my throat. " (Gragg, Ted L. *A History of Horry County Soldiers, Part 1*. Horry County Historical Society - The Independent Republic Quarterly, January 1975, Vol 9, No.1, p.16.)

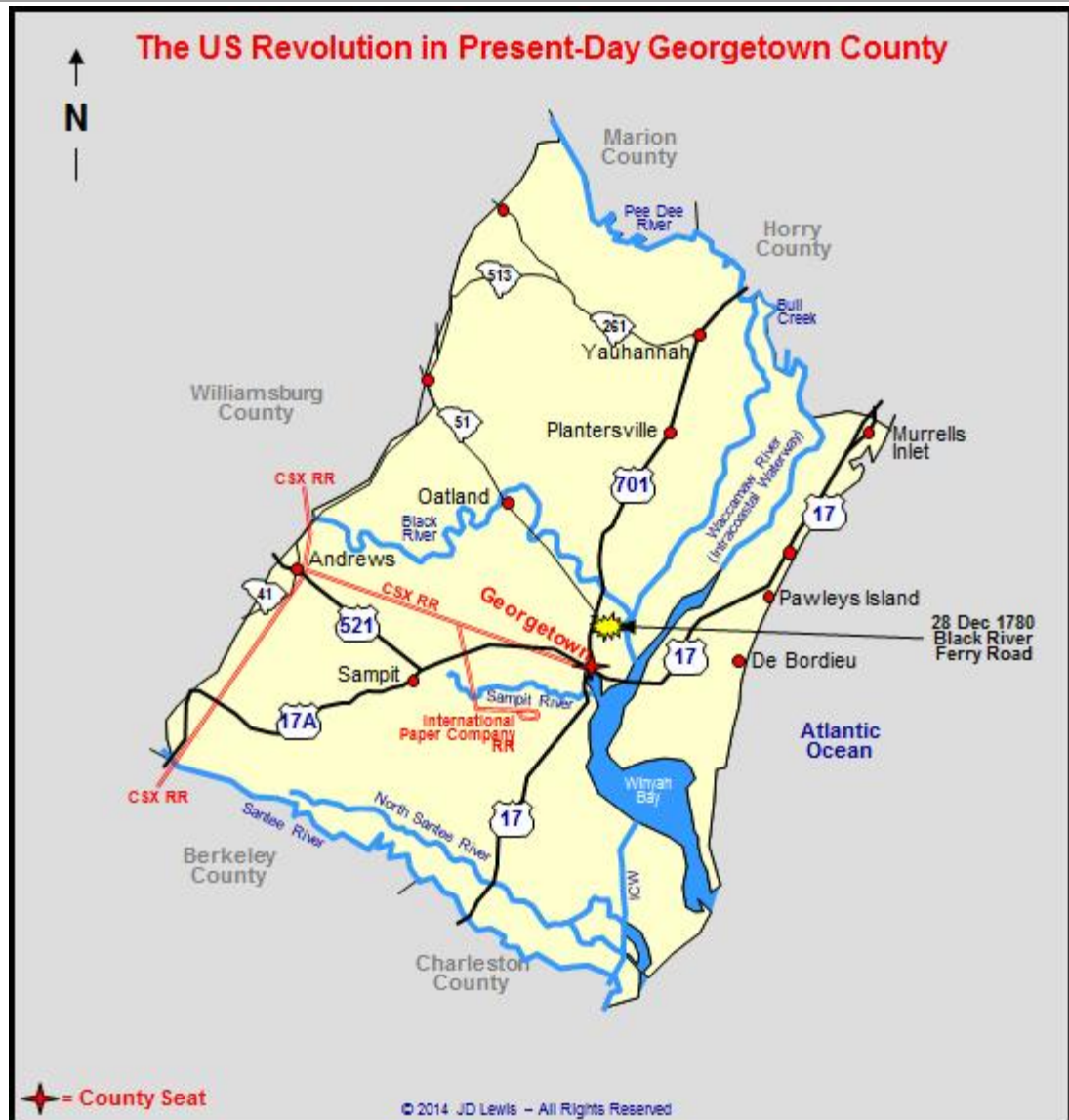
Brigadier General Francis Marion camp on Snow Island was near Major Micajah Ganey's or Ganey Loyalists. By crossing the river and marching two or three hours, Marion could forage in enemy country. With his force growing daily, Marion kept a close watch on the enemy. Colonel Peter Horry led to 32 cavalry men against some Queens Rangers who retreated in the Georgetown on Thursday December 28th, 1780. Major Ganey's mounted Loyalists rode out to meet Horry. They engaged in a bloody clash at 'the camp,' just north of Georgetown. Major Ganey fled toward Georgetown with Sergeant McDonald in hot pursuit. As McDonald caught up with Ganey, he plunged his bayonet into his adversary's back but the bayonet detached from McDonald's musket and Ganey rode into town with a weapon in his back and blood gushing from his wounds. The wound prevented Ganey from returning to the field to fight until April 1781. (Desmarais, p. 216).

Colonel Horry's horsemen drove the outnumbered British cavalry into Georgetown. As the Rangers retreated to safety, Major Ganey's Tories dashed out to meet the challenge. At their head galloped the Major. "A stout officer looking fellow he was, too," exclaimed Horry "and most nobly mounted." With the courage of the Scots, red-headed Sergeant McDonald charged to meet him. In the shock of battle, as Cavalry sabers clanged against homemade swords and horses whirled and bolted, Ganey's troopers again deserted him. As at the Blue Savannah, Ganey turned back -- with McDonald chasing him. For two miles the Sergeant and the Major raced, their horses hoofs ringing on the cold ground. "Never on earth did two horses or two horsemen make greater exertions," said Horry, "fear impelling the one, fury urging the other!" Into the edge of the village they galloped. As they turned Richmond corner, McDonald's powerful horse Selim brought him almost abreast of Ganey. Realizing that the distance was still too great for his sword, the Scotsman seized his carbine, raised himself in his stirrups, and lunged. His bayonet plunged into the back and out through the chest of Ganey. When the Sergeant attempted to draw back his gun, it twisted, loosed the bayonet, and left it driven up to the hilt in the Major. Screaming and clawing at his side, with blood streaming fore and aft, Ganey rode up to the redoubt at Georgetown, "prodigiously to his own and to the mortification of his friends the British and the Tories," said Horry. "I hear Ganey is near death," Marion reported soon afterward to General Greene. (Bass, *The Swamp Fox*, pp. 122-123).



## Black River Road December 28, 1780

Black River Ferry Road			
December 28, 1780			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Lt. Col. Peter Horry	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	~2
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Georgetown County



One source asserts these events happened on October 9th. Makes no sense to this Author.

Having been sent by Col. Francis Marion from Indiantown on December 27, a reconnaissance force, commanded by Lt. Col. Peter Horry, Captain John Baxter, Capt. John Postell, and Sergeant McDonald with 33 horsemen (British accounts say 50) was sent to determine the strength of the British forces in Georgetown. Late that night they settled at "The Camp," not far out of Georgetown.

The next morning, they entered a house to request some food, and while inside, a small group of Queen's Rangers under Lt. John Wilson (Bass says Cornett Merritt) came charging down the road towards the house. The Patriots hopped on their horses and headed towards the British force. The British realized that they were outnumbered and quickly headed back to Georgetown. See [Georgetown #4](#).

As the Queen's Rangers retreated to Georgetown, a mounted Loyalist force under Major Micajah Gainey came out to counter-attack Lt. Col. Horry's men at "The Camp" (not far outside of Georgetown) but were beaten back and Major Gainey was wounded. The wound prevented Major Gainey from returning to the field to fight until April of 1781. Lt. Wilson was also wounded in the encounter, but not seriously.

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Kingstree Regiment of Militia detachment led by Lt. Col. Peter Horry with 33 men in two (2) known companies, led by: - Capt. John Baxter - Capt. John Postell	Major Micajah Gainey with unknown number of Loyalists  - -

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This was a fatal day to the Tories who must have lost more than half their number. For I had with me not only McDonald and Snipes, but several other very strong and brave men, whose families had suffered very severely, by British and Tory cruelty and, I am afraid, they did not forget this, when their swords were hanging over the heads of the fugitives. At any rate, they took but few prisoners. In the course of this day's fighting there happened an affair which served to amuse us not a little on our return to our camp that night. The Tories, who, from time to time, had fallen into our hands, were often easing their vexation, by saying, that it was true, "Marion had proved too cunning for Colonel Tynes and Captain Barfield, and other British and Loyal officers, whom he had attacked; but there was still one left behind who, they were sure, if he would but come forward, would soon show us quite a different sort of play, and that was Colonel Gainey, from the headwaters of the PeeDee. We answered, that, it was all very well; And that we should be glad to see Colonel Gainey. Now, as God was pleased to have it, who should it be, that with one third of his numbers, we had been chasing so today, but Colonel Gainey! A stout officer looking fellow he was too, and most nobly mounted. McDonald made a dash at him, in full confidence of getting a gallant charger. But the good book tells us, that "the race is not always to the swift" and owing partly to the fleetness of his horse, and partly to a most extraordinary sort of accident, Colonel Gainey made his escape from our Scotsman. The chase was towards Georgetown, distant little more than two miles. Never on earth did two horses or horsemen make greater exertions. Fear impelling the one, fury urging the other. McDonald declared that in the chase he passed several Tories whom he

could easily have cut down, but, like the lion in pursuit of a favorite Buffalo, he took no notice of them. His eye was fixed on Colonel Gainey. Just as they turned Richmond corner, Salem [McDonald's horse] had brought his master near enough to his prey to make a stroke at him with his bayonet. By a sudden jerk, tis supposed, the weapon turned: so that when McDonald drew back the carbine, he left the bayonet up to the hilt in his back. In this way Colonel Gainey rode into town, prodigiously to his own and the mortification of his friends the British and Tories. (Horry, pp. 146-147).

It was the boast of the Tories that, though Marion had proved too cunning for Colonel Tynes, Captain Barfield, and other British and loyal officers, there was still one who would show him quite a different sort of play; and that was Colonel Gainey, from the head waters of the Pee Dee. It was against this officer that Colonel Horry had to lead his recruits. On the morning of a day in the latter part of January, Marion ordered him with Captain Snipes and thirty men to proceed down the Sampit Road in quest of the enemy, and to charge them when found, whether British or Tories. In obeying this order Horry soon came upon a party of horsemen who were engaged in killing beeves for the camp near by. He instantly charged them before they had an opportunity to form. They fled, and were pursued through woods towards Georgetown, with some disorder on the side of Horry. In the meantime the firing was heard in the town, and the Tories under Gainey came out to the rescue of their friends. A savage fight now took place in the woods between the Sampit and Black River roads during the whole morning, the opposing parties alternately advancing and retreating. At one time Horry was, as he supposed, left alone, and a party of the Tories under Captain Lewis was rushing upon him, when a boy by the name of Gwyn shot Lewis from behind a tree, upon which his party, fearing an ambushade, deserted their leader and ran away. As Lewis fell his gun was discharged and killed Horry's horse. The Tories were finally routed and chased into Georgetown. In this affair Sergeant McDonald who, it will be recollected, was one of the three of the prisoners released by Colonel Hugh Horry at Nelson's Ferry who availed themselves of their rescue and remained faithful to the cause, first exhibited the daring spirit and address for which he afterwards became noted. In the pursuit McDonald singled out Gainey as his object of attack. In going at full speed down the Black River Road he shot one of Gainey's men, and, overtaking Gainey soon after, thrust a bayonet up to the hilt in his back. The bayonet separated from the gun, and Gainey reached Georgetown with the weapon still in his person. He recovered, but, cured of his taste for the field or tired

of garrison life, after a few months he and his men deserted the British. Ganey turned again towards the Pee Dee, and marched to Catfish Creek, a mile from where the town of Marion now stands. Here Gainey's party had flocked in to him in such numbers that he was soon said to be nine hundred strong. ((McGrady, pp.84-85).

Ganey rode all the way back to Georgetown with a bayonet in his back and threw his chest, but despite Marion's assumption that he had been mortally wounded, Ganey somehow managed to survive. Nonetheless the man Marion called one of "the most active persons against us" was put out of commission for several months. (Oller, p. 78).

Black River Road – Sergeant McDonald & Major Ganey – Historical Marker  
<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=7474>



In the battle along and up and down the Black River Road outside of Georgetown, South Carolina, Major Micajah Ganey was described as, "A stout officer-looking fellow and most nobly mounted." (Bass, *The Swamp Fox*, p.166).

Attesting to Major Micajah Ganey's physical strength is the account of his encounter with Sergeant McDonald of General Francis Marion's force. During a skirmish near Georgetown, South Carolina, Sergeant McDonald thrust his bayonet full length into Ganey's back with such force the bayonet not only penetrated his

entire body and extended several inches out the front of Ganey's chest, but the bayonet remained lodged in the Major's body when McDonald pulled back his rifle. Even so, Ganey was able to ride back into Georgetown where he received medical aid and within a few weeks, had recovered sufficiently to resume his military command. (Rankin, p. 107).

The Loyalist leader was Major Ganey. Great expectations were formed of his ability to cope with Marion. On this occasion, though he made his escape, his mode of doing so was characterized by a peculiar circumstance, which rendered it particularly amusing to one side and annoying to the other. Ganey was singled out in the chase by Sergeant MacDonald, a fierce young fellow, who was admirably mounted. Ganey was fortunate in being well mounted also. The Sergeant ultimately gained upon his enemy and was able to plunge his bayonet into his back. The steel separated from his gun, and, with no time to extricate it, Ganey rushed into Georgetown, with a weapon still conspicuously showing how close and eager had been the chase, and how narrow the escape. The wound was not fatal. (Simms, p. 207).



Woodcut from *Highlanders in America*, by J. P. MacLean, page 413.

On the following day General Horry encountered one third of Colonel Gainey's men, and in the encounter the latter lost one half his men who were in the action. In the conflict, as usual the sergeant (Sergeant Macdonald) performed prodigies of valor. Later in the day Colonel Gainey's regiment again commenced the attack, when Sergeant Macdonald made a dash for the leader, in full confidence of getting a gallant charger. Colonel Gainey proved to have been well mounted; but the sergeant, regarding but the one enemy passed all others. He afterwards said he could have slain several in the charge but wished for no meaner object than their



leader. Only one, who threw himself in the way, became his victim, whom he shot down as they went at full speed along the Black River road. When they reached the corner of Richmond fence, the sergeant had gained so far upon his enemy, as to be able to plunge his bayonet into his back. The steel parted from the gun, and, with no time to extricate it, Colonel Gainey rushed into Georgetown, with the weapon still conspicuously showing how close and eager had been the charge, and how narrow the escape. The wound was not fatal. (Maclean, p. 413).

Gainey on being asked how it (the bayonet) felt, replied it gave great pain, but it was not half so bad as when Mr. Green's ball knocked nearly all his teeth down his throat. Richard Greene was a devout Methodist, too proud to accept a mission at wars end a pension at war's end.  
(Cook, p. 356 and Winyaw Intelligencer, Nov. 17, 1827).

On December 30, 1780, Gov. John Rutledge commissioned Francis Marion as Brigadier General over the 2nd Brigade of Militia in South Carolina, which he retained until the end of the war.

## **1781 March**

March 23, 1781 – Snow's Island

Lt. Col. Welbore Ellis Doyle, with the New York Volunteers (Provincials), was sent from Camden by Col. Francis, Lord Rawdon as the second prong of his plan to catch Brigadier General Marion. The date Lt. Col. Doyle set out is not clear but sometime near the end of the month he attacked Brigadier General Marion's base at Snow's Island. Snow's Island was located on the Pee Dee River. Lt. Col. Doyle managed to capture the island camp. The island's defenders, commanded by Col. Hugh Ervin, destroyed all the carefully hoarded supplies and ammunition before they abandoned their position,

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Marion now learned of the loss of his ammunition and stores at snow island. It was a great blow to him, and under present circumstances appeared irretrievable; But his spirit was still unbroken. In the meantime, Colonel Watson, having refreshed and reinforced his party, and received a fresh supply of military stores and provisions at Georgetown, turned again towards the PeeDee, and marched to

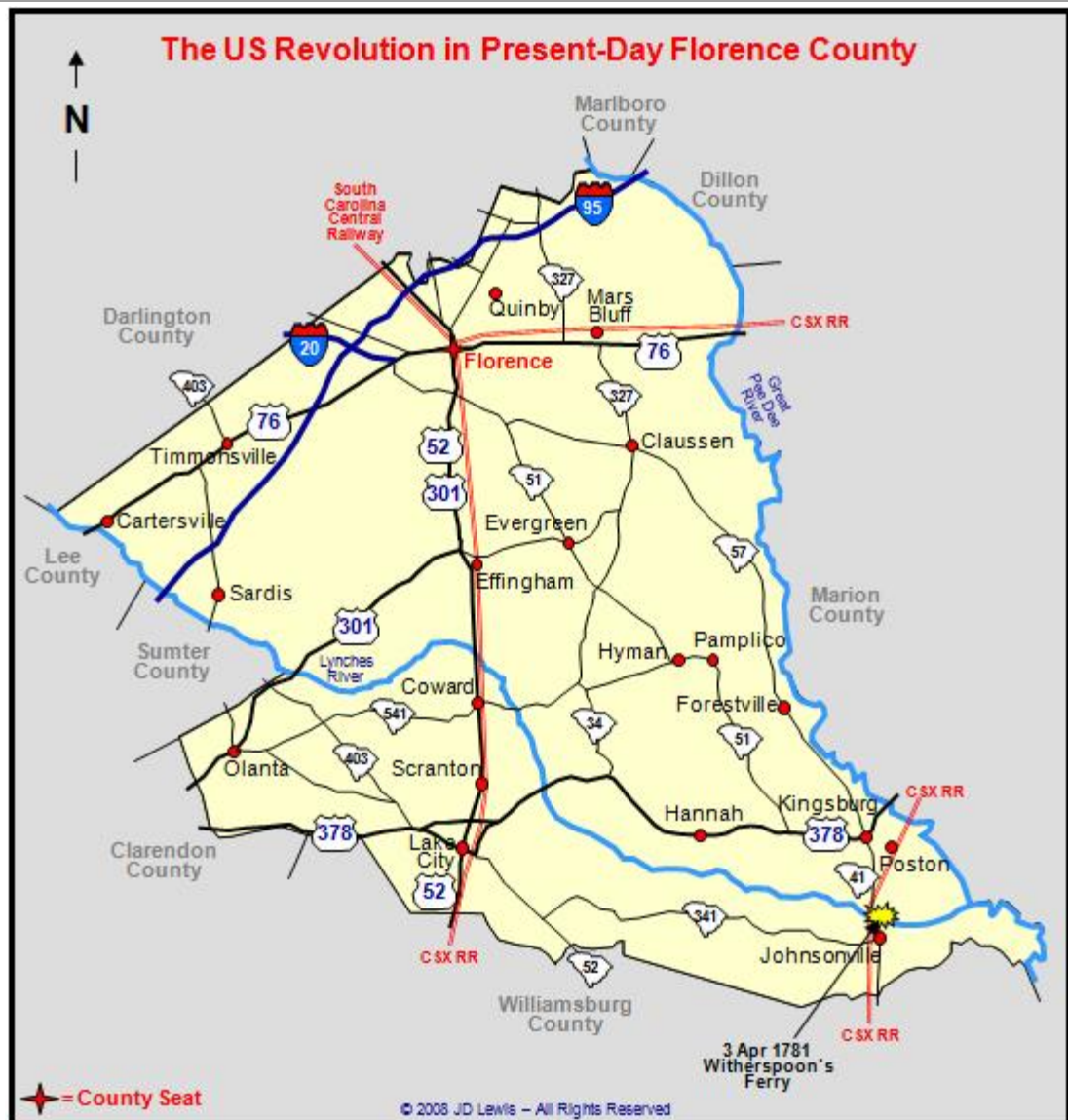
Catfish Creek, a mile from where the town of Marion now stands. Here Ganey's party had flocked to him in such numbers that he was soon said to be 900 strong. (McCrady p. 118-119).

Micajah Ganey, miraculously recovered from McDonald's bayoneting, was a field, again mustering his Tories and thirsting for revenge. (Bass, *The Swamp Fox*, p. 159).

## 1781 - April

April 3, 1781

Witherspoon's Ferry			
April 3, 1781			
<u>Patriot Cdr:</u>	Brigadier General Francis Marion	<u>Loyalist Cdr:</u>	Lt. Col. Welbore Ellis Doyle
<u>Killed:</u>	Unknown	<u>Killed:</u>	9
<u>Wounded:</u>	Unknown	<u>Wounded:</u>	2
<u>Captured:</u>	0	<u>Captured:</u>	16
<u>Old District:</u>	Georgetown District	<u>Present County:</u>	Florence County



One source asserts this happened on March 27th, which is entirely possible.

After the raid on [Snow's Island](#), Lt. Col. Welbore Ellis Doyle retraced his steps six or seven miles to Witherspoon's Ferry, where he camped on the north bank of Lynch Creek (now known as Lynch River).

Around the same time, Brigadier General Francis Marion camped at Indiantown, at which time his force had quickly evaporated to about seventy men thanks to the height of planting season.

Even so, on April 3rd, Brigadier General Francis Marion ordered Lt. Col. Hugh Horry to take his mounted infantry and travel to find Lt. Col. Doyle. At Witherspoon's Plantation, Lt. Col. Doyle had some foragers there collecting food for his troops. When Lt. Col. Horry arrived at the plantation, they engaged the

Provincials, killing nine men and capturing sixteen. Some call this a separate engagement known as "British Foragers Attacked."

The Patriots quickly pursued the fleeing Provincials to Witherspoon's Ferry.

There, they caught the British rear guard scuttling the ferryboat. The Patriots fired on the Provincials. Lt. Col. Doyle quickly formed his men along the bank of Lynches Creek and delivered a volley of musket fire on the Patriots. After this firing, the Provincials gathered up their belongings and headed towards the Pee Dee River.

Lt. Col. Doyle is said to have lost nine killed or wounded, and 15 or 16 taken prisoner in the encounter. Either just before or after this event, Brigadier General Marion was joined by a reinforcement under Col. Abel Kolb to assist against Lt. Col. Doyle. Lt. Col. Doyle, however, made haste to withdraw, destroyed his heavy baggage, and retired to the safety of Camden.

Casualties: Patriots: unknown; Provincials: 9 killed, 2 wounded, 16 captured.

That night Brigadier General Francis Marion's men were demoralized because since they had become partisans many of their brethren and friends had been killed and wounded. The homes of nearly 100 of them had been burned. The Loyalist Major Micajah Gainey had recently recovered from his wounds of the past year and had vowed revenge upon all Patriots. The final straw was that [Snow's Island](#) was now recently destroyed along with all the supplies and food stores.

Marion called them together and tried to raise their spirits. When he was finished, he had them cheering to be in his brigade. He then called a Council of War as to whether this group should pursue Lt. Col. John Watson Tadwell-Watson again or retreat back into the swamps. His men were for retreating, but a messenger just then arrived with news that Lt. Col. Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee was returning from North Carolina with his Legion and supplies.

Lt. Col. Henry Lee soon arrived and explained that Major General Nathanael Greene had ordered them to jointly work together again and to go take all the British posts possible.

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Brigadier General Francis Marion - Commanding Officer  Berkeley County Regiment of Militia detachment led by Lt. Col. Hugh Horry, with three (3) known companies, led by: - Capt. Robert McCottry - Capt. William McCottry - Capt. Gavin Witherspoon	Lt. Col. Welbore Ellis Doyle - Commanding Officer  Volunteers of Ireland led by Major John Doyle with 300 men in the following known companies: - Lt. Col. Doyle's Company - Lt. Hugh Gillespie - Col. Francis, Lord Rawdon's Company - Capt. Charles Bingham - Capt. William Barry's Company - Lt. Harmon Black - Capt. John McMahon's Company - Lt. Thomas Proctor

Kingstree Regiment of Militia detachment of three (3) known companies, led by:	- Grenadier Company - Major John Campbell
- Capt. Thomas Potts	- Capt. Henry Munro
- Capt. Samuel Price	- Capt. Charles Vallancy
- Capt. Thomas Waties	
Lower Craven County Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by:	Total British/Loyalist Forces - 300
- Capt. Henry Mouzon	-
Kershaw Regiment of Militia detachment led by	-
Col. James Postell, Lt. Col. John Marshall, and	-
Major Frederick Kimball, with unknown number of	-
men	-
	-
	-
Total Patriot Forces ~ 100	-

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\*Leader of the local Loyalists, Micajah Ganey, amazingly healed after his bayonet wound at Georgetown, declared further action and vengeance against all Patriots. Throughout the PeeDee region over a hundred Patriots and partisan homes were burned.

1781- 7 April. Having left Georgetown a day or so earlier, and crossed the Pee Dee at Britton's Ferry, Lieut. Col. John Watson arrived on the 7th at "Widow Jenkins," where he bivouacked. With him were 500 men, including some Provincial Light Infantry, the 64th Regt., Harrison Provincials, some loyalist militia, and 2 field pieces. William Dobein James: "Col. Watson, having refreshed and reinforced his party, and received a fresh supply of military stores and provisions at Georgetown, proceeded again towards the Pedee. On his march he had nothing to impede him, but a few bridges broken down. He took the nearest route across Black river at Wragg's ferry, and crossing the Pedee at Euhany, and the Little Pedee at Potato Bed Ferry, he halted at Catfish creek, a mile from where Marion courthouse now stands. -- Here Ganey 's party flocked into him in such numbers that he was soon nine hundred strong." (Sherman, p.229).

Witherspoon's Ferry After-Action April 8, 1781

<https://seekingliberty.org/tag/witherspoons-ferry/>

By 08 April 1781, Marion and his growing army crosses the Pee Dee River at Mars Bluff and camps on the other side at Wahee Neck. He now has nearly 500 men, but their ammunition is very low, down to only two rounds per man. 500 men is impressive, however about the same time Lt. Col. John Watson Tadwell-Watson nears Marion's location and he encamps along Catfish Creek with over 900 men. Marion hears about the amassed troops, and he calls a "Council of War" with his key officers, Lt. Col. John Baxter, Lt. Col. Alexander Swinton, Lt. Col. Hugh Horry, Lt. Col. Peter Horry, Lt. Col. John Ervin, Lt. Col. James Postell, and Maj. John James. Francis Marion believes it is time to slip away into North Carolina to preserve their numbers in light of the nearby British force bent on Marion's destruction. On this night, a detachment from Lt. Col. Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee, part of the Continental Army, arrives and all talk of slipping away is put aside. The rest of Lee's Legion is on their way. Not only that, but news was also delivered that Gen Greene had stopped Cornwallis at Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina.

The cat (British/Loyalist Militia) and mouse (Militia) quickly becomes the cat (Continental/Militia) and mouse (British/Loyalist Militia). With the news that Continentals have joined with Marion's militia at Wahee Neck, the nearby enemy is soon panicked. Maj. Micajah Ganey slips away quietly. Lt. Col. John Watson Tadwell-Watson realizing that his position is now tenuous at best, burns his baggage and dumps two small field pieces into Catfish Creek and marches double-time back to the safety of Georgetown on the coast. (Swamp Fox Research Hub).

9 April. Watson camped at Rae's Hill across the Pee Dee from Snow's Island. On the 10th with Ganey having joined him, he marched to Wahee and camped on Catfish Creek. The move north was prompted as possible protection to Cornwallis and Tarleton should they return to South Carolina. (Sherman, p.230).

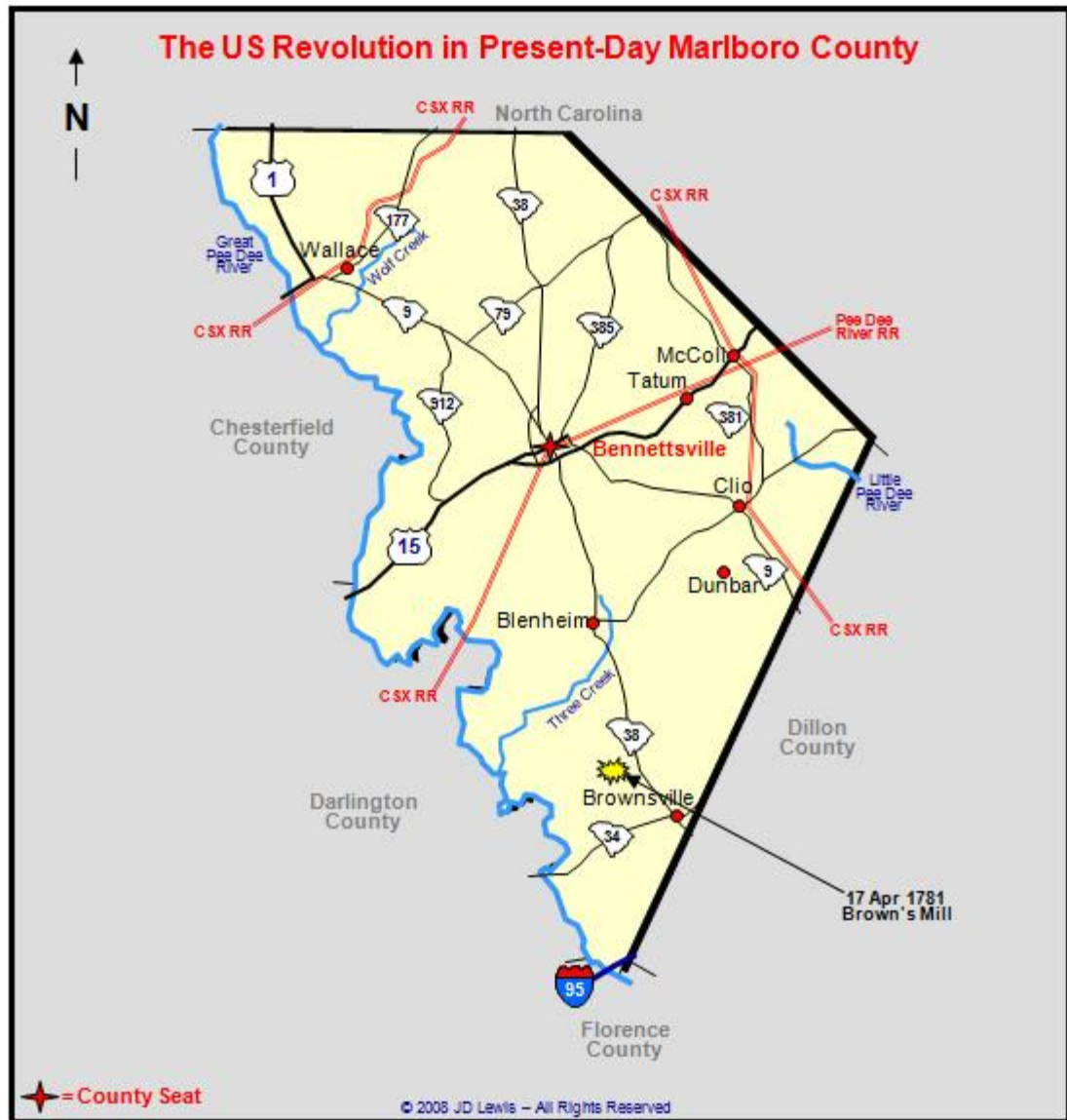
After Marion's bloody skirmish with Lieutenant Colonel John Watson and finding out that a Colonel Doyle had gone through Williamsburg and dashed across Clark's Creek and captured and destroyed Snow's Island, Marion encamped and lingered for several days at Burch's Mill. Marion began conjecturing that he could march up between the PeeDee and the Little PeeDee and call out Ganey's Tories. Marion sent Colonel Peter Horry to count the enemy as they passed through Britton's Neck. With his remaining troops the Swamp Fox crossed the PeeDee at Mars bluff



and took a position on the Sandhills in Wahee Neck. Lieutenant Colonel Watson began to move a mile towards the PeeDee from Snow's Island. The next day, with his corps augmented by Ganey's Loyalist militia he marched to Wahee and encamped on Catfish Creek (Ganey's plantation was on Catfish Creek). Lieutenant Colonel Watson was eager to wipe out the humiliation of his defeats at lower bridge and Sampit River. Marion realizing that his ammunition was low decided to retreat. Before Marion could retreat, consternation struck the enemy camp and Ganey's Tories began fleeing in every direction. On the march was Light Horse Harry Lee and his legion returning to the PeeDee, and a Tory forewarning of this had sent Ganey and Watson scampering. As the Loyalist militia squandered, Watson formed his regulars, wheeled his two field pieces into Catfish Creek, and began retreating towards Britton's Neck. Watson did not pause until his troops were again safe in Georgetown. (Bass, Gamecock, pp.146-148).

Brown's Mill April 17, 1781

<b>Brown's Mill</b>			
<b>April 17, 1781</b>			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Capt. Malachi Murphy, Jr.	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Cheraws District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Marlboro County



aka Muddy Creek. One source asserts this engagement happened on April 28th.

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Skirmish, Patriot Capt. Malachi Murphy vs. Loyalists Major Micajah Gainey and Capt. David Fanning.

---

The Brownsville community had itself been the scene of another engagement; a skirmish had been fought at Brown's Mills between Capt. Malachi Murphy's company of Patriots and a party of Loyalists led by Major Micajah Gainey and Capt. David Fanning.

Brown's Mill was probably in the general vicinity of the church. The name of Muddy Creek has today been changed to Rogers Creek.

---

Another slightly different description of the events:

On their route back to Catfish Creek and Tart's Mill after killing Col. Abel Kolb (April 28th), Loyalist Capt. Joseph Jones and his Tories intended to surprise Capt. Malachi Murphy's Patriots at Brown's Mill on Muddy Creek. Brown's Mill was about a mile above the crossing at the old Rogers Mill.

Most of Capt. Murphy's men had left a few days before and only a handful were left at the mill. Those that remained were surprised and Capt. Joseph Dabbs, a noted Patriot, was killed. Ned Threwitts escaped with a bullet in his shoulder.

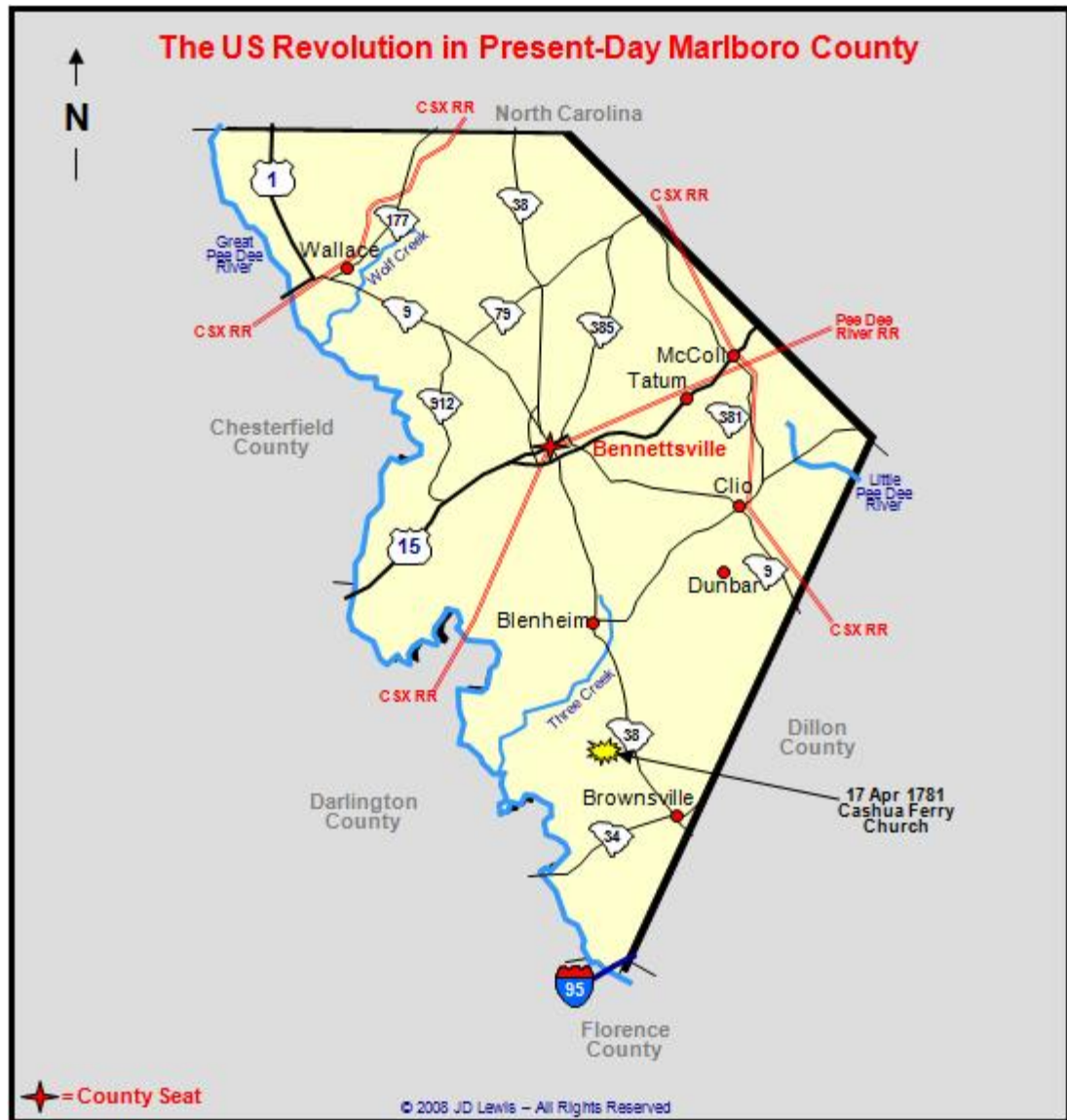
Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Upper Craven County Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by: - Capt. Malachi Murphy, Jr.	Major Micajah Gainey, Capt. David Fanning (NC), with unknown number of Loyalists -

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_browns\\_mill.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_browns_mill.html)

Cashua Ferry Church April 17, 1781

Cashua Ferry Church			
April 17, 1781			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Capt. Malachi Murphy, Jr.	<b><u>British Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Cheraws District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Marlboro County



aka Cashway Ferry, Brownsville Church, Muddy Creek Church.

A general place of rendezvous for Patriot forces in this area was Cashua Ferry or Cashway Ferry on the Great Pee Dee River. A short distance from the ferry landing on the present-day Marlboro County side of the river, there stood a Baptist church that was used as a Patriot Militia headquarters on weekdays; the Reverend Evan Pugh preached there on Sundays even at the height of the American Revolution. The church building became the object of a furious skirmish between the Patriots and Loyalists at some point during the war.

The details of the action were forgotten by later generations, but the Loyalists are supposed to have been chased into the swamp at its conclusion. When a new meeting house was built at Cashway after the war, portions of the old building were incorporated into an edifice for its daughter congregation at Muddy Creek

Church, later Brownsville Church. For many years thereafter, the Baptists at Brownsville worshipped in a building with bullet holes of 1780-81 vintage in its doors and shutters.

Cashua Ferry was located about where SC Hwy. 34 today crosses the Pee Dee River. Brownsville Church is located on SC Hwy. 38 in Marlboro County about three miles north of the present community of Brownsville; Brown's Mill was probably in the general vicinity of the church.

<b>Known Patriot Participants</b>	<b>Known British/Loyalist Participants</b>
Upper Craven County Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by: - Capt. Malachi Murphy, Jr.	Major Micajah Gainey, Capt. David Fanning (NC), with unknown number of Loyalists -

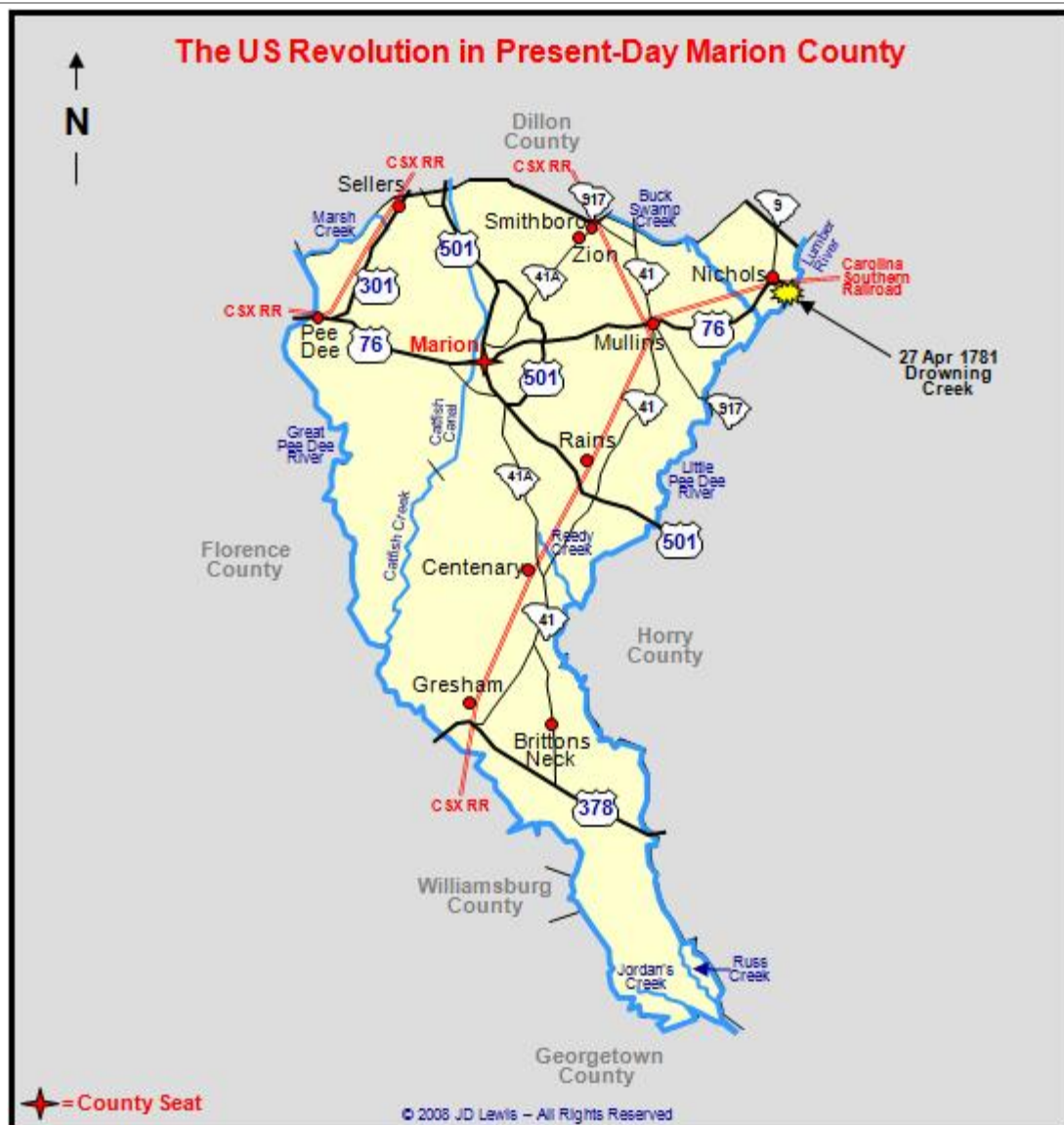
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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_cashua\\_ferry\\_church.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_cashua_ferry_church.html)

19 April. Watson, who had been in a position to threaten Haley's Ferry, where an American provision magazine was located, fell back in the direction of Georgetown when he learned of the approach of Lee, and, for all he knew, of Greene's entire army. In the retreat, many of his militia, under Ganey, either deserted or were discharged. So precipitate was Watson's movement that, along the way, he burned his heavy baggage and abandoned his artillery in the swamp. (Sherman, p.235).

Drowning Creek April 27, 1781

<b>Drowning Creek</b>			
<b>April 27, 1781</b>			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Col. Abel Kolb	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Marion County



Drowning Creek was later renamed to the Lumber River (~1808).

Patriot Col. Abel Kolb learned that Loyalists had assembled under Major Micajah Gainey at Drowning Creek. Col. Kolb, with Capt. James Gillespie and Capt. Josiah Cantey, surprised this group and routed them.

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Cheraws District Regiment of Militia detachment led by Col. Abel Kolb, with two (2) known companies, led by:	Major Micajah Gainey, with unknown number of Loyalists
- Capt. Josiah Cantey	-
- Capt. James Gillespie	-



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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_drowning\\_creek.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_drowning_creek.html)

On April 27, 1781, Col. Kolb learned that Loyalists under Col. Micajah Ganey had assembled along Drowning Creek (now named the Lumber River), so he hastily gathered as many men as he could, including Capt. Josiah Cantey and Capt. James Gillespie. Col. Kolb surprised the Loyalists and routed them. On that same date, Col. Abel Kolb gathered more men, including Lt. Col. Lemuel Benton, Capt. Joseph Dabbs, and Capt. John Cox and they surprised another group of Loyalists at Hulin's Mill along Catfish Creek - John Deer and Osborne Lane; killing Deer and wounding Osborne, who escaped into Catfish Swamp. Another Loyalist, Caleb Williams, Col. Kolb hanged. Deer, Williams, and Lane were reputed to be notorious marauders by their enemies, but Lane lived on for many years and was looked upon as a respected citizen in his community.

Col. Kolb then returned home and dismissed his men, all feeling fairly secure now that the Loyalists had been subdued and all presumed the Loyalists would stop their plundering and raids on Patriot property.

On the night of April 28, Col. Abel Kolb was captured at his home, by fifty North Carolina Loyalists. The latter had gathered on Catfish Creek and were led by Capt. Joseph Jones (one of Ganey's arduous Loyalist). Walking out the front door, one of Jones's men promptly shot Col. Kolb in front of his wife and children. Capt. Jones then plundered the home and burned it. The action was probably in retaliation for Col. Kolb's killing of John Deer and hanging of Caleb Williams at Hulin's Mill a day earlier.

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot\\_leaders\\_sc\\_abel\\_kolb.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot_leaders_sc_abel_kolb.html)

On the 28th of April 1781, a party of Tories sent out by Major Micajah Ganey and commanded by Captain Jones, surrounded and set fire to the house of Col. Kolb, a respectable American militia officer. He, after receiving assurances of being treated as a prisoner of war, surrendered. Nevertheless, he was put to instant death in the presence of his wife and children. (Ramsay, p.269).

Captain Joseph Jones: served as a Captain in Ganey's Tory banditti. An infamous fellow. One of his murders was singularly atrocious. He Promised Colonel Kolb,

who surrendered as a prisoner of war, personal safety, but immediately killed him in the presence of his wife and children and burned his house. (Sabine).

Major Ganey was at the head of a small party of Tories about little PeeDee, who hid themselves in the swamps, and would frequently sally out, and distress the people in that neighborhood. On the 28th of April, a party of them came out under the command of Captain Jones, and set fire to Colonel Kolb's house; he afterwards surrendered himself, upon a promise of his being treated as a prisoner.

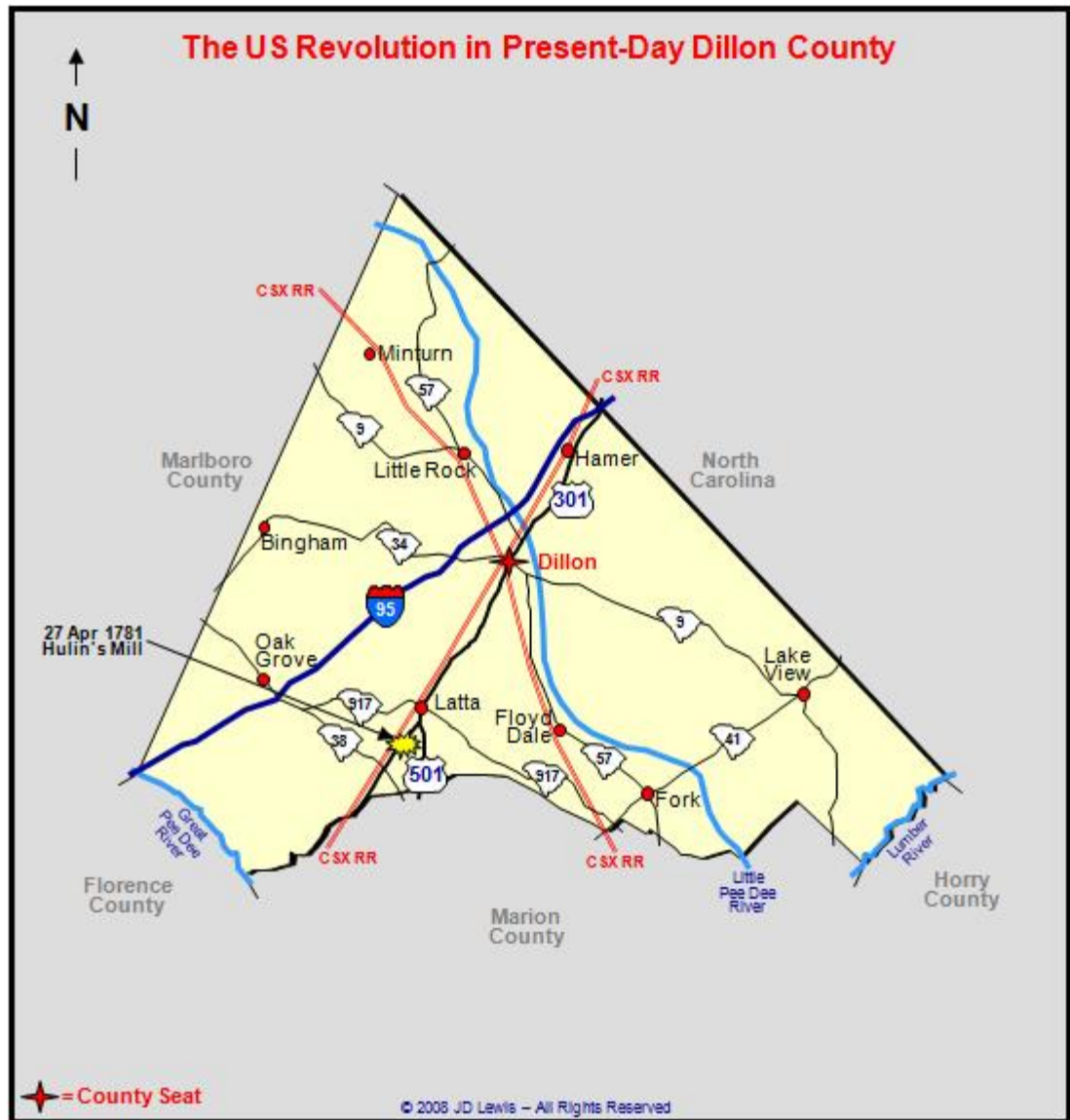
Notwithstanding, he had been so notorious a villain, that he was immediately put to death before his wife and children. Ganey was so troublesome, that general Marion ultimately made a Treaty of neutrality with him in 1781 and renewed at Burch's Mill in June of 1782.

(Moultrie, pp. 340-342, and NOTE XXXIV pp.419-421).

April 1781 – Hullin's Mill on Catfish Creek

\*Major Micajah Ganey's Plantation and holdout area.

<b>Hulin's Mill</b>			
<b>April 27, 1781</b>			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Col. Abel Kolb	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	John Deer, Osborne Lane
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	2
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	1
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Dillon County



aka Hulen's Mill.

At Hulin's Mill on Catfish Creek, Col. Abel Kolb with a group of his men under Lt. Col. Lemuel Benton, Capt. Joseph Dabbs, and Capt. John Cox, surprised some Loyalists under John Deer and Osborne Lane, killing Deer and wounding Osborne, who escaped into Catfish Swamp. Another Loyalist, Caleb Williams, Col. Kolb hanged.

Deer, Williams, and Lane were reputed to be notorious marauders by their enemies, but as is often the case in war, notorious can be a matter of the eyes of the beholder. Lane lived on for many years and was looked upon as a respected citizen in his community.

It was forays like this which no doubt fomented Col. Abel Kolb's own murder, which took place on the night of 28 April. While this incident is of minimal military significance, it is nevertheless representative of numerous like occurrences, many unrecorded, which took place during the war in the south.

One source says the raid at Hulin's Mill happened on April 10th. Another says that it is the same raid at [Drowning Creek](#) on April 27, but the two known locations are not that close to each other (~15 miles), even if in the same present-day county.

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Cheraws District Regiment of Militia detachment led by Col. Abel Kolb and Lt. Col. Lemuel Benton, with two (2) known companies, led by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Capt. John Cox</li><li>- Capt. Joseph Dabbs</li></ul>	John Deer (killed) Osborne Lane (aka Osburn McLean) (escaped) Caleb Williams (hanged) -

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Hullin's Mill South Carolina

26 - 28 April 1781

Some of Micajah Ganey's Loyalist militia had reassembled at their rendezvous on Drowning Creek to return to conducting operations against Marion's forces.

Colonel Abel Kolb learned of their rendezvous and surprised them on April 26th. Ganey's men fled into the countryside.

The day after the attack Colonel Kolb struck again at Hulin's Mill, surprising John Deere and Osborne Lean, two of Ganey's followers. Deer was killed when he ran to Catfish Swamp and Lean was wounded with a broken arm.

Lean escaped into Catfish Swamp and hid in a hollow log. He lay there while Kolb's men hunted for him. At one point Kolb's men sat on the log. Lean was so frightened he thought they might hear the beating of his heart.

Kolb's men found another Loyalist Caleb Williams, "a desperate ruffian" and

hanged him. Kolb decided that he had shown the Loyalists enough Whig justice and returned home. The Loyalists would definitely remember his “justice.”

Captain Joseph Jones of Ganey's militia was infuriated by the killings done at Catfish Swamp and issued a call for volunteers. They closed in on Kolb's home at Dorchester and attacked him and his two houseguests, Thomas Evans and his brother. The three partisans drove off the attackers for some time, killing some of them. Captain Jones tired of the fight and ordered the house to be burned.

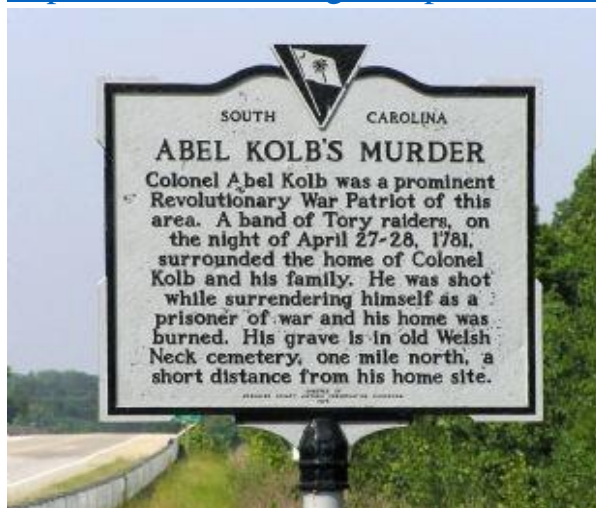
In order to save his wife and children Kolb decided to surrender. As he stepped through the door with his wife, Sarah, a mulatto Loyalist named Mike Goings shot him from behind. Thomas Evans and his brother tried to run away, but the Loyalists shot them. They proceeded to plunder the Kolb home, seizing everything of value, and then set fire to the house and burnt it down anyway. Colonel Kolb's death outraged many in the area, driving even more volunteers to Marion's men. (O'Kelley, *Nothing but Blood and Slaughter*, pp.213-214).

Micajah Ganey, former 2nd South Carolina officer, and enemy of Francis Marion, had reassembled his Loyalists militia on Drowning Creek to return to conducting operations against Marion. Colonel Abel Kolb learned of their rendezvous and surprised them on April 26th. Ganey's men fled into the countryside.

Captain Joseph Jones of Ganey's militia gathered his men and rode to Kolb's home at Welsh Neck. He attacked the home and then ordered the house to be burned. In order to save his wife and children Kolb decided to surrender. As he stepped through the door with his wife, Sarah, a mulatto loyalist named Mike Goings shot him from behind. Thomas Evans and his brother tried to run away, but the Loyalists shot them. The Loyalists proceeded to plunder the Kolb home, seizing everything of value, and then set fire to the house and burnt it down anyway. Sarah Kolb kept the dress she wore that day for many years. The dress had holes in it from where the shot passed through it. Colonel Kolb's death outraged many in the area, driving even more volunteers to Marion's men. (O'Kelley, *Unwaried Patience and Fortitude* pp. 528-529).

## Abel Kolb's Murder – Historical Marker

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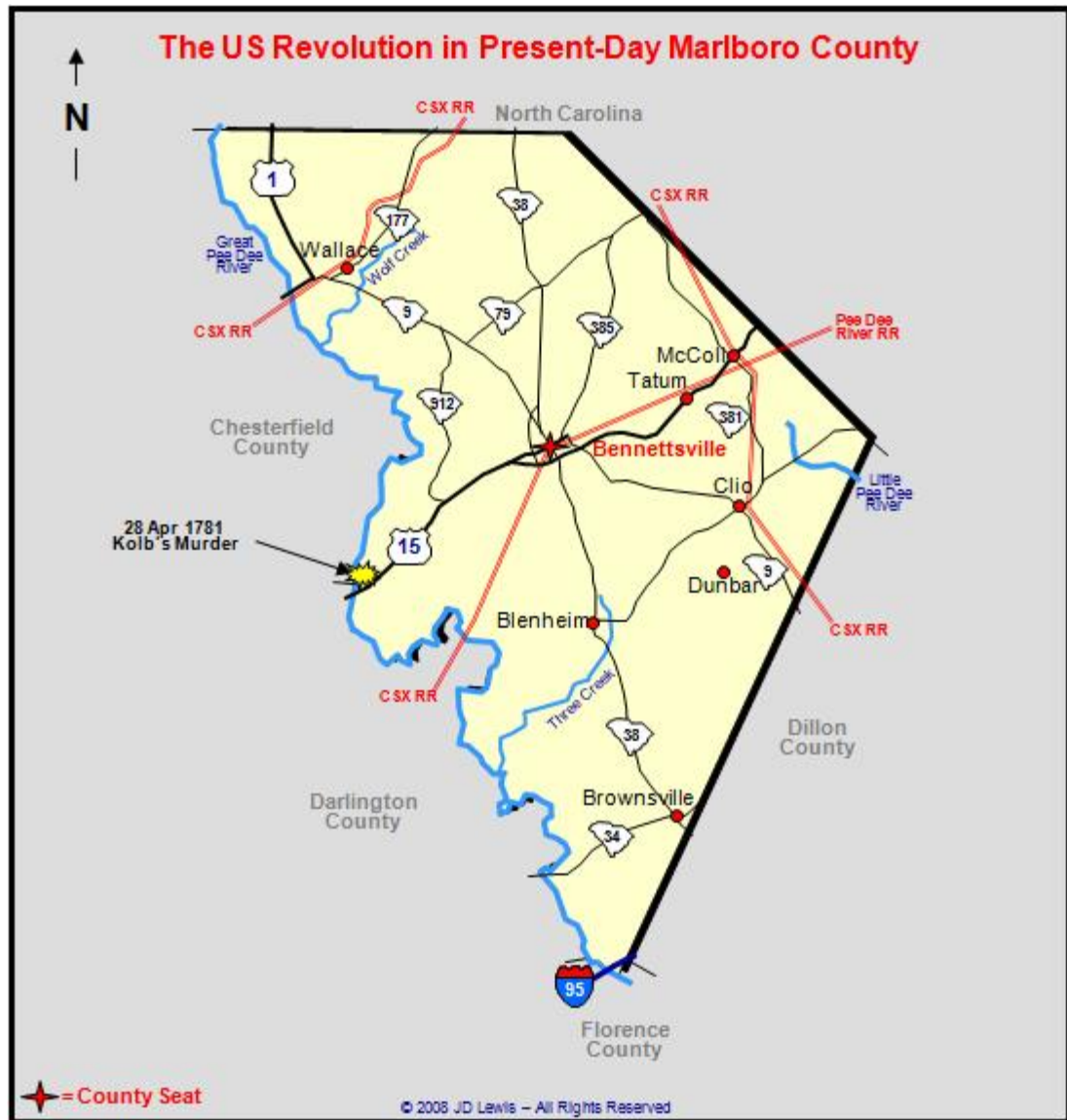


\*Additional Commentary on website - ... A band of Tory raiders led by Captain Jones under the leadership of the notorious Major Micajah Ganey ... on the night of (contd.)

April 28, 1781 Kolb's Murder

Kolb's Murder			
April 28, 1781			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Col. Abel Kolb	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Capt. Joseph Jones (NC)
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	1	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Cheraws District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Marlboro County





Loyalist Capt. Joseph Jones, infuriated at Col. Abel Kolb for [Drowning Creek](#) and [Hulin's Mill](#), assembled some fifty men at Maidendown Bay (in present-day Marion County) and rode towards the Pee Dee River. Capt. Jones and his men surrounded Col. Kolb's home and yelled for him to come outside, which he soon did. Walking out the front door, one of Jones's men promptly shot Col. Kolb in front of his wife and children. Capt. Jones then plundered the home and burned it.

On the night of 28-29 April, South Carolina militia leader Col. Abel Kolb, known for his relentless suppression of the Loyalists around Drowning Creek and the upper Pee Dee, was captured at his home, by fifty North Carolina Loyalists. The latter had gathered on Catfish



Creek and were led by Capt. Joseph Jones. In the course of what took place, Col. Kolb was shot by one of the Loyalists and his home burned down. The action was probably in retaliation for Col. Kolb's killing of John Deer and hanging of Caleb Williams at Hulin's Mill a day earlier.

Afterward, Col. Kolb's death seemed to have emboldened many of the Loyalists in the Drowning Creek region. Although Col. Kolb may correctly be seen to have been at times ruthless himself in his methods, nevertheless, he was a formidable militia leader and was of significant assistance in reinforcing Brigadier General Francis Marion after Lt. Col. Welbore Ellis Doyle's raid on Snow's Island, sending men to Brigadier General Marion when the latter was laying siege to Fort Watson, and in keeping down the Loyalists to the north of Brigadier General Marion's operations in general.

Upon hearing the news of Col. Abel Kolb's murder, Brigadier General Francis Marion dispatched Lt. Col. John Ervin to punish Jones and his marauding Loyalists.

<b>Known Patriot Participants</b>	<b>Known British/Loyalist Participants</b>
Col. Abel Kolb - Commander of the Cheraws District Regiment of Militia	Capt. Joseph Jones with an unknown number of NC Loyalist militiamen

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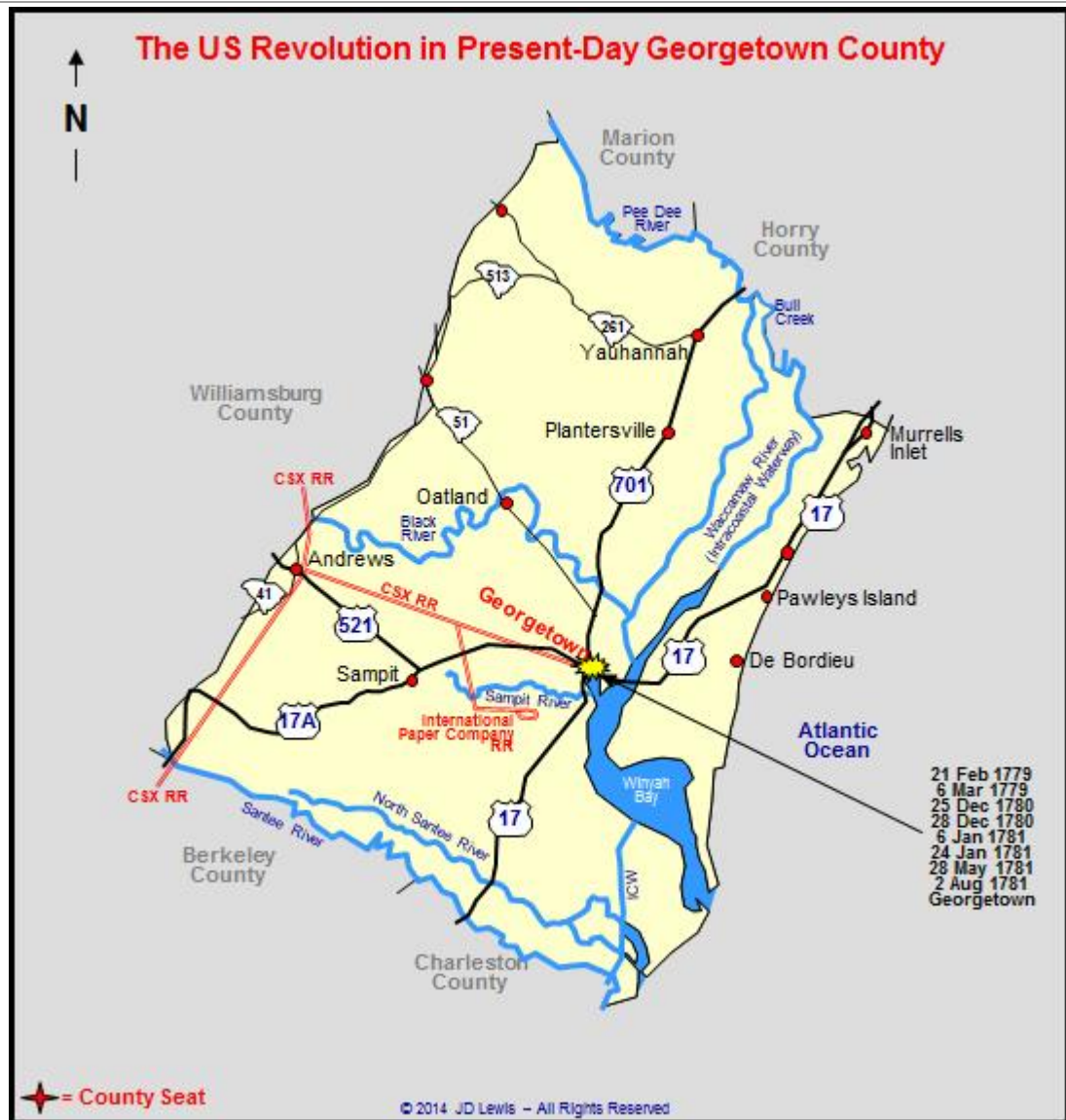
## **1781 – May**

Camden, SC - On May 9, the British destroyed the supplies they could not carry, partially leveled the fortifications, and evacuated Camden during the night, leaving behind some American prisoners and wounded British soldiers. Many Loyalist refugees accompanied the army.

10 May 1781 - Lord Rawdon evacuates Camden, South Carolina.

Georgetown May 28, 1781

Georgetown			
May 28, 1781			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Brigadier General Francis Marion	<b><u>British Cdr:</u></b>	Capt. Robert Gray
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Georgetown County



Brigadier General Francis Marion knew that the capture of Georgetown would help to collapse the line of British posts spread out from Charlestown. Once again, he decided it was time to hit Georgetown's occupiers. At Cantey's Plantation, he sent out a call for his Militia and headed to Georgetown on May 27th.

By now, the British/Loyalist commandant of Georgetown was Capt. Robert Gray, who had recently been ordered by Lt. Col. Nisbet Balfour of Charlestown to evacuate if he should become "so pressed by the enemy as to make a retreat necessary."

Brigadier General Marion began to lay a standard siege by digging trenches. However, the British boarded their vessels at 9 p.m. that evening and left the town. They had spiked their three 9-pounders and a cannonade, then knocked them off their trunnions. The Patriots entered the town and leveled the British works as the British ships waited outside the bar at Winyah Harbor.

Brigadier General Marion was able to replenish his wardrobe and fit himself out in a new suit of regimentals. He was then summoned by Major General Nathanael Greene to help with the Siege of Ninety-Six, so he left a small force in Georgetown under the command of Lt. Col. Peter Horry and marched away with the captured enemy baggage on the backs of mules.

After the liberation of Georgetown, one of Brigadier General Marion's main opponents, Major Micajah Gainey, asked for a truce for one year. During that time, Major Gainey agreed that he would not attack Brigadier General Marion or his forces, and this was agreed to. His Militia saw that the job in Georgetown was finished and went back to their homes. Frustrated, Brigadier General Marion went about gathering a new Militia to harass Col. Francis, Lord Rawdon on his way to help Lt. Col. John Harris Cruger at Ninety-Six.

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Brigadier General Francis Marion - Commanding Officer	Capt. Robert Gray - Commanding Officer
Unknown units, unknown number of men.	Unknown units, unknown number of men.

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_georgetown\\_7.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_georgetown_7.html)

Gradually the patriots gained the upper hand. On May 3, 1781, articles were agreed upon by American and British forces for an exchange of prisoners. The agreement was signed at the home of Claudius Pegues in upper Cheraw District.

Georgetown, SC - On May 28, 1781, the British finally evacuated Georgetown and the next day Brigadier General Francis Marion and his Patriots took charge of the town.

Francis Marion was summoned by General Greene to help with the siege at Fort Ninety-Six, so he left a small force in the town under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Peter Horry and marched away with the captured baggage on the back of mules. After the capture of Georgetown one of Marion's main opponents, Micajah Ganey, asked for a truce with Marion that would last for a year. During that time Ganey agreed that he would not attack Marion or his forces. Marion agreed to the truce. Marion's partisans decided that since the job in Georgetown was finished, they could return to their homes. Frustrated, Marion went about gathering a new militia to harass Lord Rawdon. (O'Kelley, p.531).

1781- Mid to late May. William Dobein James: "About this period, Gen. Marion sent Col. Peter Horry with a force to negotiate a treaty with Major Ganey and his party. As he could not well turn his arms against him, and the Whig settlements on Pedee were left exposed to his depredations, it was good policy to awe him, and to endeavor to keep him quiet. After a little time, Horry negotiated a treaty, humiliating enough to Ganey; by which, among other matters, he and his officers agreed to lay down their arms and remain neutral, to deliver up all those who refused to comply with the treaty and all deserters from the Americans, and also to restore all negroes and other plundered property. This treaty was ratified on the 17th of June but was not strictly complied with until Marion afterwards found leisure to enforce it...." See 17 June. (Sherman, p.255).

By June the British were unable to adequately defend Georgetown at the mouth of the Pee Dee River and abandoned the town, withdrawing to Charleston. Later in June the Tory leader Micajah Ganey agreed to a cessation of hostilities with General Francis Marion. The agreement stated that a truce would be imposed in the area between the Pee Dee River and the North Carolina line. This area became known as Major Ganey's Truce Land and attracted several Loyalists from North Carolina. The truce did not end the warfare in the area as many refused to abide by its terms. Numerous skirmishes and actions continued, particularly along Black Creek.

## **1781 – June**

5 June 1781 - Georgetown evacuated by British after occupying Georgetown since July 11, 1780.

When the British evacuated Georgetown in June 1781, "the loyalists on the Little Pee Dee...entered into a truce for three months with Marion who gladly embraced

the opportunity of disarming a hardy and intrepid race of men whom he had never been able to crush.” [Colonel Robert Gray – Observations on the War in Carolina]. Although Gray exaggerated the strength of the Little Pee Dee Tories, the agreement was to the advantage of both sides and was later extended for nine months. The terms worked out between Colonel Peter Horry for Marion and Major Micajah Gainey for the loyalists required a cessation of hostilities, free trade in the region, and the adjudication of disputes by tribunals chosen from the two sides. The extension three months later was more in the nature of a surrender on the part of the Loyalists who agreed to take oaths to the state and obey its laws, and to imprison or expel inhabitants of North Carolina who had taken refuge with them. The truce did not work perfectly, and from time-to-time disputes flared up because of continued intercourse between the inhabitants of the Little Pee Dee and Loyalists in North Carolina. Even after the British left Wilmington in November, Colonel David Fanning’s raiders passed through that area on their way to and from North Carolina, much to the chagrin of Marion and other Whig officers. But despite the violations, compared to the ravages visited upon the region in the year after the British captured Charlestown, the Horry/Marion-Gainey truce was an improvement.(Lambert, p. 147).

17 June. After negotiations between the two parties for a few weeks, Maj. Micajah Ganey, on behalf of the local Drowning Creek and Pee Dee loyalists signed a truce with Col. Peter Horry, who represented Marion. The truce, however, was not permanent. Ganey later accused some of the Whigs of not holding up their end of the agreement, and it wasn’t long before he and his followers again became active.(Sherman, p.270).

While Marion was before Georgetown, he had detached Colonel Peter Horry with a force against the Loyalists upon the Pee Dee. The repeated struggles between the contending parties in that country, also, had now nearly reduced it to desolation, and Colonel Horry was sent to endeavor in some way to put an end to the murderous strife. As he was authorized to do, Colonel Horry, on the part of General Marion, on the 17th of June, negotiated a treaty with Major Gainey, who styled himself " commanding officer of the Tories or king's subjects, inhabitants lying between the great Pee Dee River and North Carolina," by which it was agreed that from that time all hostilities on both sides should cease ; that both parties should have free intercourse to traffic together unmolested; that in

case of injuries committed on persons or property on either side, the captain or officer commanding the injured party should make complaint to the officer commanding the wrong doer, whereupon a jury composed of two Whigs and two Tories, with an officer from the side of the complainant, should be called on to sit as a court-martial, and determine the matter between them and to inflict such punishment as should appear reasonable and just; that property not taken in action (but plundered), on being proven by either party, should be restored. This treaty afforded some pacification to the country, but was not strictly complied with until Marion, ten months after, found leisure to impose another, more humiliating, upon Ganey and his followers. (McCrary p. 317).

While Marion, in person, proceeded against Georgetown, Col. Peter Horry was dispatched with a strong body of men against the Loyalists on the Pedee, a wild and bloodthirsty band of borderers, under the conduct of Major Ganey, of whom we have had occasion to speak already. Horry succeeded in awing Ganey into submission, and in extorting from him a treaty by which he consented, with his officers and men, to maintain a condition of neutrality. This submission, though complete, was but temporary. (Simms, p. 400).

Marion's sustained military successes set the conditions for a truce with a loyalist late in the war. The war between Patriots and Loyalists in South Carolina had become extremely violent and vindictive. General Greene described the civil war as "truly shocking to humanity" and raging "like a fire and devouring everything before it." Marion wisely attempted to reduce the effects of civil war whenever possible. In June 1781 after the British evacuated Georgetown Major Micajah Ganey of the Loyalists and Peter Horry of Marion's brigade signed a truce. This truce, known as the Horry-Ganey truce was an effort to end the strife that had desolated the area, and it lasted until the spring of 1782, (Aiken, p.25).

On June 17, 1781, Ganey and his officers agreed to lay down their arms and remain neutral for the next year. They agreed to deliver up those who refused to comply with the terms of the treaty as well as all deserters from the American Army who sought refuge in the area. And because there was no longer a British force at Camden to furnish protection, they agreed to give up all negroes and property they had plundered from the Whigs, although Ganey later refused to give up property taken by the British and then placed in the hands of the Loyalists. There was an interesting provision - that those accused of plundering should be

tried by a five-man jury, made-up of two Tories, two Whigs, and an officer from the side of the complainant, who were to determine the guilt and punishment of those convicted.

(Rankin, p. 217).

The Truce Agreement for the greater PeeDee region June 17, 1781. Articles of agreement made and concluded between Col. Peter Horry. in behalf of General Marion , and Major Ganey. Commanding officer of the Tories or King's subjects, inhabitants lying between great Pee Dee River and North Carolina.

Art. 1st. That from and after signing these articles, all hostilities on both sides shall cease.

Art. 2d. That both parties shall have free intercourse to traffic together unmolested.

Art. 3d. That injuries committed on persons or property on either side shall by the Captain or officer commanding the complainant, be made known to the officer commanding the defaulter, when a jury composed of live men, two to be Whigs and two Tories, with an officer from the side of the complainant, shall be called on to set as a court martial to judge and determine the matter between them, and to inflict such punishment as shall appear reasonable and just.

Art. 4th. That property taken not in action (but plundered) on being proved by either party, shall be restored.

Art. 5th. That these articles of agreement and association shall continue for three months certain, or for any longer time not exceeding twelve months, and be valued and binding on both parties as shall be ratified by the Honorable General. Marion. Given under our hands at Pee Dee, June 17th, 1781.

PETER HORRY, Col. Gen. Marion's Brigade.

MICAJAH GANEY, Major.

(Gibbes, p. 98).



## Revolutionary War in Marion County

<https://www.sciway3.net/proctor/mion/military/revwar/1781truce.html>



The 1781-1782 Truce Land extended from the Great Pee Dee River to the North Carolina border. Often called the Truce Lands, the Horry-Ganey Truce Lands, The Ganey Truce Lands, etc.

Map from [www.usgwarchives.net](http://www.usgwarchives.net)

Feeling the pressure of the American offensive later in the spring, Ganey negotiated and signed a truce with Marion in which he and his men agreed to stay out of the fighting -- if not molested. Despite this, the peace did not last long. He (Major Micajah Ganey) accused the Whigs of violating the agreement, and for a while fighting resumed in the Peedee area (Sherman, p. 242).

## **1781 – July**

8 July 1781 Ninety-Six is evacuated by British and they destroy the town and fort.

17 July 1781 - Battle at Quinby Bridge

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_quinbys\\_bridge.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_quinbys_bridge.html)

## **1781 – August**

Letter from Major Ganey to General Marion

[https://www.sciway3.net/proctor/marion/military/revwar/ganey\\_marion.html](https://www.sciway3.net/proctor/marion/military/revwar/ganey_marion.html)

August 25th, 1781.

Sir :

Agreeably to your letter, I grant the truce to continue for twelve months betwixt us with this restriction. The property taken by the British themselves and confiscated about the country, I cannot engage to restore, for that is out of my power to do, but the articles I mean to observe with diligence. I hope your honor will be so kind as to send me an answer when you receive this, which answer I hope to receive by the 8th of September ensuing, as I hope we do not mean to take advantage of each other, and your compliance will very much oblige.

Your humble servant,

Micajah Ganey, Major Militia. (Gibbes, Vol. 3, p.130)

## **1781 – September**

Colonel Murphy, in his active and vigorous movements, was giving much trouble to Major Gainey and the Tories under his command. The Major Micajah Ganey addressed General Marion on the subject, as follows:-

Letter from Major Ganey to General Marion

"Pedee, September 8th, 1781.

Sir, -

Your answer of the 5th of September came to hand this day, and in perusing the same, I understand that your honor wrote to the North Carolinians concerning our truce, which I never received or heard of before; it has miscarried by some means

or other. My full desire, Sir, is to be at peace with all parties, if they will with me. I am very sorry, Sir, to acquaint your honor that I am under the disagreeable necessity of complaining to you of Colonel Murphy. I wrote several orders to him to restore their plunder, which they refused to do, except such as is of no service to themselves; all that is of value they keep, so that I found there a stumbling block. The way, just about the time that Murphy first broke out and ruined me, and broke me up, for which reason, I first revolted my constancy to my country, was- he took some horses from me, one of which he has yet in his possession; then I wrote an order, and sent to him for said horse, which he refused to send, without I would hunt up and get all his horses which he has lost, which was six or seven hear, he says; and I don't know his horses; I never saw them; and in like manner, they detain several horses and negroes, and a number of cows.

"I have no reason to complain of any of your men, save that same regiment of Murphy's. The list you wrote to me about, you shall faithfully have given up very shortly to Colonel Irvin's order....

I am with respect, Sir,

Your very humble Servant,

Micajah Ganey

(Gibbes pp. 135-136) and (Gregg, pp. 374-375).

The backlash of one event in North Carolina was to be felt in South Carolina. The notorious Tory partisan, David Fanning, along with Colonel Hector McNeil, wreaked great havoc not only in North Carolina but later they would travel south to raise some of those loyalists who had formerly served with Micajah Ganey, disregarding the treaty made with Horry June 17, 1781, and began to work their way down the Waccamaw River, doing a great deal of mischief. Large numbers of Tories from North Carolina, particularly from Bladen County, came into the "neutral ground" established by the treaty, paying no attention to the protest of the former loyalists who wished to live in peace. Ganey wished to drive them out but discovered he was not strong enough; in fact, some of the more unhappy in his own district forced Ganey to lead them in the field again. Ganey was not too reluctant to take the field as his people had been frequently subjected to the plunderings of the men led by Lieutenant Colonel Maurice Murphy. Whigs on both sides of the boundary were distressed by these raiders as they swung back and forth across the line and according to Marion, did "Mischief, such as robbing & stealing & has shot at some men & abused some with swords." (Rankin, p.280).

## 1781 – October

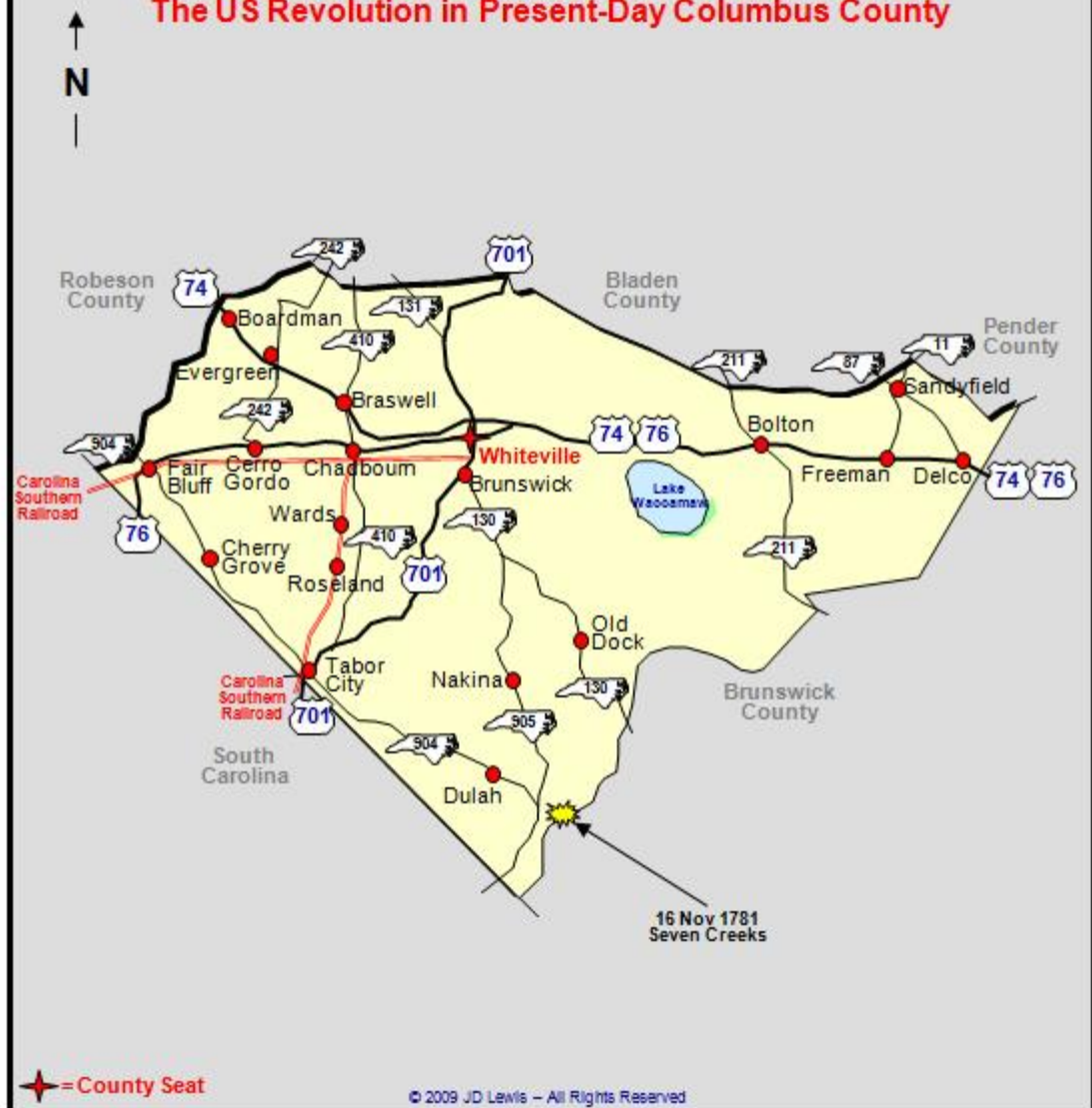
Cornwallis surrenders to Washington at Yorktown, VA October 18, 1781. Battles and skirmishes continue in the Carolinas until near the end of 1782.

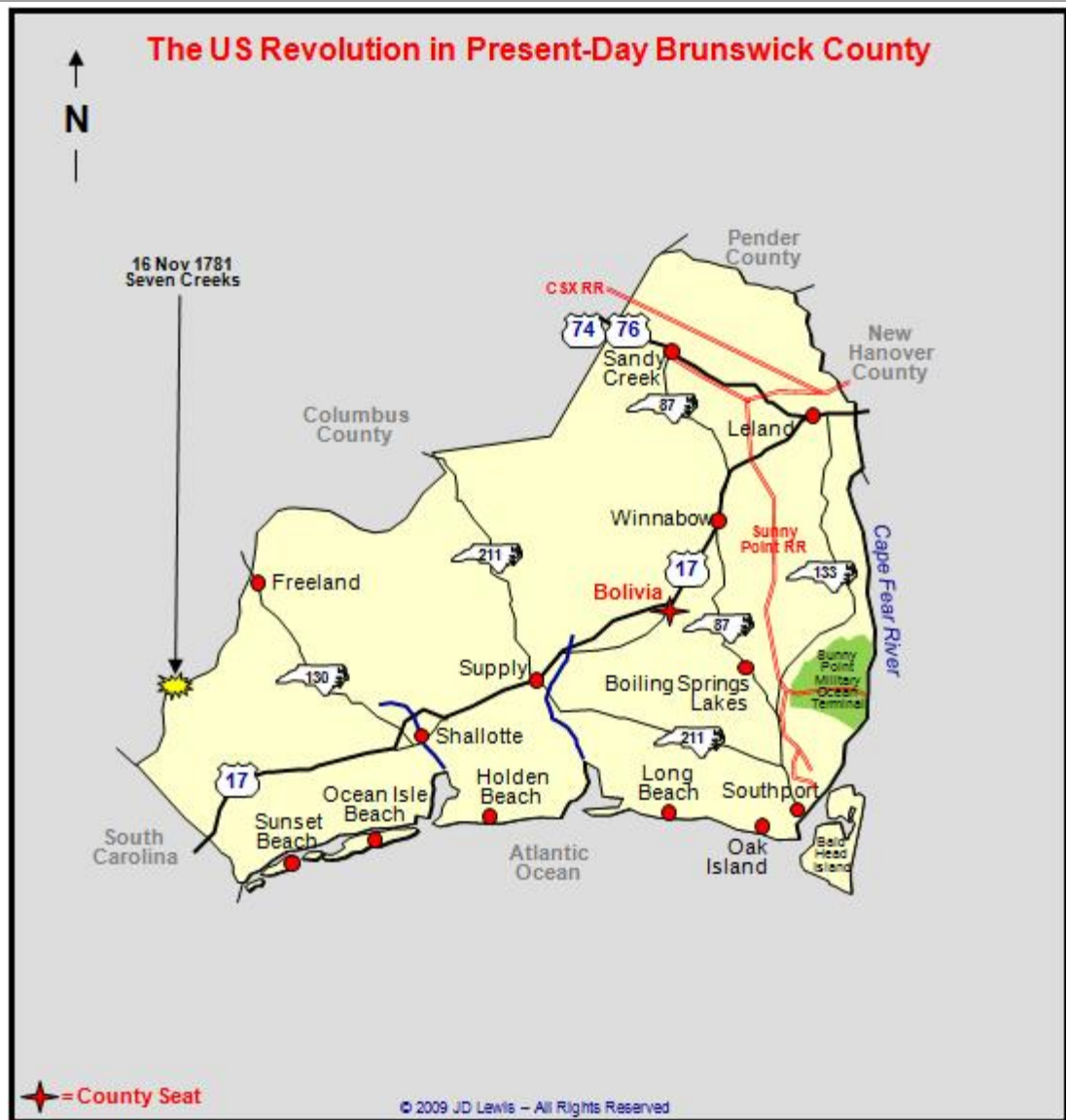
## 1781 - November

Seven Creeks November 16, 1781

Seven Creeks			
November 16, 1781			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Major Joseph Graham	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey (SC)
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	1	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	1
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	3	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	2
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Original County:</u></b>	Brunswick County	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Columbus County/ Brunswick County

## The US Revolution in Present-Day Columbus County





Brigadier General Griffith Rutherford ordered Major Joseph Graham and part of the NC State Legion to go out and reconnoiter the British defenses around Wilmington. Around midnight, Major Graham and his men were patrolling deep into Brunswick County, south of Wilmington, at a place named Seven Creeks, not too far from the South Carolina border.

South Carolina Loyalist Major Micajah Gainey detected the Patriots and ambushed them. Major Graham immediately charged, killing one of Major Gainey's men and wounding two others. Lt. Clark of Major Graham's force was killed, as were several horses.

Major Graham later wrote that Major Gainey was under truce with Brigadier General Francis Marion in South Carolina at the time, "but it appears he did not consider it binding in North Carolina."

The next morning, Lt. Col. Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee arrived and informed Brigadier General Griffith Rutherford about the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown.

After Lord Cornwallis left Wilmington and marched northward, the British remaining in Wilmington were now vulnerable. By early November of 1781, they were already planning to leave, and the Patriots decided to force their departure by surrounding the town and not allowing any foraging parties out into the nearby countryside.

The following account comes directly from Major Joseph Graham in his memoirs - published under the title of "General Joseph Graham And His Papers on North Carolina Revolutionary History," by Major William A. Graham, Lincoln County, NC, published by Edwards & Broughton, Raleigh, NC in 1904:

".... Rutherford wrote that he had been informed by deserters that since the town had been hemmed in, the enemy had dispatched several barges and some troops - British and Tories - down the river, as we supposed, to Fort Johnston, Lockwood's Folly, or Shallot River, for the purpose of getting supplies, of which the action of our troops had deprived them through the usual channels; and he ordered Colonel [Robert] Smith to send a detachment around in that direction to prevent this, if possible, or route such parties of Tories as might be found embodied.

"Major Graham was ordered on this service with Polk's dragoons, Captain Caruther's mounted troops from Mecklenburg, Captain Smith's mounted troop from Surry, and part of Captain Sapp's [Lopp's] mounted troop from Rowan, under Lieutenant Monroe. In the whole, ninety men took the road down the river. The bridge on Town Creek being destroyed, we had to make a considerable circuit.

"At Brunswick, we saw a small craft at a distance, but could not ascertain her character; were informed that the barges which came down the river had passed through the new inlet at Fort Johnston. All was silent; no enemy was to be seen on land or water. The party took the route by Lockwood's Folly and Shallot River. Several Tories we met, and who fled, were taken after receiving a cut or two with the dragoons' sabers; we continued across the Newcomb River, and encamped at a place called Seven Creeks, not far from the South Carolina line.

"It had rained in the day, and was cold; the night was cloudy, and sometimes it was dropping. From some old houses the men had taken clapboards to make a kind of tent for shelter. The commanding officer assisted the officer of the day in placing the guard.

"Colonel Gainey, who commanded the Tories in South Carolina, between the Waccamaw, Pee Dee, and Drowning Creek [Lumber River], and who was at this time under a truce with General Marion, by some means or other had had notice of a party of the North Carolina Whigs being so near his district, and had collected about eighty of his adherents, and about 11 o'clock at night passed silently and undiscovered along a ravine, between where the sentries were not more than sixty yards apart, and placed his men with fifty steps of our camp. A single gun was first fired, which made an alarm, but before the men had time to rise, a full volley was discharged on the camp.

"In the tent of boards, under which Captain Caruthers and six men lay, it appeared next morning ten balls had gone through, none more than five feet high; but when the fire came, his men had not got on their feet,



and only one was wounded. A young Dutchman of Lieutenant Monroe's command, was lying with his head on a flat pumpkin for a pillow; two balls went through his pumpkin, but escaped him.

"The horses of the cavalry were scared - nearly one-third broke; the men began to rally about thirty steps in the rear of their tent. Those of the dragoons who got their horse mounted without saddles. About twenty formed; but the point of a fence was between them and the enemy. They were ordered to oblique to the left from behind the fence. The movement made some noise.

"The enemy by this time had loaded their pieces and discharged another volley at them. While their guns were empty was deemed a favorable opportunity, and the dragoons were ordered to charge, which they did rapidly and with a shout. Gainey's men fled and dodged behind the trees - only one was discovered and cut down. In so dark a night they easily made their escape.

"The infantry had formed and came on after the cavalry for two hundred yards. The enemy were much scattered and were heard endeavoring to collect in a swamp to which they mostly fled, about a quarter of a mile off. The Whigs were called back into a field near their camp to lie on their arms until daylight. A detachment was then sent on the enemy's trail four miles, but they had passed into South Carolina.

"We had one man killed - Lieutenant Clark - and three others wounded; four horses were killed, two of which were shot down under the dragoons when they charged, and several horses wounded. Only one of the enemies was killed. After burying the soldier and fixing the wounded for travelling, the party marched up to the White Marsh and encamped at Marsh Castle.

"It was believed that Colonel Gainey might get reinforced and make another attack at this place. Considerable defenses were made with fence rails, in such a manner that if the enemy had come, he would have been under a crossfire in all directions. Gaps were made in the enclosure for the cavalry to move whenever wanted.

"On the next day marched by Waccamaw Lake and joined Colonel Smith above Livingston Creek. On the succeeding day, heard considerable firing of small arms in the direction where General Rutherford lay. In the evening, Lieutenant-Colonel Lee, of the United States Legion, arrived. He had come by way of General Rutherford's camp from the American headquarters at Yorktown, in Virginia, and brought intelligence that Lord Cornwallis and the British army were captured on the 19th of October; and that General Rutherford, on receiving the news, had drawn up his army and fired a "*feu de joie*," which was the firing we had heard."

---

In his 1832 pension application, Jonathan Clark (S2438) asserted:

"Major Graham and myself were sent with about 60 men further to the South we were attacked by the British & Tories in the night lost one man killed & six wounded - myself slightly wounded - lost ten horses including my own..." [edited slightly]

---

In his 1832 pension application, John Smith (R9831) asserted:

"Major Grimes [sic, Graham] was dispatched with 80 picked men to Waggamaw River [sic, Waccamaw River] 70 or 80 miles, I suppose from Wilmington to disperse some Tories who with the British officers, were reported to be engaged in recruiting men for the British Army. We had several skirmishes while we were gone and killed a British Lieutenant and some Tories. Capt. Charles Poke [sic, Polk] was in company and killed one or 2 Tories who were found having some of our forces in possession the morning after we had been attacked in the night. We lost one man killed and 2 or 3 wounded. My messmate was killed."

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
NC State Legion detachment led by Major Joseph Graham, with four (4) known companies, led by:	Major Micajah Gainey - Commanding Officer
- Capt. John Carruth	Little Pee Dee River Loyalist Militia (SC)
- Capt. Charles Polk	Total of ~80 men
- Capt. Minor Smith	-
- Capt. Daniel Wright	-
- Lt. Jonathan Clark (killed)	-
- Lt. Monroe	-
Chatham County Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by:	-
- Capt. Alexander Clark	-
Total of ~90 Dragoons	-

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[https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_seven\\_creeks.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_seven_creeks.html)

Seven Creeks, North Carolina

Wilmington Campaign

16 November 1781

General Rutherford ordered Major Joseph Graham forward to reconnoiter the defenses around Wilmington. Around midnight Graham and his dragoons were patrolling near Brunswick Town, at a place called Seven Creeks, near the South Carolina border. Colonel Micajah Ganey detected Graham's men and ambushed them. Graham immediately charged into the ambush, killing one of Ganey's men and wounding two others. Lieutenant Clark of Graham's force was killed, along with several horses. Major Graham later wrote that Colonel Ganey was under truce with General Marion at the time, "but it appears he did not consider it binding in North Carolina." The next morning Colonel Henry Lee arrived and told General Rutherford of the surrender of General Cornwallis in Yorktown.

(O'Kelley, *Nothing but Blood and Slaughter*, Vol. Three, pp. 388-389).

\* Notes from General Joseph Graham Revolutionary War Pension Application

This deponent was afterwards detached, by order of General Rutherford, with three companies, one of dragoons, by Brunswick, over Lockwood's Folly and Waccamaw River. At a place called Seven Creeks, near the South Carolina line, was attacked about midnight by the noted Colonel Gainey of South Carolina, who was then under a truce with General Marion, but it appears did not consider it binding in North Carolina, had one of our party killed and two wounded, and four horses killed. The cavalry charged and defeated the Tories and killed one of Gainey's party.

A majority of the population between Cape Fear and Pee Dee rivers were disaffected. Those in South Carolina were already organized, under a Major Gainey, with whom General Marion had frequent contests and difficulties. Colonel Gainey, who commanded the Tories in South Carolina, between the Waccamaw, Pee Dee and Drowning Creek, and who was at this time under a truce with General Marion, by some means or other had had notice of a party of the North Carolina Whigs being so near his district, and had collected about eighty of his adherents, and about 11 O'clock at night passed silently and undiscovered along a ravine, between where the sentries were not more than sixty yards apart, and placed his men within fifty steps of our camp. A single gun was first fired, which made an alarm, but before the men had time to rise, a full volley was discharged on the camp.

(Graham pp. 56, 354, 371)

Pension application of Joseph Graham S6937 <http://revwarapps.org/s6937.pdf>

Deposition of Joseph Graham concerning his service in the Continental Army

Graham, Joseph, 1759-1836

October 30, 1832

Volume 19, Pages 956-964

Declaration of General Joseph Graham.

[In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.] This deponent was afterwards detached by order of Gen. Rutherford, with three companies one of which was dragoons, by Brunswick over Lockwood's Folly and Waccamaw rivers; at a place called Seven Creeks, near the South Carolina line, was attacked about midnight by the noted Colonel Gainey of South Carolina, who was then under a truce with Gen. Marion, but it appears did not consider it binding in North Carolina; had one of our party killed and two wounded, and four horses

killed. The cavalry charged and defeated the Tories and killed one of Gainey's party. Page 963 <https://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/index.php/document/csr19-0067> .

## **1782 – January**

Letter from Colonel Peter Horry to General Marion

January 31, 1782

Dear General:

Morgandollar, my last express to you, is not yet returned. Enclosed is a letter to you from Major Ganey, sent by a flag, which I have detained till I receive your orders. I am told that although Ganey is now of opinion that the truce with you ought to be binding on the North Carolinians, yet after it was made, some of his party actually did surprise and kill some of the North Carolinians; You best know his conduct. (The letter rambles on with sorted details).

I am, dear general, your obedient humble servant,

Peter Horry

(Gibbes p. 245-246).

## **1782 – March**

Letter from Brigadier General Francis Marion to Major General Nathanael Greene  
Lower Santee

March 17, 1782

Sir ,

The day before Yesterday one of my patrols came up with four men who had taken boat at Waccamaw & Landed at Middleton's Plantation a few miles below me & pushed in within [9?] miles of the Enemy's post at Hadrell's. Three was killed, two Named McCloud and McLane, the other not known, the fourth Named Norman McDonald a British Deserter of the 71s who had your pass the 22d Feby to go to Philadelphia[.] He has been at Camden, & North Carolina with the Scotch & with Gainey's Tories on Peedee[.] He was brought in, & by the Authority Given me by the Late Militia Law, I had him tried by a General Court, for a spy, was found Guilty & is to suffer Death tomorrow.

Every Intelligence from Charles Town Indicates an Evacuation of that town taking place. Some say only 3 regiments of Hessians & two British is to Embark for New York or the West Indies. Certain it is the refugees have wrought [i.e., wrote] [damaged] Letters to their friends in the Country that they are going off.

Enclosed is a return of horses Lost the 24h Feb many of which I am informed was Carried away by some of the Militia.

In my Next will Give you a return of the Militia under my Command. A Galley & Schooner which our people sank at Waccamaw when the town fell, I am in hopes to get up. One field piece & 4 swivells is got up, and as soon as the waters are a Little fallen, I hope [to] git the rest.

I have the Honor to be

Your Obedient Servant,

Frances Marion

(Copy of transcribed Letter (NcU) from Executive Letter Book, NCSR, 16:283).

Letter from Governor Mathews to General Marion

Jacksonborough, SC.

March 18, 1782

Sir:

I have this moment received your letter of the 13th inst. I was informed you had in charge a considerable quantity of rice, this was my reason for desiring you to supply Harriet and Tucker with a quantity I mentioned; However, I shall change the mode of procuring it; Only desire you to afford any military aid that might be necessary. You have acted perfectly right with respect to the stolen negros, such as you have received that belong to any of the confiscated estates, must be delivered to the Commissioners; if there are any others they should be delivered to their owners, they paying the charges for recovering them. I will endeavor to have Richard Kains apprehended. The proclamation here with delivered you and my letter on the subject, will answer your questions whether rice is allowed to be exported. My letter of the 9th instruction, as soon as it reaches you, will inform you what is to be done with the Mrs. W and all others in like circumstances. I only wait to hear from general hugger what arrangements he has made for the recruiting service. I shall be ready whenever I hear from him to do my part of the duty, which is to give orders for delivery of the knee grows.

You will let me know as soon as you can, the result of your enquiry respecting Ganey's harboring the North Carolina Tories. I apprehend this fellow will bring us and himself too into trouble very soon.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

John Matthews

(Gibbes, pp.274-275).

Letter from General Marion to Col. Peter Horry.

March 20, 1782.

Sir :

The petition in favor of Mrs. Fullerton is granted on account of the great service she may be to those venerable old single ladies, the petitioners. I think it best to keep all your men at George Town, also prisoners, until Col. Senf returns. I will send a guard at the mouth of Musquito Creek, to stop boats. The Militia Law I will send in ray next. I will endeavor to get Capt. Weyraan the necessaries wanting for the held piece. Mr. Wayne's bill will be sent to the Governor for his approbation, bat think Handk's coffee and sugar will not be allowed in public accounts. In respect to Chamberlain's breach of trust in disposing of his boat, he must proceed agreeably to law. You will send your deserters, and as many officers with evidence as you can spare. I did let Maham's officers have one-piece blue cloth, and the other I reserved for your use, but it is lost. Any intelligence from Ganey let me know without loss of time.

I am, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

F. MARION.

(Gibbes, Documentary History of South Carolina, pp.277-278).

## **1782 - April**

Letter from John Williams to Thomas Burke

Williams, John, 1731-1799

April 08, 1782

Volume 16, Page 586

John Williams to Governor Thomas Burke.

April 8th, 1782.

Dr. Sir:

As I am a Man who makes it my daily Study to serve my Country in the Military way, I therefore would wish for a little information from your Excellency Respecting a certain Col. Andrews, a Tory Col., who commands a party of Torys on Drowning Creek, and I believe is now in arms against this State. The sd. Andrews has a Major whose name is Gainey. Those fellows do not know me. I therefore have an inclination to take the Advantage of their ignorance, and that

immediately, and I would wish to know from your Excellency whether there is any reward for those fellows, and what the reward is.

I am, with the profoundest respect, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

JNO. WILLIAMS.

P. S.—If your Excellency sees cause to send any answer, please to deliver it to James Mebane.

(Documenting the American South: Colonial and State Records of North Carolina <https://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/index.html/document/csr16-0369>).

Letter from Francis Marion to Thomas Burke

Marion, Francis, 1732-1795

April 13, 1782

Documenting the American South: Colonial and State Records of North Carolina.  
Volume 16, Page 283

To Governor Burke from General Francis Marion.

[From Executive Letter Book.]

St. Stephen's Parish, 13th April 1782.

Sir:

Governor Mathews has favored me with a Copy of your letter respecting the men of your State being harbored in the District of those men who are under a treaty of neutrality.

I have written to Major Gainey who commands these men. He promises to drive all the men of your State out of the neutral ground. Should he not perform his promise, I will readily co-operate with you in obliging him, and shall be very glad to know whenever your force march for that purpose that I may be on the Pee Dee at the same time and chastise those banditti for the infraction of the Treaty.

My motives for coming into the measure of granting them a neutrality were compulsory by my being always kept near the British Lines and not having time to subdue them.

Had I removed so far as that District, I should have laid open a considerable part of this Country which the Enemy would destroy.

I shall at all times readily co-operate with your force against these people whenever you give me notice.

I have the Honor to be,

Your Excellency's

Obedient Servant,

FRANCIS MARION.

<https://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/index.php/document/csr16-0092> Vol. 16, p.283.



## 1782 – May

In the Pee Dee region, Micajah Ganey and sixty-five of his men renewed their activities in May, forcing Greene to detach Marion to quell them. Greene hoped that Marion could convince the Loyalists to submit without bloodshed. Ganey too preferred to avoid further combat and sent representatives...

Letter from Brigadier General Francis Marion to Major General Nathanael Greene  
Bacon's Bridge

21 May 1782

Sir,

I received Your Orders Last night to march to Peedee. Shall be Glad to know if it is your Intention that Maham's Corps should go with me. Gainey's men have sixty-five horses well Equipped & Appointed, and I have reasons to Believe that Fanning has Joined them with thirty more.

I am Just in motion & shall Call on you. If Maham's horse is to go with me it will be necessary to Call in the Patrolling party at Ashley Ferry.

I have the honor to be your Obedient servant,

Frances Marion

(Conrad, *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene, Vol. 11: 7 April-30 September 1782*, pp. 232-233).

Letter from Governor Matthews to General Marion

Cane Acre, May 21, 1782

**Instructions for General Marion for offering terms of reconciliation to Major Ganey and others, with whom general Marion entered into a truce, on the 17th of June last (1781).**

*First*, you are to take with you four or five judicious, intelligent persons, to meet those appointed on the part of Ganey and others, to confer on the business here in committed to your charge, but they are not to be considered as joined with you in this Commission.

*Second*, the said Ganey and others, with whom such truce was made, or to lay down their arms as enemies to the state and are not to resume them again until called on to do so, in support of the interest of the United States, and of this state in particular.

*Third*, they are to deliver up all negroes, horses, cattle, and other property, which have been plundered from the inhabitants of this or any other state.

*Fourth*, they are to engage to demean themselves as peaceable citizens of the state and submit themselves in future to be governed by its laws, in the same manner as the rest of the citizens thereof.

*Fifth*, they are to be allowed two, or, if you find it necessary, three months, to remain at home, before they are called on to bear arms and behalf of this state.

*Sixth*, they are to engage to apprehend and deliver up all persons within their district, who shall refuse to accede to these terms, and contumaciously persist in rebellion against the state.

*Seventh*, if these terms are accepted by the said Ganey and others, you were then to promise them a full pardon for all treasons heretofore committed by them against the state.

*Eighth*, If these terms are rejected by the said Ganey and others before mentioned, you are then to have recourse to force of arms, or otherwise to compel them to submission.

*Ninth*, you are authorized and empowered, if you shall deem it for the public service, to apprehend, and send within the enemy's lines, any of the families of persons who continue in arms against the State.

Given under my hand, at Cane Acre, this 21st day of May 1782.

Signed : John Matthews

(Gibbes, pp.176-177).



Marion Crossing the Pee Dee (1850) by William Tylee Ranney. Current location: Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas]

## 1782 - June

Letter from Brigadier General Francis Marion to Major General Nathanael Greene  
Weatherspoon's Ferry Lynches

1<sup>st</sup> of June 1782

Sir,

Yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> May I received on my way here with General Leslie's Letter to you. I called at George Town & Viewed the works at that post & found the fort on the point in forwardness. The Sampit River it Commands within point blank shott[,] the Channel Leading up PD & Black River is a thousand Yards which is rather to[o] far, but will certainly be a Security to the trade in Geo Town, & the difficulty of removing, Prejudice in traders, and Carrying the trade higher up the Country, made me permit the works to go on, but it is still my Opinion that If a pacification do not take place, the works will be only a Greater Object to them as they may Land at [Newton?] & come around by Sampit Bridge & Enter the town in the back [from?] which will take a thousand men to Defend, & this they may Effect in seven hours Easy march, then Embark & retreat; as a particular Plan is sent to Colonel Cuschaskey the Engineer General[,] I would not give any Directions until I [have] further Orders. In respect of Major Gainey & that party I hope to Come on such Terms as will prevent blood shed & terminate that Business to Advantage.

I Just received a Letter from Major Ashby who Commands in St Johns Parish, that Lieutenant Ravenel & two of his brothers, was Taken & one man wounded & a Number of horses taken by a party of Refugees, under the Command of one Griffin from Charles Town. I Shall Acquaint you with every Occurrence.

I have The honor To be

Your Obedient servant,

Frances Marion

(Conrad, *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, Vol. 11: 7 April-30 September 1782, pp. 278).

Brig. Gen. Francis Marion and Pee Dee Loyalist leader, Maj. Micaiah Ganey were corresponding due to the expiration of the June 17, 1781, truce of the PeeDee Truce Lands. On June 2 Marion wrote Ganey:

Letter from General Marion to Major Ganey

Lynch's Creek, June 2, 1782

Sir:

My last acquainted you that your letter was laid before the Governor and Council. Since that, I have received their instructions, and have sent Colonel Peter

Horry, Colonel Baxter and Major James, to confer with you, and offer such terms as I can, and wish it may be acceded to, and prevent the effusion of blood and distresses of the women and children. The Colonels will give you a paper, in which you will find the determination of the British making peace with the Americans, which leaves you no hope of being supported by them. I have marched thus far with my brigade, for the purpose of either making terms, or prosecuting the war, whenever the term of truce expires. And you may depend that I shall not infringe it until then; but wish that you may know your own interest, by submitting in time, and preventing ill consequences from obstinacy, which must terminate in your own and your peoples' destruction and cannot be prevented when the North Carolinians come on, who are on the March, and are near at hand. Colonel Horry, and the gentleman above mentioned, will talk with you, and acquaint you with every particular with which they are charged. In the meantime, you will consider them under the sanction of a flag of truce; and you, or such men as will meet with them at Birche's [Burch's], shall be protected under that sanction.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,

Francis Marion>

Note by Peter Horry: "That Ganey and 700 men surrendered."

(Gibbes, p.183).

General Orders by Brig. Gen. Francis Marion

3 June 1782

Orders at Burch's Mill

As a number of persons have come & submitted to the Americans – And have obtained pardon for the Offences committed against the State, it is here by ordered that Such men shall not be molested. Those that do in any respect commit Such outrage by taking what is Called private Satisfaction will be made to Suffer Agreeable to the Laws of this State in the most Rigorous manner And it is Recommended As Christians to forgive & forget all Injuries which have been committed by such who have been Led away by our Enemies.

BG Francis Marion

Letter from General Marion to Major Micajah Ganey

June 3, 1782

Sir:

Colonel Richardson acquaints me that there were some men who did not or would not, submit to the terms sent you. All such men will be allowed to go to Charleston, and be considered as prisoners of war, to be exchanged for the American prisoners. Their wives and children, and such property as is theirs, they will be allowed to take with them, except stock and arms, and shall be safely

conducted to town on Saturday, or sooner, if possible. I shall be glad to see you at  
Mr. Burches'  
Francis Marion

Letter from Governor Alexander Martin to Major Joel Lewis  
Martin, Alexander, 1740-1807  
June 08, 1782

(Documenting the American South: Colonial and State Records of North Carolina.  
<https://docsouth.unc.edu/csr/index.php/document/csr16-0480> Vol 16, pp. 688-689).

Governor Martin to Major Joel Lewis, or the officer Commanding the State  
Legionary Troops .[From Executive Letter Book.]  
Williamsborough, June 8th, 1782.

Sir:

Having received information from Brigadier General Marion of South Carolina of his intention to cross Peedee at Mars Bluff on the 17th of this inst., and march with his Brigade to —— Bridge on Drowning Creek, where he will be ready to act in conjunction with the Troops of this State in reducing Major Gainey, and the Tories under his command to obedience, with whom he had formed a Truce until the 17th of this Instant.

I have informed General Marion in the Letter herewith sent to be forwarded by you of our readiness to co-operate with him in such a necessary undertaking. You will therefore send the Letter which accompanies this by some safe hand to General Marion wherever he may be, at the same time informing him you will be ready to form a Junction with him, or act separately as the case will require, at such time and place he will assign you; in the mean while you are to take position on the Head of Drowning Creek, until you hear from the General, where you will Issue Copies of the proclamation enclosed you, filling up the blank of the date at the time of issuing the same. You will also issue copies of the same after you have joined General Marion, giving ten days from the date which will respect the Citizens only of North Carolina. You will give me every necessary intelligence of your movements and occurrences.

I have received Major Crafton's Letter of the second of this Instant and am sorry you have not yet obtained any clothing. I am going to Halifax where I shall use every effort to procure them. Your Letters will find me on my way, after my being at Halifax, to Salisbury between the 20th and the last of June—afterwards at Salisbury. Fields I have ordered to join my Corps.

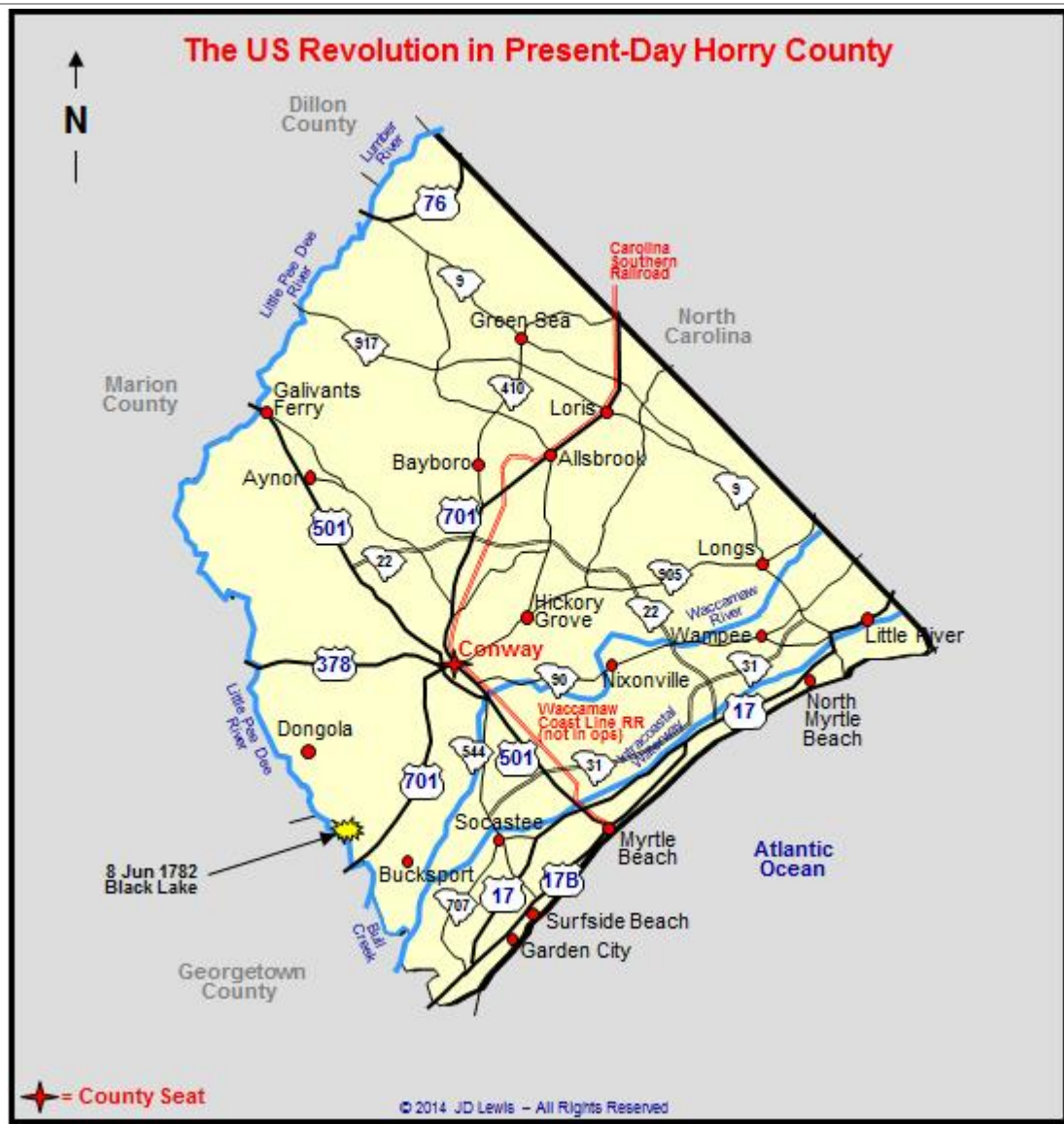
I am Sir, &c.,  
ALEX. MARTIN.

## Black Lake June 8, 1782

### Black Lake

June 8, 1782

<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Lt. Col. John Baxter	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Gainey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	1	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Horry County





Lt. Col. John Baxter (Upper Craven County Regiment of Militia) and his men, assigned to patrol Britton's Neck (between the Great Pee Dee River and the Little Pee Dee River in what is now Marion County), learned that some Loyalists had seized a boatload of rice near the mouth of Black Lake.

When the Patriots arrived on the scene, the Loyalists fled, but afterwards they fired on Lt. Col. Baxter's troops as the latter were proceeding up the lake in canoes to recover the boatload of rice. Robert James, a personal friend of Brigadier General Francis Marion, was wounded in this encounter.

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Lt. Col. John Baxter - Commanding Officer	Major Micajah Gainey - Commanding Officer
Unknown units with unknown number of men.	Unknown units with unknown number of men.

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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_black\\_lake.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_black_lake.html)

Major Micajah Ganey's Loyalists had caused trouble to the people of North Carolina and had not observed the treaty of neutrality with Brigadier General Francis Marion, which was made on Sunday, June 17th, 1781. South Carolina Governor John Matthews and North Carolina Governor Alexander Martin agreed to form a joint expedition to subdue [Ganey's] Loyalists. They appointed General Marion in command. General Marion had already drawn up plans for this operation and sent three columns to proceed from different directions. The Loyalists under Major Micajah Ganey offered no significant resistance to Marion's men during this expedition. Brigadier General Francis Marion, commanding the North Carolina and South Carolina militiamen, defeated Major Micajah Ganey and a force of 500 Loyalists at Bowling Green. (Desmarais, pp. 114-115).

The Battle of Bowling Green on June 8, 1782, resulted when Marion's Patriots ambushed a group of Loyalists, led by Gainey, just south of Moody's Mill. Marion's men forced Gainey and his men into a nearby field, where they surrendered to Marion and pledged their allegiance to the colonies (Godbold and Williamson 1923:12; Marion County Historical Society 1976; Pee Dee Regional Planning and Development Council 1972:71).

Battle of Bowling Green, June 3 (8), 1782

Scarcely had Marion reached Dorchester when the Loyalists beyond PeeDee, with the celebrated Major Ganey at their head, once more appeared in arms, disregarding the treaty they had made with Marion about a year before. They now appeared in so large force, both cavalry and infantry, that it became necessary to detach Marion against them. Marion came up on them at Bowling Green, 5 miles



north of Marion, South Carolina, capturing the whole of them, getting only one man wounded. 500 laid down their arms and all took the oath of allegiance to the American cause, Major Ganey himself coming over. After the treaty they, or the most of them, enlisted with Marion and fought with him against Fraser, the last of Marion's battles, doing splendid service. (Gregg. p. 596 and McGrady, Vol. IV, p. 638).

He had scarcely reached Dorchester when his ancient enemy, Major Gainey, appeared in arms at the head of a considerable body of troops, both cavalry and infantry. (Simms, p. 495).

As Ganey's party had been troublesome to the people of North Carolina and had not observed the Treaty of neutrality with General Marion made June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1781, a joint expedition was concerted between Governor Matthews of South Carolina and Governor Martin of North Carolina, to subdue them (Ganey). Of this expedition General Marion was to have command. His very name was sufficient for the purpose intended. At Burch's Mill on PeeDee, a treaty was signed, June 1782 by which Ganey's party agreed to lay down their arms as enemies of the state, to demean themselves hereafter as peaceable citizens, to deliver up all stolen property, to apprehend all who did not exceed to the treaty now made, to take all deserters from the American army and deliver them up, to return to their allegiance and abjure that of his Britannic majesty. From this treaty, Gibson, who killed Colonel Kolb, and Fanning and his party were accepted, but they escaped. Fanning was properly of North Carolina, but occasionally acted with Ganey, and was one of the most active men, and one of the most deliberate murderers of the whole party. But little defense had been made by the Tories; only one skirmish took place, in which General Marion's friend, Robert James, was wounded; and at the Bowling Green, between Great and Little PeeDee, at least 500 men laid down their arms to General Marion. Thus, ended an opposition to the country, which commenced more from the desire of plunder than from principle, and which, except with regard to sex, and some to age, had been carried on in the true spirit of savage warfare. (James, p.60).

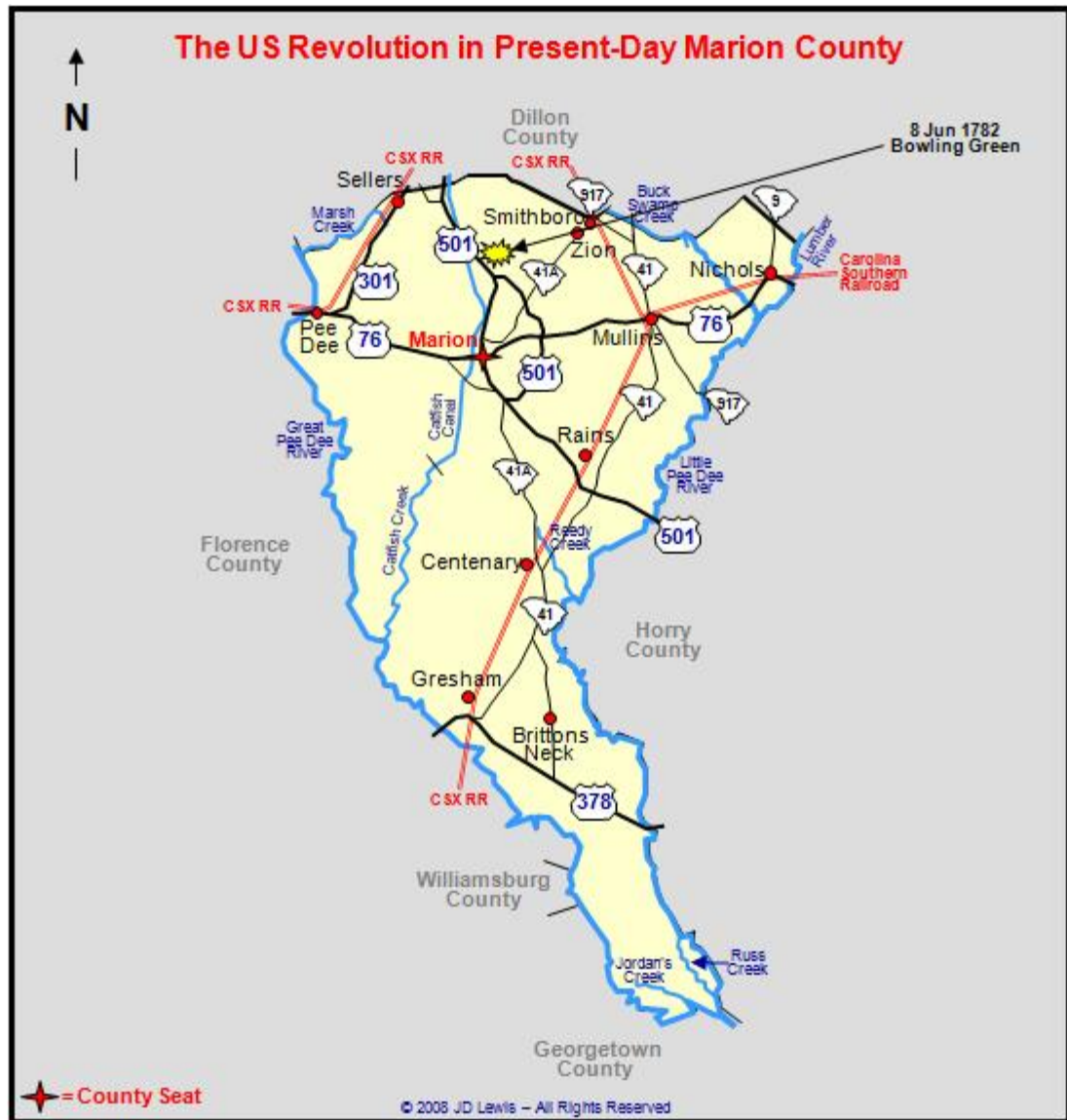
Marion's old enemy, Major Micajah Ganey, commanded the Loyalists in the area of the PeeDee River, near present day Marion. Ganey had made a truce with Francis Marion the previous year (1781) after Georgetown had been captured. This truce was due to expire on June 17th. After a brief skirmish at Bowling Green, Ganey realized that he was surrounded on three sides, and he sued for an

Armistice. Marion invited him to cross the PeeDee and come to conference at Burch's Mill. Marion new that if the country were to be united there would have to be forgiveness for its enemies. The two commanders agreed that the Loyalists should restore all plundered property wherever possible, become peaceable citizens, submit to the laws of the state and sign a declaration of allegiance to South Carolina and the United States. The treaty was good for all Loyalists except Colonel David Fanning, Major Samuel Andrews, and "Bloody" Bill Cunningham. They were to receive no mercy. Ganey's followers laid down their arms at Bowling Green. Ganey told Marion that he would not relinquish his command to Marion but would have to do that with Colonel Balfour from whom he received his Commission. Once that was done Ganey promised that he would return. (O'Kelley, pp. 570-571).

Marion's band attacked and captured a group of Loyalists under Ganey at Bowling Green on June 8, 1782. Ganey subsequently sued for a treaty of peace at nearby Burch's Mill, effectively ending Loyalist resistance in South Carolina.

Bowling Green June 8, 1782

<b>Bowling Green</b>			
<b>June 8, 1782</b>			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Brigadier General Francis Marion	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Micajah Ganey
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	Unknown
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	~500
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Georgetown District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Marion County



aka Burch's Mill.

Brigadier General Francis Marion and his Patriots attacked and captured a group of Loyalists under the command of Major Micajah Gainey. After being captured the Loyalist sued for peace and disbanded. Major Gainey and his 500 men pledged their allegiance to South Carolina and the United States.

Major Gainey's followers laid down their guns at Bowling Green. Major Gainey told Brigadier General Marion that he could not relinquish his command to Marion, but would have to do that to Col. Nisbet Balfour, in Charlestown, from whom he received his commission. Once that was done, Major Gainey promised that he would return. This he did. The treaty signed required the Loyalists to join Marion's

Brigade for a minimum of six months to obtain a full pardon, and most who agreed served faithfully to the end of the war.

The treaty was good for all Loyalists except for Col. David Fanning of North Carolina, Major Samuel Andrews, and Major William Cunningham. They were to receive no mercy.

In his 1833 pension application, North Carolina militiaman Isham Dickeson (R2823) asserted:

"Soon after joining General Marion they set out in pursuit of a Col. Fanning a celebrated Tory Col. who was committing great depredations about Drowning Creek, Raft Swamp, Shoe Heel and Little Pedee -- when they reached a place called the Bowling Green, General Marion selected from his troops one hundred foot men to go out as spies and scouts (of which number this declarant was one) who were placed under the command of Capt. Robert Ellison. After leaving the Main Army, they traversed the country for several days in order to discover, if possible, the hiding place of the Tories. On the night of the third day, they fell in with a small body of them with whom they had a considerable skirmish having killed and wounded several, (the number not known) without losing a man."

Known Patriot Participants	Known British/Loyalist Participants
Brigadier General Francis Marion - Commanding Officer	Major Micajah Gainey
Unknown units with unknown number of men.	Unknown units, ~500 men.

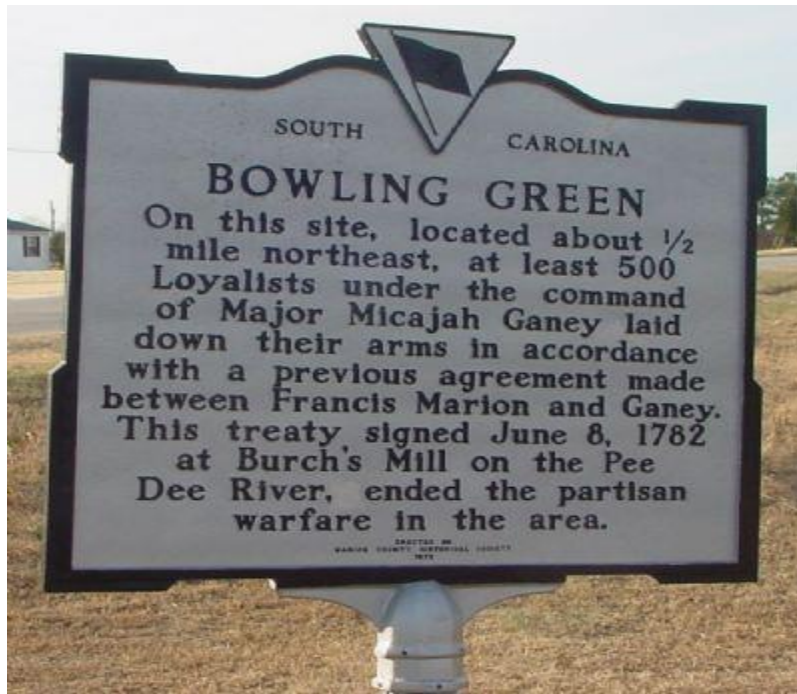
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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_bowling\\_green.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_bowling_green.html)

The Battle of Bowling Green on June 8, 1782, resulted when Marion's Patriots ambushed a group of Loyalists, led by Gainey, just south of Moody's Mill. Marion's men forced Gainey and his men into a nearby field, where they surrendered to Marion and pledged their allegiance to the colonies. (Reed, p.9).

## Bowling Green Historical Marker

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=9983>



As the revolution drew slowly towards its close, Francis Marion became more generous and forgiving. His magnanimity was most strikingly exemplified by his attitude toward the defeated Loyalists. He had scourged Micajah Ganey, Jesse Barfield, John Harrison, and Henry Richbourg, but when they repented, he was ready to welcome them back into the Commonwealth. The Carolina Loyalists had suffered greatly and, as the British power steadily crumbled, they realized that they were facing a day of reckoning.

After a brief skirmish at Bowling Green, Ganey sued for an Armistice. Marion invited him to cross the PeeDee and come to a conference at Burch's Mill. Many of the Whig officers declared that such a meeting with the leader of banditii was beneath the dignity of the Swamp Fox. Francis Marion was unperturbed. And guided by humane principles, he knew that there would have to be forgiveness of enemies if the country were to be united and happy after the war. To his critics he replied modestly: "I am at no higher dignity than that of serving my country." Marion and Ganey met at Burch's Mill on June 8, 1782. They sat down together, negotiated, and signed an equitable treaty. More than 500 of Ganey's followers

laid down their arms at Bowling Green, midway between the PeeDee and the Little PeeDee.

“Honor, Sir, requires that I should yield my Commission to Colonel Balfour, from whom I received it,” Major Ganey told Marion, in asking permission to go to Charleston, “But this done, I shall immediately return to the country and seek your protection.” Seldom has the generosity of a noble spirit been better rewarded. Micajah Ganey surrendered his Commission to Colonel Balfour and resigned from the Loyalist Militia. True to his promise, he returned by way of Marion's headquarters and with many of his followers enlisted for the six months required by law to obtain full pardon. All served loyally until the end of the war. (Bass, *The Swamp Fox*, pp.235-237).

Major Ganey, who commanded the British adherence within the truce ground, thought it now high time to negotiate; and having sent in propositions for that purpose to General Marion, commissioners were appointed to form a treaty. Marion was grievously mortified by the failure of his commissioners; and feeling great anxiety to move to the lower country, the better to protect the families and properties of those who had joined him, now left at the mercy of the British, determined to meet Ganey personally. Appointing, therefore, the gentleman of his family as commissioners, to aid him in negotiation, Ganey was invited, with such of his associates as he chose to name on his part, to cross the river, under the sacred pledge of protection, and the treaty was speedily perfected, that put a final termination to all opposition in the interior. Ganey removed with those who preferred adhesion to the British; But, before his departure, said to General Marion, “Honor requires that I should surrender my commission to Colonel Balfour, from whom I received it. But having done so, I shall immediately return to the country, and seek your protection.” Ganey strictly performed his promise. (Garden, pp.26-27).

After the success of the Thompson expedition, the British had enjoyed some relief from harassment by Francis Marion's brigade in the area north of the Santee River, but by June 1782, Marion had recovered and was once again patrolling the enemy's northern perimeter. General Leslie, hoping to create a disturbance in Marion's rear lines, dispatched an emissary (Major Ganey) to stir up the Loyalist sentiments on Great and Little PeeDee. The Tories in this region, commanded by Major Micajah Ganey, had concluded a truce with General Marion in June 1781, after the Patriots had captured Georgetown. The truce was due to expire on June 17th, 1782, and in view of the Loyalist threat, the governors of North and South

Carolina mounted a joint expedition under Marion's command. The Swamp Fox, who had already drawn up plans for this operation, had Patriot columns ready to move into the truce ground from three directions. The Tories were intimidated by Marion's approach, and they began to sue for terms. After complicated negotiations, a personal meeting was arranged between Marion and Ganey, and on June 8 a new treaty was signed at Burch's Mill on the West side of the PeeDee River. Marion remained at this camp until June 16, then marched north and within a few days crossed the river in the vicinity of Mars Bluff, proceeding to Bowling Green in Marion County, where he accepted the surrender of several hundred Tories. (Lipscomb, Terry W. "South Carolina Revolutionary Battles," *Names in South Carolina*, Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1981).

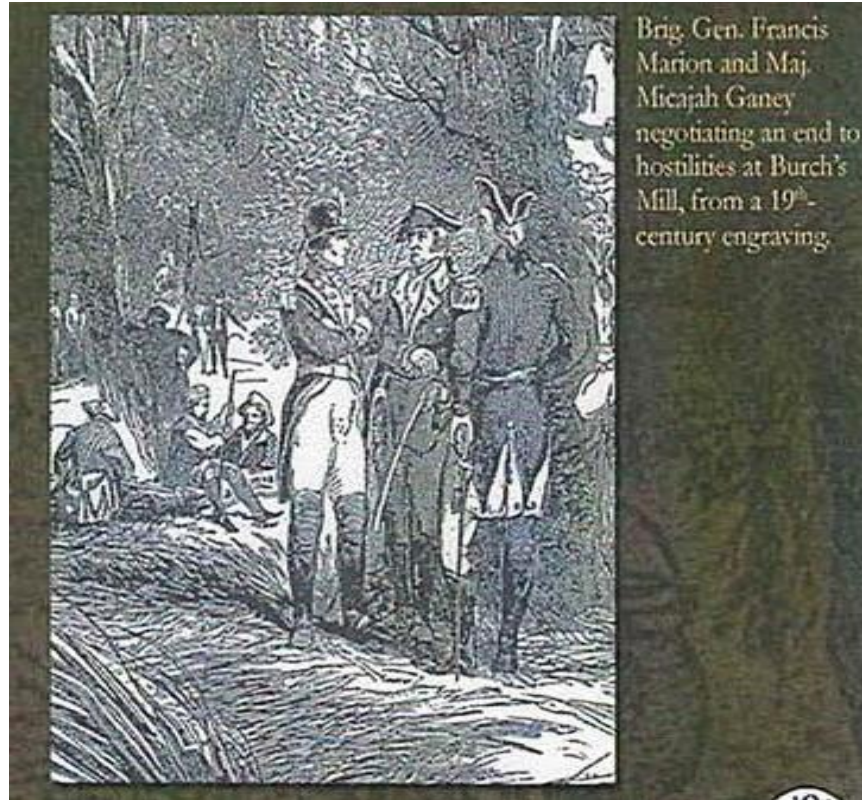
The struggle on the PeeDees, Lynches and Drowning Creeks, Whig and Tory, surpassed in fierceness anything known in other states. Ganey with his 500 Tories were suddenly faced by Marion and his men and Ganey was overcome by Marion's diplomacy rather than by his skill in battle. (Cook, p. 303, 336).

After a skirmish at Bowling Green, the persistent Tory adversary, Major Micajah Ganey, signed the Marion-Ganey treaty on June 8, 1782. The Loyalists showed no real desire to fight. Major Micajah Ganey, leader of the Loyalists, realized the patriots surrounded him on three sides and it sent out a flag of truce asking for a short Armistice to work out disagreements. Marion invited him to cross the PeeDee river and meet him at Burch's Mill. Ganey was unwilling to renew the previous agreement he had worked out with Col. Horry. The Horry-Ganey truce had attempted to end the civil strife that has desolated the area. The first meeting of commissioners from both sides produced so much disagreement that they almost resorted to blows. The conference ended in a breakup, followed by a brief, but fierce skirmish. As a result, it appeared there would be no treaty. The Patriots sent an invitation to Ganey to come in for another conference at Burch's Mill. Several of Marion's brigade officers disapproved of the meeting. They felt that it was below General Marion's dignity to meet with Ganey. Marion quieted them, stating that the meeting was indeed best for the future of the young nation. June 8th, 1782, Ganey and Marion met at Burch's Mill and signed the Marion-Ganey [Treaty]. The treaty was similar to the Horry-Ganey truce of June of 1781. It required a cessation of hostilities, free trade in the region, and the adjudication of disputes by tribunals chosen from both sides. After both parties signed the treaty, more than 500 of Ganey's followers laid down their arms at Bowling Green, located between



the PeeDee and Little PeeDee Rivers and accepted the treaty's terms. The treaty excluded three loyalist leaders, Colonel David Fanning, Major Samuel Andrews, and Major William Cunningham, because they had committed atrocities earlier in the war. Despite some violations, these truces were seen as a drastic improvement in the greater PeeDee region and led to the post conflict resolution of that areas civil war. In 1782 Ganey resigned his British Commission and, with some of his men sought to obtain amnesty by enlisting for six months in the state troops they were part of Marion's force that defeated some holdout Loyalist troops at Wadboo in September 1782. The Marion-Ganey treaty generally lasted for the remainder of the war and assisted with conflict termination in eastern South Carolina. (Aiken, p. 25 and pp.149-150).

Burch's Mill found a special place in history in June 1782 when Tory leader Micajah Ganey came across the river to meet Francis Marion and there signed a truce to end their hostilities. Ganey's career had illustrated the intensity of the civil strife that existed in South Carolina during the revolution, and especially when South Carolina became a fierce battle ground for freedom in 1780. What is now Marion County was sharply divided between Whig and Tory sentiment. Down in Britton's Neck which, unlike now, was populated by many families, the Scotch-Irish settlers were loyal Whigs whose fathers and sons fought with Marion. But up along Catfish Creek and on the little PeeDee, Tory sentiment was strong, and Micajah Ganey who lived on Catfish a few miles from present Marion was their leader. (Rodgers, pp.242-243).



From Francis Marion Trail Commission –  
[https://www.nrtdatabase.org/trailDocuments/4025\\_102\\_francismariontrailcommissiontrailpodcastsigs.pdf](https://www.nrtdatabase.org/trailDocuments/4025_102_francismariontrailcommissiontrailpodcastsigs.pdf) p. 5.

In early June of 1782, the Loyalists saw some hope and were excited, and under Major Ganey, of PeeDee, a Tory leader of considerable local celebrity, (they) appeared in arms. Taking command of Maham's Calvary, Marion proceeded to meet Ganey, who was an old and well-known opponent; and one, like himself, who had a high reputation for his adroitness as a partisan warrior. The rapid progress of Marion, and his sudden appearance before Ganey, convinced the latter that his movement was not likely to be attended by any favorable results; and the willingness of Marion to spare the unnecessary shedding of blood, facilitated a pacification between the parties, and lead to the renewal of a Treaty of neutrality, to which Ganey had bound himself the year before. To this treaty, Marion added a clause permitting such of the Loyalists as wished to, to retire with their property from the country. These terms the Tories were very ready to accept. They saw that they were about to be abandoned by the British and yielded with the best grace to the necessity that pressed upon them.

(Simms, *The History of South Carolina*, p. 376).

General Francis Marion had scarcely reached Dorchester when his ancient enemy, Major Ganey, appeared in arms at the head of a considerable body of troops, both cavalry and infantry. Placing himself at the head of Maham's calvary, Marion promptly advanced in the direction of the enemy. So rapid were Marion's movements and so valiant his watch that he reached the PeeDee country long before his approach was suspected. Three separate bodies of men, come on by a judicious arrangement of our partisan, were prepared to enter the country at the same moment. The effect was such as to paralyze the incipient resolution of the loyalists. The loyalists showed no disposition for fight; and feeling their temper, conscious of his difficulties, and now no longer hopeful of help from the British, Ganey dispatched a flag to Marion with proposals to treat for a pacification. The communication of Ganey expressed the warmest solitude for peace. To this Marion was prepared to listen. Commissioners were appointed on both sides. They met, but, unhappily, they recognized in each other well known personal opponents. They had often met in strife and could not forebear alluding to their encounters. A fierce skirmish followed and the attempt to adjust their differences was renewed between the respective commanders. Marion was anxious to affect a pacification and consented to confer with Ganey in person. This determination was censured by some of his officers. They denounced Ganey as a leader of banditti; and, certainly, his conduct, on many occasions, deserved the reproach. They reproached Marion for committing his dignity and treating with such a person. But this suggestion did not affect him. Marion was governed by views and principles very far superior to those which influence the ordinary soldier. His reply was equally prompt and conclusive. He told them that he "aimed at no higher dignity than that of essentially serving his country." The result was satisfactory to Marion. Making a merit of necessity, Ganey yielded without requiring any further resort to blows. At the Bowling Green, between the Great and Little PeeDee, more than 500 men laid down their arms, submitting to conditions which were rather strict than severe. Marion and Ganey met at Burch's Mill on the 8th of June, and the treaty was drawn up and signed. Major Ganey removed with those who preferred to adhere to the fortunes of the British. Ganey did not side with their determination, but he deemed it a duty to see that those who had followed his arms, should be put in safety beyond the reach of their enemies: an honorable resolve certainly. Before his departure Ganey waited upon Marion and said: "Honor, sir, requires that I should yield my commission to Colonel Belfour from whom I received it; but this done, I shall immediately return to the country and seek your protection." This was frankly promised him and with every confidence in the assurance of Marion, as soon as he

had concluded his affairs in Charleston, he promptly returned and enrolled himself in the American ranks. (Simms, *The Life of Francis Marion*, pp. 311-313).

#### Burch's Mill Treaty – 8 June 1782

Articles of treaty between General Marion, in behalf of South Carolina, and Major Ganey, and the inhabitants under his command, which were included in the truce made the 17th day of June 1781.

Article 1st. Major Ganey, and the men under his command, to lay down their arms as enemies to the state and are not to resume them again until ordered to do so, in support of the interests of the United States, and of this state in particular.

Art. 2d. We will deliver up all negroes, horses, cattle, and other property, that have been taken from this or any other state.

Art. 3d. We will demean ourselves as peaceable citizens of this state, and submit ourselves to be governed by its laws, in the same manner as the rest of the citizens thereof.

Art. 4th. We do engage to apprehend and deliver up all persons within our district, who shall refuse to accede to these terms, and contumaciously persist in rebellion against this state.

Art. 5th. We will deliver up, as soon as possible, every man who belongs to any regular line in the American service, and every inhabitant of North Carolina, of this, or any other state, who have joined us since the 17th of June, 1781, when the former treaty was made, or oblige them to go out of the district; and whenever they return, to take and deliver them into safe custody in any gaol within the state.

Art. 6th. Every man is to sign an instrument of writing, professing his allegiance to the United States of America, and the state of South Carolina in particular; and to abjure his Britannic majesty, his heirs, successors and adherents; and promise to oppose all the enemies of the United States, and the state of South Carolina in particular.

Art. 7th. All arms, ammunition, and other warlike stores, the property of the British, to be delivered up.

Art. 8th. The above seven articles, being agreed on, they shall have a full pardon for treasons committed by them against the state, and enjoy their property, and be protected by the laws thereof.

Art. 9th. Such men who do not choose to accede to these articles, shall have leave to go within the British lines, and to march by the 25th instant, and be safely conducted, with such of their wives and children as may be able to travel, and carry or sell their property, except cattle, sheep and hogs, which they may dispose of, but not carry with them. Such women and children who cannot be removed, may remain until the 1st day of September next. The officers to keep their pistols and side arms; all other arms to be disposed of, and not carried with them. Each field officer and captain to retain one horse, not exceeding twelve in the whole; and no other person to take with him any more horses, that may be fit for dragoon service, within the British lines.

We have agreed to the before-mentioned nine articles, and have signed the same at Birch's mill, on Pedee, this 8th day of June 1782.

FRANCIS MARION, Brigadier General, State of South Carolina.

MICAJAH GANEY, Major of Loyalists, Pedee.



Articles of Treaty between General Marion in behalf of  
the State of S<sup>c</sup> Carolina and Major Gainey & the Inhabitants  
under his Command which were Included in the Treaty made  
the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 1781.—

1<sup>st</sup> Major Gainey & the Men under his Command to lay down their  
Arms, as Enemies, to the State and are not to resume them again  
untill call'd on to do so in support of the Interest of the United  
States and of this State in particular

2<sup>d</sup> We will deliver up all Negroes, Horses, Cattle and other property  
that has been taken from this or any other State

3<sup>d</sup> We will demean ourselves as peaceable Citizens of this State  
and Submit ourselves in future to be Governed by its Laws in  
the same manner as the rest of the Citizens thereof

4<sup>th</sup> We do Engage to Apprehend and deliver up all persons within  
our District who shall refuse to accede to these terms and  
contumaciously persist in Rebellion against the State

5<sup>th</sup> We will deliver up as soon as possible every Man who belongs to  
any Regular Line in the American Service and every Inhabitant  
of North Carolina, this, or any other State who has Join'd you  
since the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 1781 when the former Treaty was made, or oblige  
them to go out of the District, and whenever they return to take and  
deliver them into safe Custody in any Jail within the State—

6<sup>th</sup> Every Man is to sign an Instrument of writing professing their  
Allegiance to the United States of America and the State of  
S<sup>c</sup> Carolina in particular, and to Abjure his British<sup>ick</sup> Ma-  
jesty his Heirs Successors and adherents and promise to oppose  
all the Enemies of the United States, and the State of S<sup>c</sup> Carolina  
in particular—



7. All Arms Ammunition and other Warlike Stores the property of the British to be delivered up -

8. The above Seven Articles being agreed on, they shall have a full pardon for Treasons committed by them against the State, and Enjoy their property and be protected by the Laws thereof

9. Such Men who do not chuse to accede to these Articles shall have leave to go within the British Lines, and to March by the 25<sup>th</sup> Inst, and be safely conducted with such of their Wives and Children as may be able to Travel, and carry or sell their property, Except Cattle Sheep and Hogs, which they may dispose of, but not carry with them, such Women and Children who cannot be removed may remain untill the first day of September next - The Officers to keep their pistols and side Arms, All other Arms to be disposed of and not carried with them - Each Field Officer and Captain to retain one Horse, not exceeding twelve in the whole, and no other person to take with him any more Horses that may be fit for the Dragoon Service, within the British Lines -

We have agreed to the before mentioned Nine Articles and have sign'd the same at Burches Mill on Pedee this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 1782 -

(sign'd)

Thos: Marion  
Brig. Genl. Militia  
State S<sup>c</sup> Carolina

(sign'd)

Micajah Ganey Maj. Loyalist  
S<sup>c</sup> D.

Treaty between Genl Marion  
and Micajah Ganey  
June 5<sup>th</sup> 1782

Treaty -



Francis Marion, Articles of Treaty between General Marion in behalf of the State of So. Carolina and Major Ganey & the Inhabitants under his Command, June 8, 1782.  
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC00496.270)

Gilder Lehrman Collection #: GLC00496.270 Author/Creator: Marion, Francis  
(1732-1795) Place Written: Burch's Mill on Pedee, South Carolina

Date: 8 June 1782

Summary of Content:

Clerical copy of treaty made between loyalist Major Micajah Ganey and American General Francis Marion. Ganey promises to disarm and swear allegiance to America. The second article notes that Ganey "will deliver up all Negroes, Cattle and other property." They loyalists will also give up all who do not agree to the terms and all their prisoners. In return, Ganey's men will be pardoned from treason charges. Those who do not accede "shall have leave to go within the British Lines."

The Marion-Ganey Treaty of nine articles was published near and far...from the nearby Parker's Ferry Gazette, to the Charles-Town Royal South-Carolina Gazette (29 June 1782), and to The London Chronicle, England (August 13, 1782), and to the world.

Major Ganey and his Loyalist militia agreed to surrender and part of the agreement was that Major Micajah Ganey would pledge himself to serve six months active duty under the command of General Francis Marion. Micajah Ganey, despite his wrong mindedness in political affiliations, was a man of principle. After requesting and receiving permission from Marion, he journeyed into Charleston and formally resigned his royal militia commission to General Leslie. Then he returned to Marion's headquarters where he and a number of his followers enlisted for the six months required by law to secure a full pardon. They were to distinguish themselves in future activities. (Rankin, pp. 282-283).

Burch's Mill June 8, 1782

[https://historicalmarkerproject.com/markers/HM10BQ\\_burchs-mill\\_Pamplico-SC.html](https://historicalmarkerproject.com/markers/HM10BQ_burchs-mill_Pamplico-SC.html)

Inscription:

### South Carolina's First Civil War Nears It's End

In South Carolina, the Revolutionary War had many of the characteristics of a civil war, with those who supported independence, (the Whigs or Patriots) fighting against neighbors and kinsfolk who remained loyal to the King (the Tories or Loyalists). Both sides commandeered food, supplies, horses, and livestock from the rural population, while most of the people ~ black, white, and red ~ probably just wanted to be left alone.

Late in the spring of 1782, with the British military efforts in South Carolina collapsing, a treaty between Brig. Gen. Francis Marion and Pee Dee Loyalist leader, Maj. Micaiah Ganey, was soon to expire. On June 2 Marion wrote Ganey that they should come to a new agreement in order to prevent the "effusion of blood and distress of the women and children." Marion invited him to meet near here at Burch's Mill, site of a farming settlement, grist mill, and river ferry ~ and a well-known stopping place for Whig, Tory and British forces alike.

On June 8, 1782, after an intense negotiation, Marion and Ganey signed a new treaty in which the loyalist agreed to lay down their arms, return civilian property where possible, and serve in the Patriot Militia for six months. The agreement signaled the end of partisan warfare in the Pee Dee region.

General Marion made a treaty of neutrality with them (Ganey's Tories). In the summer of 1782 this was formerly [sic] renewed. Though the British interest was entirely ruined, and their departure from Charlestown soon expected, such was the generosity of the government, that it gave them a full pardon for all treasons committed against the State, the secularity of their property, and the protection of the laws, on the condition of their delivering up their plunder, abjuring the King of Great Britain, and demeaning themselves as peaceable citizens of the State. An alternative was offered to those who disapproved of these articles, to go within the British lines, and to carry off or sell their property. These lenient measures brought over the disaffected people of the settlement. Several of them not long after fought bravely under General Marion, and the whole conducted themselves peaceably. Regularity, order and government took the place of reciprocal depredations and hostilities.

(Ramsay, p.269).

The continued nonobservance of their solemn stipulations led to a projected expedition in June of the next year [1782], concerted between Governor Matthews, of South Carolina, and Governor Martin, of North Carolina, to subdue Gainey and his party, who were marauding in both States. General Marion was to have the command; and as soon as it became known, it brought Gainey to terms. At Burch's Mill, on Pedee, a treaty was signed (June, 1782) , by which the Tories agreed to lay down their arms as enemies of the State, to demean themselves thereafter as peaceable citizens, to deliver up all stolen property, to apprehend all who did not accede to the treaty then made, to take all deserters from the American army and deliver them up, to return to their allegiance, and abjure that of his Britannic Majesty. From this treaty, Gibson, who killed Colonel Kolb, and Fanning and his party, were excepted, but they escaped. (Gibbes's "Documentary History," 1781-82, p. 98. Gregg, History of the Old Cheraws, p. 376).

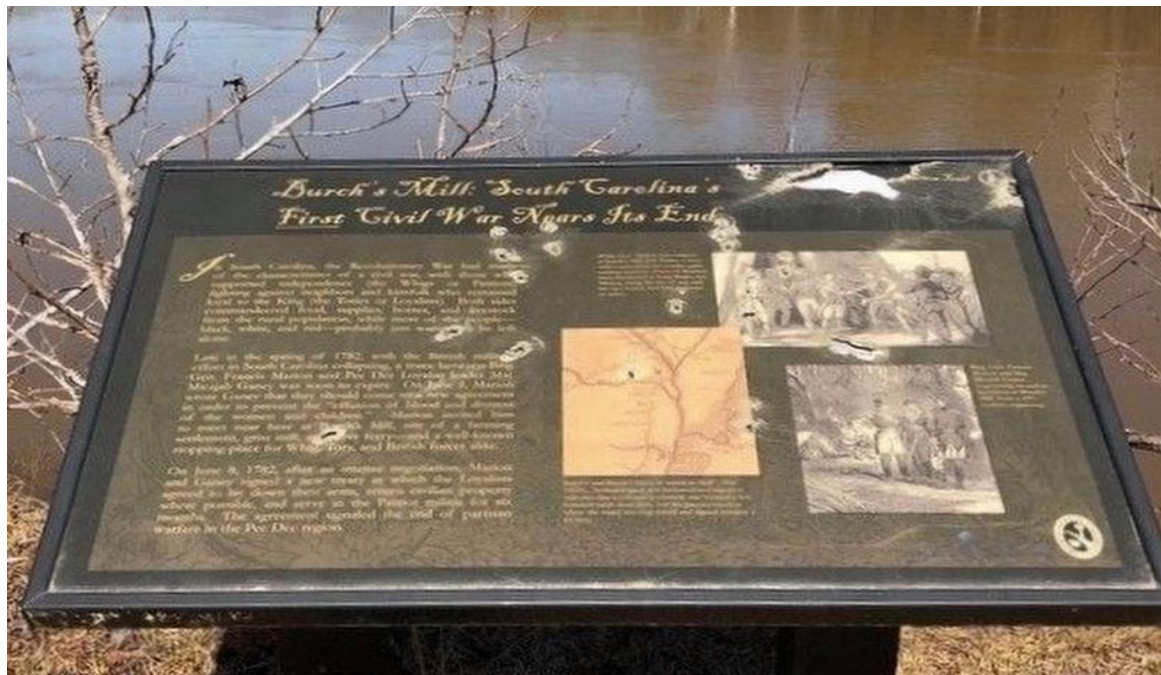
### **Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department, Volume Two**

**by Henry Lee** <https://leefamilyarchive.org/papers/books/south/notes2.html>

(See end of document).

### **Burch's Mill Treaty – Historical Marker**

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=115304>



Burch's Mill: South Carolina's First Civil War Nears It's End Marker

Inscription: In South Carolina, the Revolutionary War had many of the characteristics of a civil war, with those who supported independence, (the Whigs or Patriots) fighting against neighbors and kinsfolk who remained loyal to the King (the Tories or Loyalists). Both sides commandeered food, supplies, horses, and livestock from the rural population, while most of the people ~ black, white, and red ~ probably just wanted to be left alone.

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General Francis Marion remained at Burch’s Mill for several days to accept loyalty oaths and give amnesty to Ganey’s followers. Among those who came in was one named Jeff Butler whose atrocities against Whigs in the PeeDee were deeply resented by Marion's men. So strong was there feeling that members of the brigade declared their purpose to see Butler killed no matter what concessions he was granted. True to the terms of the agreement, General Marion warned his men that “both law and honor sanction my resolution” to protect the life of anyone who submitted to the terms of the truce. Marion then placed a Butler in his own tent for safety. Told by his men that “Butler shall be dragged to death from your tent,” Marion asked his officers to send him men in whom they placed the greatest confidence. To these he said that, though he held Butler in highest contempt, he would protect him from death or perish himself in the attempt. When night came, they slipped Butler out of the camp to safety.

Ganey's conduct continued honorable for the remaining months of the war. Ganey asked and was given permission by Marion to go to Charleston to resign his royal militia Commission to British General Leslie. This done, he returned to Marion's headquarters and enlisted for the six-month service required by law to obtain a full pardon. At Fairlawn (also Wadboo), Marion’s last battle, Ganey fought valiantly

by his side.

But neither Ganey nor his men were welcomed back into the society of loyal citizens. Feeling against him was so strong in Marion County, says Alexander Greg in his *History of the Old Cheraws*, that he was forced to exile himself to Richmond County in North Carolina.

As for Marion's followers, Lieutenant Colonel Lemuel Benton of the Cheraw militia addressed a letter to Governor Matthews complaining bitterly about "Ganey's truce men who have been received by General Marion as citizens, and are now doing military duty, and enjoying equal privileges with your best soldiers and citizens who have borne the burden and heat of the day." (Gregg, pp.388-389).

Lieutenant Colonel Lemuel Benton had good reason for his resentment. It had been Ganey's Tories who had slain his friend, Colonel Abel Kolb, and burnt his home at Long Bluff (now Society Hill).

Today at Burch's Mill stands you will find nothing to indicate that on a day in June 1782 Francis Marion and Micajah Ganey met and signed a document that took Ganey's Tories out of the war and released Marion to help press and push the British back into Charleston, which they evacuated in December of 1782. (Rodgers, pp. 247-248).

As formal military campaigning grew less frequent, partisans reached agreements designed to end the civil conflict in two areas. The Horry/Marion-Ganey truce of 1781 in the PeeDee worked fairly well until it was broken in the spring of 1782, each side charging the other with bad faith. When Fanning's raids throughout the little PeeDee caused the state governors of the Carolinas to plan a joint expedition to break loyalist resistance there, Marion renewed negotiations, and he and Ganey signed another agreement similar to that of 1781 except that Fanning and his men were exempt from its provisions. Ganey then resigned his British commission and, with some of his men, sought to obtain amnesty by enlisting for six months in the state troops. They were part of Marion's force that inflicted casualties on the South Carolina Royalists in September, and the truce lasted for the rest of the war. Ganey's action was not popular with some of his erstwhile followers, however, and

threats against his life caused him to move into North Carolina after the war. (Lambert, p. 224-225).

Letter - Brig. Gen. Francis Marion to Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene Burch's on PD [Pee Dee River] 9th June 1782 .

Sir ;

On my way to this Place I met Major [Joseph B.?] Lewis & Captain [Ananias] Gainey as a flag from Major [Micajah] Gainey to know my Intentions in marching this way & what terms I would Grant them[.] I appointed the 3d Inst. to meet. Accordingly, I sent Col. [Richard] Richardson [Jr.], Col. [John] Baxter & Major [John] James (Col. Horry was to be one but was taken sick on the road) to hold a Conference with Major Ganey & two of his Officers & give him my proposals, of Accommodation, after Conferring with them & shew them the predicament they were In. They Appointed yesterday to give an Answer as I Desired, they would consult all their people & agree on the terms they could not do it sooner. Accordingly, I met Majors Gainey & Lewis, & Captains Lewis & Long. I found Great Difficult in coming on any terms, but by Granting the 8th Article as it now stands, they Complied. My reasons for granting them that article, was I found there was some men who had Committed so many Enormities that my men would kill them though they had been pardoned, & they were so Attached to the British that they would never Comply With any terms, consequently would always give us a Great deal of trouble to subdue them, with that of your recommendation not to shed Blood If it could possibly be avoided, which must have be done not only with that Set but all the rest in certain Destruction, though the task would be Difficult to Effect & would take more time than we could spare, as they would not face us but skulked in swamps until I returned, when they would come out & be worse than ever. These reasons I hope will be thought sufficient for Granting them such terms.<sup>2</sup> Colo Fanning & a Major Andrews from North Carolina with thirty men Came to Gainey a few days before we concluded & will now Endeavor to make his way to the British with his wife & 9 Negroes. The most who will not submit are Officers & a few privates. Since I arrived here twenty men of the Lynches Creek Inhabitants who had been very troublesome has Come in & that part of the country will be Entirely Clear of the Disaffected, some others about thirty men on the upper part of Cheraws who Joined Gainey after the truce was made came in & submitted. There will be a few men on the North line who was not under control of Either party will yet be troublesome but hope, to settle them in such a manner that

will Leave that part of the District in peace for the future.

I have the Honor to be Y r Obvt S r

Frans Marion RCS

(Conrad, *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene, Vol. 11: 7 April-30 September 1782*.pp.313-314).

Letter - General Francis Marion records his version of the events in a letter to Col. Peter Horry written the day after the Burch's Mill truce:

Burch's, June 9, 1782

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 5th inst. came to hand. I am very sorry to hear you are yet sick.

Yesterday, Major Ganey and myself signed a treaty. The principles are to submit it, and those who do not choose it or to be permitted to go within the enemy's lines with their wives and children, and their movable property, except stock, which they may sell. It seems all the officers will go, and a few men who are so notorious as they will not be suffered to live. Col. Fanning, with 30 men, came a few days ago in the truce, and is thought will endeavor to make his way to Charleston; but it is not unlikely he may make some attempt on your post, as his number is increased since he came. You will, therefore, guard against any sudden attack, by keeping a lookout at Wragg's and Black River Ferries... letter continues with administrative instructions to Colonel Horry...

Your obedient servant, Francis Marion

Documentary History of the American Revolution, 2: 187-188.

Letter from General Marion to Colonel Peter Horry

Burch's, June 12, 1782

Dear Sir;

Yours of the 10th came to hand the last evening, with the coffee, and shall be obliged to you to send a few pounds of sugar per bearer. Provisions are so scarce here, that I am obliged to send boats down for rice. You will send by express 30 barrels, from whomever may have it, without regard of public or private property or engagements. If notwithstanding anything they may say, for without a supply I must move down, which would be the worst consequence, until I can fully see the treaty properly executed. Mr. Fanning is very busy in recruiting men. On Friday next Ganey is to have a meeting of his people, to see who are to go to town, and who stay. I only wait until then, when I shall March over the river and overawe those who may be wavering or will not give up or go to town. If Major Skelly is landed, I desire he may be paroled in a house where he may be gently and politely treated; and you will tell them I should have no objection to parole him to



Charleston, if he would get Lieutenant Henry Ravenel paroled within our lines. I am told he is put in the provost; if so, Major Skelley will be detained until he is liberated. You will give the Major a flag to General Leslie, to affect that matter, and send his letters, after perusing them; this I wish may be done immediately. Enquire of the captain of the vessel who captured Major Skelly, if he found no letters or papers about him, as he must be charged with some important business to the commander in Georgia. Three boats set out this day for the rice; if they can take more than 30 barrels, they must bring them. I beg the rice may be ready by the time they arrive.

I am, dear Sir, your obedient servant,  
Francis Marion  
(Gibbes, pp. 188-189).

Letter from Governor Matthews to General Marion  
Cane Acre, June 15th, 1782

Sir:

Your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst., enclosing the articles of agreement entered into with Ganey and his party, came safe to me on the 13th. I took the earliest opportunity of laying them before the Council for their consideration, and, after weighing them with that circumspection, which was due to their interesting contents, they have signified their unanimous approbation of the same. They also met with my most hearty concurrence; and permit me, Sir, to express to you the high sense I entertain of the services you have rendered to the State on this important occasion. The measures adopted by you are so well calculated, that they could not fail to produce the favorable issue which has attended them; and I think there is every reason to expect that the advantages to be desired to the State from so happy a termination of this matter, will still be more diffusive than they have yet appeared to be, and will, in a short time, work a total extinction of that spirit of discord which has so unfortunately pervaded this State for some time past. It is necessary I should have the names of the persons who are parties to the agreement, as every man's name must be included in the proclamation of pardon; I should, therefore, be glad you would forward them to me as soon as you can, and, in the meantime inform them of the reasons for delaying the proclamation, as they might otherwise suspect and intention of avoiding it. I have no particular orders to give, but I must earnestly recommend your earliest attention to be paid to the militia of this brigade, who are the most incorrigibly obstinate and perverse beings that I have ever met with, and who are absolutely a disgrace to the state. I am convinced, from repeated experiments I've made of them, that nothing but the most rigid execution of the

militia law with regard to them, can ever bring them to a proper sense of their duty. And speaking of their brigade, it is necessary I should inform you that the militia of the islands are by no means to be included in the censure; on the contrary, they merit applause; for, notwithstanding their exposed situation, they early submitted, and, whilst the other parts of the brigade were behaving in the most unwarrantable manner, they cheerfully submitted to every order given them, and have repeatedly repulsed the attacks of the enemy on the islands, and as far as I have had occasion to employ them, they have done their duty. I have this moment received your letter of the 16th inst. Most of its contents have already been observed upon. The mode in which you propose to treat Major Skelly, I think maybe productive of very good consequences. I sent Mr. Wilson, the sheriff of Cheraw's, his Commission three months ago, and am surprised to find he has not received it. It must be laying somewhere at Georgetown; but if he cannot get it, I will send him another. However, his not having the commission need not prevent him from acting. The appointment by the legislature is the substantial part; the commission is more a matter of form.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant.

John Matthews

Letter to Gen. [Nathanael] Greene from General Alexander Leslie

Date: June 30, 1782

Description: The treaty entered into by Maj. Ganey with Gen. Marion, though made in the name of the inhabitants of the Little Peedee District, was without the concurrence of the greater part of them; Gen. Greene will doubtless concur in any measures for reestablishing tranquility; under the terms imposed by Ganey on his associates, the removal of a greater part of them to this place would seem a natural result; in such case, the means of providing their own subsistence must be afforded them, but that might only spread calamity where he wishes to see peace; he is anxious therefore either to reestablish the truce or to make a permanent treaty for them with Greene; the bearers, Capt. Blucke, and Cols. Cassels and Gray of the [Loyalist] militia, have power to negotiate on this subject.

Copy. Endorsed. Physical Description: General Leslie Letterbook 3 pp.

After the Butler affair with the signing of the Burch's Mill Treaty, David Fanning also appeared in the neighborhood with a party of 30 men, hoping to recruit

support and swearing he would get Marion “dead or alive.” Marion spread his men out in a small net of groups to stamp out any brush fires of revolt that might spring up. Fanning went on into Charleston and sent out a flag asking that his wife be permitted to join him. Ganey supported the request of his former comrade in arms. Marion, over the protest of his officers, granted the request, explaining that if he refused, “we fix a serpent in our bosom.” Although Marion gave Mrs. Fanning a safe conduct, Fanning complained, Marion “would not let her have any of her property not even a negro to wait on her.” Fanning’s anger festered and from this time on he almost daily solicited General Leslie for a command, and allowed he would “for a handsome reward,” bring the heads of both Marion and Greene into Charleston. (Rankin, pp. 283-284).

## 1782 – July

### Georgetown Militia Pay Abstracts

"Hq Jul 3, 1782. General Leslie desires you will give Major Ganey 20 pounds for the use of himself and detachment that have served under him." signed George Sharp, Aide-de-Camp  
attest: Robert Gray, Colonel

(PRO T50, Vol 2)

Pay Abstract Nr 135, Colonel Robert Gray's Regiment, Georgetown Militia, SC, Little Peedee Militia, partial payments

Nr	Rank	Name	Remarks
1	Major	Ganey, Micajah	
1	Captain	Wright, Wall	
2	"	Ganey, Ananias	
3	"	Williams, Mesech	
1	Lieutenant	McFaddon, William	
1	Sergeant	Palmer, David	

Pay Abstract Nr 142, Donations to the Militia for Extraordinary Services, Charlestown, SC. Lieut General Leslie's Orders folded up and marked "vouchers for Abstract Nr 142." Little Pee-dee Militia, who accompanied Captain Mesech Williams and Major Ganey to this place as a guard, 5 July 1782

Nr	Rank	Name	Remarks
1	Private	Anderson, William	
2	"	Blocker, Stephen	
3	"	Lemuel, Causeway	
4	"	Hux, Joseph	
5	"	Mayes, Richard	
6	"	McClenning, McLean	
7	"	Price, Samuel	
8	"	Rayburn, Thomas	

(Privates who received \$1.8.0)

The above men were ordered six dollars apiece, besides the six dollars they received above to put them on a footing with the sergeants and privates whose names immediately follow:

Nr	Rank	Name	Remarks
1	Sergeant	Palmer, David	
1	Private	Harrel, Jeremiah	
2	"	Harrel, William, paid his son, Jeremiah Harrel	
3	"	Phillips, John	
4	"	Phillips, William	
5	"	Tindall, James	
6	"	Wall, Michael	
7	"	Wiggins, Elias	

"To Robert Gray, Pay Master, from Edward Scott, Secretary. Hq Charlestown, SC, 5 Jul 1782, Pay to Captain Mesech Williams, 20 pounds, six shillings, sterling, in part of his pay and give each of the above-mentioned privates a donation of 12 dollars each."

(PRO T50, Vol 3)

# LOYALISTS IN THE SOUTHERN CAMPAIGN, VOLUME I

Pay Abstract Nr 148, Colonel Robert Gray's Regiment, Georgetown Militia, SC, Little Peedee Militia, for nine-months pay in lieu of all their service in the back country, 9 Jul 1782

Nr	Rank	Name	Remarks
1	Major	Ganey, Micajah	
1	Captain	Ganey, Ananias	
2	"	Williams, Mesech	
3	"	Wall, Wright	
1	Lieutenant	McPhaddon, William	
1	Sergeant	Palmer, David	
1	Private	Anderson, William	
2	"	Blocker, Stephen	
3	"	Conway, Lamb	
4	"	Harrel, Jeremiah	
5	"	Harrel, William, sick, paid his son	
6	"	Hux, Joseph	
7	"	Mayes, Richard	
8	"	McClenning, McLean	
9	"	Price, Samuel	
10	"	Phillips, John	
11	"	Phillips, William	
12	"	Rayburn, Thomas	
13	"	Tindall, James	
14	"	Wall, Michael	
15	"	Wiggins, Elias	
Addition:			
2	Lieutenant	Kirby, William	
		attest: Robert Gray, Pay Master	
		Colonel	

(PRO T50, Vol 3)

\*Above Georgetown Militia Pay Abstracts come from Clark, Murtie June.  
*Loyalists in the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War in the Southern*

Letter from Major General Nathanael Greene to Brigadier General Francis Marion  
 Headquarters, Mr. Cattles Planation [Ashley Hills]

July 9<sup>th</sup> 1782

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 16th of June and 8th of July I have had the pleasure to receive and am made happy that you have brought Major Ganey, and his party, to submit to the laws of the State without making much use of force. Nothing reflects more honor upon an officer than accomplishing that by Address which others could affect only by force. To save the effusion of human blood must be the wish of every humane and generous bosom.

I fancy you must be mistaken about Mr. Ravenel's being in confinement. Capt. Warren, our commissary of prisoners, was in town to examine the state of all the prisoners, as well militia as regulars; his report contains no such thing. Capt. Skelly

is released in consideration of Judge Pendleton being set at liberty. The Judge has come out and Capt. Skelly gone in. Should it be found that Mr. Ravenel is in confinement, which I cannot suppose, I will write to General Leslie on the subject.

It is evidently for the interest of those corps of Maham's and Hampton's to be incorporated, neither would have existence long without it; but by being consolidated, they will have, perhaps, a permanency during the war, and provision made for them accordingly. You will inform the officers therefore that it is a matter settled between myself and the Governor that the two corps be united, and that they are to be considered in future upon the State establishment. This was thought advisable after the fullest examination of the matter and I hope the officers will make no difficulty in concurring in a measure equally beneficial to them, as necessary for the public good.

The requisition for the Militia was upon the supposition that the Garrison of Savannah might come to Charlestown and give the Enemy such an additional force as to enable them to give a blow to our army. I believe Savannah is not fully evacuated, and therefore nothing to apprehend at present. You will remain therefore on the other side of Cooper River between that and Santee, to protect the people from the daily depredations of little parties from Charlestown. If the garrison of Savannah arrives, I will advertise you and direct you where to form a junction with me. It is said that Fanning is determined to have you dead or alive therefore, take care of yourself. It is also reported by a person in the enemies' secrets that a large party of the enemy is to move out soon into St. Thomas and St. Stephens Parish.

I am, dear sir,

N Greene

Postscript - July 10, 1782. By a woman from town last night, I have just heard the garrison of Savannah is actually arrived at Charlestown. If it should prove true, you will hear from me again immediately.

(Conrad, *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene, Vol. 11: 7 April-30 September 1782*.pp.421-422).

July 11, 1782, the British evacuated Savannah, Georgia.

Letter from Governor Matthews to General Marion  
Ashley river, July 18th, 1782

Sir,

... It affords me very singular pleasure to hear you have finally settled the tranquility of the district of little PeeDee; so happy a conclusion to an affair, which, in its first stage, wore but a gloomy aspect, reflects great honor on you, Sir, and promises lasting advantage to the State. Pray, is Ganey returned; I wish he may not be playing a fast and loose game.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

John Matthews

### **1782 – August**

Letter from Colonel Lemuel Benton to Governor Matthews  
Saint David's, Great PeeDee, August 20th 1782

Sir;

Though I have not the honor of a personal acquaintance with you, I am now under the necessity of humbly addressing you in this manner in behalf of the parish and regiment I have the honor to represent and command - a people that have ever stood foremost among those, by their inflexible attachment to their country; suffered many capital distresses, nor did not despair of success in our greatest extremity. Although we have so long been at such a distance from the enemy's lines, and suffering every murder, plundering and cruelty, that could be perpetuated by a banditti of the most desperate villains and mulattoes, immediately bordering on our settlements, we have, on all occasions, turned out, and kept in General Marion's camp equal numbers with any in his brigade. Part of those who were under a truce that have not surrendered, and many other of villains in this part of the country, that still continue their outrage, render the lives and property of the good citizens very unsafe; and this disorder, in all probability, must continue, and the reestablishment of good order and civil law hindered, except you, in your goodness, will indulge my regiment with a sufficient guard to the goal, as it is insufficient of its use; with orders for supplies of provisions for that and the poor inhabitants; an armed party to detect and bring to punishment the refractory and disobedience, which may warm desire for that purpose will induce me to engage to have punctuality performed, with all due moderation, for the good of this country, and agreeably to any instructions you may think proper to give me, which I could do, and keep one-fourth on the field uncommon occasions, and an extraordinary emergencies with cheerfulness turn out one-half. My feelings will not let me omit



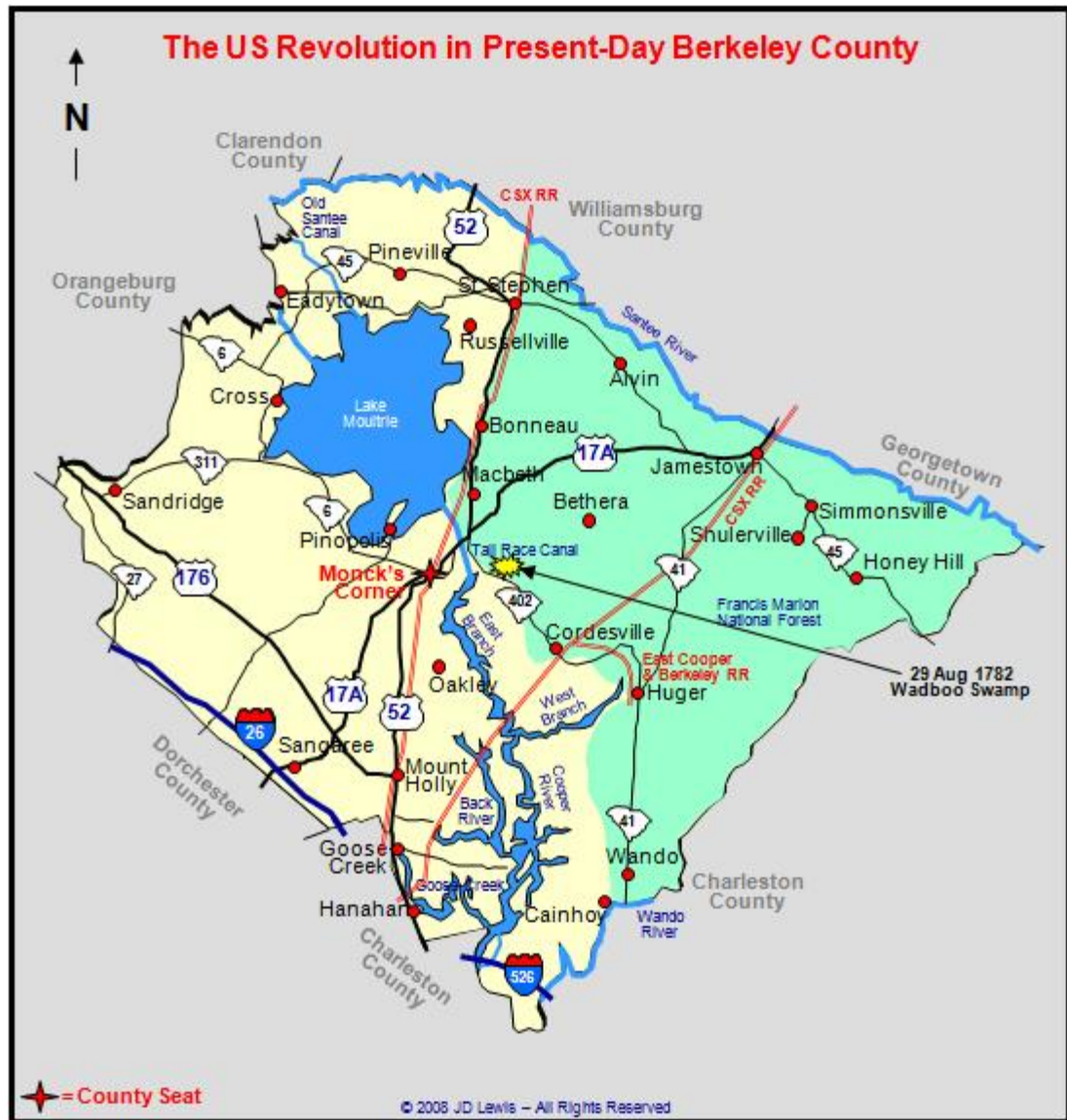
mentioning to you some characters among them of Major Ganey's truce men, who have been received by General Marion as citizens, and are now doing military duty, and enjoying equal privileges with your best soldiers and citizens, who have borne the burden and heat of the day. Such I mean as were meant to be exempted by an act of the late General Assembly at Jacksonborough - men who have burned, plundered, and in cold blood (after many of our worthiest men had surrendered as prisoners of war) in the most ignominious and cruel manner taken their lives, particularly Colonel Abel Kolb, my worthy predecessor, and a gentleman formerly a member of the assembly, a justice of the peace, a good officer and a useful citizen, and capital loss to this part of the country; and the very villains that perpetuated this wanton, horrid murder, burning and plundering, are now, in the face of his distressed family and friends, received and restored to equal privileges with the men who have suffered everything by them that it was in their power and savage disposition to inflict.

I am, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant

Lamb Benton, Lieutenant Colonel Commander Cheraw Militia

Wadboo Swamp August 29, 1782

Wadboo Swamp			
August 29, 1782			
<b><u>Patriot Cdr:</u></b>	Brigadier General Francis Marion	<b><u>Loyalist Cdr:</u></b>	Major Thomas Fraser
<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Killed:</u></b>	4
<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Wounded:</u></b>	6
<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	0	<b><u>Captured:</u></b>	1
<b><u>Old District:</u></b>	Charles Town District	<b><u>Present County:</u></b>	Berkeley County



aka Fair Lawn Plantation, aka Avenue of Cedars.

Near Moncks Corner, Provincial Major Thomas Fraser with more than one hundred cavalry and dragoons confidently charged a mixed infantry and cavalry force under Brigadier General Francis Marion's command. The Provincials lost one captain killed, three enlisted killed, several wounded, and one captured by Brigadier General Marion's men. Patriot losses were nil. This was Brigadier General Francis Marion's last engagement against the Royal Dragoons under Major Thomas Fraser.

Major General Alexander Leslie needed fresh meat for his hospital in Charlestown, so he sent out Major Thomas Fraser and his Royalists. Major Fraser crossed the Cooper River and set out to surprise the Patriot guards at Biggin

Bridge and Strawberry Ferry. He thought that Brigadier General Francis Marion was supervising the defenses of Georgetown, but he was wrong.

Brigadier General Marion had finished with Georgetown and had returned to his post near the Cooper River, at the old house of Sir John Colleton, known as Fair Lawn Plantation, on the south side of the Wadboo River.

When Brigadier General Marion learned of the approaching foraging party his cavalry was patrolling down the Wadboo River looking for British galleys. He organized a small force under Capt. Gavin Witherspoon and sent him to find Major Thomas Fraser's foraging party. Then, he put his infantry into a line of battle. Part was assigned to the side of a cedar lined road in an ambush position. The rest was placed in and around the slave cabins on a nearby plantation.

Brigadier General Marion did not totally trust all of his men. Joining him for the first time was Major Micajah Gainey and forty of his men, all who had recently "converted" from Loyalist to Patriot due to a recent agreement at [Bowling Green](#).

Major Fraser approached Marion's position and was able to capture some of Marion's pickets. He then detected Capt. Witherspoon in the woods and immediately charged. Capt. Witherspoon and his men turned back toward Fair Lawn Plantation at a full gallop. As Capt. Witherspoon and his mounted men neared the plantation, they fell behind in the ambush kill zone to let the Loyalist cavalry catch up. As he waited, a Loyalist dragoon darted forward prepared to strike Capt. Witherspoon with his sword. Capt. Witherspoon calmly brought up his carbine and fired buckshot into the man's chest.

As Major Fraser's dragoons came within thirty yards of the ambush site, Marion's hidden men shouted a cheer and fired a volley. Major Fraser tried to rally his men, but they were being cut down on both sides of the road. The Provincials lingered around the plantation for an hour looking for an advantage, but Brigadier General Marion had planned too well. During the skirmish, a wagon full of ammunition was lost and Marion's men were low on ammo. He gave the order to retreat to the Santee River. This would be Brigadier General Francis Marion's last fight.

Marion was later asked to strike at British foraging parties coming out of Charlestown, but he guarded the British instead as they looked for food. He said:

"My Brigade is composed of citizens, enough of whose blood has been shed already. If ordered to attack the enemy, I shall obey; but with my consent, not another life shall be lost, though the event that the enemy are on the eve of departure, so far from offering to molest, I would rather send a party to protect them."

Known Patriot Forces	Known British/Loyalist Forces
Brigadier General Francis Marion - Commanding Officer	Major Thomas Fraser - Commanding Officer  SC Royalists led by Major Thomas Fraser with 100 men, including Capt. George Dawkins (wounded)

<p>Lt. Col. Alexander Swinton of the Georgetown District Regiment of Militia, with three known detached Patriot companies:</p> <p>Berkeley County Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capt. Gavin Witherspoon</li> </ul> <p>Cheraws District Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capt. Peter DuBose</li> </ul> <p>Lower Craven County Regiment of Militia detachment of one (1) known company, led by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capt. John Rogers</li> </ul> <p>Major Micajah Gainey with 40 men</p>	<p>Campbell's Troop of Light Dragoons led by Lt. Stephen Jarvis</p> <p>NC Independent Dragoons led by Capt. Robert Gillies (killed) with 60 men, including Lt. Dougald Cockburg</p> <p>Independent Troop of Black Dragoons led by Capt. March</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>
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[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_wadboo\\_swamp.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_wadboo_swamp.html)

Wadboo Barony: Francis Marion's Last Headquarters -  
<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=53891> – Historical Marker



Inscription: Wadboo was a native American name given to the enormous landholding of James Colleton, a son of Sir John Colleton, who was one of the original eight Lords Proprietors of the Carolina colony. On August 29, 1782, a British foraging party, made up of white and black troops and commanded by Maj. Thomas Fraser, attacked Brig. Gen. Francis Marion and his militiamen at Wadboo, where they had camped the night before. Arranging his Brigade around the main house and slave quarters and along a lane of large cedar trees (across the creek from here), Marion beat back the British attack. During the engagement, Maj. Micajah Ganey, a former Tory who had recently come over to the Whig side in a treaty at Burch's Mill, fought heroically with Marion. From shortly after the skirmish until the British abandoned South Carolina in December, Francis Marion made Wadboo his headquarters. Here on December 15, 1782, the day after the British evacuation of Charleston, Marion dismissed his Brigade and made for his own ruined plantation of Pond Bluff." (Source: Historical Marker at Wadboo Creek)

It is remarkable, that at Wadboo Major Micajah Ganey was placed in the ranks with about 40 of his men, at the very point on which the British Calvary made their principal attack, and greatly contributed to their discomfiture and repulse. Several of General Marion's principal officers were impressed with the opinion, that he had committed his dignity, and personally treating with Ganey, whom they regarded in no better light, than a leader of banditti; but he silenced their censures by asserting, "That the only dignity he aspired to, was that of essentially serving his country." (Garden, p. 27).

Among those who fought with Marion that day were Micajah Ganey and his ex-Tories, and the little general was pleased with the way they had stood fast and fought their ex-allies. (Rankin, p. 287).

The engagement at Wadboo plantation, also known as Avenue of the Cedars, was to be Marion's last as a military commander. And it was here that Ganey's men had stood the test. "The militia, though the greatest part was new made Whigs, behaved with great spirit," Marion reported to Greene. Refusing to yield their position, they wanted to pursue Fraser's men in the open field, but that would have given the enemy to a great advantage, Marion explained. William Gilmore Simms would later offer an explanation of the ex-Tories bravery, "They fought with halts about their necks. Not a man of them, if taken, would have escaped the cord and tree." (Oller, p.233).

### Marion's Unlikely Ally, Micajah Ganey

Major Fraser stated that Marion had about 300 men at Wadboo Plantation. Each side usually exaggerated the number of enemy, but it seems likely that with four known companies Marion's men outnumbered Fraser's. With Marion's troops were about 40 former Tories under Maj. Micajah Ganey. The presence of Micajah Ganey and his troops was galling to Marion's men. The engagement at Wadboo Plantation would test the wisdom of Marion's policy of tactical reconciliation. Marion informed General Greene that Ganey and other former Tories had justified his trust in them. "The Militia though the Greatest part was new made wigs [Whigs] behaved with great spirit not one offered to give way, but wished to pursue them in the Open field, but that would have given the enemy too great an Advantage."

Micajah Ganey returned to his native North Carolina and is said to have again taken up arms against the British in the War of 1812. He died in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky, on May 12, 1832. (Harris, p. 6, 7, 12, & 13).

(NOTE reference the Harris article: Yes, Micajah Ganey did move to North Carolina after the war into Robeson County, Richmond County, and others. As far as the War of 1812 and Muhlenberg County, Kentucky... the information is incorrect and based upon a Matthew Ganey) .

Letter from Brigadier General Francis Marion to Major General Nathanael Greene  
Wadboo, St. Johns

30<sup>th</sup> of August 1782

Sir,

In my last from Lenud's Ferry, I Acquainted you of my Intention of returning to this place where I arrived the 28th in the fore noon. Yesterday at 10 O C: AM I was informed the Enemy had come out the way of the Quarter House with an Intention of surprising the Guards I had Left here & Strawberry. I immediately sent to Call in that at Strawberry & to Major Conyers who was in that Neighborhood to Join me. Immediately after I had Intelligence that the Enemy had crossed the swamp above Begin Bridge & was coming round me.

I drew up in an avenue of trees before the house a part of my Left Advanced a few paces under cover of three small houses. The Enemy appeared in sight as soon as I had made my Disposition they came on in a full Charge. I Let them come within thirty yards, when I Ordered the Left to fire reserving the main body. They directed their fire so well that the Enemy broke & retired in Confusion, Leaving a Captain Robert Gilles three men & five horses dead, & we took one man three

horses & a mule. We met with no Loss except my Ammunition wagon with some of my baggage, which the driver in a fright runned of with, Contrary to Orders, & took a rout which brought them so near the Enemy as they could see from where they had formed in a Large Open field. I had no Cavalry but got five men who had swords to Charge them. They did & retook the wagon, brought it some distance when they were Oblige to give it up to a superior force. The Enemy proved to be Major Frazier with a hundred horse & some Colored Dragoons, all well mounted.

They several times Endeavored to come round me, but found I changed front & took the Advantage of the houses & fences they dare not come within reach of our muskets. Had Major Conyers been up I should certainly have cut up the most of them, for they several times got in Confusion, particularly when they w[ere] first repulsed, for I believed they did not Expect I had returned. The Militia though the Greatest part was new made Whigs [Major Micajah Ganey and 40 of his men] behaved with great spirit not one offered to give way, but wished to pursue them in the Open field, but that would have given the enemy too great an Advantage. Major Conyers came about an hour after they retreated & is gone after them. Their rout was to Huger's Bridge & supposed to Daniels Island or Haddrel's Point.

I have the honor to be

your Obedt St

Frans Marion

NB There must been a good many men wounded as a Great deal of Blood was seen along the road they went.

(Conrad, *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, Vol. 11: 7 April-30 September 1782. pp.606-608).

## **1782 - December**

The British completed their evacuation of Charleston on December 14, 1782. Their rear guard marched for Gadsden's Wharf, located on the Cooper River. They boarded ships and sailed into the harbor, ending over two years of British occupation. Revolutionary War is over in South Carolina.

British Evacuation of Charlestown

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/british-evacuation-of-charleston.htm>



## 1783

General Thomas Sumter nicknamed the “Carolina Gamecock” enacted an enlistment bonus policy using slaves towards the end of the Revolutionary War. Sumter used the slave bonus (Sumter’s Law) to attract men in South Carolina to fight for the Patriot cause. Michael Lee Lanning notes in his book, *African Americans in the Revolutionary War*:

Although neither South Carolina nor Georgia permitted black enlistment, both states did allow slaves to be used as bounties to induce white volunteers. In April 1781, Gen Thomas Sumter of South Carolina offered slaves to any white man volunteering for ten months of service. New recruits were to receive one grown, healthy slave, while those with prior service could receive up to four blacks for reenlisting.

In February 1782 the South Carolina legislature formalized “Sumter’s Law.” In addition to promising a healthy slave between the ages of ten and forty to any white who enlisted, the legislature ruled that recruiters were to receive a bonus of one slave for every twenty-five whites enlisted during a two-month period. Since neither Sumter nor the South Carolina legislature had any slaves of their own to barter for enlistments, they honored the bounty with slaves captured or confiscated from Loyalists (to the British).

Georgia (Virginia also used the concept of slave bonuses) broadened the scale of the use of slaves as enlistment bonuses. The state rewarded white soldiers with slaves for their part in successful battles, paid public officials with slaves, and used slaves as tender in exchange for military provisions and supplies. Again, the source of this “black currency” was the plantations of the Loyalists.

General Francis Marion never acknowledged Sumter's Law. Fervent for conciliating the Tories, he fought the bill and the Senate. Sitting at the table of Governor Matthews, while the debate over seizing Tory property was raging, the Swamp Fox raised his glass and cried, “damnation to confiscation!” Where the ravages of civil war had been extreme, the Whigs remained bitter toward the Tories. Although Major Micajah Ganey spent the required six months on active duty under Marion, his neighbors along Catfish Creek drove him into North Carolina. When twelve Loyalists returned to their homes on Fishing Creek, night raiders killed eight of them. Gradually the Whigs stopped their punishment, and some exiles were allowed to return to their homes. General Sumter and others realized that rapid expansion would follow the return of peace. (Bass, Gamecock, pp.219-223).

September 3, 1783 - The Treaty of Paris, signed in Paris by representatives of King George III of Great Britain and representatives of the United States of America on September 3, 1783, officially ended the American Revolutionary War.

## **Summation of Revolutionary War in South Carolina: Francis Marion, The Swamp Fox and Micajah Ganey, the Hound**

### **Micajah Ganey, The Hound - POST-Revolutionary War**

The Hound, Major Micajah Ganey, is put to bay by Brigadier General Francis Marion, the elusive “Swamp” Fox. Ganey’s skill set was his ability to bring like-minded men together, but from there he lacked the strategic and tactical skills and vision necessary for a leader in the field of battle. Ganey did not have a true heartfelt or passionate cause, as his true overall mission was retaliatory and at best regional vindictive actions. Major Micajah Ganey's Revolutionary War career illustrated the intensity of the civil strife that existed in South Carolina during the revolution, and especially when South Carolina became a fierce battle ground for freedom 1780-1782.

After the war, the feeling against [Micajah Ganey] was so strong, that he was compelled to leave, and removed to Richmond County, North Carolina. It is said that 50 years after the struggle of the revolution had ended, there were men in Marion County who would have killed him on site.  
(Gregg, pp.376-377).

Macajah Gainey in the Hartsville Genealogical Library. He was the son of Stephen, had a brother Stephen and a brother Malachai. He fought on the British side in the Revolutionary war. Consequently, his house was burned and lands taken after the war. He went to Richmond County, NC and worked as a contractor. He built the jail house there, as well as some other public buildings. He's buried in the Welch Neck cemetery Darlington County, or neighboring county. (To be verified).

The Richmond County Historical Collection in Rockingham, North Carolina has a good bit of information on Major Micajah after he moved to North Carolina (The move was necessitated due to allegiance to the Crown during the Revolutionary War even though he served six months with Marion to receive his amnesty).

Major Micajah Ganey appears to have arrived in Richmond County, North Carolina soon after the Revolutionary War perhaps seeking a haven, or better, an area in which he would be understood for his support of the British, and where he could be accepted after being chased off his plantation at Catfish Creek, South Carolina. Why he chose not to flee to Canada, England, or the Caribbean as many of the Loyalists did is somewhat puzzling. Neither does he appear to have filed a

claim for compensation from the British after the conflict. He was certainly entitled to do so but, for whatever reason, he did not. The Richmond County area apparently offered that degree of comfortable safety that he was seeking. This would have come about because much of the population of Richmond County, North Carolina had arrived from Scotland, largely the result of having to leave Scotland following the Scottish Jacobite Uprising in 1745. Many came over after having been first required to sign a loyalty oath to support the crown, an oath which many Scots felt morally bound to honor, even if their hearts and sentiments lay in a different direction. Richmond County records do indicate that Major Ganey apparently found a certain degree of acceptance and made a respectable name for himself. Micajah Ganey became a well-regarded citizen, known for his high character and integrity. (Sherman, p.48).

Yet, there remains a measure of mystery surrounding Major Micajah Ganey and his early years from birth to Revolutionary War and more quandary over his last years from 1783- 1830? Micajah Ganey lived in Richmond County, Robeson County, Rowan County, Cabarrus County, and Cumberland County, North Carolina.

## **1779**

### **RICHMOND COUNTY TAX LISTS 1779-1838**

Abstracted from Original Records - NC Archives, Raleigh, N.C.

Micajah Ganey 100 acres

FINAL WORDs -772 Original Wills by Richmond County, North Carolina  
Testators 1779-1915 - Transcribed by Myrtle N. Bridges

Gainey James A., 398

Gainey Macajah, 124

Gainey Micajah, 487

Gainey Sarah, 124

Ganey Micajah, 434, 437

## **1783**

After the first courthouse was built in Richmond County, North Carolina, a jail was built, and the contract was let to Micajah Ganey.

## **1786**

1786-1793: Joel Dawson purchased from Micajah Ganey. Recorded in Robeson Co, NC Deed Book C, page 372.

October 2, 1786, South Carolina Grant. Georgetown. 100 Acres. Vol 15, p. 70

## **1788**

DEED:29 May 1788 Richmond Co., NC Deed Book B, p. 300

John Speed of Richmond Co., NC to Hartwell Ayer of Anson Co., NC

NE of Pee Dee, 200a

S: John Speed Wit: Micajah Ganey, Lewis M. Ayer

October 27, 1788 - Micajah Ganey to Robt. Rogers; N/163 Marion County SC Deedbook L29/100a; 27 Oct 1788; Ganey of Richmond Co NC, Rodgers of SC; in Georgetown Dist on S side of LPDR...beg at a pine th NW to a pine cnr th NE to a pine station on lower line on Burrell Halls land all other vacant & sd Ganey doth confess the sd to 100a of L the receipt whereof is hereby ack..warrant..; signed: Micajah Ganey; wit: Zedikiah Owen, Thos. Shaw; pr: Shadrach Owens made oath he was intimately acquainted w/handwriting of Zachariah (sic) Owens..& believes it his signature 7 Dec 1829 bf Dougal Carmichael QU, signed Shadrach Owens; rec: none. [Abstracted and contributed by [Jo Church Dickerson](#).]

## **1789**

February 6, 1789, Micajah Ganey appears as a witness to the will of John Newberry - Richmond County, North Carolina.

February 17, 1789, Micajah Ganey appears as a witness to the will of William Newberry - Richmond County, North Carolina.

## **1790**

1790 Census - Robeson County NC - Micajah Ganey

1- male (himself) 2- Females 3- slaves

Fayette District, Robeson County

13 January 1790

Micajah Ganey to Joel Dawson and Archibald Bird, L410, 220 acres on north side of Cowards Swamp, being a moiety of 640 acres granted to Isaac Odom. Also, 123 acres on West side of Drowning Creek and north of Coward Swamp, being a moiety of 640 acres granted to John Smith, adjacent Isaac Odum, Griffin, Inman, and his other line. Also, 31 acres on west of Drowning Creek, on north side of Coward Swamp, part of 150-acre patent by Zachariah Hogan on 7 November 1779. Also, 100 acres on Coward Swamp, adjacent Jesse Jernigan, James Inman, and granted to James Inman on 19 November 1787.

Witnesses: Joseph Haile and Jacob Rhodes

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

20 May 1790

James Inman to Micajah Ganey, 20 May 1790, 40 pounds, 100 acres on Cowards Swamp, adjacent Jesse Jernigan and Jones, patented by said James Inman on 19 November 1787.

Witnesses: Hardy Inman and Charity Inman.

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

23 Oct 1790 (River Jordan age 50)

Possibly his estate in Richmond Co, NC was attached for debt payment  
Civil Action Papers CR.082.325.3

1790 October 23. State of North Carolina. To the Sheriff of Richmond County, Greetings: Whereas, Micajah Ganey hath complained on oath to Henry Wm. Harrington, one of the Justices of the County of Richmond, of River Jordan who is justly indebted to him to the amount of sixty two pounds and nine pence and oath having been made that the said River Jordon is about to remove himself out of your County and so absconds or conceals himself that the ordinary process of law cannot be served on him and the said Micajah Ganey having given bond and security according to the directions according to the Act of General Assembly in such case made and provided. We therefore command you that you attach the estate of the said River Jordan if to be found in your County, or so much thereof replevisable or security, as shall be of value sufficient to satisfy the said debt and costs according to the complaints... ..Summons Jacob Boatwright, a garnisher.  
[signed] Henry Wm. Harrington

## 1791

04 June 1791

Jesse Jernigan, Jr. to Jacob Ingram, 4 June 1791, 25 pounds 100 acres on the Gully Branch, a tract patented by Isaac Odum, in Coward Swamp, convenience to Joseph Ganey and by him convenience to James Coward who died without will, came by heirship to William Coward, convenience by William Coward to John Smith, convenience by John Willis (attorney for Smith) to Jesse Jernigan, Sr. by deed dated 25 July 1784 from Jesse Jernigan Sr. to Jesse Jernigan Jr.

Witnesses: Micajah Ganey and Willoughby Odams

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

10 June 1791

John Flowers to James Lewis, 10 June 1791, 60 pounds, land on Ashpole Swamp adjacent Edward Flowers and his corner, patented by said John Flowers on 11 March 1775.

Witnesses: Micajah Ganey, Joseph Hails, and Thomas Barnes

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

18 October 1791

Cornelius and Neil Wingate to Micajah Ganey, 18 October 1791, 150 pounds, plantation convenience of 200 acres part of a 640-acre tract patented by Isaac Odom on north side of Coward Swamp. Made for Jacob Ingram and from said Isaac Odom by deed convenience to Joseph Ganey from Ganey convenience to James Coward who dying without will came by heirship to William Coward his son and convenience by William Coward to John Smith (by attorney John Willis) to Jesse Jernigan Sr and from him to Jesse Jernigan Jr and from Jesse Jernigan Jr to Cornelius Wingate. Also, one other tract of 100 acres on West side of Drowning Creek adjacent James Stewart, Isaac Odom and Andrew Griffin.

Witnesses: Josiah Barnes and Nathan Grantham.

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

**1792**

25 February 1792

William Ashley (merchant) to John Vernon (planter), 25 February 1792, 65 pounds plantation convenience 150 acres bounded by old lines on northeast side of Endion Swamp and adjacent to Jesse Jernigan on Folks branch, John Smith, being a tract granted to William Ashley on 12 May 1727.

Witnesses: Micajah Ganey and H. Inman.

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

16 July 1792

Articles of agreement between Mary Griffin Widow of Andrew Griffin deceased and her two sons James Griffin and Andrew Griffin. Andrew Griffin deceased was possessed of diverse property at his death amongst the rest of his estate a quantity of lands and the said Mary, his widow, administered and settled upon his affairs agreeable to law. Mary and her sons James and Andrew now equally divide the inheritance of land and the said Mary for her third is to keep the plantation and tract of land where she lives. 160 acres.

Witnesses: Micajah Ganey and James Teve and John Flowers

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

09 November 1792

Jesse Jernigan Jr to Benjamin Lewis of South Carolina, 9 November 1792, 280 pounds, 440 acres on east side of Indian Swamp, adjacent 200 acres of land now in possession of widow Stewart, part of a 640 acre patent by David Clark, convenience by Clark to Samuel Thornton, from Thornton to James Sanders, from Sanders to John Smith, and by Smith's attorney, John Willis to Jesse Jernigan, Sr from said Sr to Jesse Jernigan Jr.

Witnesses: Micajah Ganey and William Ashley

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

10 November 1792

Benjamin Rawles of South Carolina to William Ashley, Esq. of Robeson County and Micajah Ganey of Robeson County, 10 November 1792, 500 pounds, BoS, 3 negro men and a negro woman: Sunday, Tom, Tony, and Dinah.

Witnesses: J. Willis and Isaac Bird

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.



## 1793

4 January 1793 - Jacob Ingram to Ebenezer Ellis; 125 pounds 100 acres part of a tract granted to Isaac Odom on Coward Swamp. Conv. To Joseph Ganett (Ganey) by Gannett (Ganey) conv. To James Coward who died without will, and went to William Coward by heirship, conv. By deed to John Smith and by John Wallis, Smith's attorney, by deed dated 5 July 1784 to Jesse Jernigan, Sr., then to Jesse Jernigan, Jr. and from him to Jacob Ingram.

Witnesses: Micajah Ganey and Joel Dawson. Proved by Jacob Dawson.

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

23 January 1793 - Josiah Barnes and Elias Barnes to Micajah Ganey 20 pounds, 15 shillings and six p six pence, 320 acres and fork of Ashpole Swamp and Drowning Creek about 2 miles West of Griffin's Bluff, being part of a 640-acre patent by John Smith and convenience by his attorney, John Willis, to said Josiah and Elias Barnes adjacent said Ganey and William Ashley.

Witnesses: William Ashley and Jay Roland.

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

23 January 1793

Micajah Ganey of Richmond County to William Ashley, Esq. (merchant), 20 pounds, 60 acres on north side of Cowards Swamp, near Inman road, the Mill branch, Smith's old line, Elias Barnes, Hogan's line and a line marked by Andrew Griffin, William Ashley and Micajah Ganey, land granted to John Smith Sr and convenience by Smith's attorney to Elias Barnes and Josiah Barnes by deed dated 23 January 1793.

Witnesses: Todd Robinson and William Horne

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

28 January 1793 - Mary Griffin to Theophilus Griffin, 28 January 1793, L 80, 40 Acre on west side of Drowning Creek, part of a 160-acre tract patented add by Hector McNeil, adjacent Coward Swamp, William Ashley and Micajah Ganey

Witnesses: William Ashley and James Terry

Robeson County, North Carolina Deed Abstracts Volume I 1787-1793.

## **1794 – May**

State of North Carolina, Richmond County. The Jurors for the State on their oath present and say that on the 4th day of May 1794 in the county aforesaid then and there being, Rachel Chavis, with force and arms did feloniously steal, take and carry away one comb of the goods and chattels of Henry Covington to the value of six pence to the injury<sup>7</sup> of him the said Henry, to the evil example of others in like manner offending and against the peace of the State.

Micajah Ganey, Foreman. J. Willis Attorney.

## **1795 – August**

DEED:29 Aug 1795 Richmond Co., NC Deed Book C p. 566

Hartwell Ayer of Anson Co., NC to Micajah Ganey of Richmond Co., NC

150a two different tracts

S: Hartwell Ayer W: John Auld, George Wells, Solomon Rye;

DEED:29 Aug 1795 Richmond Co., NC Deed Book C p. 567

Hartwell Ayer of Anson Co., NC to Micajah Ganey of Richmond Co., NC

200a and 150a

S: Hw Ayer W: John Auld, Solomon Rye, George Wells;

## **1796**

John Bloodworth to William Hare, for 25 pounds, 200 acres in Anson County, adjoining David Love and Thomas Bailey, part of a track granted John Bloodworth, August 7th, 1767. Signed John Speed and Micajah Ganey. Proven in court April 1796. (Anson County, North Carolina Abstracts of Early Records).

## **1797**

Micajah Ganey obtained a license to operate a tavern. Location of Tavern not indicated. Richmond County, North Carolina.

## 1798

12 July 1798 - State vs. James Bounds

State of North Carolina, Richmond County.

To any lawful officer. Complaint being made unto me by John Long on oath that James Bounds on the 12th day of July 1798 dead in a riotous manner ride his horse over the son of the said John Long whereby the life of the said child is in danger, besides other damages and insults done to the said Long and to the State ...subjects contrary to the laws of the state you are therefore commanded to take the body of the said James Bounds and him safely keep so that you have him before me or some other justice of said county to answer.

Direct given under my hand and seal this 12th day of July 1798. Micajah Ganey (Richmond County North Carolina Criminal Records 1789 to 1798 transcribed and contributed by Myrtle Bridges.)

## 1799

July 10, 1799 Micajah Ganey was one of the sureties on a fidelity bond when Moses night appointed treasurer of Richmond County public buildings. The other surety was John Clark.

August - Election Names for the Senate Valid 1799 August - State of North Carolina, Richmond County

1 John Evins	24 William Robert
2 John moroson?	25 Thomas Everitt
3 Benjamin Laring	26 Thos Robinson
4 William Heath	27 Eli Terry
5 Hugh McCormick	28 Daniel Snead
6 Wright Galland	29 Saml Sprouls
7 James Long	30 Micajah Gainey
8 William Perry	31 John Watkins
9 Caser Lassiter	32 Isrial Watkins

State of North Carolina Richmond CountyI certify the afore mention is a true Copy of List of polls for the Senate and a Statement of the Election held for the County of aforesaid on the Second Thursday & Friday in August Last at the Court house in the Town of Rockingham as appeared by the List of the Polls kept by myself Josy Robinson & Eli Terry, Clerks appointed by myself for the purpose returned to me October 18th 1799 Jno Wall, Sheriff

## **1800 - Census of North Carolina – Richmond County, NC**

### **Micajah Ganey household**

one - free white male 45 and over dash himself

one - free white male 10 to 16 years probably a son

one - free white female 45 and over – wife

5 slaves

## **MARRIAGE BONDS RICHMOND CO, NC 1783-1872**

March 4, 1800

Groom, Bride, Marriage Bond Date ,Justice of the Peace, Pastor and Witnesses

Smith, James McN.          Rebecca Covington          Micajah Gainey

July - Penticost Robinson who lived in Richmond County, North Carolina during the early 1800's. He was probably born between 1770 and 1780 in NC. He married Sally (Sarah) Ganey (b.1784, SC). Their Richmond Co. marriage bond is dated 29 July 1800. Wife Sally may be the daughter of Micajah Gainey, a Tory leader who caused trouble in the Pee Dee River basin in South Carolina during the struggle for independence. Micajah moved to Richmond Co. after the war. He is the only Gainey appearing in the 1800 Richmond Co. census. Other Gainey families were living in Chesterfield Co., SC (just south of Richmond Co.) in 1800.

## **1801**

Micajah Ganey. Sell of two slaves “May and Dick.”

Charleston County Court

South Carolina Department of Archives and History Alphabetical Index.

## **1803**

NC LAND GRANTS <http://www.nclandgrants.com/index/>

Gainey, Micajah Richmond (1); 9 acres, 1803.

Copy of Grant No. 1370. Issued 13 December 1803. 9 Acres to Micajah Ganey.

Entry No. 240. Richmond County, NC.

In 1803 Micajah Ganey was paid a bounty by Richmond County for having killed the “last bear” in the county.

## **1803 – 1805**

Richmond County, North Carolina records indicate Micajah Ganey served as Richmond County sheriff for a 24 month period covering 1803 through 1805.

## **1804**

Sheriff's Sale: To be sold at the courthouse in Richmond County, on the first Saturday in December next, the following property for the tax due 1803.

100 acres of land on hedge cut Creek, adjoining the lands of James Terry, belonging to Joseph White.

50 acres of land, adjoining the above tract, patented by John McKay.

Also, 100 acres on Coleman's Creek, belonging to Baker or unknown.

Rockingham, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1804. Micajah Ganey, Sheriff

Richmond County North Carolina Archives Court.

December 11, 1804 Micajah Ganey lost bid for re-election as sheriff, was replaced by Benjamin Hamilton Covington, Jr.

## **1805**

March 1805 Micajah Ganey appears as bondsman to Sally Touchberry when she posted bond for support of her three-year old son, Elisha Weatherford Touchberry.

## **1810**

March 1810 the name of Micajah Ganey appears as one of the signers on a petition requesting that the county grant Robert Johnson Steele permission to operate a ferry on Little River just below Steele's Mill on Little River.

## **1821**

July 1, 10, 17, 24 of 1821 – General Post Office – Dead Letters for Micajah Ganey Salisbury and Concord, NC. *Western Carolinian* newspaper.

## **1828 – March**

Carolina Observer (Fayetteville, North Carolina), Thursday, March 20, 1828.

Married in Montgomery, at the residence of Micajah Gainey, Esq. on the 5th inst. by the Rev. James Clarke, Mr. Isham A. Dumas, Merchant of Richmond County, to Miss Emaline Robinson. \*The last information I have on Micajah Ganey.

## **1830**

A given date to the death of Micajah Ganey. I have not found any evidence of this or a burial place. The search goes on...

## **Francis Marion, The Fox – Post Revolutionary War**



Francis Marion , the “Swamp” Fox wins the war against the Hound, Major Micajah Ganey due to his overall and encompassing vision as a military leader and as an insightful, intuitive leader of people.

Francis Marion’s skill set as a guerrilla fighter demonstrated his ability as a leader to process all incoming data in the areas of reconnaissance, intelligence, terrain, the psyche of the enemy, and beyond. Marion was able to use his multifaceted skill set to harass, breakdown, and defeat the military efforts of Major Micajah Ganey, Colonel John Ball, LTC Samuel Tynes, LTC Banastre Tarleton, Major Robert McLeroth, LTC Ernst Leopold von Borck, LTC John Watson, and others. They could all attest to his abilities as an effective and elusive general. (Aiken p. 48).

A letter from General Greene to Francis Marion one and half years prior to the end of the war underscores the service and sacrifice of a man who gave his all as a leader of men with a keen foresight to understand the importance of his state, South Carolina, helping to give birth to the United States of America.

On April 24, 1781, General Nathanael Greene wrote:

When I consider how much you have done and suffered, and under what difficulties you have maintained your ground, I am at a loss which to admire most, your courage and fortitude or your address and management. Certain it is, no man has a better claim to the public thanks than you have. History affords no instance wherein an officer has kept possession of a country under so many disadvantages as you have. Surrounded on every side by superior forces, hunted from every

quarter with veteran troops, you have found means to elude their attacks, and to keep alive the expiring hopes of an oppressed militia, when all succor seemed to be cut off. To fight the enemy bravely with the prospect of victory, is nothing; but to fight with intrepidity under the constant impression of defeat, and inspire irregular troops to do it, is a talent peculiar to yourself. Nothing will give me greater pleasure than to do justice to your merit, and I shall miss no opportunity of declaring to Congress, to the commander-in-chief of the American army, and to the world, the sense I have of your merit and your services.

\*From Boddie, William Willis. *Traditions of the Swamp Fox.*, p. 202)

Francis Marion's first engagement as brigade commander of the SC 2<sup>nd</sup> Militia Brigade at Port's Ferry was against Major Micajah Ganey.

Francis Marion's last engagement as brigade commander of the SC 2<sup>nd</sup> Militia Brigade was at Wadboo Planation with Major Micajah Ganey fighting with him by his side.

Perhaps the greatest attribute of Francis Marion demonstrated far beyond his fame as a military commander was after the war, as a state legislator whereby he encouraged forgiveness. Marion was not vindictive and disapproved of the plundering of the Loyalists either through wartime robbery or peacetime expropriation. Although he was ruthless in battle, he did not believe in a war of reprisals and atrocities. As a military leader and a legislator, he showed himself to be humane. As the revolution drew towards its close, Francis Marion became more generous and forgiving. His magnanimity was most strikingly exemplified by his attitude toward the defeated Loyalists...especially Major Micajah Ganey.

The Swamp Fox could be forgiving. Twice he [royally] defeated Major Micajah Ganey and his Loyalists from the country along Little Peedee River, but he accepted Ganey's treaty for peace and allowed him and his followers to serve six months duty for amnesty in Marion's Brigade. After the Revolution when the Legislature of South Carolina was debating the penalties for Loyalism, Marion fought against punishment. While the senate was arguing confiscation and amercing the property of the Loyalists, he was a guest at the dinner table of Governor John Mathews. As the conversation grew heated, the little brigadier raised his glass and proposed a toast: 'Damnation to Confiscation.' By nature, Marion was thus forgiving and humane.





GENERAL FRANCIS MARION.

---

Sacred to the Memory  
of  
BRIG. GEN. FRANCIS MARION,  
*Who departed this life, on the 27th of February 1795,*  
In the Sixty-Third Year of his Age;  
Deeply regretted by all his fellow citizens.

HISTORY  
will record his worth, and rising generations embalm  
his memory, as one of the most distinguished  
Patriots and Heroes of the American Revolution;  
which elevated his native Country  
TO HONOUR AND INDEPENDENCE,  
and  
secured to her the blessings of  
LIBERTY AND PEACE.

This tribute of veneration and gratitude is erected  
in commemoration of  
the noble and disinterested virtues of the  
CITIZEN;  
and the gallant exploits of the  
SOLDIER;  
Who lived without fear and died without reproach.

---

Taken from the marble slab at Belle Isle, this 20th September 1821, by Theodore Gourdin.

Gragg, Ted L. *A History of Horry County Soldiers, Part 1*. Horry County Historical Society - The Independent Republic Quarterly, April 1975, Vol 9, No.2, p.15.

## **Appendix A**

### **Ganeys in the Revolutionary War from North and South Carolina**

#### **The American Revolution in South Carolina**

The Privates, Horsemen, Fifers, Drummers, etc. - Last Names Beginning with "G"  
[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot\\_military\\_sc\\_privates\\_g.htm](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/patriot_military_sc_privates_g.htm)

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Gainey, Edmund SC 2nd Regiment 1778 1779, served under Capt. Thomas Moultrie.

Gainey, John Served in Militia 1782-1783. Unit unknown.

Gainey, Joseph SC 3rd Regiment 1775

Gainey, Micajah Served in SC Militia, unit and dates unknown. Later joined the Loyalists.

Gainey, Samuel SC 2nd Regiment 1778 aka Samuel Gany.

**\*\*My fourth-great grandfather\*\***

Gainey, William Served in Militia. Unit and dates unknown.

Marion's Brigade NCO's G-H

Gainey, John	Q 319	
Gainey, William	Q317	

#### **The American Revolution in North Carolina**

The Privates, Horsemen, Fifers, Drummers, etc. - Last Names Beginning with "G"  
[https://www.carolana.com/NC/R\\_evolution/nc\\_patriot\\_military\\_privates\\_g.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/R_evolution/nc_patriot_military_privates_g.html)

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Gainey, Edmund Duplin County Regiment

A Private, unit and dates unknown. One pay voucher. Born c. 1765.

Gainey, Jacob Duplin County Regiment

A Private, unit and dates unknown. Three pay vouchers. Born c. 1755.

Gainey, Matthew Duplin County Regiment

A Private, unit and dates unknown. Three pay vouchers. In Pierce's Register. Born on 12/10/1751.

Ganey, William Duplin County Regiment 1779, a Private under Capt. Francis Hill and Col. James Kenan. Lived in what became Sampson County. Born on 11/12/1757 in Edgecombe County. aka William Gainey.

GAINEY, Bartholomew, Private, Duplin County Militia

GAINEY, Meredith, Private, NC Militia

GAINEY, Matthew, Private, N.C. Militia

GAINEY, William, Private, NC Militia, Pension # S 6880

From the Book - Revolutionary War Records of Duplin-Sampson Counties  
By Virginia and Oscar Bizzell c1997.

Duplin County, NC - Revolutionary War Military Services, Surnames E-H

<http://www.southerncampaign.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SCAR-Vol-10-No-4.1.pdf>

GAINEY, Edmund, Private, NC Militia

Soldier was born about 1765 and was the son of Bartholomew and Sarah Reddick Gainey. Soldier had one pay voucher. Soldier married Martha \_\_\_ and He wrote his Will and died in 1791. Wife contested the Will as she was not provided for. No Children. Soldier left almost everything to brothers. Soldier had one plantation. It was left to two of his brothers, Elias and Abram Gainey. His wife was left a bay mare and loaned other things. Brother Joel Gainey got the livestock.

Duplin County, North Carolina Regiment of Militia

[https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc\\_duplin\\_county\\_regiment.html](https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_duplin_county_regiment.html)

GAINEY, Jacob, Private, NC Militia

Soldier was born about 1755 and had three RW pay vouchers. In 1790 he lived in Sampson with three females and wife. Jacob was living next to all the sons of Bartholomew Gainey in 1810. Therefore, I assume that Jacob was also a son. There is no record in the count minutes of his

death so I assume he moved to GA, apparently before Bartholomew's will was written in 1818.

**GAINES, Matthew, Private, NC Militia**

Soldier was born December 10, 1751, and he died May 12, 1832. He married April 6, 1782, Elizabeth New. Soldier is listed in the 1790 Census for Duplin with 3 young males and 3 females and wife. Soldier is listed in Pierce's Register for the Wilmington District. He served in the militia for several terms and was awarded over 3000 acres for his service. Soldier drew three RW pay vouchers.

## **Appendix B**

### **Southern Campaigns Revolutionary War Pension Statements & Rosters**

<http://revwarapps.org/>

Listed below are Revolutionary War Pension Applications where the applicant mentions "Micajah Ganey" in their pension statement. (\*21 to date).

Pension application of Francis Francum S39552

<http://revwarapps.org/s39552.pdf>

He continued to serve until 10th July 1782 when he was regularly discharged on Pedee River at the conclusion of the expedition against Gaines's [Micajah Gaines's] also spelled Micajah Ganey's] loyalists.

Pension application of David Watts S18267

<http://revwarapps.org/s18267.pdf>

He was also in an engagement with the Tories commanded by Colonel Watson and Major Ganey [Micajah Ganey] at Black Mingo Bridge. In this affair General Marion completely surprised them by covering the Bridge with the blankets of the soldiers and crossing men and horses over on them. The Tories were defeated, many killed and Major Ganey wounded.

September 28, 1780,

[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_black\\_mingo.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_black_mingo.html)

Pension application of Joseph Graham1 S6937

<http://revwarapps.org/s6937.pdf>

This deponent was afterwards detached by order of General Rutherford with three companies one of which was dragoons by Brunswick over Lockwood's folly and Wacamo [sic, Waccamaw] River at a place called 7 Creeks near the South Carolina line,39 was attacked about midnight by the noted Col Gainey [sic, Ganey] of So. Carolina who was then under a truce with Gen. Marion [sic, Francis Marion] but appears [Ganey] did not consider it binding in North Carolina, had one of our party killed & 2 wounded & 4 horses killed. The Cavalry charged & defeated them & killed one of Ganey's party—for the further evidence of this service see Genl. Rutherford's order to this deponent (after the British had left Wilmington) dated Wilmington Nov. 18th, 1781.

Pension application of Philip Roberts1 W2170

<http://revwarapps.org/w2170.pdf>

1781 that the troops under Colonel Sevier [John Sevier] and Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby] were out and after we had drove the British into Charlestown, we then went over little Pedee [River] after the Tories who were under the command of Major Ganey [Micajah Ganey], and many of the Tories then came in and gave himself up and Major Thornley [Robert Thornley] gave them protection.

Pension application of James Craven R2457

<http://revwarapps.org/r2457.pdf>

I with Marion and Horry left Lincoln and marched for Georgetown where we kept ourselves concealed in a marsh at the mouth of Waccamaw River here we annoyed the British a considerable time about this time perhaps in the year 1780 we received information that a Tory Colonel by the name of Ganey [Micajah Gainey] with his Army was on their way to the assistance of the British in Georgetown here I went under the command of Colonel Horry and Captain Snipes to cut off their march and we met them about six miles of Georgetown and here we defeated them, and McDonald wounded Ganey.

Pension Application of Benjamin Munnerlyn W8479

<http://revwarapps.org/w8479.pdf>

Munnerlyn well remembers the period of time Called the “Truce” which took place during the Revolutionary war for American Independence [truce between Loyalist Maj. Micajah Ganey and Gen. Francis Marion, 17 Jun 1781 - 17 Jun 1782].

William Shaw was then informed to attack a company of Tories commanded by a Tory Captain called Barfield on the little pee dee River; that he saw Captain Munnerlyn after the fight with Barfield, and heard him describe it very particularly – that after the fight with Barfield he heard that Munnerlyn & his men come upon a large Company of Tories assembled at a place called the Blue Savannah a few miles on the west side of the little PeeDee, where they had a severe fight; this deponent heard a man say who was in that engagement by the name of Evans; that he received a severe wound and in falling was caught in the arms of Captain Munnerlyn

Pension application of William Griffis R4320

<http://revwarapps.org/r4320.pdf>

Briton's Neck on Pedee River from thence the next day he thinks he was marched up the Pedee about 60 or 70 miles at least he was marched all night and part of the next day to attack Captain Barfield and his Company of Tories which was attacked<sup>9</sup> and some killed and some taken prisoners and the balance dispersed from which place he was marched back to Briton's neck from thence he was marched towards North Carolina and not far from the line as his officers informed him he was ordered to march back again and pursued the Tories in turn which they done in overtook them at Black Mingo Bridge where he was in a severe battle with the Tories from thence he was marched back to the Waccamaw Settlement on Pedee or near it. This MAY be a reference to the engagement at the Blue Savannah on September 4, 1780, between Marion and Major Micajah Ganey.<sup>10</sup> September 28, 1780,

Pension application of Thomas Broughton (Braughton) W897

<http://revwarapps.org/w897.pdf>

Applicant was with Marion when he went to Pee Dee where he had a truce with Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] and Major Ganys [sic, Micajah Ganey].

Pension application of George McCall R6598

<http://revwarapps.org/r6598.pdf>

From joining Giles at Giles Bluff to the truce with Marion & Gainey-1yr 4 months. Tory Micajah Gainey (surname also spelled Ganey). Gainey and his men surrendered to Francis Marion June 8, 1782.

[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_bowling\\_green.htm](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_bowling_green.htm)

Pension application of Samuel Taylor W22363

<http://revwarapps.org/w22363.pdf>

State of South Carolina Chesterfield District: On this 27th day of May 1839, Thomas Godfrey personally came before Turner Bryan Esquire, Judge of the Court of Ordinary in the district aforesaid, who, being first duly sworn, saith that he knew Captain Samuel Taylor during the War of the Revolution.

the said Samuel Taylor was with the celebrated McDonald [Sgt. Allen McDonald], when he (McDonald) stuck his bayonet in Major Ganey's [Micajah Ganey's] back near Georgetown, South Carolina, on which day [October 8, 1780]1Scott D.

Aiken, The Swamp Fox: Lessons in Leadership from the Partisan Campaigns of Francis Marion, Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, 2012

Pension application of Robert Rozar S31938

<http://revwarapps.org/s31938.pdf>

In the winter thereafter moved to South Carolina Georgetown Parish and entered in the first May 1782 under General Marion [Francis Marion], Colonel Horry [probably Peter Horry], Major Swinton & Captain Hutson and there being a truce made between General Marion and the Tories commanded by Major Ganey [Micajah Ganey] sometime in June 1781 as I believe for twelve months I marched with General Marion and the truce land on the East side of Pedee River and then the Tories surrendered in the same year.

Pension application of Loftus R. Munnerlyn S18136

<http://revwarapps.org/s18136.pdf>

During the time, the Declarant was with Marion he was in the following engagements and skirmishes, Viz: The first was with the Tories at Blue Savannah[September 4, 1780] in Marion District the Tories were commanded by Captains. Right Wall [Wright Wall] and Benj. Lewis [Benjamin Lewis] and Major Micajah Gainey in which the Tories were entirely defeated and routed.

That Marion then on the same day marched his men and this deponent with them about three miles to McFadden's old field where there was a body of Tories stationed commanded by one Capt. Ben Lewis and Major Gainey and attacked them in the daytime, fell upon them and dispersed them, killed none but wounded several.



## REVOLUTIONARY PENSION APPLICATIONS LOFTIS R. MUNNERLYN -

Declarations made by Loftis R. Munnerlyn in making application for a Revolutionary War pension under the act of Congress passed June seventh, 1832. Loftis R. Munnerlyn made two declarations in applying for his pension. Because his military records were destroyed by a windstorm in 1822 it was necessary that the applications take the form of depositions or declarations recorded in a State and District Court.

The first was made in October 1833. For some unknown reason it was not acted on. After waiting three years and eight months he made a second one.

Shortly after the second application the pension was approved but was based on the first Declaration and bears the identification number S-18136. It was for eighty dollars per annum commencing with retroactive date March 4, 1831.

That upon arriving at said Blue Savannah about daybreak the Tories were sitting and lying around their fires, that the said Matthew Allen was sitting at the fire smoking a pipe when Marion's men fired on them, and he got shot. The Tories then dispersed and broke into the swamp. That Marion then on the same day marched his men and this deponent with them about three miles to McFadden's old field where there was a body of Tories stationed commanded by one Capt. Ben Lewis and Major Garvey(Ganey) and attacked them in the daytime, fell upon them and dispersed them, killed none but wounded several. That the first engagement the deponent's father was recovered when the Tories were fired upon (he) ran to Marion's company. Thereafter that he stayed with Marion constantly being afraid to go home.

### Pension application of William Cox S21704

<http://revwarapps.org/s21704.pdf>

He volunteered afterwards & went to Marion's Camp which was at that time in Marion District South Carolina & was with Marion at the time when the Tories who had been under the Command of Major Gainey [Micajah Gainey]surrendered themselves to Marion.

### Pension application of William Shaw S19078

<http://revwarapps.org/s19078.pdf>

— was in Battle at the Blue Savannah was some time near Georgetown, when the British had possession when several plans of attack were made, and was near when Sergeant McDonald, charged upon Major Gainey, a Tory officer, when he stabbed him in the back with a Bayonet—

Pension Application of Samuel Chandler: W8599

<http://revwarapps.org/w8599.pdf>

His fourth tour commenced in 1783 as a private in the same company of Captain Nelson. In February of that year, they encamped at Sindaine [?] Plantation below Murray's ferry & remained there until April, doing scouting duty – thence they were ordered across the PeeDee [Pedee River] in search of Gainey & his gang of Tories. Upon a proclamation made, many of them came in.

That his fourth tour of duty as described in said amended declaration commenced in February 1782 – and he remained in service until peace was declared – he was discharged the fall or last of the year 1782.

Pension Application of Garret Watts R11213

<http://revwarapps.org/r11213.pdf>

Watts was clearly mistaken in stating that his tour to the vicinity of Wilmington occurred in 1779. Col. Francis, Lord Rawdon and Gen. Charles Cornwallis were not active in the Carolinas until after the surrender of Charleston SC on 12 May 1780. Wilmington did not fall to the British until Jan 1781, and Cornwallis was not there except briefly in the spring of 1781. J. D. Lewis generously responded to my query regarding this tour in part as follows: “I'm confident that he is describing the events that I have consolidated in my website in an engagement called ‘Seven Creeks,’ [ [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_seven\\_creeks.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_seven_creeks.html)] and it happened circa November 16, 1781 - in the swamps of Brunswick County, what is now Columbus County. Col. Robert Smith raised a new unit called the NC State Legion - including Infantry and Light Horse. He was at the vanguard of BG Rutherford's large column, and he had men involved in the engagement the day before at the ‘Brick House’ along the Cape Fear River. He sent a detachment led by Maj. Joseph Graham with four companies of the NC State Legion plus one company from the Chatham County Regiment of Militia to scour the area south of Wilmington. Here they had several ‘incidents’ with the local Loyalists, which were led by Maj. Micajah Gainey of South Carolina, who kept eluding Francis Marion until soon after this event.”

Pension application of William Windham R11701

<http://revwarapps.org/r11701.pdf>

This applicant was in an engagement at Brown's Mills with the Tories who were commanded by Colonels Gainey & Fannin [sic, David Fanning], Captain Malachi Murfree, commanded the Whigs, in this engagement. This applicant was in another engagement at Gibson's ferry on Little Pedee, in North Carolina, still under

Captain Murfree, he resided in Marion District when he entered the service, in South Carolina,

Pension application of Stephen Duboise S3311

<http://revwarapps.org/s3311.pdf>

The veteran appears to be describing the engagement at Blue Savannah, September 4, 1780, in which the Tories were commanded by Maj. Micajah Gainey under whom Capt. Jesse Barfield served in said engagement.

[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_blue\\_savannah.htm](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_blue_savannah.htm)

Pension application of Silas Hailes (Hails) W27546

<http://revwarapps.org/w27546.pdf>

2 years until Marion's brigade was discharged at Wadboo [Wadboo] about 2 miles from Monks Corner [Moncks Corner]. That he was in a skirmish with the Tories commanded by one Major Gainey on Little Pee Dee [Pedee River]. This deponent was a volunteer. The company was a troop of horse. James Howard was the Lieutenant – the Service of the company consisted in riding through several districts of North Carolina, names not recollected – crossed the Pedee rode in South Carolina on the borders of said River – protecting the Country through which he rode from the plunder & ravages of the Tories, with whom they had several skirmishes, particularly one with the notorious Tory Major Gainey.

Pension application of Aaron Copland (Copeland) R2308

<http://revwarapps.org/r2308.pdf>

He marched down toward Waccamaw River & thereabouts in pursuit of one Captain Micajah Quincy [Major Micajah Ganey] who commanded a body of Tories, did not find him & returned home without having any engagement.

A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged, yellowed paper. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Tim Marion". Below the name, there is a decorative flourish consisting of several loops and swirls.



### **Dedication**

Dedicated to my father, Major Loyd R. Ganey, Sr.; United States Army Retired  
(1928-2014)

and

To all my Ganey grandfathers, especially ...

Samuel Ganey (1739-1803)

who served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina Regiment with Francis Marion

**Loyd R. Ganey, Jr, Ph.D.**

**[drganey@cox.net](mailto:drganey@cox.net)**

**Please contact me for any corrections and additions to the Ganey/Gainey genealogy**

**and to**

**Francis Marion and Micajah Ganey: The Fox and the Hound**

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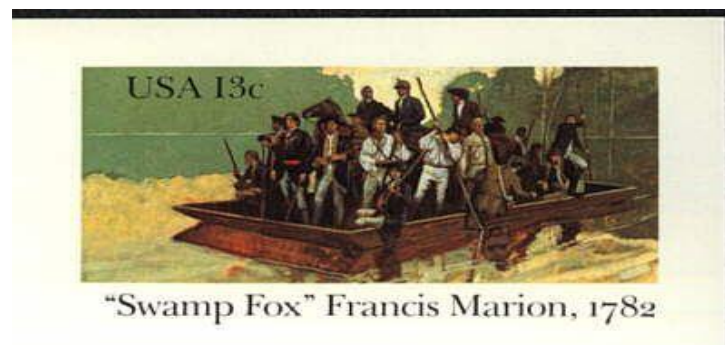
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