

Governor of the State, but soon afterwards moved to Alabama (1819.)

Besides the services of General Pickens, already mentioned, he rendered others to the country which should not be omitted. He held the treaty of Hopewell with the Cherokee Indians, by which all the western part of South Carolina was obtained; he was one of the commissioners appointed by President Jefferson to run the line between Georgia and Tennessee; and also the line between Georgia and South Carolina. He held the treaty of Milledgeville; that of Huntsville, and of Natches with the Indians; and was one of the first white men to pass down the Cumberland River, and was often shot at by the savages on the banks. In fact he was one of the most active and useful men of the whole South during the period of the Revolution and the year following. His home was never at any time in Edgefield; but he was of Ninety-Six and we have a right to claim him as our own through his illustrious grandson, F. W. Pickens, whose home for many years was at Edgefield.

CAPTAIN RICHARD JOHNSON.

Whether Captain Richard Johnson was born in Edgefield or not, is not known. His father came from Virginia and settled near Campbellton, on the Savannah River. Richard was about eighteen years old at the time of the Declaration of Independence. He took that side at the first and clung to it without wavering until the close. He was a captain in Samuel Hammond's cavalry. He had one great quality, which always inspired his comrades with confidence—courage in time of danger. As an instance of his courage and readiness it is related of him that at Eutaw, in retreating before the enemy, as he passed a cannon, he stopped and spiked it with a nail which he carried in his pocket. He was the man for the occasion, and he was always ready. Cunningham, on his return to the low country, after his celebrated raid in 1796, while feeding one day at the lower Fork of Little Saluda, his force at the time consisting of about one hundred and fifty men, suddenly saw Hammond appear on the opposite side with about seventy men. Hammond finding the odds so much against him, determined not to cross them, but to follow and harass them until he received reinforcements. Captain Johnson

wanted to cross and attack at once, and said if thirty men would volunteer and go with him he would cross and make the attack. Thirty men *did* volunteer and among the number was Zachary Smith Brooks, grandfather of Preston S. Brooks. Hammond interfered and forbade the movement; placed himself in the way and gave a peremptory order to halt. Hammond was right. It would have been madness for thirty men to attack one hundred and fifty under Bloody Bill. The next day General Pickens came up with them and the pursuit was continued as far as Orangeburg.

Johnson received high praise for his conduct. And the bold spirit he exhibited on this and on all occasions, made him very popular.

In 1806 he was elected to the Legislature and continued to be a member of that body nearly all the remainder of his life. He died in 1817 at his residence in Edgefield. He was opposed to the establishment of the South Carolina College; but after he saw the good resulting from it he frankly acknowledged his error. He left a handsome fortune, but no children to inherit it.

MICHAEL WATSON.

Michael Watson's first essay in arms with the militia of South Carolina was in 1762, in the expedition against the Cherokee Indians led by Colonel Grant of the regular army. And after that he was found very forward, brave, and efficient in opposition to the lawless banditti in 1767 and 1768. I find no mention of the time when Michael Watson's father settled in Edgefield, but he must have been amongst the first in that section of the country. At that time there were no courts nearer than Charlestown. Edgefield, or rather Ninety-Six, for Edgefield was not known until a good many years afterwards, was filling up very rapidly with people from 1760 to 1770, not only with good industrious settlers, but with a great many who were not so.

The peace of 1763 turned loose a great many soldiers on both sides of the Atlantic, who had been rendered unfit for the arts of peace, and who sought to live by preying upon the property of others. Many of these sought refuge in the District of Ninety-Six as a secure asylum, and as a good field for their operations, as there were no courts nearer than Charles-