

Matthew Wallace and His Family.

The people of Mecklenburg probably know less of this family than any family of equal mental ability that ever lived in the county. Matthew Wallace came from Western Pennsylvania a young man, and married a Miss Young, daughter of Joseph Young, who with his brother William, emigrated from the north of Ireland to Pennsylvania; after remaining in Pennsylvania one year, removed to Mecklenburg, North Carolina, in or about the year 1765. Mr. Matthew Wallace lived and died a close neighbor to old Mr. Andrew Henderson (on the creek a short distance above the mill). He had eight children, viz.: Kesiah, Minty, Harriet, Eveline, Rufus, Pinkney, Joseph and Newton. Harriet married James P. Henderson. They raised three sons, Philo, Matthew (who died when a boy), and Thomas—none ever married. The two daughters married. Martha married E. L. Burney and Lilly married J. C. Caldwell, of Winsboro. S. C. Minty married David Henderson, and had two children. C. A. Henderson, M. D., who died (childless) a few years ago in Greenville, S. C. He had been married twice, but left no issue. Margaret married Dr. Frank McRee. They had but one living child, who married Mr. J. G. Shannonhouse, of Charlotte. Eveline married Samuel M. Moore, and but one child reached adult age—John W. Moore. Rufus Wallace studied medicine, practiced in Charlotte, was a brilliant young man, never married, and died young.

Matthew Wallace was a prominent man in the county in his day; was a surveyor of land, which at that time brought him prominently before the people. He was also a magistrate for a long time, and chairman of the old County Court. He at one time sentenced a man to stand in the stocks for two hours. The sheriff told the worshipful court the stocks were not in fix to hold him. The chairman replied: "Fasten him in the crack of the fence, and do it at once." The order

was promptly obeyed. He was said to have been the prime mover in having the court house removed from the public square to West Trade street, as Mr. Alex. McAulay was the prime mover to have the new court house built on the site of Queen's Museum, on South Tryon street.

Mr. Wallace and his children are buried in the old graveyard at Sugar Creek church.

Mr. Matthew Wallace's wife must have been a remarkably brainy woman. At this late day it is impossible to get an insight into her mental capacity; but it is beyond question that the Young family were equal to if not superior to the Wallaces. Her three daughters who lived to be grown and married, were far beyond mediocracy. James P. Henderson's children were all exceedingly bright, and very handsome. Philo was quite a poet, was a gifted writer, had been graduated at the University of North Carolina. A younger brother, "Tom," as he was called by every one, took the first honor at Davidson, and then at Cambridge; was a great reader of books, never entered a profession; joined the Confederate army in 1861, went through the war as a private, when there were few men in Lee's army, would compare with him in scholarship. He made a good soldier; came home and kept books for a mercantile house. David Henderson's son and daughter were observed by the community as a head and shoulder above the compeers in intellectual attainments. The same was observed in Samuel Moore's children. His daughter Lizzie's praises were in the mouth of all who knew her. She died when budding into womanhood. John W. Moore was deemed worthy to represent the county in the Legislature of the State. The name of Wallace—of that family at least—is now obsolete; but collateral branches, carrying the same blood, are still inhabitants of Mecklenburg.