

Clark, ed., Abstract of the Army Accounts of the North Carolina Line (Warrenton). This account is also listed on page 558 in Roster of Soldiers from North Carolina in the American Revolution, published by the Daughters of the American Revolution (1932) ("DAR Roster").

2. Accounts of the United States with North Carolina, War of the Revolution, Book 19, page 302 shows that Abraham Stephenson was paid 463 pounds, 18-3/4 shillings by the State in the settlements of 1786.

3. North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts, Vol. III, Journal of Commissioners, An Account of the Due Bills and Certificates drawn by William Faircloth and of the Office of the Commissioners appointed to liquidate the accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Continental line of the State of North Carolina, page 102: No. 606 Abraham Stephenson-- Due Bills 46 pounds, 6 shillings, 5 pence; Certificates 138 pounds, 19 shillings, 3 pence; Total Amount Due Bills and Certificates 185 pounds, 5 shillings, 8 pence.

4. North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts, Vol. VII, page 31, folio 4: No. 330 Abraham Stevenson 46 pounds, 6 shillings, 5 pence. [Corresponds to amount of Due Bills in item 3 above.]

5. North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts, Vol. 54, page 186: No. 606 Abraham Stevenson--Amount 185 pounds, 5 shillings, 8 pence; Due Bills 46 pounds, 6 shillings, 5 pence; Certificate (No. 746) 138 pounds, 19 shillings, 3 pence. [Corresponds to item 3 above.]

6. North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts Vol. VI, page 57, folio 3, Hillsborough Treasurer's Office [pay certificates surrendered to pay taxes and land entry fees]: No. 13 Abraham Stephenson 9 pounds, 6 shillings.

7. Due Bill No. 258 issued to Abraham Stevenson for 46 pounds, 6 shillings, 5 pence [corresponds to amount of Due Bills in items 3, 4 and 5 above]. Also listed on page 399 of DAR Roster.

The records do not indicate the company or regiment of the North Carolina Line in which Abraham served. It was likely he served in the 3rd, 7th or 10th Regiment, which were organized in whole or in part with companies from the Halifax District, which included Northampton County. Items 1 and 3 above indicate that Abraham's account at the settlement at Warrenton was received by William Faircloth, who was a lieutenant in the 10th Regiment. See North Carolina Troops in the Continental Line, A Register of Officers, with Dates of Commissions, Made up under Direction of the Secretary of State, W. L. Saunders, from Records in His Office, October, 1884 ("Saunders List"). However, this does not necessarily indicate that Abraham served in this regiment.

The 3rd Regiment was organized in 1776 and initially assigned to the Southern Department. On July 8, 1777, it was assigned to the North Carolina Brigade of the Main Army. Having been reduced to a cadre at Valley Forge, it was relieved from the Main Army on June 1, 1778. In July 1778, the 3rd was reorganized at Halifax and assigned to the Highlands Department, then to the Middle Department and then to the Southern Department. It was reorganized again on November 5, 1779, at Halifax and assigned to the Southern Department. On May 12, 1780, the 3rd Regiment was captured by the British Army at Charleston, South Carolina. The 3rd Regiment was involved in the engagements at Charleston, 1775-76; Florida; the defense of Philadelphia; the Philadelphia-Monmouth campaign; and Charleston in 1780

when it was captured.

The 7th Regiment was organized in the spring of 1777 at Halifax. In 1777, it was assigned to the North Carolina Brigade, an element of the Main Army. It was disbanded on June 1, 1778, at Valley Forge. The 7th Regiment participated in the defense of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia-Monmouth campaign.

The 10th Regiment was authorized as an additional North Carolina regiment known as Sheppard's Additional Continental Regiment. It was organized in April--June 1777 to include men from northeastern North Carolina and was adopted into the Main Army. It was disbanded on June 1, 1778, at Valley Forge.

Robert K. Wright, Jr., *The Continental Army* (Army Lineage Series 1983), pp. 299--304.

Additional histories of these regiments and the North Carolina Continental Line can be found in *The North Carolina Continentals* by Hugh F. Rankin; *The North Carolina Continental Line in the American Revolution* by Hugh F. Rankin (North Carolina Bicentennial Pamphlet Series: North Carolina in the American Revolution 1977); and *A Case Study of the Tenth Regiment, North Carolina Continental Line* by Capt. Stephen A. Ralls, *The North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal*, Vol. XVIII, No 2, p. 66 (May 1992).

#### Deeds:

1. See deeds 30, 34 and 36 under Deeds and Land Grants in Notes for Arthur Sr.

2. John McCone to Abraham Stevenson dated December 20, 1786, 60 pounds Va., for 125 acres adjoining a branch, Arthur Stevenson and Abraham Wall; also signed by Elizabeth McCone [presumably Abraham's sister]; witnessed by Jacob Boon Jr., Jesse Britton and Thomas Sanders. NH DB 8:23.

3. Abraham Stevenson to David Parker dated January 27, 1792, 12 pounds for 40 acres then in [illegible]'s possession and adjoining John Absolam, Patty's Delight and Elias Powell; signed by Abraham Stevinson [no mark indicated]; witnessed by John Johnston and William Stevinson [with a mark]. NH DB 9:198.

4. Abraham Stephenson to Jenkins Stephenson [no relationship stated] dated August 27, 1810, deed of gift of 125 acres adjoining Patty's Delight, Abraham Stephenson and Etheldred Martin; signed by Abraham Stephenson [no mark indicated]; witnessed by Arthur and Benjamin Stephenson. NH DB 15:49.

5. Abraham Stephens to Arthur Stephens dated November 10, 1810, deed of gift to son Arthur of 170 acres adjoining David Parker, Elias Powell, Benjamin Boon and Benjamin Stephens; signed by Abraham Stephens [with a mark]; witnessed by Winborn Newsom, Jenkins and Arthur Stevenson. NH DB 15:86.

6. Abraham Stephens to Benjamin Stephens dated November 10, 1819, deed of gift to son Benjamin of 170 acres adjoining Arthur Stephens, David Parker, Jenkins Stephens, Etheldred Martin and Abraham Stephens; signed by Abraham Stephens [with a mark]; witnessed by Jenkins and Arthur Stephens. NH DB 15:86.

7. Abraham Stephens to Jenkins Stephens dated November 10, 1810, deed of gift to son

Jenkins of 170 acres adjoining Abram Wall, Benjamin Stephens, Jenkins Stephens, Etheldred Martin, a branch and Patty's Delight; signed by Abraham Stephens [with a mark]; witnessed by Benjamin and Arthur Stephens. NH DB 15:86.

8. Abraham Stevenson to John Stevenson dated September 3, 1821, deed of gift to son John of five slaves, Milly, Jacob, Moses, Mary Ann and Mariah; signed by Abraham Stevenson [with a mark]; witnessed by David Stevenson [with a mark].

9. Abraham Stevenson to John Stevenson dated March 17, 1823, deed of gift to son John of "all my lands which I now have in possession", all slaves, Jane, Ham, Rose, Jacob, George, Moses, Mary, Mariah, Harriet, Liza and Luke and "all other property of whatever kind which I now own, consisting of one still, 3 beds and furniture, all my +[?] of hogs, all my cattle, all my sheep, one buffet and all of other perishable property which I have not named above"; signed by Abraham Stevenson [with a mark]; witnessed by James Daughtrey and John Suiter. NH DB 21:326. [The wording of this deed suggests it was written in contemplation of death and in lieu of a will.]

10. Abraham Stevenson to Benjamin Stevenson dated May 30, 1823, deed of gift to son Benjamin (consideration stated as "for the natural love and affection that I have for my son" and for "the further consideration of the sum of one dollar") of 170 acres of land "which he now in possession" and a slave David; signed by Abraham Stevenson [with a mark]; witnessed by Jeremiah Johnston and John Suiter. NH DB 22:8. [This is probably the same land as Abraham gave to Benjamin in deed 6 above. The purpose of this deed was likely to confirm Benjamin's title to the land as well as to convey title to the slave. It is likely that Abraham died shortly after this deed was written.]

#### Census Records:

1. 1786 NH Census (page 15 in Capt. Bennet's District): Abraham Stevenson, following Arthur Stevenson and next to William Stevenson--1 white male 21-60; 2 white males under 21 and above 60; 2 white females all ages; 1 black 12-50; 2 blacks under 12 and above 50.

2. 1790 Federal Census (page 579): Abram Stephenson, above Arthur Stephenson--2 white males 16 and upwards; 4 white males under 16; 3 white females all ages; 4 slaves.

3. 1800 Federal Census (page ): Abraham Stevenson--2 white males under 10; 1 white male 10-15; 1 white male 16-25; 1 white male 26-44; 2 white females 26-44; 15 slaves.

4. 1810 Federal Census (page ): Abraham Stephens--1 white male 10-15; 2 white males 16-25; 1 white male 45 and upwards; 1 white female 16-25; 1 white female 45 and upwards; 7 slaves.

5. 1820 Federal Census (page 260): Abraham Stevenson--1 white male 10-15; 1 white male 16-25; 1 white male 45 and upwards; 1 white female 10-15; 1 white female 45 and upwards; 11 slaves.

#### Tax Records:

1. 1780 Tax List for NH Co.: Abraham Stephenson, following Arthur Stephenson and two up from Martha Vick--shown as married with 8 polls and with taxable property valued at 1,497 pounds, taxed at 111 pounds.

More About ABRAHAM STEPHENSON:

Burial: Northampton County, North Carolina

Notes for MARY JENKINS:

It is assumed that Mary Jenkins was the wife of Abraham based on the following provision in the will of Emmerly Jenkins dated December 1, 1796 (NH WB :141):

"My will and desire is that all the rest of my property of every kind be equally divided between my daughters Mary Stephenson Charity Parker, my grandson David Parker and my grandson Jason Ricks to them and their heirs forever."

Abraham's also had a son named Jenkins.

Children of ABRAHAM STEPHENSON and MARY JENKINS are:

14. i. ARTHUR<sup>5</sup> STEPHENSON, b. Bef. 1780; d. 1823, Northampton County, North Carolina.
15. ii. JENKINS STEPHENSON, b. Bet. 1780 - 1785; d. March 1815.
16. iii. BENJAMIN THOMAS STEPHENSON, b. 1788; d. 1875.
17. iv. CHARLES STEPHENSON, b. Bef. 1795; d. 1837, Hertford County, North Carolina.
- v. JOHN STEPHENSON, b. Bef. 1801.

Notes for JOHN STEPHENSON:

John's age is estimated based on the assumption that he was at least 21 years old at the date of the 1821 deed from his father Abraham. See deed 8 under Deeds in the Notes for Abraham.

John also was an executor named in the will of his brother Arthur (see Will in the Notes for Arthur (d. 1823)), acted as guardian for the minor children of his brother Jenkins (see Estate Records in the Notes for Jenkins) and was trustee under a deed of trust for David, a son of Arthur (d. 1823) (see deeds 3 and 4 under Deeds in the Notes for David).

Northampton County court minutes indicate that John was a constable of the county in the 1820's.

Deeds:

1. See deeds described in Notes for Abraham and deeds described in Notes for David.

2. John Pledger to John Stevenson dated January 3, 1824, \$220 for 110 acres adjoining Benjamin Boon, ??? Oliver, Indian branch, Zaccheus Martin, Etheldred Martin, ??? Darden and the road; witnessed by Joseph Daughtery and George W. Pledger. NH DB 22:157.

3. Absalom Jenkins to John Stevenson dated December 14, 1824, deed of gift for "befriending the said Absalom Jenkins in standing his security to a bond given to said Charles Gutting" for "all and singular my goods and chattles [sic] now being in my possession", 36-3/4 acres purchased from Charles Gutting, one sorrel mare, three feather beds and furniture, parcel of hogs and "all the balance of my perishable property"; witnessed by Jeremiah P. Johnston and Amos Parker. NH DB 22:351.

4. Jesse Smith to John Stevenson dated September 22, 1827, deed of trust securing debts of Jesse Smith to Zaccheus Martin covering land adjoining William Deloach, Willie Suiter and others; witnessed by Joseph Daughtery and Amos Parker. NH DB 24:27.

5. John Stevenson to Benjamin Boon dated February 27, 1829, \$500 for 250 acres adjoining Benjamin Boon, Arthur Stevenson's heirs, the "lands where Benjamin Boon now lives", Zaccheus Martin, Abram Darden and Nathan Britton; signed by John [no mark indicated]; witnessed by Joseph H. Wood. NH DB 25:37.

6. John Stevenson and Littleberry Daughtery to Howell Hedgpeth dated April 15, 1829, \$132 for 110 acres adjoining Zaccheus Martin and Benjamin Boon; signed by John [no mark indicated]; witnessed by Zaccheus Martin and William Thory. NH DB 25:38.

#### Census Records:

1. 1830 Federal Census (page 99): John Stephenson--1 white male 15-19; 1 white male 20-29; 1 white male 50-59; 5 slaves.

2. 1840 Federal Census (page 117): Jno. Stephenson--2 white males under 5; 1 white male 20-29; 1 white female under 5; 1 white female 20-29; 4 slaves.

#### Tax Records:

See introductory note under Tax Records in Notes for Jesse.

1. 1823 Tax List (District 7): John Stephenson--1 free poll; 4 black polls; 249 acres of land valued at \$750.

2. 1824 Tax List (District 7): John Stephenson--1 free poll; 5 black polls; 369 acres of land valued at \$1,107.

3. 1828 Tax List (District 7): John Stephenson--1 free poll; 7 black polls; 430 acres of land valued at \$1,114.

18. vi. AMY STEPHENSON (MARTIN).

9. MILDRED STEPHENSON<sup>4</sup> (SMITH) (*ARTHUR STEPHENSON<sup>3</sup> SR., ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>2</sup>, JOHN<sup>1</sup> STEPHENSON*) was born Bef. 1770, and died 1806. She married RICHARD SMITH.

Notes for MILDRED STEPHENSON (SMITH):

Mildred's birth date is estimated based on the estimated birth date of her daughter Susannah Britain. See introductory note in the Notes for Susannah.

Will dated February 6, 1806 (NH WB :23):

"In the name of God amen, I Milly Smith of Northampton County and State of North Carolina being very weak and low in health bu in my perfect memory do make this my last will and testament (to wit) I give my love to God which gives it me and my body to the earth from which it came and for my worldly goods after my just debts are paid my desire is as

follows (to wit) I lend and bequeath unto my beloved daughter Susannah Britain one mare and horse and three pounds to be paid out of the Estate to the Executors of Richard Smith dec'd. Solomon Smith, Henry Deberry for said mare,

Item: I lend and bequeath unto said beloved daughter Susannah Britain her life after to be equally divided among her all that I hath, and I do hereby appoint Jesse Britain and John Britain my sole Executors and do hereby disowned [sic] all other wills before made before made whereas I do set my hand and seal this sixth day of February Anno Dom: 1806

Test: Milly (her mark) Smith  
Abraham (his mark) Stevenson  
Jenkins Stevenson  
James (his mark) Parker"

Child of MILDRED (SMITH) and RICHARD SMITH is:

- i. SUSANNAH SMITH<sup>5</sup> BRITAIN, b. Bef. 1788.

Notes for SUSANNAH SMITH BRITAIN:

Susannah's birth date is estimated based on the assumption that, as a married woman, she was at least 18 years old at the date of the will of her mother Mildred Smith. See Will in the Notes for Mildred.

10. CHARLES<sup>4</sup> STEPHENSON (*ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>3</sup> JR., ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>2</sup> SR., JOHN<sup>1</sup> STEPHENSON*) was born Bef. 1759, and died January 1793. He married (1) DORCAS UNKNOWN. She died Bet. 1788 - 1793. He married (2) MARY UNKNOWN Bet. 1788 - 1793.

Notes for CHARLES STEPHENSON:

The birth date of Charles is estimated based on the assumption that he was at least 18 years old when he witnessed the 1776 deed from his father Abraham Jr. to John Fly. See deed 1 under Deeds in the Notes for Abraham Jr.

It appears that Charles had two wives, Dorcas and Mary, as well as daughters named Dorcas and Mary. The 1788 will of Abraham Jr. names a daughter-in-law Dorcas Stevenson but no son other than Charles. His will also names a granddaughter Polly Stevenson but not a granddaughter Dorcas or Mary. Item 2 of the estate records of Charles described below indicates that his wife at the time of his death was Mary. The estate records described below also indicate that Charles had a daughter Mary (item 3) as well as daughters Polly and Dorcas (item 1). Therefore, it is assumed that Charles' first wife was named Dorcas and that they had a daughter Polly before August 21, 1788, the date of Abraham Jr.'s will, and a second daughter named Dorcas some time after that date. It is further assumed that Charles' first wife Dorcas died some time prior to Charles' death in 1793, that Charles married second wife Mary and that they had conceived a daughter named Mary before Charles' death in 1793. To further complicate things, both Charles' daughters Polly and Mary seem to have married a Bryant.

Deeds and Land Records:

1. See Deeds and Land Records under Notes for Abraham Jr.
2. Charles Stephenson to Benjamin Boon dated February 1, 1782, 40 pounds for 210 acres

adjoining a branch, James Vaughan, Jacob Boon Sr., Abraham Wall and James Griffin; witnessed by Jacob Boon and Absalom Cobb. NH DB 7:111. [It is not clear that the Charles in this deed was the son of Abraham Jr. Evidence of how Charles acquired this land has not been found, and the other men named in this deed owned land between Patty's Delight and Corduroy Swamp, rather than a little farther north on the Meherrin River where Abraham Jr.'s land was located. See Deeds and Land Grants in Notes for Arthur Sr.]

3. See item 4 under Estate Records below.

#### Estate Records:

1. It is not clear whether Charles died intestate or left a will, but no will has been found in the records. John Boon was appointed administrator of the estate. See bond dated June 4, 1793. Other documents state that Hudson Thompson acted as Charles' executor. See bond dated December 2, 1793. John Boon was initially appointed guardian for Charles' minor daughters Polly and Dorcas. See bonds dated September 2, 1793.

2. Petition of Charles' widow Mary for allotment of dower in Charles' land adjoining Joseph Boon, James Jenkins and others states that Charles died some time in the month of January 1793. However, Mary was found not entitled to dower for reasons unspecified. Northampton County Court Records, Minutes 1792-1792, 1813-1821. C.071.3001, page 193.

3. In the 1807 June Term of the court, Benjamin Bryant and his wife Mary filed a petition alleging that John Boykin, who had been appointed guardian for Charles' daughter Mary in 1796, had misappropriated her property by taking all but a small portion of the funds from the rent of real estate and for the hire of slaves for his own use.

4. On February 10, 1808, five commissioners appointed by the court divided 543 acres of land in Charles' estate between his heirs Polly Bryant and Dorcas Barnes. The plat in this document shows the property adjoining the Meherrin River, Cow Island gut, the long branch, the old country line, Robert Cobb, James Hosey, Lazarus Cook, William Boon, John Fly and Samuel Deberry. This land appears to be the same land described in deed 6 under Deeds and Land Grants in Notes for Abraham Sr. [The records do not indicate whether Charles' estate included other real estate, although item 3 above may suggest it did, or why Charles' daughter Mary or his son John, if alive, did not receive a share of the land allotted to Polly and Dorcas.]

#### Census Records:

1. 1786 NH Census (page 21 in Capt. Andrew's District): Charles Stephenson [sic]--1 white male 21-60; 3 white females all ages; 4 blacks 12-50; 1 black under 12 or above 50.

2. 1790 Federal Census (page ):

Children of CHARLES STEPHENSON and DORCAS UNKNOWN are:

- i. JOHN<sup>5</sup> STEPHENSON.
- ii. POLLY STEPHENSON (BRYANT), m. UNKNOWN BRYANT.
- iii. DORCAS STEPHENSON (BARNES), b. Bet. 1788 - 1793; m. UNKNOWN BARNES.

Notes for DORCAS STEPHENSON (BARNES):

Dorcas' birth date is based on the assumptions set forth in the introductory notes in the Notes for her father Charles.

Child of CHARLES STEPHENSON and MARY UNKNOWN is:

- iv. MARY STEPHENSON<sup>5</sup> (BRYANT), b. Bet. 1788 - 1793, (see introductory note in Notes for Charles); m. BENJAMIN BRYANT.

11. WINIFRED STEPHENSON<sup>4</sup> CARR (*ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>3</sup> JR., ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>2</sup> SR., JOHN<sup>1</sup> STEPHENSON*) She married TITUS CARR.

Child of WINIFRED CARR and TITUS CARR is:

- i. ROBERT STEPHENSON<sup>5</sup> CARR.

12. UNKNOWN STEPHENSON<sup>4</sup> DARDEN (*ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>3</sup> JR., ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>2</sup> SR., JOHN<sup>1</sup> STEPHENSON*) She married WILLIAM DARDEN.

Children of UNKNOWN DARDEN and WILLIAM DARDEN are:

- i. SARAH<sup>5</sup> DARDEN.
- ii. ELIZABETH DARDEN.
- iii. PRISCILLA DARDEN.
- iv. ABRAHAM DARDEN.

*Generation No. 5*

13. WILLIAM<sup>5</sup> STEPHENSON (*ARTHUR STEPHENSON<sup>4</sup> JR., ARTHUR STEPHENSON<sup>3</sup> SR., ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>2</sup>, JOHN<sup>1</sup> STEPHENSON*) was born Bef. 1766. He married PENELOPE UNKNOWN.

Notes for WILLIAM STEPHENSON:

See introductory notes in Notes for Arthur Sr.

The birth date of William is estimated based on the assumption that he was at least 21 years old when he appears as the head of a household in the 1786 NH Census. See Census Records below.

Estate Records:

Deeds:

It is assumed that the William Stephenson in the following deeds was William, the son of Arthur Jr.



1. Jesse Brittain to William Stevenson dated May 15, 1798, 50 pounds in gold or silver for 51-1/8 acres adjoining Murfree's road, Patty's Delight, Abraham Stephenson and Thomas Martin; witnessed by John Johnson and Rebekah Johnson. NH DB 10:374.

2. William Stephenson to Abraham Wall dated January 24, 1801, \$150 for 51-1/8 acres adjoining Murfree's road, Patty's Delight, Abraham Stephenson and Thomas Martin; signed by William Stephenson [with a mark]; witnessed by Jesse Brittain Jr., Elisha Johnson and Elisha Pierce. NH DB 10:531A. [Same land as in deed 1]

3. Frederick Long to William Stephenson dated February 12, 1803, 110 pounds Va. for 100 acres adjoining Jack Wheeler, Solomon Gay, John Daughtry, John Burk, Henry Gay, Jack Wheeler's orphan's line and the road and house; witnessed by Anthony E. Williams. NH DB 12:156.

4. William Stephenson to Allen Tabourn dated January 7, 1804, deed securing 100 pounds Va. and interest until March 10, 1805, for 100 acres adjoining Jack Wheeler, Solomon Gay, Jack Daughtry, Pritchard, Henry Gay, Darden Wheeler and the road; signed by William Stephenson [ ]; witnessed by Drury Phillips Jr. and Harrison Chapman. NH DB 12:353. [Same land as in deed 3]

5. William Stephenson to William B. Lockhart dated August 15, 1804, \$67 for 100 acres of land purchased by William from Frederick Long and said Long from Benjamin W. Johnson or Hancock and Johnson; signed by William Stephenson [with a mark]; witnessed by William Wade Jr. and Frederick Long. NH DB 13:177.

6. William Stephenson to John Amis for the benefit of William B. Lockhart dated September 9, 1807, deed of trust covering land in deed 5 securing payment of \$125 and interest to Lockhart resulting from settlement of a suit by Lockhart against William; signed by William Stephenson [with a mark]; witnessed by Will Edmunds. NH DB 13:349.

7. Presley Pritchard to William Stephenson dated October [illegible], 1816, \$1,100 for 600 acres and 69 poles adjoining the long branch, the lick branch and the cross branch; witnessed by Howell Edmunds, Norman Branch and Daniel Masser [?]. NH DB 18:29.

8. William Stevenson and wife Penelope to Elijah Stevenson [no relationship stated] dated June 5, 1821, \$102.50 for 51-1/4 acres being part of the land purchased from Presley Pritchard [see deed 7] adjoining Hilly branch and the long branch; signed by William and Penelope Stevenson [both with a mark]; witnessed by Joel Pritchard and John Stevenson. NH DB 21:30.

9. William Stevenson to Elijah and John Stevenson dated March 31, 1826, deed to sons Elijah and John, \$100 and "the further consideration of the maintenance and support of me and my wife Penelope during our joint and several lives as well as for the natural love and affection which I have and bear unto my sons", for (a) the remaining land William purchased from Presley Pritchard [see deed 7] adjoining the long branch, lick branch and cross branch, and (b) one slave, Jacob, one yoke of oxen, one bay mare, four goats, one sow and seven pigs, six sheep, six geese, three cows, three calves, one [?], four beds and furniture, five sitting chairs, one walnut and one pine table, one cupboard, three iron pots, one Dutch oven, one cart and wheels and "all the remainder and residue of my plantation utensils and household and

kitchin furniture"; signed by William Stevenson [with a mark]; witnessed by Hardy Cobb; followed by bond of \$1,000 securing the obligation of Elijah and John to maintain and support William and Penelope, signed by Elijah and John Stevenson [no mark indicated]. NH DB 22: 454.

10. Joshua and Frances Vick (of Southampton Co. Va.) to William Stephenson dated April 11, 1831, \$125 for 68 acres adjoining A. Johnson, Benjamin Boon and the branch; witnessed by Kinchen Stephenson, N. Stephenson and John Stephenson [no mark indicated]. NH DB

11. John D. Amis, Clerk and Master in Equity, to William Stephenson dated [month and day blank], 1832, \$680.25 for 225 acres sold upon the petition of Benjamin H. Pritchard and other heirs at law of Joshua Pritchard, adjoining William Stephenson, Simon Wood, Henry Phillips and Benjamin H. Pritchard, subject to the dower rights of Mrs. Dorothy Harrison, the widow of Joshua Pritchard; witnessed by William H. Hardee. NH DB 25:460.

#### Census Records:

1. 1786 NH Census (page 15 in Capt. Bennet's District): William Stephenson, following Abraham Stevenson and above Martha Vick--1 white male under 21 or above 60; 1 white female all ages.

2. 1790 Federal Census (page 580): William Stephenson--1 white male 16 and upwards; 4 white females all ages.

3. 1800 Federal Census (page ): William Stephenson--2 white males under 10; 1 white male 26-44; 2 white females under 10; 1 white female 10-15; 1 white female 16-25; no slaves.

4. 1810 Federal Census (page ): William Stephenson--2 white males under 10; 1 white male 26-44; 2 white females under 10; 1 white female 26-44; 11 slaves.

5. 1820 Federal Census (page 260): William Stephenson--1 white male under 10; 1 white male 16-25; 1 white male 26-44; 3 white females under 10; 1 white female 16-25; 3 slaves.

6. 1830 Federal Census (page 99): William Stephenson--1 white male 15-19; 1 white male 50-59; 1 white female 20-29; 1 white female 30-39; 1 white female 50-59; 8 slaves; 7 free colored.

[The age of the oldest male in the 1820 and 1830 censuses is inconsistent with the age of the oldest male in the 1786 NH census and the 1800 Federal census, suggesting that the William in those later censuses was a different William. In addition, the 1830 Federal census for Elijah Stephenson (see Census Records under notes for Elijah) includes a white male and a white female, both age 60-69, in Elijah's household. They are probably William and his wife Penelope. See also deed 9 above.]

#### Tax Records:

In the 19th century, Northampton County taxpayers were listed by districts, corresponding to the militia districts. A map prepared about 1860 shows the location of these districts. Most Stephensons were in District 4, north of the road through Martin's Crossroads (present Conway) and to the west of District 7; District 5, south of the road through Martin's Crossroads and west of District 8; District 6, north of District 7 and to the Virginia border; District 7, south of the road through Martin's Crossroads and including the head of Patty's Delight near where the land grants of Arthur (d. 1792) were located; and District 12, in the northeast corner of the county adjoining the Meherrin River. Jesse, son of Arthur (d. 1823) also owned land in District 8, north of the road through Martin's Crossroads and south of Corduroy Swamp and Kirby Creek where some of the land owned by Arthur Sr. was located, and Jesse's brother Abraham appears also to have owned land in District 11, east of District 8 and to the border with Hertford County. The road dividing Districts 4 and 5 and Districts 7 and 8, which is shown as Bennet's road on the map, was probably located about where present Route 158 through Conway is now located.

In some cases it appears that information was incorrectly entered or omitted in the tax lists. Land values stated for tax purposes do not necessarily represent the fair market value of the land.

It is assumed that the William Sr. in the following tax lists was William, the son of Arthur Jr.

1. 1823 Tax List (District 5): William Stevenson Sr., below Elijah Stevenson--1 black poll; 549 acres of land valued at \$1,644.

2. 1824 Tax List (District 5): William Stevenson Sr., four below Elijah Stevenson--1 black poll; 549 acres valued at \$1,644.

Children of WILLIAM STEPHENSON and PENELOPE UNKNOWN are:

i. ELIJAH<sup>6</sup> STEPHENSON.

Notes for ELIJAH STEPHENSON:

Deeds:

1. See deeds 8 and 9 under Deeds in the Notes for William.

Census Records:

1. 1830 Federal Census (page 105): Elijah Stephenson--1 white male under 5; 1 white male 20-29; 1 white male 60-69; 1 white female 20-29; 1 white female 60-69; 6 slaves; 2 free colored.

2. Elijah does not appear in the 1840 or 1850 census.

Tax Records:

See introductory note under Tax Records in the Notes for William.

1. 1823 Tax List (District 5): Elijah Stephenson, above William Stephenson Sr.--1 free poll; 1 black poll; 51 acres of land valued at \$154.

2. 1824 Tax List (District 5): Elijah Stephenson, four above William Stephenson Sr.--1 free poll; 51 acres valued at \$154.

ii. JOHN STEPHENSON.

Notes for JOHN STEPHENSON:

Deeds:

1. See deed 9 under Deeds in the Notes for William.

14. ARTHUR<sup>5</sup> STEPHENSON (*ABRAHAM<sup>4</sup>, ARTHUR STEPHENSON<sup>3</sup> SR., ABRAHAM STEPHENSON<sup>2</sup>, JOHN<sup>1</sup> STEPHENSON*) was born Bef. 1780, and died 1823 in Northampton County, North Carolina. He married (1) PENELOPE NEWSOM. He married (2) CHERRY DAVIS March 04, 1816, daughter of ARTHUR DAVIS. She was born 1793.

Notes for ARTHUR STEPHENSON:

Arthur's birth date is estimated based on the assumption that he was at least 21 years old when he appeared as the head of a household in the 1800 Federal census. See Census Records below.

According to research notes of Gilbert T. Stephenson (date unknown), Arthur lived "where B. J. Ricks lives now" (once known as the W. P. Sykes' place) near his father Abraham. The notes state that this property was probably inherited by Delia, the sister of David Newsom Stephenson, and last owned by Viola Stephenson and Carrie Harris, daughters of Mollie Sykes. The notes also state that Arthur was buried with his father Abraham in a private cemetery on the road between Hedgspeth Crossroads (between Conway and Pendleton but nearer Conway) and Galatia. According to the notes, the location of this cemetery was probably under cultivation at the time (1974).

The notes also state that Arthur's children David, Jenny, Becky and Winborne were never married.

Marriage Bonds:

1. None found for first wife Penelope Newsom.
2. Arthur Stevenson, groom; Cherry Davis, bride; March 4, 1816; Jno. C. Wood, bondsman. NH Marriage Bonds, p. 189

Deeds:

1. John Martin to Arthur Stephenson dated March 7, 1793, a lease for 8 years of land [acres not specified] adjoining the swamp, Martha Vick, Elias Powell and Jesse Brittain; witnessed by Elisha Lawrence. NH DB 10:157. [It is assumed that the grantee in this deed was Arthur (d. 1823) because there is not another Arthur who appears in the records as of the date of this deed.]

2. Elias Lankford to Arthur Stephenson dated January 5, 1811, 90 pounds Va. for 85 acres adjoining Kerby Creek, Manders [Mandue's?] branch, Joseph Johnson and a branch; witnessed by Benjamin Stevenson and Winborn Newsom. NH DB 16:40.

3. Arthur Stevenson to Jeremiah Johnson (of Southampton Co. Va.) dated April 21, 1814, \$425 for 100 acres on Kerby Creek adjoining the creek, Manders [Mandue's?] branch, John Pipkin and a small branch; witnessed by Charles and John Stevenson. NH DB 17:47.

4. Charles Stevenson to Arthur Stevenson [no relationship stated] dated January 28, 1817, \$635 for 135 acres on Coyroy Swamp adjoining Benjamin Boon, Benjamin Clifton and others; witnessed by [illegible] Johnson, John J. Stevenson and Thomas Martin. NH DB 18:148.

5. Arthur Stevenson to John Darden dated February 10, 1819 (signed August 25, 1820), \$108 for the dowry land laid off for the widow of Elias Darden; witnessed by John Stevenson. NH DB 20:434.

6. Arthur Stevenson to David Stevenson dated August 15, 1821, deed of gift to son David for 135 acres on Coyroy Swamp being the land called "Martin's place" adjoining Benjamin Clifton, Benjamin Boon, Charles Stevenson and others; witnessed by John and Charles Stevenson. NH DB 21:12.

7. Arthur Stevenson to David Stevenson dated August 15, 1821, deed of gift to son David of two slaves, Daniel and Martha; witnessed by Charles J. Stevenson and J. W. [?] Stevenson; proved in court by John Stevenson. NH DB 21:12.

Will dated January 17, 1823 (proved \_\_\_\_\_, 1823) (NH WB : ]:

"In the name of God amen, I Arthur Stevenson of Northampton County and State of North Carolina being at this time of a disposing mind and memory thanks be to God for it therefore calling to mind the mortality of my body knowing that it is appointed for all flesh once to die - do make this my last will and testament in the following manner and form  
First I give the following negroes to wit. Mike, Ephraim, Nancy, Rose, Dorcas, Tilda, Zilphia, Hasty, Cooper to my children namely, Winbourn, Jesse, Jinny, Abraham, Betsy, Rebecca Stevensons to be equally divided amongst them and their heirs forever also the whole of my land that I have in possession I give to be equally divided between my three sons Winbourn, Jesse and Abraham Stevensons after my death to them and their heirs forever--  
I give to my daughter Polly Futrell all the property that I gave her which she has in possession--  
I give to my son David Stevenson all the property that I gave him which he has in possession--  
I give the ballance [sic] of my property after paying all my just debts to be equally divided between my children namely, Winbourn, Jesse, Jinny, Betsy, Rebecca, Abraham, Littleberry, Tabitha and Pennylope Stevensons to them and their heirs forever--  
I also lend unto my beloved wife Cherry Stevenson one third of my lands, and one negro woman named Aggy during her widowhood--and at her marriage or death the said negro woman Aggy is to be equally divided amongst Jenny, Winbourn, Jesse, Betsey, Rebecca and Abraham Stevensons to them and their heirs forever--  
I do make and ordain my son David Stevenson and John Stevenson Exors to this my last well

and testament given under my hand and seal this 17th day of January--1823--

Witness:  
[illegible] Johnson  
Nathan Britten"

Arthur Stevenson

#### Estate Records:

1. Legal proceedings were brought by Arthur's widow Cherry in the county court to challenge the validity of Arthur's will. A transcript of the proceedings in the 1823 March Term of the court states that a jury that included William Stevenson found that the document purporting to be Arthur's will was not his last will and testament. In a proceeding brought by the executors in the Superior Court of Northampton County, a different jury found that the purported will was Arthur's last will and testament. The will was admitted to probate. [Presumably, Cherry was unhappy with the bequests to her and her three children by Arthur, Littleberry, Tabitha and Penelope, compared to the bequests to Arthur's other children.]

2. Cherry then petitioned the county court 1823 June Term for her rights of dower stating that she was dissatisfied with the provision made for her in Arthur's will. On August 18, 1823, a jury consisting of John Martin, William Maddry, Jesse Darden, Elias Powell, Drury Nelson, James Daughtery, William Oliver, William Manson, John Gardner, John Futrell, Willie Suiter and Benjamin Boon awarded Cherry a portion of Arthur's land containing 58-2/3 acres adjoining Elias Powell and Benjamin Boon.

3. David Stevenson was appointed guardian for Arthur's son Winbourn, a minor. See bond dated June 3, 1823.

4. James Martin was appointed administrator for the purpose of conducting inventories and sales of property in the estate. See bond dated March 4, 1823.

5. Estate inventories and accountings of estate sales show the estate included, among other property, various farm implements, livestock including 20 sheep, 60 hogs, 2 horses, 10 head of cattle, vegetables including corn, potatoes and peas, cotton, lumber, a grind stone, bacon, beef, lard, a clock, a rug, a buffet, glasses, 3 books, tables, chairs, 4 beds and furniture, pots, earthenware, utensils, 3 packs of cards, a loom, a cubbard, a saddle, soap grease, a cradle, a trumpet, a cart and wheels, cider, 5 quarts of brandy and numerous other items. The estate also included 9 slaves in addition to Aggy.

Persons who bought property at estate sales included Arthur Davis, David Stephenson, James Martin, Absalom Jenkins, Charles Stephenson, Winborn Stephenson, Noah Futrell, Cherry Stephenson, Zaccheus Martin, Jesse Stephenson, James Daughtery, John Stephenson, Amos Parker, Drury Nelson, Buxton Allen and others.

6. Winbourn (through David his guardian), Jesse and Abraham petitioned the county court for a division of the land that Arthur's will provided was to be equally divided among them. On November 27, 1826, arbitrators consisting of Zaccheus Martin, Noah Odom, Willie Lewter, Jesse Darden and James Daughtery allotted the 170 acres of land adjoining Benjamin Boon's land into three tracts of 58-2/3 acres each.

7. In 1822, shortly before Arthur's death, Etheldred Martin (apparently the son of Etheldred Martin whose daughter Rhoda later married Arthur's son Jesse) commenced a slander suit in county court against Arthur claiming damages of \$500. [What Arthur allegedly said to slander Etheldred could not be determined from the available records.] A court transcript states that a jury reached a verdict in favor of the plaintiff, but awarded only 38 shillings in damages and assessed costs of the suit of \$21.36 against the plaintiff. The plaintiff appealed the verdict to the Superior Court; the records do not show the outcome of the appeal but there is no evidence that it was successful. Arthur's brother Benjamin separately sued Etheldred Martin for trespass vi et armis [The nature of the trespass does not appear in the records, but it was probably for some alleged injury to person or property.] Benjamin lost the case, apparently because the statute of limitations had expired.

8. Other litigation. The estate was also involved in other litigation, both as plaintiff and defendant:

(a) Wright Allen obtained a judgment against the estate for debts of \$750 and interest plus costs of the suit.

(b) The estate sued Buxton Allen and James Daughtery for debts of \$224.

(c) John Fly sued the estate and obtained an execution of judgment against the lands held by the estate for \$7.50 with interest plus \$2.80 costs. [Interestingly, Zaccheus Martin, a friend of Arthur's family, was the sitting court justice.]

(d) The estate obtained a judgment of \$254.63 including costs against Josiah Parker.

#### Census Records:

1. 1800 Federal Census (page ): Arthur Stevenson--1 white male under 10; 1 white male 16-25; 1 white female 16-25; 8 slaves.

2. 1810 Federal Census (page ): Arthur Stephens--2 white males under 10; 1 white male 10-15; 1 white male 16-25; 1 white male 26-44; 3 white females under 10; 1 white female 10-15; 1 white female 26-44; 16 slaves.

3. 1820 Federal Census: For some reason, Arthur does not appear in this census.

#### More About ARTHUR STEPHENSON:

Burial: Northampton County, North Carolina

Will: January 17, 1823, Northampton County, North Carolina