

A GRIMBALL PLANTATION JOURNAL

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In January 1701 Thomas Grimball,¹ planter of Edisto Island, South Carolina, began his family record in a 3 x 5 inch plantation journal which, after his 26 October 1721 death, was continued by his son, Paul Grimball² (1703-1750). The journal's record was intermittently continued by Paul Grimball's widow, Mrs. Mary (Stone) Grimball³ (c.1720-1804), daughter of John Stone⁴ and his wife Susannah⁵ (1703-1780), daughter of French Huguenot immigrant Jean Carrière⁶ (c.1670-1724).

Paul Grimball's widow married (2) c.1751 Captain William Lawton,⁷ planter of Edisto Island, and (3) on 15 January 1759 Samuel Fickling.⁸ She apparently took the journal to Prince William's Parish where she settled prior to the Revolutionary War. After the 31 October 1780 death of her son John Grimball⁹ in Robertville, St. Peter's Parish, and her own death in 1804, the journal was preserved by her son Joseph Lawton¹⁰ (1753-1815), planter of Mulberry Grove Plantation, St. Peter's Parish, and his son, Col. Alexander James Lawton¹¹ (1790-1876) who left the journal in the possession of his son, Gen. Alexander Robert Lawton¹² (1818-1896), Commissary General of the Confederate States of America.

¹ *Thomas Grimball*, progenitor of the Grimball family of South Carolina, son of the immigrants Paul and Mary Grimball of Edisto Island, married (1) Joyce who died 25 Jan. 1701; married (2) Elizabeth, who died 5 Aug. 1715, daughter of William Adams; married (3) 10 Nov. 1715 Anna who died 23 Aug. 1719; married (4) 8 Aug. 1720 Sarah, widow of Rev. William Pert. After his 26 Oct. 1721 death, his widow married (3) 1724 Samuel Scriven and (4) Dr. George Smith (1674-1753), second son of Landgrave Thomas Smith (1648-1694), Governor of Carolina 1693-1694.

² *Paul Grimball* (1703-1750), second son bearing the name of Paul of Thomas Grimball, and his second wife, Elizabeth Adams, planter of Edisto Island, married (1) 4 Nov. 1725 Mary Barnwell (25 June 1709-14 June 1738), third daughter of Col. John and Anne (Berners) Barnwell, by whom he had eight children; married (2) 29 Nov. 1738 Mary Stone (c. 1720-1804), daughter of John and Susannah (Carriere) Stone, by whom he had six children. His will of 24 Nov. 1746, proved 25 Jan. 1750, had a 9 Jan. 1749 codicil directing that his son John and daughter Ann, born since his 24 Nov. 1746 will, share equally with his other children.

³ *Mary Stone* (c.1720-1804) has for many decades been erroneously identified as Mary Sams, thought to have been a daughter of William Sams and Susannah Harrison although no evidence has been found to support such identification. The error apparently grew from the fact that Paul Grimball (1703-1750) referred in his 24 Nov. 1746 will to "my brother-in-law Robert Sams", suggesting the erroneous conclusion that his widow was a sister of the said Robert Sams, when in fact he could correctly so describe Sams only because Sams had married c. 1727/8 as his second wife, Bridget Barnwell (c.1711-1741), sister of Paul Grimball's first wife, Mary Barnwell (1709-1738). This journal clearly proves repeatedly that Paul Grimball's second wife was Mary Stone. As Mary Grimball of St. John's Parish, Colleton Co., she deeded property to her son Thomas Grimball on 13 Aug. 1751 shortly before her marriage to William Lawton, planter of Edisto Island. On 7 April 1754 the estate of her son Thomas Grimball deceased was shown by Mary Lawton. (Charleston Probate Court Book 1756-1758, p. 351.)

Upon the death of General Lawton's granddaughter, Miss Sarah Alexander Cunningham¹³ (1887-1976) of Savannah, the journal was discovered by Thomas O. Lawton, Jr.,¹⁴ among her papers which had been deposited in the Georgia Historical Society.

Because of the journal's importance in correcting and clarifying the history of the Grimball, Robert, Lawton, Willingham, Winborn, Townsend and other Carolina families, the Georgia Historical Society has kindly given permission for its publication here. Of particular significance is a detached leaf inserted in the journal, which reads:

⁴ John Stone married c. 1719 Susannah Carrière (1703-1780) by whom he had a daughter, Mary Stone (c.1720-1804); he was deceased by March 1724/5 when Susannah Stone "widow of John Stone" was appointed Administratrix of the Estate of her father, John Carrière. He should not be confused with John Stone who married 14 Nov. 1729 in St. Phillip's Parish Susannah Marshe (Marshal) and made his will 25 June 1756, proved 27 Feb. 1761.

⁵ Susannah Carrière (1703-29 Sep. 1780), daughter of John and Elizabeth Carrière, married (1) c. 1719 John Stone who died before March 1725, leaving her with their daughter, Mary Stone (c.1720-1804); she married (2) c.1740 Thomas Winborn, planter of Wadmalaw Island, whose 14 Apr. 1753 will was proved 23 Jan. 1756, by whom she had a daughter Susannah Winborn, born 1742, who married Daniel Townsend. The Jan. 1778 will of Susannah (Carrière Stone) Winborn, widow of Wadmalaw Island, St. John's Parish, Colleton Co., proved 23 Dec. 1780, left half her moveable estate to her grandchildren Daniel, Thomas, John, Abigail and Sarah Townsend; the other half to her daughter Mary (Stone Grimball Lawton) Fickling for life, then to her heirs; fifty pound bequests each to her granddaughters Susannah Pike, Ann Ulmes and Mary Little; 7 sh/6 d bequests each to Thomas Little and Samuel Fickling. Her 15 Sep. 1779 codicil directed that the half of her estate "lent for the use of Mary Fickling in my will" be "divided between Mary Fickling's three children: John Grimball, Joseph Lawton and Ann Robert."

⁶ Jean Carrière (c.1670-1723/4), born in Normandy, France, son of Jean Carrière, No. 112 on the 1696 *Liste des habitants de Santee* seeking naturalization as English citizens, apparently arrived at Charles Town 30 April 1680 aboard H.M.S. *Richmond* as a servant boy of Captain Jacob Guerard who received a 560-acre warrant 18 Feb. 1681 "for arrival of self, wife and six servants," including "John Carier." He married c.1697 Elizabeth, the birth of their son John Carrière on 18 Nov. 1712 and his 28 Dec. 1712 baptism being recorded in the Register of the Parish of St. Thomas and St. Denis, as was the 18 Feb. 1714 marriage of their eldest daughter, Elizabeth Carrière, born c. 1698, to Jacob Burdell. The 23 March 1723/4 will of John Carrière, Colleton Co. cooper, proved 28 Jan. 1724/5, named his daughters Elizabeth Burdell, Susannah Stone, Deborah, Martha and Joanna Carrière and his son John Carrière. Executors named were David Ferguson and Samuel Jones, both of whom renounced said duty on 19 Feb. 1724/5, whereupon his daughter Susannah Stone, widow of John Stone, was appointed Administratrix of his estate which was duly shown by her 15 Apr. 1725 and appraised at 207 pounds/15 shillings.

Elizabeth, wife of John Carrière, received twenty shillings under the 20 Aug. 1700 will of Peter Underwood, proved 28 Aug. 1711; she died prior to 23 March 1723/4 when John Carrière made his will.

⁷ William Lawton, planter, Captain of the Edisto Island Company, St. John's Parish, Colleton Co., died between 9 Oct. 1757 when he made his will and 15 Oct. 1757 when his will was proved; married (1) Mary, daughter of Jeremiah Clarke, by whom he had four children; married (2) c.1743/4 Mary, daughter of Thomas Winborn, by whom he had two children; married (3) c.1751 Mrs. Mary Stone Grimball (c.1720-1804), widow of Paul Grimball, daughter of John and Susannah (Carrière) Stone, by whom he had one child, Joseph Lawton (1753-1815).

⁸ Samuel Fickling, planter of Edisto Island, married 15 Jan. 1759 Mrs. Mary (Stone Grimball) Lawton (c.1720-1804), widow of Paul Grimball and Captain William Lawton, daughter of John and Susannah (Carrière) Stone. Their one child was Samuel Fickling (1761-1766).

⁹ John Grimball (1747-1780), son of Paul and Mary (Stone) Grimball of Edisto Island, married in 1772 Elizabeth Robert (1750-1818), daughter of Jacques de Bourdeaux and Sarah (Jaudon)

"Within three months of the time our grandfather, Mr. Paul Grimball, was born (5 Aug. 1703), our Great Grandmother, Mrs. Susannah, then Courier (Carriere), later Winborn, was also born, who died or departed this life 29 September 1780 on Wadmaw Island."

The reverse side reads, "John Stone."
 Entries made in the handwriting of Thomas Grimball.

"My wife Joyce Grimball was delivered of my son Paul Grimball ye 25 of Jan. 1700/1 being upon a Tuesday between ten & eleven o'clock in ye morning.

"Ye Lord took away by death my dear child Paul Grimball & his mother together.

"My dear & loving wife Elizabeth Grimball was delivered of my second son Paul Grimball August ye 5 at 9 o'clock in ye morning being Thursday in ye year 1703.

"My wife Elizabeth was delivered of her second son, named Thomas, March ye 2 between eleven & twelve o'clock at night in ye year 1705.

"My wife Elizabeth was delivered of her third son, named Joshua, May ye 14 about 8 o'clock in ye morning in ye year 1707 being Wednesday.

"My wife Elizabeth was delivered of her fourth son, named Isaac, July ye 30th in ye morning being Saturday in ye year 1709.

"My wife Elizabeth was delivered of a daughter Mary, November ye 25 about 10 o'clock in ye morning in ye year 1711.

"Ye Lord was pleased to take away by Death my dear child Mary Grimball July ye 27 being Tuesday at ¼ past 4 o'clock in ye afternoon in 1714.

Robert, and settled at Black Swamp, St. Peter's Parish, later called Robertsonville, where their three children: Paul Grimball (11 Oct. 1773-23 Apr. 1841), John Grimball and Esther Sarah Providence Grimball were born. Elizabeth Robert Grimball married (2) in Jan. 1786 the Rev. Alexander H. Scott by whom she had five children, all born in Robertsonville before the family emigrated to Wilkinson Co., Mississippi in 1810. Their son, Abraham Marshall Scott (1787-1833), served two terms as Lt. Gov. of Mississippi and was 6th Governor of Mississippi from his election in 1831 until his death in November 1833 of Asiatic cholera. His son was Brig. Gen. Thomas B. Scott, C.S.A. ¹⁰ Joseph Lawton, born 18 Oct. 1753 on Edisto Island, son of Capt. William and Mary (Stone) Lawton, died 5 March 1815 at his Mulberry Grove Plantation, St. Peter's Parish, married 18 March 1773 Sarah Robert, born 6 Feb. 1755 at French Santee, daughter of Jacques de Bourdeaux and Sarah (Jaudon) Robert. Joseph Lawton served as Lieutenant in Col. Bull's Regiment during the Revolutionary War and afterwards as Justice of the Peace in St. Peter's Parish where their eleven children were born.

¹¹ Col. Alexander James Lawton, planter, lawyer, surveyor, postmaster, legislator, born 21 Nov. 1790 at Mulberry Grove Plantation, St. Peter's Parish, son of Joseph and Sarah (Robert) Lawton, married 15 Nov. 1809 at Graham Hall, Robertsonville, Martha Mosse, born 5 Sep. 1780 daughter of Dr. George and Dorothy Phoebe (Norton) Mosse. Martha Mosse Lawton died at Mulberry Grove in July 1836 while Col. Lawton lived until 8 April 1876. *The Lawton Papers* in the South Carolina Library in Columbia contain some three thousand of his papers.

¹² Gen. Alexander Robert Lawton, Commissary General of the Confederate States of America, born 4 Nov. 1818 at Mulberry Grove Plantation, Robertsonville, son of Col. Alexander James and

"My wife Elizabeth was delivered of her second daughter, named Anna, August 29, 1714 at 9 o'clock in ye morning being ye Sabbath day.

"My second daughter Anna departed this life November ye 9 in ye year 1714 it being Wednesday at 2 o'clock in ye afternoon.

"My dear and loving wife Elizabeth Grimball departed this life August ye 5 in ye year 1715 about 4 o'clock in ye morning.

"I was married to my wife Anna Grimball November ye 10, 1715 it being Monday.

"My wife Anna Grimball was delivered of a son named Lawrence Denis Grimball according to my dear love's desire August ye 15, 1719 about 10 o'clock at night at my Brother-in-law Elliott's House on Stono.

"Ye Lord has taken away by death my dear and loving wife Anna Grimball August ye 23 about 6 o'clock in ye morning. She departed this life at my Brother Eliot's House in ye year 1719.

(Several pages are missing.)

Entries made in the handwriting of Paul Grimball:

"Paul Grimball was married to Mary Barnwell ye day of November 4, 1725.

"John & Abram Daphne was born in May 1725 whose age was jot down by me Paul Grimball at their Mother's request.

"June 25, 1709 M. B. (Mary Barnwell) was born, wife of P. G. (Paul Grimball). She departed June ye 14, 1738.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of a daughter named Ann, April 12, 1727.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her second daughter, named Elizabeth 23 March 1728.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of a son named Thomas 24 August 1730.

"God was pleased by death to take away my second daughter named Elizabeth 10 April 1729. (Paul neglected making this entry until after the 1730 birth of his son Thomas.)

Martha (Mosse) Lawton, married 5 Nov. 1845 Sarah Hillhouse Alexander, born at Washington, Ga., 29 Jan. 1826, daughter of Adam Leopold and Sarah Hillhouse (Gilbert) Alexander. Long a prominent resident of Savannah, Gen. Lawton was appointed U. S. Ambassador to Austria and died at Clifton Springs, N. Y. 2 July 1896.

¹³ Sarah Alexander Cunningham, born 26 April 1887 in Savannah, daughter of Henry Cumming Cunningham (1842-1917) and his wife Nora Lawton, daughter of Gen. Alexander Robert and Sarah (Alexander) Lawton, died 9 June 1976, a philanthropist, patron of the Savannah Symphony, the Savannah Public Library, the Telfair Academy and Cunningham Golden Age Center.

¹⁴ Thomas Oregon Lawton, Jr., son of Thomas Oregon Lawton (1885-1972), planter of Grimkie Plantation, Barton, and his wife Alexania Salley Easterling; an Allendale, S. C., attorney, Chairman of the South Carolina Tricentennial Commission, author of *Captain William Lawton, 18th Century Planter of Edisto Island*. (See: S. C. *Historical Magazine*, 1959.)

"My dear and loving wife was delivered of her third daughter, named Mary 16 March 1731.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her fourth daughter Catherine 10 September 1733.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her fifth daughter, named Providence 26 November 1734.

"God was pleased to take away my dear child Providence 30 November 1734.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her sixth daughter, named Elizabeth 17 February 1735.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her seventh daughter, named Providence 29 March 1738.

"God was pleased to take my dear & loving wife from me with my dear child Providence, ye second of that name, I trust & hope to his sweet & tender embraces in & through ye merits of ye Lord Jesus Christ, 14 day of June 1738.

"I was married to my second wife Mary Stone the 29 of November 1738.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her first daughter & my eighth, named Susannah 16 August 1741.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her first son & my second, named Paul 7 August 1743.

"God was pleased to take away by death my dear child Susannah 4 October 1743.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her second daughter, named Providence 27 April 1745.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her second son, named John 13 November 1747.

"My dear & loving wife was delivered of her third daughter, named Anne, my tenth daughter and the second of that name 9 February 1749

Entries in the handwriting of Mary Stone Grimball:

"The Lord was pleased to take my deare & loving husband to himself 16 January 1750 about six o'clock at night.

"I was delivered of my third son, named Thomas Grimball 21 February 1750 about 7 o'clock in the morning it being a Thursday and the same year that his father died.

"My dear son Thomas Grimball departed this life 21 September 1757 on Wednesday about six o'clock in the afternoon.

"Ephraim Mikell was married to Providence Grimball 7 October 1759 between 9 & 10 o'clock Sunday morning.

"Mary Mikell, daughter of Ephraim & Providence Mikell, was born 10 August 1761 Thursday morning between 2 & 3 o'clock.

"Samuel Fickling was married to Mary (Stone Grimball) Lawton January 15, 1759, it being Tuesday between 2 & 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

"Samuel Fickling, son of Samuel & Mary Fickling, was born March 20, 1761, it being Good Friday morning between 8 & 9 o'clock.

"My dear child departed this life July 14, 1766, it being on Monday about 10 o'clock. It is my child Samuel.

"Providence Mikell, daughter of Mary Fickling, was brought to bed on March 1st, 1764 of a daughter named Ann, and that child departed this life on March the 7th 1764.

"My dear child Providence Mikell departed this life on March 15, 1764.

"The Lord was pleased by death to take away my deare son John Grimball on October 31, 1780.

The final entry was made by an unidentified writer:

"On Thursday, the 3rd November 1791 the Rev. Moses Hadley, late of New York, a follower of the eminent John Calvin, to wit, a Baptist minister, was joined in Nuptial or Matrimonial Bond with Ann Robert, a daughter of Mr. Peter Robert & Mrs. Ann (Grimball) Robert and on Saturday, the 18th August 1792 the said Rev. Moses Hadley & Ann his wife, was blessed of the Lord with a promising daughter whom they have (in memorial of Mrs. Mary Fickling, the aged, worthy & honorable grandmother of the said Ann Hadley) called Mary."¹⁵

¹⁵ *Mary Hadley*, born 18 Aug. 1792, daughter of Rev. Moses and Ann (Robert) Hadley, received from her great-grandmother, Mrs. Mary Stone Grimball Lawton Fickling, a deed of gift on 3 Oct. 1803, as the Hadley family joined a group of 97 relatives and friends who emigrated from Robertville, St. Peter's Parish, Beaufort District, S. C., via the Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to found Woodville, Wilkinson Co., Mississippi in 1804, under the leadership of Captain Peter Robert who later moved on to Rapides Parish, Louisiana, where he died in 1825. Mary Hadley married John Ogden of Mississippi Territory.