

## CAROLINA FAMILY.

Our pioneer reached South Carolina as one of the Sayle Colony from England in 1670, which was much earlier than when the French Huguenot refugees began settling South Carolina; and as no effort known to the writer has been made to connect the link of descent across the seas our record begins with the pioneer, who spelled his name George Beadon.

He was among the earliest settlers of Oyster Point, now Charleston, South Carolina; where he was grantee of town lots No. 20 and No. 40 in 1672; and according to Owen's Parliamentary Returns, George Beadon was a member of the first Colonial Assembly of 1670-71.

It has been by some believed that the earlier generations of Bedon were Excise Officials of the Crown and therefore were Loyalists or Tories during the Revolution. However true the first might be, the last supposition as to their being Tories can not be true, as there was but one of the name alive who could about that time have been an official of the Crown, namely, John Raven Bedon, a grandson of the pioneer, and we find among the archives of the State of South Carolina the following commission to the said John Raven Bedon:

State of South Carolina:

By the Hon. Thos. Bee, Esq., Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief of the said State in the absence of the Governor from the seat of Government.

To all whom these Presents shall come, be seen or made known, Greeting:

Know ye, that I, reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Fidelity, Care, Prudence and Integrity of John Raven Bedon, Esq., Do, by these Presents, commission, constitute and appoint him to transact, negotiate and manage in behalf of the state of South Carolina a cartel for exchange of Prisoners of War with His Excellency the Governor or Commander in Chief of the Island of New Providence.

And for that purpose to take command of and forthwith proceed in the Sloop Raven with a Flag of Truce for New Providence with such Prisoners of War, subjects of the King of Great Britain as are named and particularly mentioned in a list of cartel herewith delivered to the said John Raven Bedon; and to return from the said Island of New Providence as soon as may be with such Prisoners of War subjects of the United States of America or States in Alliance with them as the said John Raven Bedon shall receive from the Governor or Commander in Chief of the said Island.

Hereby giving and granting to the said John Raven Bedon full power and authority in the premises to do, transact, negotiate and perform all such matters and things as shall be necessary and expedient touching this service; observing such orders and directions as he shall receive from me or the Commander in Chief of the state of South Carolina for the time being.

WILLIAM NISBETT, Dep't. Secretary.

Given under my hand and seal of the said State the 13th day of April, One Thousand, Seven Hundred and seventy-nine.

THO'S. BEE.

An entire family of the Bedon name, living in Charlestown in 1752, were drowned during the hurricane of September 15, of that year, but after various efforts to do so, the family has not been identified.

A graphic account of the occurrence is given by Ramsay in his history of South Carolina, as follows:

"A brick house where Mr. Bedon lived in Church street, a few doors from General Washington's was with the outhouses reduced to a heap of rubbish. Mr. Bedon and family unfortunately remained too long in the house, for the whole family consisting of twelve souls perished in the water, except himself and a negro wench. He was driven to the upper end of Broad street, and was taken into the window of the house of Mr. Hext, who lived at the corner of Broad and Mazyck streets, where Mr. Hugor now lives. The negro wench was driven up Cumming's Point and saved herself by clinging to a tree. The bodies of Mrs. Bedon and one of the children and of a Dutch boy were found in the Parsonage pasture in St. Philip's street."

One of the smaller streets in the oldest part of the city of Charleston, connecting Elliott and Tradd streets, is still called Beadon Alley, and probably locates the back of the lot of Henry Bedon, who was the youngest son of the pioneer.

The one other place where the name of Bedon is to be found in America, is at Portsmouth, Virginia, and those people (some of whom the writer has met and conversed with) resemble the Carolina family, but they did not know where their ancestors came from.

As far as can be learned the male line of Bedon in Carolina became extinct upon the death of John Raven Bedon; and whilst there are without doubt many who are descended from the female lines of Bedon; notably that of Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the pioneer, whose first husband was John Raven, of Colleton County—as stated elsewhere—there will be no effort made in this work to record any but the direct lines descending from Mary Bedon, who married Josiah Pendarvis.

Will of George Beadon, Pioneer.

In the name of God, Amen,

I, George Beadon of Charles Town in Berkley County, in the Province of Carolina, being of sound mind and memory, thanks be to God for it, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form following, that is to say:

First, I give and bequeath unto my Son George, forty pounds.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Sons Richard and Thomas, to each of them twenty pounds.

Item, I give to my Son Stephen ten pounds.

Item, I give to my Son Henry five pounds; all current money of this Province to be paid out of the monies that shall be raised by the sale of my plantation or tract of land fronting on Ashley River on the South and the Broad Path, and lying between a tract of land of Patrick Scott on the Southeast, and Richard Cartwright on the Northwest, as soon as the said lands (can be sold) and I do hereby Give and Grant unto my executor and executors my full power and authority to Grant, Bargain, Sell and Confirm the said tract of land with all its rights, members and appurtenances in fee

simple; or my any other Estate whatsoever for raising money to pay the Legacies above given.

Item, I give unto my said Son Stephen my Tenements and Lands in Charles-Town aforesaid, with their appurtenances after the death of my wife; to have and to hold to him and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, or to be begotten; the remainder to my Son Henry and his heirs forever.

Item, I give to my loving wife Elizabeth four acres of land fronting on Cooper river to hold to her and her heirs forever.

Item, All the rest of my lands, slaves, goods and chattels whatsoever, movable and immovable, I give to my said Wife whom I make full and whole Executrix of this my Will, for her maintenance and the maintenance and education of my younger children, that is to say; my Son Henry and my daughters Sarah and Elizabeth, and the survivors of them—and to be paid and delivered to them at their respective ages of one and twenty years—and in case my said Wife shall happen to die before my said Children shall have attained their said age of one and twenty, then I do further constitute and appoint my loving friends Mr. Benjamin Lamboll, and Mr. James Baretree, both of Charles-Town aforesaid, my further Executors in Trust; and do desire them to take care of the maintenance and education of my said three younger children out of and with, what goods and chattels which shall be left at the time of (the decease of my wife) and to distribute the remainder thereof amongst my said three younger children at their attaining to the age of one and twenty years respectively, or the survivor or survivors of them.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, and have published and declared this my last Will and Testament the one and twentieth day of December, in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand, seven hundred and five.

GEORGE BEADON (*Seal*)

Signed, sealed, published and declared, (these words can be sold) also (the decease of my wife) being first interlined in the presence of us.

JAMES BARETREE,  
JOHN LAROCHE,  
THO: MARTIN.

## WILL OF MAJOR RICHARD BEDON (2ND. GEN.)

SOUTH CAROLINA;

In the name of God, Amen; the third day of October, Anno Domini, One Thousand Seven Hundred and thirty eight; I, Richard Bedon of Colleton, being sick and weak, but of sound mind and memory (all praise be given to God) Do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following, that is to say:

First and principally I commend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God, my Merciful Creator, and to Jesus Christ my only loving Saviour and Redeemer, by whose merits I hope for life Everlasting—my body I commit to the earth to be decently buried at the direction of my Executors hereafter named, in sure and certain hope of a joyfull Resurrection at the last day.

My worldly goods which it has pleased God to bless me with I order and dispose of, in manner and form following, viz; First it is my expressed Will and Desire that all my just Debts and Funeral Expenses be duly paid and satisfied as soon as possible.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my loving daughter Mary Hewett one Negro Girl named Lucy, and a riding Horse named Frolick, to her and the heirs of her body forever; and not to be disposed of by her husband by any manner of ways or means whatsoever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my loving daughter Ann Barnett one Negro Girl named Rose, and a Bed and furniture to her and her heirs forever; and it is my Will that my Son-in-law George Barnett have the use of Thirty Acres of Land during Six years—to be allotted to him out of the tract I now live on, (he paying a Yearly acknowledgement of twenty shillings to my loving wife for the same) where my Executors shall think most proper.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my loving Son Richard Bedon, my Sword and Cane, a Stone Ring and a pair of Silver shoe-Buckles to him and his heirs forever.

Item, it is my express Will and desire and I hereby give full power in ordering my Executors to sell and dispose of a tract of land at Pon Pon River containing Eighteen Hundred Acres, and to ratify, make and confirm good and sufficient Title or Titles thereunto to such person or persons that shall purchase the same.

Item, Whereas I have already given unto my other children a sufficient part of my Estate, therefore I now give and bequeath unto

my loving wife Elizabeth Bedon all the rest and residue of my personal Estate and the free use and improvement of my home and all the lands belonging to it, not already disposed of, during her natural life—and after her decease, then I give and bequeath the said house and lands of my loving Son Richard Bedon and to his heirs forever.

Lastly, I do make and ordain my loving wife Elizabeth Bedon Executrix, and my loving Son Richard Bedon, and my Son-in-law John Norman, Executors of this my last Will and Testament, and I do utterly revoke and annul all former Wills by me heretofore made.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the day and year above mentioned.

RICH'D BEDON. (Seal)

Signed, sealed and declared in the presence of us.

THO'S WARING.

JOHN PRENTICE.

SAMUEL BALOR.

*The South Carolina Gazette* of November 8, 1751, states that the Representatives elected on October 22 past, from St. Paul's Parish to the General Assembly were George Saxby, Esq., Major Richard Bedon and Captain Thos. Law Elliott.

In the signature to his will Major Richard Bedon dropped the vowel "a," that appears in the signature by his father. He and his wife were prominent members of the Baptist Church in St. Andrew's Parish, an off-shoot of the First Baptist Church at Charlestown, South Carolina.

The house and lands devised above by Major Richard Bedon to his wife, and then to his son Richard, are the lands owned and occupied to-day A. D., 1905, by Richard Bedon, seventh generation in descent, and fifth son of Colonel Richard Stobo Bedon, the only son of Captain Richard Bedon (baptized Bedon Pendarvis), eldest son of Josiah Pendarvis, Junior, who changed his name and that of his children, December 18, 1802, to that of Bedon.

## WILL OF COLONEL RICHARD BEDON (3RD GEN.)

## SOUTH CAROLINA:

In the name of God, Amen;

I, Richard Bedon, of Berkley County in the Province of South Carolina, Planter, being weak of Body, but of sound mind, memory and understanding, do make, publish and declare this to be my last Will and Testament; my Soul, I Recommend into the hands of Almighty God who gave it, hoping for the Remission of all my Sins through the merits of my only Saviour Jesus Christ; and my Body I commit to the earth to be decently enterr'd at the discretion of my Executors herein after named.

Item, it is my Will that all my just and lawful debts be paid and satisfied by my executors hereafter named.

Item, I give unto my beloved Wife Martha Bedon, all that Plantation and Tract of land on the North side of Ashley river, to her and her heirs forever. I likewise give the use and labour unto her of four Negroes such as she may think proper to chuse, and at her decease to be returned to my Estate, and be equally divided among my Grandchildren.

Item, I give unto my beloved Wife the use of all my household furniture, and at her decease to be equally divided between my Granddaughter Elizabeth Pendarvis and my Grandson Josiah Pendarvis, and their heirs forever.

Item, I give unto my Grandson Josiah Pendarvis all that Plantation or Tract of land more or less at the "Horseshoe" when he arrives at the age of twenty-one years.

Item, It is my Will that my Tract or Tracts of land "Beach Hill" be equally divided in two Tracts.

Item, I give unto my daughter Mary Pendarvis during her natural life all that Tract of land whereupon my Buildings are fix't at "Beach Hill," and at her decease to the child she is now pregnant with, and its heirs forever—and the other part of my Tract at "Beach Hill" to my Granddaughter Elizabeth Pendarvis, when she arrives at the age of eighteen years or at the day of her marriage, to her and her heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto the Anti-Paedo Baptist Meeting House in St. Andrew's Parish of which I was a member the sum of One hundred pound to be paid Yearly into the hands of the Minister for ten years.

Item, It is my Will that my personal Estate be equally divided in four parts—One fourth part I give the use, labor and produce of to my daughter Mary Pendarvis, all the days of her Natural Life, and at her decease to be returned to my Estate and to be equally divided among my Grandchildren then living—One fourth part I give unto my Granddaughter Elizabeth Pendarvis when she arrives to the age of Eighteen years, or the day of marriage, to her and her heirs forever—One fourth part I give unto my Grandson Josiah Pendarvis when he arrives to the age of Twenty-one years, and his heirs forever—and One fourth part I give unto the Child that my daughter is now pregnant with, and if it is a girl at the age of Eighteen years, to her and her heirs forever; and if it is a boy, at the age of Twenty-one years to him and his heirs forever.

Item, It is my Will that if any of the Grandchildren should die before they come of age, then the Estate shall be divided among the surviving Grandchildren then being.

Item, It is my Will that my two Tracts of land in St. Bartholomow's Parish containing Seven hundred and twenty-five acres more or less be sold, and the monies arising therefrom be equally divided among my Grandchildren when they arrive of age; and it is my Will that my Grandchildren be educated out of my Estate—It is my Will that Josiah Pendarvis Sen'r, William Fuller and Benjamin Fuller to be Executors to this my last Will and Testament.

RICHARD BEDON. (Seal)

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the Testator to be and contain his last Will and Testament in presence of us and at his request have set our names as Witnesses,

JOHN DELAHOME, M. D.

THOMAS KENNEDY.

WHITMARSH FULLER.

Memorandum—That we the subscribers as Witnesses did see Col'l Richard Bedon sign this as his last Will on the Nineteenth day of December 1765.

JOHN DELAHOME, M. D.

WHITMARSH FULLER.

Proved before the Hon'ble. William Bull Esq. Lieut. Gov'r, 23rd May 1766; and at the same time qualified Josiah Pendarvis, Executor of said Will.

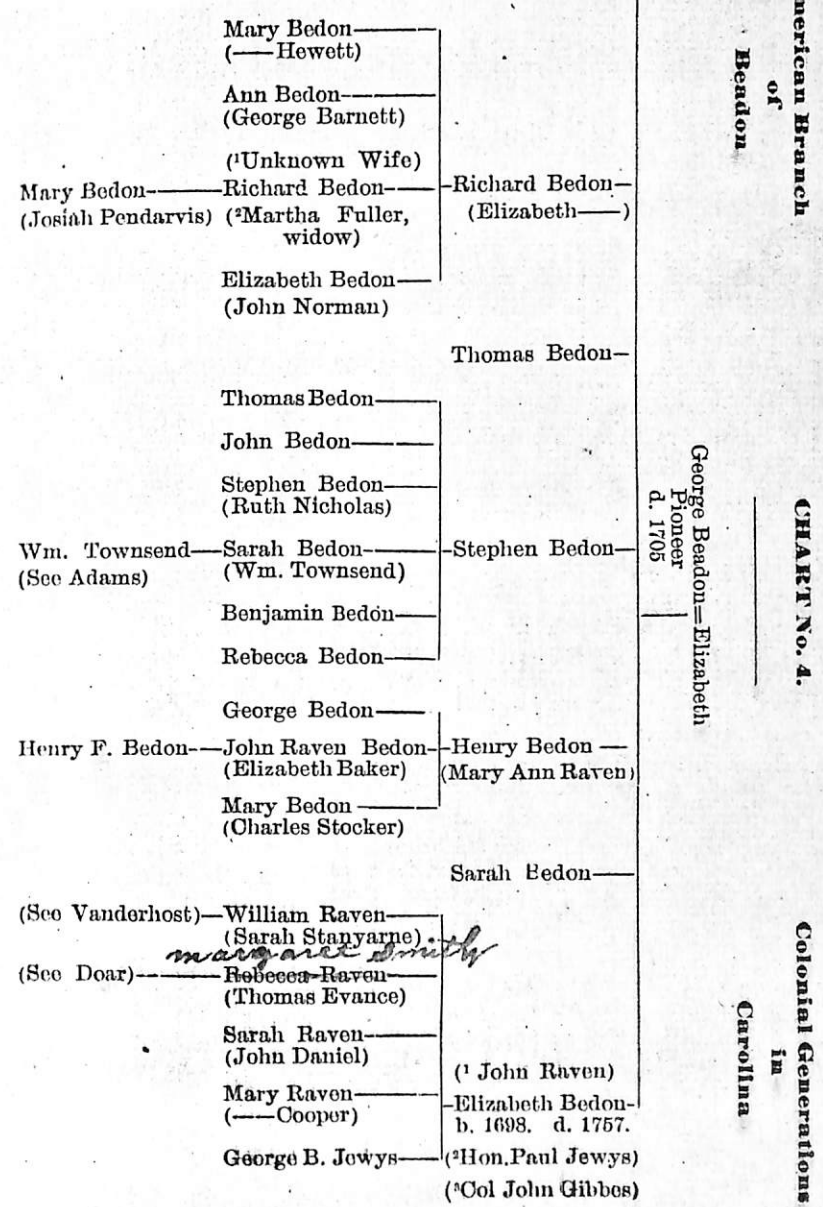
As aforesaid, the will of Colonel Richard Bedon of December 19, 1765, closely links the genealogical chain of descent down to and through the fourth generation of Pendarvis, and the fifth generation of Bedon.

When one considers the loss of the record of the will of Josiah Pendarvis, Senior (No. 9), who had married Mary Bedon, great good fortune occurs in the existence of the record of the will of Colonel Richard Bedon; as it clearly links the third and fourth generations of Pendarvis, the one being his son-in-law and the other his grandson.

From this point, extant family Bibles, beginning with Elizabeth Pendarvis and her only brother Josiah Pendarvis, Junior, grandchildren of Colonel Richard Bedon, take our record connectedly to date of publication.

Nothing in the life or records of Josiah Pendarvis, Junior, or Elizabeth Pendarvis (afterwards Mrs. Screven), grandchildren of Colonel Richard Bedon goes to witness that the unborn child alluded to by Colonel Bedon in his will, ever reached maturity.

This chart is only made up of items gathered out of various wills, when searching after what pertained to our Mary Bedon.



*Rebecca Raven I learn  
to have been J. Evance's  
1st wife*