

members of the new congregation. In 1752 he was named a trustee of funds willed to the church and in his own will bequeathed £100 to the congregation to which he "formerly belonged." Four South Carolina Baptist churches formed a conference, the Charleston Association, in 1751. Bedon was one of the laymen attending the conference's organizational meeting and signed the articles of union. He served as a captain (1733) and colonel (1762) in the militia. He was commissioned a justice of the peace for Berkeley County in 1756. The parish of St. Paul elected him to the Thirteenth Royal Assembly (1742-1745). He subsequently was elected by the parish to the Fourteenth (1745-1746), Fifteenth (1746-1747), and Twentieth (1751-1754) Royal Assemblies, but he declined to serve.

From his father Bedon inherited lands along the Ashley River and in St. Bartholomew Parish. To these he added grants for 1,600 acres in Berkeley (1733, 1738) and 160 acres in Colleton (1759). His will mentioned three plantations: one on the north side of the Ashley River in St. Andrew Parish, one at Beach Hill in St. Paul Parish, and one at the Horseshoe Savannah in St. Bartholomew Parish. The inventory of his estate noted 88 slaves.

By his first wife Sarah, Bedon had one child, Sarah, who died 18 October 1734. He and Martha Whitmarsh, daughter of John Whitmarsh, Sr., and widow of William Fuller, signed a marriage agreement 15 October 1745 and were wed two days later. By his second marriage he had a daughter, Mary (m. Josiah Pendarvis). Richard Bedon, Jr., was buried 26 December 1765 in the parish of St. Andrew with an Anabaptist teacher conducting the service.

<i>Thirteenth Royal Assembly</i>	<i>St. Paul</i>	1742-1745
<i>Fourteenth Royal Assembly</i>	<i>St. Paul</i>	1745**
<i>Fifteenth Royal Assembly</i>	<i>St. Paul</i>	1746**
<i>Twentieth Royal Assembly</i>	<i>St. Paul</i>	1751**

SOURCES: *Eligibility Lists*, pp. 20, 27. Inventories, X(1765-1769), 49-50. Misc. Recs., KK: 540; MM: 448. Moore & Simmons, pp. 59, 267. Moore, *Wills*, 2: 26, 201, 206, 207; 3: 90. Royal Grants, 1: 96; 3: 188; 8: 474. Andrea, *Colonial Soldiers*, p. 8. SCHM, 11: 189; 12: 36; 14:30; 15: 44; 20: 17, 21. Wills, 11(1767-1771), 214-15.

BEE, JOHN.² Son-in-law of HUGH HEXT; father-in-law of WILLIAM PETERS (d. 1744); brother-in-law of ALEXANDER HEXT, DAVID HEXT, EDWARD HEXT, HUGH HEXT (d. 1732), and THOMAS HEXT.

John Bee, Charleston merchant, was in South Carolina by May 1702 when he participated in Governor JAMES MOORE's expedition against St. Augustine. Bee was a promoter of the Indian trade and in 1725 obtained licenses for "a parcel of