The Houston Family in Virginia
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Compiled by
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Lexington, Virginia
1956
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This Book, The Houston Family in Virginia, is to be printed, and is to be given to Libraries, to members of the Families, and to Friends.

The Book is not to be sold. Most of the illustrations were from photographs, taken by the compiler. Whenever the photographs were taken by others, the right to use them was obtained.

REFERENCES

Old Family Bibles.
Old Church Records.
Old Letters.
Scrapbooks.
Old Newspapers.
College Catalogues.
The Houston Family, Rev. Samuel R. Houston.
A History of Rockbridge County, Va., Oren F. Morton.
Historical Significance of Rockbridge County, James W. McClung.
The Social Significance Record of Virginia.
Who's Who in America.
THE HOUSTON ARMORIAL BEARINGS

A greyhound rampant on a broken column. An hour-glass with the last sand running out. The last sand tells of the extremity at hand. There are winged supporters on either hand, that tell of the flight of time.

Or (gold)—a chevron, chequy-sable and argent—between three martlets of the second crest.

On either side a greyhound collared and chained. The greyhound indicates the fastness in the coming of relief.

The motto, "In Time," proclaims victory.

ARMORIAL TERMS.

Argent, silver, in color.
Chequy, divided to equal parts, or squares.
Chevron, two rafters of a roof leaning against each other.
Martlets, martins.
Or, gold, in color.
Sable, black.
Mr. and Mrs. John Houston, the progenitors of the Houston Family in Virginia, came from northern Ireland to America, in 1735.

Mrs. Houston brought with her children a son, John Houston, nine years old. The Houstons came into America through Pennsylvania, and then on into Virginia, and settled in what is now Rockbridge County, Virginia, near where the new Providence Church is now located.

The son, John Houston, became an Elder in the Old Providence Church, which was the predecessor of the New Providence Church.

John Houston married Sarah Todd. Their son, Samuel Houston, was pastor of the High Bridge Presbyterian Church for forty years. He was born January 1, 1758. He lived eighty-one years, and is buried in the High Bridge Cemetery.

Rev. Samuel Houston called his home "Rural Valley," which was some two-and-a-half miles from the Natural Bridge. Near his home, he taught a classical school, that he called Rural Valley Seminary. On the left of the Rural Valley home is a large box-wood tree, that is twenty inches in diameter.
Another son of John Houston was Matthew Houston. He was born about 1762, in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He married Patsey Cloyd. They were members of the High Bridge Church, and are buried in the High Bridge Cemetery, near the Church, and on the southern side of it.

Matthew Houston purchased a farm on Cedar Creek, the creek that runs under the Natural Bridge.

A picture of Cedar Creek running under the Bridge is inserted here. The Bridge is seen in its pristine simplicity and glory, as it was before it was altered by man.
Here is Cedar Creek, as it murmured under the Bridge, to Matthew Houston.
WORK IS PRAYER

Matthew Houston erected on Cedar Creek a grist-mill, some two miles above the Bridge. He called the mill, "Red Mill". On the outside of the mill, he put in large black letters, five inches in size, these three words, in Latin:

LABORARE EST ORARE
[WORK IS PRAYER]

This was Matthew Houston’s Creed. It has been the creed of four generations of Houstons, down to “Uncle Bud,” who wrought with head, hand, and heart.

Work is Prayer

The Latin words are on the weatherboarding, near the front corner of the mill building. The words have been there over 150 years, and the letters have become indistinct.
Matthew Houston built himself a home near his "Red Mill", and this has been called "Red Mill" also.

About 1810 Matthew Houston sold the "Red Mill", and he built a home a mile and a half away, near the High Bridge Church. The home was built in a grove of oaks, called Vine Forest, sometimes called Forest Oaks. Matthew Houston kept a store in his Vine Forest home. A picture of this home is given here.
Vine Forest as built by Matthew Houston
During the past one hundred and fifty years, Vine Forest has been owned by several persons, and the building has been extended at each end.

Front and rear views of the building, as it is now, are put in here.

Vine Forest

“Vine Forest”: Front View

“Vine Forest”: Rear View
The land on which Vine Forest stands was bought from the Cloyds in 1804, by Matthew Houston. About 1806 he began the erection of the building.

In 1841 the house and land were sold to William P. Arnold. Since that time, the property has passed through several hands, and has been enlarged.

On an iron fire-back, of one of the fire-places, are these words, cast into the plate:

Dancket Dem Hern
(Thanks be to the Lord)

Matthew Houston and his wife, Patsy Cloyd, are buried in the High Bridge Cemetery. A photograph of their headstones is inserted here. The headstones are the two near the center of the picture.

The Final Resting Place
of
Matthew Houston and Patsy Cloyd.
The two central headstones point out the Resting Place
Matthew Houston, growing old, went to live with his son, David Gardiner Houston, who was a physician in a nearby village, Springfield. He died there in 1847. He and his wife, Patsy Cloyd, are buried in the High Bridge Cemetery.

Dr. David Gardiner Houston lived at "Sunny Knoll". This home was built by Major Joseph Cloyd. A photograph of "Sunny Knoll" is given here. The photograph was taken by Leslie Lyle Campbell in 1945.

Sunny Knoll
Seated on the lawn are (left to right):
Catherine Houston Campbell, Maud Houston, Hale Houston.

John Houston brought to America, from Ireland, a son, John Houston. He had a son, James Houston, who had a son, William Houston. This William Houston was the father of George W. Houston, who was an Elder in the Fairfield Presbyterian Church, and the father of William G. Houston, of the Veranda Farm.

William G. Houston was the father of Louise Houston, who married J. P. Alexander. She became the President of the Rockbridge Historical Society.

William G. Houston's brother was Finley W. Houston. He married Grace A. Alexander. He was the quartermaster of the
V.M.I. for 17 years. He died December, 1926. His daughter, Annette Willson Houston, married Benjamin Franklin Harlow, Jr. His son, F. Houston Harlow, is the Editor of The Lexington Gazette.
This Church is about two and a half miles south of the Natural Bridge. The Church was organized in 1769, and was first grouped with Oxford and Falling Spring Churches. The first building was a small frame structure. It was enlarged in 1770, and was so used until 1903, when the present brick building was erected. In 1922 the brick building was remodelled and brought to its present condition.

Ever since the Church was organized in 1769, the Houston Family has been associated with it. The second pastor was Rev. Samuel Houston. He served the Church from 1788 to 1831. Matthew Houston, who built the “Red Mill” on Cedar Creek, and Vine Forest, his home near the High Bridge Church, was an Elder in the Church for some forty-five years.

David Gardiner Houston, M.D., son of Matthew Houston, of Vine Forest, was an Elder in the Church. Rev. Samuel Rutherford Houston, son of the second pastor, Rev. Samuel Houston,
was a missionary to Turkey, 1834-1837, and to Greece, 1837-1841. Other members of the Houston family have served the High Bridge Church.

Mary Houston, daughter of Robert Houston, married John Letcher. From this marriage finally sprang Gov. John Letcher, of Virginia, his son Houston Letcher, Capt. Greenlee D. Letcher, and others. On two of the headstones in the High Bridge Cemetery are these words:


The Houston Burial Plot in the High Bridge Cemetery originally had no headstones. The Plot was only outlined by a low concrete curbing, which is 24 ft. by 36 ft.

After a number of years the names and the dates of those buried in the Houston Plot were secured. Their names and dates were then cast on a bronzed plate, and this plate was fastened on a large piece of gray granite. This was then placed within the concrete rectangle. A small box bush was placed on either side of the Memorial Stone.
All this was done in loving memory of Catherine Estill Houston Campbell.

Those Buried in the Houston Family Plot
In the High Bridge Cemetery

David Gardiner Houston, M.D. Son of Matthew Houston, of Forest Oaks.


Children of David Gardiner and Nancy Dix Houston:
Joseph Cloyd Houston. Born August 1, 1829. Died April 7, 1853.
In C.S.A. Contracted pneumonia and died.
In Rockbridge Battery, Stonewall Jackson Brigade.

Buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Williamsburg, Virginia.


Captain Andrew Matthew Houston. Born June 5, 1840. Died July 21, 1869.
In C.S.A. Wounded at Gettysburg.

Captain Thomas Dix Houston. Born August 18, 1842. Died April 3, 1900.
In C.S.A. Prisoner at Gettysburg. Lawyer. Judge.

Emma C. Hoffman Houston. Wife of the above. Died March 8, 1930.

Edward Miller Houston. Born March 7, 1845. Died October 19, 1871.
In C.S.A. With Lee at Appomattox.


Martha Ann Houston. Born June 29, 1849. Died February 27, 1853.


Charles A. A. Houston. Born July 2, 1858. Died March 5, 1859.

Children of Captain Thomas Dix Houston.


In Spanish American War.

*All of the above, except as otherwise indicated, are buried in this cemetery.

David Gardiner Houston, who was a physician, had a brother, Matthew Hale Houston, who was a physician. He was born about 1810, at his father’s residence on Cedar Creek. He graduated at Washington College, 1825-26. He then prepared to practice medicine, and settled in Wheeling, W. Va. At the beginning of the Civil War, he moved to Richmond, Va. During the War he was Chief Surgeon and Military Superintendent in the Hospital at Lynchburg, Va. After the War, Matthew Hale Houston practiced medicine in Richmond, Va., until he was chosen Professor in the Medical Department of Randolph Macon College, where he lectured until his death in 1877. He is buried in Richmond, Va., in the Shockoe Hill Cemetery.

David Gardiner Houston had a son, Thomas Houston. He was at Washington College, and studied law. He began the practice of law at Fincastle, Va. He married Emma C. Hoffman. They had two children:


Henry Kemp Houston. Born in Fincastle, Va., August 29, 1874.

Matthew Houston had a son, David Gardiner Houston, and a son, Matthew Hale Houston, who was a physician.

Matthew Hale Houston’s first wife was Catherine Wilson. Their first child was William Wilson Houston. He was born in Wheeling, (W.) Va., September 21, 1839. He was at Washington
College in 1857-1858. He attended the Union Theological Seminary. He became the pastor of the Warm Springs and Windy Cove Churches, in Bath County, Va., and continued in charge until 1869. Then he became pastor of the church in Salem, Va., and was in charge, 1869-1879. He preached at Memphis, Tenn., 1879-1881. He was at New Providence Church, in Rockbridge County, Virginia, 1881-1882. He was called to the Wyoming, Ohio, Church in 1882, and remained there until 1889. Then he was called to the Presbyterian Church in Talladega, Ala. He died in Montgomery, Ala., October 18, 1891. He preached there in the morning from the text: "Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming." John 5:28. He is buried in the Jackson Memorial Cemetery, Lexington, Va. On the headstone are these words:

Dr. William Wilson Houston. A Servant of Jesus Christ and Minister of the Gospel.

Dr. Houston was Chaplain in the Rockbridge Artillery.

Rev. William Wilson Houston, D.D., was pastor of the Salem Presbyterian Church from 1869 to 1878.

The original pointed spire of the Church was changed to its present form, after the pastorate of Dr. Houston. This picture of the Church was secured when visited by Hale Houston, Catherine Houston Campbell, and Leslie Lyle Campbell, on May 9, 1939.
The Salem Presbyterian Church
Dr. William Wilson Houston married, March 24, 1864, in Waynesboro, Virginia, Mary Eliza Waddell, the daughter of the physician, Dr. Livingston Waddell, who was an Elder in the Waynesboro Church, and the son of the Blind Preacher, James Waddell.

The attendants at this marriage were:

Evelyn Withrow. She married Rev. Dr. Matthew Hale Houstin in China.

Mary Wallace. She married Dr. Gibson of Staunton, Va.


Mattie (Martha) Houston. She married Mr. Ward.

The photograph of Dr. William Wilson Houston, that is given here, was taken in Cincinnati, Ohio, while he was pastor of the Wyoming, Ohio, Presbyterian Church in 1882-1889.
Dr. William Wilson Houston
Dr. William Wilson Houston and wife, Mary Eliza Waddell Houston, had six children:

1. Archibald Woods Houston. He was born in Waynesboro, Virginia, August 3, 1865. He died in Davenport, Iowa, April 16, 1926. He is buried in the Jackson Memorial Cemetery, Lexington, Va. He was at Washington and Lee University, 1879-1883. He was with the George Kinsey Iron and Steel Works, Cincinnati, Ohio; Republic Iron and Steel Co., Toledo, Ohio; Harris, Winthrop & Co., Evanston, Ill., Davenport, Iowa. He married Caroline B. Evans, Wyoming, Ohio. They had two children:

   a. Livingston Waddell Houston. Born in Wyoming, Ohio, January 18, 1891.

   The following sketch of Livingston Waddell Houston was taken from Who’s Who in America, Vol. 26, 1950-1951.


   b. Katherine Evans Houston was a daughter of Archibald Woods Houston and Caroline Evans Houston. She married Mr. Neeves, of Glencoe, Ill., 1940.

2. The second son of Dr. and Mrs. William Wilson Houston was: Livingston Waddell Houston. He was born in the Brockenborough Cottage, at the Warm Springs, in Bath County, Virginia, February 25, 1867. He was at Washington and Lee University, 1879-1884. He won an Honorary Scholarship in 1884. He was in business in Cincinnati, Ohio, 1884-1886. He returned to Lexington, Virginia, in the
summer of 1886, with the intention of entering the Law School in the fall. While bathing at the Leyburn Dam, on the North River, near Lexington, Virginia, he was drowned on August 2, 1886. He is buried in the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery. In the Lee Memorial Chapel is a Memorial Tablet, placed there by friends. On this tablet is this inscription:

Livingston Waddell Houston
A student of W. and L. University 1879-1884. Drowned August 2, 1886, while bathing in North River.

This tablet, erected by his friends, is a memorial of the love and admiration of those who knew him best.

Endowed with unusual gifts of mind and soul he exhibited a purity of life that revealed the grace of God in his heart.

Natura ipsa valere et mentis veribus excitari et quasi quodam divino spiritu afflari.

His bosom friend, Leslie Lyle Campbell, placed in the Lee Chapel Tower the Westminster Chimes in Memory of Livingston Waddell Houston. The dedication of the Chimes and Clock follows:

The Westminster Chimes and Clock
In the Lee Chapel
Are in Memory of
Livingston Waddell Houston.

He was born in Rockbridge County, February 26, 1867.

He was at Washington and Lee University, 1879-1884. He was drowned in North River, Virginia, August 2, 1886.

The Memorial Chimes and Clock were placed in this Chapel in 1948, by his friend and collegemate, Leslie Lyle Campbell.

“Lord through this hour be Thou our Guide,
So by Thy power, no foot shall slide.”

Words for the Old Westminster Chimes, London
On the southern wall of the Lee Chapel is a bronze tablet that gives the history of the Memorial Chimes and Clock.

The Westminster Chimes And Clock
You and your friends are cordially invited to be present at the exercises in the Lee Chapel, in connection with the dedication of the Memorial Westminster Chimes and Clock, placed in the Lee Tower, in memory of Livingston Waddell Houston.

Dr. William Crotch, an English musician, in 1780, is said to have devised the order of the tones for the four bells in the Westminster Chimes.

After the dedication exercises in the Chapel are over, those present will retire to the Campus, and listen to the Chimes.

The notes of the Westminster bells are: Ab, 1250 lbs.; Db, 600 lbs.; Eb, 400 lbs.; F, 300 lbs. The quarter-hour peals are:

First Quarter-Hour Bells . . . . Four Bell Notes
F Eb Db Ab

Second Quarter-Hour Bells . . . . Eight Bell Notes
Db F Eb Ab
Db Eb F Db

Third Quarter-Hour Bells . . . . Twelve Bell Notes
F Db Eb Ab
Ab Eb F Db
F Eb Db Ab

Fourth Quarter-Hour Bells . . . . Sixteen Bell Notes
Db F Eb Ab
Db Eb F Db
F Db Eb Ab
Ab Eb F Db

The words for the London Westminster Chimes are:

“Lord through this hour, Be Thou our Guide,
So, by Thy Power, No foot shall slide.”

The big bell sounds the close of the exercises.
A FRIEND—A POET

In 1882, Leslie Lyle Campbell began his study in Washington and Lee University. His room was on the first floor of “The Castle”. Livingston Waddell Houston had his student room in the home of Miss Martha and Miss Edmonia Waddell. The two boys often studied together in their rooms. They went frequently to the room of Hubert Todd Houston, on the second floor of the building back of the Court House, in which are now lawyers' offices.

Hubert Todd Houston was a musician, a student, and a poet. He often played on his violin, in his room, in the dark. Liv and I loved to go and listen to him. His “pet dog” came and snuggled at his feet and listened, too. Hubert said he never had to open the door for the dog, that a dog and a poet could get in and out of his room without opening a door.

One day a friend from the Brushy Hills brought him a clear, double crystal from the Eternal Hills.

The poet let the twin crystal bring him this flash of light:

A Double Crystal

What subtle essence of the earth and sea
Has dropped with soulful memories inwrought,
   From palm to palm and heart to heart? For me
These twin translucent crystals are so fraught
   With every ray of love and chaste delight,
That I might think some power had from our dream
   Distilled and moulded what is wholly bright,
And joined twin prisms without clasp or seam.
   And thus from earth and sea and sun and sky,
And her small hand that gathered it for me—
   Beside some rocky record of the world
Ledged on the mountain side, or by the sea—
   This double crystal came, and gleaming bears
The tangled voices of a hundred stars.

Hubert T. Houston
Hubert Todd Houston was the son of Samuel Rutherford Houston, who was the son of Rev. Samuel Houston, who was the pastor of the High Bridge Presbyterian Church from 1788 to 1831. This Rev. Samuel Houston was the son of John Houston, one of the progenitors of the Houston Family in Virginia.

Hubert Todd Houston was born March 7, 1861, in Monroe County, W. Va. He was at Washington and Lee University, 1880-1884. He was a lawyer in Union, W. Va.; Washington, D. C.; and St. Petersberg, Florida.

He was the brother of Judge William Paxton Houston, who was born in Union, W. Va., April 18, 1843, and received his degree in Law at Washington College in 1867. He studied Law under Judge John Brockenborough, the founder of the Law School at Washington College.

3. Catherine Estill Houston was the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William Wilson Houston. She was born, October 29, 1868, in the Brockenborough Cottage, at the Warm Springs, in Virginia.

Gen. Robert E. Lee, Mrs. Lee, Miss Agnes and Miss Mildred Lee were in this Cottage a portion of the summer of 1868. Miss Mildred Lee had typhoid fever in this Cottage.
Catherine Estill Houston attended the Powell Female Seminary, in Richmond, Virginia. While at this Seminary, she placed several pieces of her painting and drawing in the exhibits of her work.

One of these was The Monarch of the Glen. It is on canvas, in color, and is framed.
THE HOUSTON FAMILY IN VIRGINIA

The Monarch of the Glen is given to the Rockbridge Historical Society, in memory of Catherine Estill Houston.

Catherine Estill Houston appreciated good music. She studied music under Miss Clara Davidson, in Lexington, Virginia.

Catherine Estill Houston married Leslie Lyle Campbell, in the Letcher Home, December 28, 1893. The ceremony was performed by the father, Dr. William Addison Campbell, who was assisted by her uncle, Dr. Thomas Lewis Preston.

She was Charter Secretary of the Rockbridge Historical Society.

For fifty-four years she wrought with hand, head, and heart, and brought to Earth glad bits of Heaven.

She went Home on September 16, 1947. She rests in the Jackson Memorial Cemetery. On the memorial stone are these words:

"He leadeth me beside the still waters."

Catherine Houston Campbell is among her flowers and birds.

In the town of The Village Blacksmith, lived Longfellow. Longfellow had gone to his long home. But Catherine and Leslie passed by his old home, as they walked to church.
Catherine is in her yard. She is among her roses. Her birds come to be fed. The birds know Catherine's smile, and are not afraid.

15 Ware St., Cambridge, Mass. July, 1930.

4. Hale Houston was the fourth child of Dr. and Mrs. William Wilson Houston. He was born in Salem, Virginia, February 17, 1871, while his father was pastor of the Presbyterian Church there. He died at his home in Lexington, Virginia, December 27, 1945, after seventy-four years of a full, rich life.

A sketch of his life was given in the Washington and Lee Alumni Magazine, February, 1946. The life-sketch and the photograph of him are given here.
Hale Houston, professor of civil engineering at Washington and Lee from 1921 until he became professor emeritus in 1936, died in the Jackson Memorial Hospital in Lexington on December 27, following a heart attack suffered a few hours before. He had been subject to these attacks for several years, but was as well as usual for the observance of Christmas.

Mr. Houston was born February 17, 1871, in Salem, Virginia, where his father, Rev. William Wilson Houston, D.D., was the pastor of the Presbyterian church. His mother was, before marriage, Miss Mary Eliza Waddell of Waynesboro, Virginia.

He attended school in Salem and later in Wyoming, Ohio, where his father later held a pastorate, and in 1888 entered Washington and Lee University, receiving the degree of C.E. in 1892. For a time after his graduation he was engaged in the steel and iron business with his brother, Archibald Houston, in Cincinnati and Toledo, Ohio. He taught at intervals in Pantops Academy near Charlottesville, and in the Mathematics department of Toledo Polytechnic School. In 1903 he became professor of Civil Engineering at Clemson College, South Carolina, and in 1921 was called back to his alma mater as head of the same department.

At Clemson and at Washington and Lee Mr. Houston was in charge of numerous construction projects on the campuses. He was an expert draftsman, a successful gardener and a skilled archer. The gardens surrounding his home in Lexington bore evidence as to his love of flowers and were a never failing source of interest. A delightful sense of humor made him universally beloved and he was affectionately known as "Uncle Bud" to a host of friends among the alumni and townspeople of Lexington. He was a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, and belonged to a number of engineering societies.

Mr. Houston never married. He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Leslie L. Campbell, of Lexington, two brothers, Sandy Houston, Toledo, and William Houston, '97, of Philadelphia.
Hale Houston, Wills "Castle" to Historical Society

The late Hale Houston of Lexington, retired professor of Washington and Lee, and lineal descendant of one of the most prominent of the old Rockbridge County families, in death, as in life, remembered his community. His will, made about three weeks before his fatal heart attack of December 27, 1945, shows that he thought not only of his immediate relatives, but of that larger family which he had made his own. Mr. Houston was an active member of only two organized groups here, the Presbyterian Church and the Rockbridge Historical Society, and both received substantial bequests of real estate. The cottage on South Randolph Street known as "Halestones" is left to the Church and the "Castle" to the Historical Society, both bequests subject to the life interest of Mr. Houston's only sister, Mrs. Leslie Lyle Campbell.

The restoration of these two cottages, and in particular of the "Castle", said to be the oldest house in town, was in itself a definite contribution to the neighborhood and the town. It shows what private enterprise and public spirit can do without calling in the help of millionaires or outside corporations to preserve our precious heritage. The lovely little two-story cottage, of which a picture appears on the following page, would perhaps have crumbled away, or at best would have been a sub-standard slum dwelling if Mr. Houston had not saved it. His appreciation of its value, as well as of its aesthetic possibilities, was translated into practical effect, in part by the loving labor of his own hands.

Many former students of Washington and Lee have lived there since Mr. Houston modernized the interior without sacrificing an iota of its atmosphere or charm.
On the northern wall of the "Castle", on Randolph Street, in Lexington, Virginia, now the home of the Rockbridge Historical Society, is a bronze tablet. On this tablet are cast these words:

The "Castle" was built of limestone, and as in the case of several other stone buildings in Rockbridge County, the term "Castle" is included in the name of the buildings. The northern two-thirds of the "Castle" was built shortly after the town Lexington, Virginia, was chartered in 1778. The southern one-third was built somewhat later. The "Castle" as originally built had three rooms on each floor. The rooms were not connected in any way, and each was entered from without. The "Castle" was originally used for lawyers offices. The old present lawyers' office building, on the East side of the Rockbridge Court-House yard, is a replica, in Flemish-Bond brick, of the plan of the original "Castle" building.
Prof. Hale Houston some fifteen years before his death, remodelled the "Castle", and made it into two apartments. At his death in 1945, Prof. Houston left the "Castle" to the Rockbridge Historical Society, where the meetings of the Society are to be held, and where the collected historical material is to be preserved.

"It is a reverend thing to see an ancient castle not in decay."

Bacon

Resolutions adopted by the Faculty of Washington and Lee University on February 4, 1946:

Hale Houston was born on February 17, 1871, in Salem, Virginia. His father, a Presbyterian minister, later moved to Wyoming, Ohio, where Professor Houston spent his youth and prepared for college.

In 1888 he entered Washington and Lee and graduated with the degree of C.E. in 1892. After some business experience in Ohio, he taught at Pantops Academy and the Toledo Polytechnic Institute. In 1903 he became Professor of Civil Engineering at Clemson College, and in 1921 he was called to be Professor in the Engineering Department of Washington and Lee. Several years before his death he was made Professor Emeritus. He died on December 27, 1945. While a student he was a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and retained an interest in the fraternity throughout his life, and became a valued counselor to the local chapter. Professor Houston was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church and served as an elder for many years.

As a faculty member he took an active part in the religious work of the University. He was an enthusiastic supporter of athletics and gave valuable aid in the planning and improvement of the athletic properties. For a period he served as Superintendent of Building and Grounds and did much towards the beautifying of the campus.

Professor Houston was a man of great versatility—a skillful gardener, adept in all the activities of the home, he had great talent in the reconstruction and restoration of old buildings, as his own home bears testimony. He gave freely of his time and advice to many in Lexington who were planning improvement of their property.
Professor Houston had a delightful personality and a keen sense of humor. He had a remarkable influence on young men. He showed little patience with misconduct, but the offender felt his censure was just and became all the more attached to him.

Professor Houston was a type of teacher fast becoming rare in these days. Competent as an instructor, patient and understanding with his students, he won by his sterling Christian character and devotion to duty the love and admiration of all his associates in the college community.

Signed:
L. W. Smith
J. S. Moffatt, Jr.
W. W. Morton

February 4, 1946

Hale Houston died December 27, 1945. This action was taken by the Rockbridge Historical Society in regard to his life:

The late Hale Houston belonged to a family which has been prominent in Rockbridge County since the days of the earliest settlements in this region and which has furnished distinguished leadership not only in Virginia but throughout the nation. His own life was a benediction to this community. Few men on the Washington & Lee University faculty during the lifetime of that institution have ever had as wide a circle of friends or as great an influence among the students. In the town and county he was trusted and loved. His friendship was highly valued and his counsel eagerly sought. Interested in all public movements, he was a loyal member of the Rockbridge Historical Society. That interest led him as his final service to the organization to endow the Society in his will with a home, the historic building known as 'the Castle.'

The members of the Rockbridge Historical Society would go on record as expressing, first and foremost, their feeling of sorrow in the death of Hale Houston, and their pride in the memory of such a good man, such a useful citizen and such a valued friend; and also their deep appreciation of his generosity in providing the Society with a permanent home for its meetings and its collections. We trust that 'the Castle' may be made a worthy memorial of a great spirit.
5. William Wilson Houston, the son of Rev. William Wilson Houston, D.D., was born in Salem, Virginia, October 28, 1876. He was educated at Washington and Lee University. He left the University, June, 1896.

He studied music in Paris, Berlin, and London. He taught music in Warren, Pa.; Appleton, Wis.; and New York City. He was unmarried.

In 1941, he went to live at the Presser Home, Germantown, Pa. He died there, October 20, 1950. He is buried in the Houston Plot, in the Jackson Memorial Cemetery, Lexington, Virginia. On his headstone are these words: "He restoreth my Soul."

6. Harrison Alexander Houston, the son of Rev. William Wilson Houston, D.D., was born in Wyoming, Ohio, February 22, 1882. He graduated at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.
He married Edna Crider. They have two children:


2. Catherine Waddell Houston, 2249 Lipton Ave., Apt. 4, Toledo, Ohio.

Soon after the death of Dr. William Wilson Houston in Alabama, October 18, 1891, his wife came to Lexington, Virginia, to live. She brought her children to live with her: Catherine, Hale, William, and Sandy. Her oldest son, Archibald, was married, and was in business in Toledo, Ohio. Soon after his mother came to Lexington to live, her son Archibald came to see her. He brought his wife Caroline and his son Livingston with him. His mother lived in the Governor Letcher house, on the edge of the Washington and Lee Campus.

The same summer, Catherine Houston Campbell and her husband, Leslie Lyle Campbell, came to Lexington to see Mrs. William Wilson Houston.

One day that summer, the father Arch, the brother Hale, and the son Livingston were together. In the chatting, Arch always called his brother by his simple name, “Hale”. He called his son “Bud”. During the chatter, the son, Livingston, would call Hale, “Hale”. But the father would reprove the son, and say, “But Livingston, he is your uncle, ‘Bud.’” But Livingston was only four or five years old, and did not appreciate the difference between brother and uncle, and he continued to call Hale, “Uncle Bud”. This term of endearment has survived for over fifty years.

While Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Woods Houston, and their son, Livingston Waddell Houston, Jr., were on their visit to Lexington, Va., about 1894 or 1895, the Houston family group had a photograph taken in the Miley photograph gallery, in Lexington, Virginia. This photograph is reproduced on the next page.
Those in this photograph are:

Sitting, front row, left to right:
Mrs. Catherine Estill Houston Campbell, daughter.
Harrison Alexander Houston, son.
Mrs. William Wilson Houston, mother.
Livingston Waddell Houston, Jr., grandson.
Archibald Woods Houston, son.

Standing, rear row, left to right:
Leslie Lyle Campbell, son-in-law.
Hale Houston, son.
William Wilson Houston, Jr., son.
Mrs. Archibald Woods Houston, daughter-in-law.

Of those in this picture, Harrison Alexander Houston, Livingston Waddell Houston, Jr., and Leslie Lyle Campbell were living in 1956.


Children of Matthew Hale Houston and Catherine Cunningham Wilson, his wife:

Martha Cloyd Houston. Born March 24th, 1835, at 5 o'clock P.M.

William Wilson Houston. Born September 21st, 1839, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Matthew Hale Houston. Born January 19th, 1841, at 3 o'clock, A.M.

Archibald Woods Houston. Born November 10th, 1842, at 10 o'clock, P.M.

John Wilson Houston. Born. April 9th, 1844, at 9 o'clock, P.M.

Children of W. W. and M. W. Houston:

1. Archibald Woods Houston. Born August 3rd, 1865, at 9 1/2 o'clock A.M. (Waynesboro, Va.) Baptized by Mr. Richardson, April, 1866.


4. Hale Houston was born Feb. 17th, 1871, at 3 1/2 o’clock, P.M. (Salem, Va.) Baptized by T. L. Preston, Aug., 1871.


Marriages

Wm. W. Houston and Mary E. Waddell were married in Waynesboro, Va., on the 24th day of March, 1864, by Rev. T. L. Preston, D.D.

James L. Ward and Martha C. Houston were married in Richmond, Va., Jan. 9th, 1858, by Rev. W. W. Houston.

John Wilson Houston and Mary Shreve Dunham married in Louisville, Ky., June 9th, 1868.

M. Hale Houston and Evelyn C. Withrow married in Yokohama, Japan, Oct., 1871.

M. H. Houston, D.D., to Alice McEwen.

A. W. Houston to Caroline Evans, Jan. 16th, 1890.

Leslie Lyle Campbell and Catherine Estill Houston were married Thursday, December 28th, 1893, Lexington, Va., by Rev. W. A. Campbell, D.D., assisted by Rev. T. L. Preston, D.D.

Harrison Alexander Houston and Edna L. Crider were married Saturday, March 12th, 1910, Philadelphia, Pa.

Deaths

Died after being ill eight months with marasmus, on the afternoon of the 4th of December, 1846, at 4 1/2 o’clock, Margaret Wilson Houston aged one year and six days.

She was soon followed by her mother, Catherine Cunningham Houston, who after being ten months ill with disuse of the heart, died on the morning of the 6th of December, at 1/2 past 3 o’clock, aged 31 years one month and 13 days. Mother and child were

Dr. M. H. Houston died at Ashland, Va., Feb. 26, 1877, in the 70th year of his age. He was buried in Richmond, Va., in the Shockoe Hill Cemetery.

Evelyn W. Houston died in China.

Alice Houston died in Thomasville, Ga., Feb. 91.

Archibald W. Houston was killed instantly at Spottsylvania C. H. on the 12th of May, 1864, whilst nobly and bravely defending his native state against the invasion of an unjust, ruthless and unprincipled enemy. His body was never recovered.

Martha C. Ward died in San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 18, 1877.

William W. Houston died in Montgomery, Ala., Oct. 18, 1891, at 5 P.M., after preaching in the morning from the text—"Marvel not at this for the hour is coming." John 6:26-27.

Memorandums

Presented to Catherine Cunningham by her parents Wm. and Margaret Wilson.

Philad@ 13th April 1837
Married this evening
C. C. Wilson to Matthew Hale Houston, M.D. of Wheeling, Va., by the Revd Mr. Albert Bare

Martha C. Houston vaccinated May 5th, 1838.

William W. Houston vaccinated Nov. 1st, 1839.

Matthew Hale Houston vaccinated February 23d, 1841.

Archd W. Houston vaccinated February 23d, 1843.

John W. Houston vaccinated April 17th, 1844.

Margaret W. Houston vaccinated Feby., 1846.

Margaret Knox Wilson was born January 4th, 1823. Died September 20th, 1841 - 4 1/2 o'clock, P.M.

Martha Cloyd Houston had whooping cough in spring of 1839. (Lightly)

William W. Houston had whooping cough in spring 1842 (Rather severely)
Matthew Hale Houston had whooping cough in April 1842 (Lightly)

Old Family Bibles preserve much that is sacred.
YE OLD COLLEGE BELL

William Hill Field, of Louisville, Kentucky, was at Washington and Lee University during 1889-1893. He had his room in the home of one of the college professors.

Will Field and Leslie Campbell were warm friends at college.

A college bell, that hung in the chapel, was rung by Tom Hughes and Lewis Hughes, on alternate days.

Now these faithful bell-ringers rest in the Evergreen Cemetery, in Lexington, Virginia.

When the bell finally ceased to sound the call to prayer and to duty, Will Field, who had in himself the soul of a poet, sounded threnody notes for the old bell, in the poem,

Ye Old College Bell.

![Ye Old College Bell Poem Image]
Will Field wrote a number of pieces. His nom de plume was Kay Wi [Ky.].

The poem, The Harvest Time, brings us a deep-sounding note from the soul of William Hill Field.

THE HARVEST TIME.

By W. H. Field.

So the morning stars were still;
   Night to westward drifted,
And the dawn upon the hill,
   Like a song-bird lifted.

Wider yet the morning grew,
   Brighter yet and higher,
Till a garden seemed the blue,
Set with roses through and through,
Fringed with purple fire.

From the mountains' far-off feet,
   In the sunlight sleeping,
Fell the cadence soft and sweet,
Where amid the waving wheat,
   Passed the reapers reaping.

"Lo," said I, "the day is long;
   Morning is the season
To be filled with joy and song,
Not with sober reason.

"Others all the morn may give
   Unto gain and treasure;
I shall live while I may live
   For my own good pleasure."

So I filled the morning time
   With my careless laughter;
Life was like a pleasant rhyme,
   With no sad hereafter.

But the morning passed, and noon,
   And the evening tender
Fell upon the meadows soon,
Swaying like a half-heard tune,
   With its silver splendor.
Then I hastened from the vale,
    To the meadows treading;
Lo, beneath the twilight pale,
Like a sea without a sail,
    Barren, they were spreading.

For the reapers on and on
    Their keen scythes were swinging,
While I filled the pleasant dawn
    With my heedless singing.

“Fool!” I cried, as evening’s feet
    With the hills held parley,
“Dying is the daylight fleet,
Gathered are the corn and wheat,
    Gathered is the barley.

“Thou may’st see the fields again,
    Ripe for harvest never;
Dawn is time for toil and gain;
Youth should garner up the grain
    Ere dawn dies forever.”

So the swift night with her rest,
    All the still world shaded,
And the morning on her breast,
    Like a rose lay faded.
UNCLE BUD'S SMILE

Hale Houston was born in Salem, Virginia, February 17, 1871. He entered Washington and Lee University, in 1888, and received the C.E. degree, in 1892. After some business experience in Ohio, he taught at the Pantops Academy, in Virginia, and at the Toledo Polytechnic Institute. In 1903, he became Professor of Civil Engineering, at Clemson College, Clemson, S. C.

In 1921, he was called to be Professor in the Engineering Department of Washington and Lee University. He died December 27, 1945.

People loved "Uncle Bud," and many who knew him in Virginia, Ohio, South Carolina, and other states, came through Lexington, Virginia, and stopped by to see "Uncle Bud," and to get the blessing of his gentle smile.

While Hale Houston was at Clemson College, he made the acquaintance of the Dozier N. Fields family, who now live in New York City. This Fields family consists of Mr. and Mrs. Dozier N. Fields, and three sons: James Wylie Fields, Thomas Callaway Fields, and Dozier N. Fields, Jr.

One day, probably about 1936, this Fields family came through Lexington, Virginia, on their way to see the Fields' father in Georgia. The Fields family stopped by to see Prof. Hale Houston.

Mr. Houston lived at 101 East Washington St., in Lexington, Virginia. In the backyard of his home, he had placed an old millstone, which he put on a pedestal of old broken stone. Mr. Houston took the three Fields boys to the old millstone, and a photograph of "Uncle Bud" and the three boys was taken by their father, Dozier N. Fields, Sr. On the back of the photograph the father wrote:

Cal, at the center, Dozier, at the right,
Each has on one of Uncle Bud's hats.
Hale Houston has on his Blessed Smile.

Some 19 or 20 years after the group photograph was taken at Uncle Bud's millstone, the father, Dozier N. Fields, writes, June 25, 1956, from New York City. He says the photograph of
Uncle Bud and His Smile.
The boys, reading from left to right, are:

James Wylie Fields (Jim) at age 12 (now 31).
Thomas Callaway Fields (Cal) at age 6 (now 25).
Dozier Nelson Fields, Jr. (Nelse to his family
and Doz to his schoolmates at Andover and
Yale) at age 8 (now 27).

Hale Houston and the three boys: (Written by Dozier N. Fields, Sr.)

It was made about twenty years ago when my wife, our
three sons and I were enroute by car to New York from
Georgia, where we had been on a visit to my father. On
several such occasions we stopped overnight with Professor
Houston, whom I had known when, for a few months, I worked
with my friend, P. B. Holtzendorff, Jr., at Clemson. "Fessor", as we called him, was always most hospitable and I never passed up an opportunity to stop by and see him when passing through Virginia.

Jim, who is now 32, lives at home and works for Standard Brands in their green coffee and tea division on Front Street, not too far from the bank where I work. He is an alumnus of the University of North Carolina.

Cal, the youngest, now 27, also graduated from Yale in 1951 and was then commissioned in the Marine Corps (Regular). He has been on active duty ever since and is now a captain, stationed at Port Newark, N. J., so that he is able to get home every Friday night for the weekend.

Doz (Jr.) is 29, was graduated from Yale in 1951 and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University in 1955. He is now serving a two-year rotating internship at University Hospital, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and expects to become a general practitioner after July 1st next year, a regular old-fashioned family doctor.

None of the boys are married and all of them use our address as their permanent home address, which is:

Apartment 8-F
7 Stuyvesant Oval
New York 9, N. Y.

Dozier N. Fields, Sr.
Sometime after the picture of Uncle Bud and the three Fields boys was taken at the old millstone, and blessed by Uncle Bud's smile, another picture of Uncle Bud was taken. This time the picture was taken by Mrs. J. A. Veech, June, 1937. Mrs. Veech lived at 117 West Washington St., in Lexington, Virginia, next door to 119 West Washington St., the old home of Dr. John A. Graham. Dr. Graham was at Washington College in 1850-1851. He died at his home, 119 West Washington St., September 16, 1895. Hale Houston was at Washington and Lee University, 1888-1892. So Hale knew Dr. Graham, and Dr. Graham knew Hale, and the healing power of a gracious smile.
On the back of the photograph of Hale in his college robe, was written: “Taken by Mrs. Veech, June 1937. Hale Houston. Mrs. J. A. Veech once lived at 117 W. Washington St., and Hale was evidently standing in her yard, with Mrs. Beverly Tucker’s home, next door, as a background. Mrs. Tucker’s home was the old home of Dr. John A. Graham, next door to the Episcopal Church, and was then Mrs. Tucker’s father’s home.”

Reid White, the family physician, who was at Washington and Lee University in 1883-1887 (and married Lucy Preston), had a son, Reid White, Jr., and who was at Washington and Lee 1916-19, and was a physician. He had a son, Reid White III, who knew and loved Uncle Bud, and came to see him often. One day, Uncle Bud took a photograph of Reid White III at the old millstone, in the back yard. This photograph was found among Uncle Bud’s old treasures, and is reproduced here. It carries on the blessing of Uncle Bud’s smile.

Reid White III
He carries on Uncle Bud’s smile.
THE BLIND PREACHER FAMILY CHART

Among the Houston's old papers was found a family chart, on paper folded and crumpled. When the paper was unfolded, the chart was found to be 22 by 24 inches. The chart contained 94 family names, extending from 1645 to 1945. Among the names were those of the Waddells, the Houstons, the Prestons, the Gordons, the Estills, the Harrisons, the Whites, the Smiths, the Pratts, the Myers, the Nichols, the Fishburnes, the Dickersons.

To put this family chart into the Houston Book, the chart had to be reduced from 22 by 24 inches to something like 5 by 6 inches. This reduction has made it difficult to read the names. So that the names, and the chart name levels on which they are to be found, have been given in the book print material. There is much valuable information given by the chart, which has been framed in its original size, 22 by 24 inches, and has been placed among the Family Historical Records of the Rockbridge Historical Society, in “The Castle”, the home of the Society.

The Blind Preacher Family Chart gives 94 names that cluster around the Blind Preacher, who was born July, 1739, and who died, September 17, 1805.

The names that are in the first level of the family chart are 2: Benjamin Harrison. Born 1645. Died 1715. Hannah. Born. Died.


The names on the third names-level of the chart, are 5: John Gordon. Col. James Gordon of Lancaster. Married Nov. 12, 1748, Mary Harrison, who was Born. 1731. Died 1771. Benjamin. Nathaniel.

Names on the fourth names-level of the chart, are 2: Thomas Waddell. Janet.

The Blind Preacher Family Chart

The original Family Chart, that is 22 by 24 inches, and that clusters around James Waddell, D.D., The Blind Preacher, is with the Family Records of the Rockbridge Historical Society, in "The Castle", in a frame, that is 22 by 24 inches.

Names on the seventh names-level of the chart, were 8:

Names on the eighth level of the chart, were 20:
In 5 or 6 places the names are doubled, due to marriage:

Names on the ninth level of the chart are 12:
In three places the names are doubled, due to marriages:

The names on the tenth level are 11:
In two places the names are doubled, due to marriages:

Names on the eleventh level are 11:

On the twelfth level are 2 names:
Livingston and Catherine Houston, children of Archie W. Houston.
Consult the original large chart for the relationships between the 94, whose names are on the chart.

The large original chart is among the Family Archives of the Rockbridge Historical Society, in "The Castle". The chart is not accredited to any one, but it is probably due to years of untiring labor by Hale Houston, among whose papers it was found.
THE WADDELL SISTERS

These sisters were the children of the physician, Livingston Waddell, and Hannah Estill, his wife. They were the grandchildren of The Blind Preacher, James Waddell, D.D., and Mary Gordon, his wife.
Standing, left to right, are:
Mrs. Janetta Waddell Smith. Born, August 12, 1844. She married Francis H. Smith, Jr. She died September 10, 1902.
Standing, on the right, is Mrs. Edmonia Waddell Nichols. Born, February 17, 1839. She married Col. Edward W. Nichols. She died June 29, 1904.

Sitting, left to right, are:
Mrs. Lucy Waddell Preston. Born, January 24, 1836. She married Dr. Thomas L. Preston. She died March 1, 1915.
Mrs. Mary E. Waddell Houston. Born, September 26, 1837. She married Dr. Wm. Wilson Houston. She died October 24, 1913.
Mrs. Maria L. Waddell Pratt. Born, August 15, 1842. She married Dr. J. W. Pratt. She died September 14, 1922.
Miss Martha M. Waddell. Born, December 26, 1827. Died, August 7, 1898.

The Waddell Sisters had Five Brothers:

James H. Waddell. Born, April 9, 1833. Civil Engineer, with Commodore Maury, at the V.M.I. Died, April 8, 1884.

All of these Waddell sisters and brothers are buried in the Lexington Cemetery, except Mrs. Maria L. Waddell Pratt and Mr. John Estill Waddell. These two are buried in Waynesboro, Virginia.
THE MANSE

The photograph of the Presbyterian Manse, in Lexington, Virginia, was taken in 1888.

One summer, 1888, a family group was gathered on the lawn of the Presbyterian parsonage. In this group were the Preston Family and a friend or two.

Under the tree, on the left, are these: Dr. Thomas Lewis Preston and his wife, Lucy Gordon Waddell Preston. Dr. Preston was pastor of the Church from 1883 to 1895.

On the right of the tree, reclining, are Reid White and Catherine Houston.

Then to the right, Leslie Campbell.

Under the parasol is Mrs. Willie Preston. At her feet is Lucy Preston.

John Preston is seated on the ground with his dogs. Nettie Preston is on the ground, to the left of the right hammock. Daisy Preston, in the left-hand hammock.

Zachariah Johnstone, with the racket.

Willie Preston and Sally Preston in the right-hand hammock. Willie Preston practiced law in Richmond, Va., and there married Elizabeth Myers, the daughter of Major E. D. T. Myers.

All of the above group, except Leslie Campbell, have gone to their long home.
From 1749 to 1949, there have been forty-five Houstons at Washington and Lee University. In the old Washington College, from 1749 to 1870, there were twenty Houstons at that College.

One summer, in the early eighteen-seventies, I came to Lexington, Virginia, with my father and mother, to visit my uncle, John Lyle Campbell, who lived next door to the one-story student dormitory, on the left side of the main college building. My uncle and my father each had five or six children. So I overflowed into the one-story dormitory on the left side of the main college building, and I can remember sleeping several nights in one of the dormitory rooms, over eighty years ago.

The photograph of Washington College in 1865 is as I remember the college.

The trees on the campus have in their ninety years become majestic.

The monument to John Robinson can be seen in the picture, near the one-story dormitory on the right of the main college building. This is the inscription on the John Robinson monument:

Honor to whom honor
Sacred to the memory of John Robinson
a native of Ireland
a soldier of
Washington
and a munificent benefactor of
Washington College
Born A.D. 1754
Died A.D. 1826
Erected 1855
Washington College in 1865
GENERAL LEE’S STUDY

General Robert Edward Lee was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, January 19, 1807. He became President of Washington College in 1865. He died in Lexington, Virginia, October 12, 1870. He was first buried on the ground floor of the College Chapel. Faithful Immortelles kept silent watch, day and night. An humble boy, on whose head the Chieftain’s hand had rested at Derwent, in 1865, came and bowed his head in reverence.

The boy obtained from Miley a photograph of Lee’s study as he left it.

For eighty-five years, this photograph has kept sacred watch over the President’s study.

A prayer goes up that the study may be restored to the simple, sacred condition in which Lee left it.
Lee's Study—Preserved Just as He Left It
GENERAL SAMUEL HOUSTON

John Houston came to America from Ireland, about 1735. He had six children: Robert, Isabella, Esther, John, Samuel, and Matthew.

Robert was born in Ireland about 1720. After coming to America, he secured a farm near where the Timber Ridge Stone Church was built in 1756. He had a son, Samuel Houston, who married Elizabeth Paxton. They had a son, Samuel Houston, who became General Samuel Houston and Governor of Texas. He was born March 2, 1793. He died July 25, 1863.

He is buried at Huntsville, Texas.

A photograph of General Samuel Houston is placed here.

Samuel Houston was born near the Timber Ridge Church, in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

A Memorial Tablet was placed near the birthplace of General Samuel Houston, in 1927.
Sam Houston
The inscription on the Memorial Tablet is as follows:

1793

On the knoll in the rear of this spot stood the house in which was born Sam Houston, Soldier and Statesman, Commander of the Texas forces at Battle of San Jacinto, First President of the Republic of Texas, Obtained her admission into the Union, Her First Senator at Washington, To her honor this Tablet is erected, By the Kiwanis Club of Houston, Texas.

1927
A picture of the Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church, as it was before it was added to, is put in here.

General Samuel Houston was born near this church.

Timber Ridge Church

Dr. William Addison Campbell was born near Donaldsburg, Rockbridge County, Virginia, and as a child attended this church.
THE SINGING BLACKSMITH

The Senseneys came into Virginia through Pennsylvania. Among the earliest comers was John Gonder Senseney. He was born in 1797, and died in 1884. He is buried in the Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Middletown, Virginia.

One of his sons, by his second wife, Mary Kline, was James Madison Senseney. He was the Singing Blacksmith. He was born in Middletown, Va., January 6, 1831. He died in Lexington, Va., December 13, 1915.

He had a rich voice, and was a member of the Lexington Methodist Church Choir. The old Methodist Church was then located on Jefferson Street, near where that street is crossed by Nelson Street.

The Blacksmith Shop was on Henry Street, on the northern side, opposite a tannery, that stood near the east end of the present Rockbridge Laundry.

Near the east end of Henry Street was the Jacob Fuller School. As the children went to this school, they passed by the Blacksmith Shop, and heard the Blacksmith singing.

One of these children, Zachariah Johnstone, often paused and listened to the Blacksmith. One day the little boy was spellbound by the Blacksmith, as he sang and worked at his anvil. The little boy burst into tears. The Blacksmith came to the door, and a deep, soft voice said to the little boy: “What’s the matter, little boy? Come into the shop, and tell the old man what’s the matter.”

In Random Memories, in the May, 1889, issue of The Southern Collegian, are some immortal memories, by Zachariah Johnstone, for which he was awarded the Santini gold medal. Some of these memories will be retold here:

“But the most striking feature of his face were his eyes. They were eyes that could never be hard—large, sympathetic eyes, that looked on you like a beautiful spring day.

“I am back again in the smoky little shop on Henry Street, the smell of the neighboring tanpits again in my nostrils, tearfully confessing the story of my weakness.
"The acquaintance of the Singing Blacksmith was, indeed, a school of morality, a guide for every-day life, an education, a gospel. All the Christian graces were taught in that murky shop, beside his anvil and work-bench. He was himself a piece of good advice; himself the example that pointed and adorned his conversations. Nor could a boy have found elsewhere a loaf-place so free from envy, malice, discontent, or any of the evils that degrade, a life so simple and honest, a mind so accurate and acute, a soul so sympathetic—as in that dingy shop, with its orchestra of clinking tools, and the blacksmith chatting away, cheerful and contented.

James Madison Senseney
The Singing Blacksmith

About 1900
Whenever I cast my eyes backward, it is to see him, like a landmark on the level plain of my boyhood, standing beside his anvil, his sledge in airy swing, his great voice breaking at intervals into song.”

On December 13, 1915, the Singing Blacksmith passed through the Golden Gate, singing,

Palms of Victory.

In the Trinity Methodist Church, in Lexington, Virginia, a Memorial Window has been placed, in loving memory of James Madison Senseney.

William Zachariah Johnstone, who put us in touch with James Madison Senseney, The Singing Blacksmith, was born in the old “Stone House”, October 12, 1868. William Zachariah Johnstone died in this old home, January 24, 1922. He is buried in the Jackson Memorial Cemetery.
“Stone House” is located in Rockbridge County, about one mile west of Lexington, Va. It was built in 1793. Joseph Lapsley sold the land to Zachariah Johnstone in 1793. Zachariah Johnstone built the first and only house that has ever been built on the place, in 1793.

The sisters of William Zachariah Johnstone live in the old “Stone House” now, 1956:

Ann R. Johnstone, the younger; and Susan Johnstone, the older.
James Madison Senseney, the Singing Blacksmith, had a sister, whom many remember as Ann Elizabeth Senseney. She was born in Middletown, Va., July 23, 1837. She died in Lexington, Va., October 18, 1939. Aged 102 years. She married James Payne Kirkpatrick in 1855.

They lived in a house on the south-west corner of Main and McDowell Streets, in Lexington, Virginia. That house remained there until the 1940's. The photograph was taken by L. L. C.
A photograph, taken when Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Senseney Kirkpatrick was 100 years old, is placed here. She blessed the world for two more years, until October 18, 1939.

Her children carried her kind heart further on in the world.
Maggie Ella, as Mrs. Robert H. Gillock, Lexington, Va.
Nora, as Mrs. John Champe, Lexington, Va.
Ann Virginia, as Mrs. James Larrick, California.
Elizabeth, as Mrs. James Bosworth.
Michael Miley was born July 19, 1841, on a farm in Rockingham County, Virginia. He married Martha Mackey of Rockbridge County, Virginia. He died in Lexington, Va., in 1918. He is buried in the Jackson Memorial Cemetery.

Michael Miley, photographed by his son Henry during World War I. (5 x 7. 1915).
Henry Mackey Miley, the son of Michael Miley and Martha Mackey Miley, was born in Lexington, Virginia, in 1873.

He was associated with his father in the photograph work, until the father's death, in 1918. Henry Mackey Miley continued in the photographic work in Lexington, Va., until 1935, when ill health caused him to give up the photographic work. His many photographic negatives are in the possession of Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, Va.

Michael Miley and son, Henry Mackey Miley, on March 31, 1902, filed an application with the United States Government for the recognition of their invention in Color Photography. This invention was recognized.

The Mileys then made a number of their three-color copies of portraits and paintings, that are in Lee Chapel, and elsewhere. Among these are Peale's Portrait of George Washington, and
Woolaston’s Portrait of Martha Washington.

Henry Mackey Miley gave these two copies to his friend, Leslie Lyle Campbell. These color copies are about 10 by 15 inches, and have been framed. These color copies will be given to the Rockbridge Historical Society.

Henry Mackey Miley died in Roanoke, Virginia, July 15, 1955. He is buried in the Sherwood Cemetery, Roanoke, Virginia.
A GRANDSON TREE

A photograph of the Grandson Tree is placed here. The central tree in the photograph is that of the Grandson Tree. The tree is in the back yard of Hale Houston’s home, 101 East Washington Street, Lexington, Virginia.

The house in the rear, and a little to the right of the Grandson Tree, is “The Castle”, the home of the Rockbridge Historical Society.

The Central Tree is the Grandson Tree

The Grandson Tree shows now something of its height, in 1956. The tree is about 40 ft. high.

Under this tree was placed, in 1955, a bronze tablet, fastened to a piece of gray granite. On the bronze tablet, in raised letters, are these words:
This tree is a grandson of the Spreading Chestnut Tree, that stood on Brattle Street, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and that was immortalized by Longfellow, in

The Village Blacksmith.

This tree was planted here as a nut, by Leslie Lyle Campbell, about 1921.

The bronze tablet, fastened to a block of granite, is put under the Grandson Tree, on the right.

The Grandson Chestnut Tree bears nuts each year. These nuts will be given away on request, for planting. The nuts are horse-chestnuts and are not edible.
Leslie Lyle Campbell was born at "Campo Bello", in Powhatan County, Virginia, September 17, 1863. He was the son of William Addison Campbell, D.D. and Virginia Eppes Dance Campbell. He was educated at home by his parents, until he was fifteen. Then he spent three years at the McGuire University School, in Richmond, Va. At this school, he was honor-man in scholarship each year, and in 1882 he was awarded by the school a scholarship to Washington and Lee University. At this University he received the Robinson Medal in Mathematics and Science, and the Natural Philosophy scholarship and the Modern Language Scholarship. The degree of M.A. was conferred on him in 1887.

In 1887-1889, he taught Mathematics and Science at the McGuire School. In 1889, he was awarded the Howard Houston Fellowship at Washington and Lee University, and was Assistant Professor of Mathematics there during 1889-1891. In 1891 he received from his Alma Mater the degree of Ph.D. He was a charter member of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Washington and Lee.

On December 28, 1893, he married Catherine Estill Houston, the daughter of William Wilson Houston, D.D., and Mary Waddell Houston. No children.

For a number of years he was at the head of the Department of Physics, at Westminster College, Fulton, Mo. While there, under his direction was built and equipped a modern Science Hall.

In 1903, he was awarded the Austin Fellowship at Harvard University. For graduate work in Physics there he was awarded the degree of A.M. in 1904. He then became instructor in Physics in the Jefferson Laboratory at Harvard. Here for a number of years he carried on research work in collaboration with Prof. E. H. Hall. The results of this work were published in the Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

He became the head of the Physics Department of Simmons College, Boston. Here he equipped and developed the work in the several modern and complete Physics Laboratories.
In 1913-1914, he spent a sabbatical year at Cambridge University, England. There he carried on research work under Sir J. J. Thomson, in the Cavendish Laboratory. The result of this research was published in the Philosophical Magazine, London.

For a number of years he taught in the Summer School of New York University, and in the Summer School at Chautauqua, N. Y.

During the World War I, he carried on research work for the U. S. Navy, at the Jefferson Laboratory at Harvard, and he taught Nautical Optics and Electricity to the new officers and men at the Naval Training Station, Newport, R. I.

For several years he collaborated with Dr. C. W. McClure in Physical Medical Research in the Peter Bent Brigham and in the Evans Memorial Hospitals, in Boston. The results of this work were published in several medical journals.

After twenty-six years as head of the Physics Department at Simmons College, he became Professor of Physics, Emeritus. He continued to carry on some research at Harvard, and for several years he delivered a course of lectures on Light and Electricity before the New England Society of Physical Medicine. One of the papers before this Society, “Radiation Energy of the Electromagnetic Spectrum”, was published in the Medical Record.

For the past few years, he has been engaged in some work on the Hall Effect in metal crystals.

Leslie Lyle Campbell was a Fellow of the following societies: American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Physical Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Association of University Professors, Société Française de Physique, Società Italiana di Fisica, New England Society of Physical Medicine, Virginia Historical Society, Rockbridge Historical Society, etc.

He was the author of one of the Monographs on Physics, under the editorship of Sir J. J. Thomson, entitled, Galvanomagnetic and Thermomagnetic Effects, published by Longmans, Green and Co., London; and a Physics Laboratory Manual; and a book on Sundials: Their Making and Mounting. (This book is in manuscript.)
He contributed to the International Critical Tables. For the National Research Council, he prepared a report on "Investigations in Electricity and Heat by the Physicists in Holland". He was a member of the Executive Committee of the National Laboratory for Invention and Research.

He wrote four biographical books:

- Some Campbell Records, 1942.
- The Dance Family in Virginia, 1951.
- The Campbell Clan in Virginia, 1954.
- The Houston Family in Virginia, 1956.

He wrote a number of articles on scientific, historic, and literary topics. His diversions were: Skating, tennis, golf, glee club, dramatics, music, poetry, flowers, making sundials for friends, etc.

References:

- American Men of Science.