THE RICHMOND SMITH FAMILY HISTORY
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James Cudly Smith and Martha (Bette) Smith moved to Montgomery County from South Carolina in the latter part of the eighteenth century. They acquired a 325 acre tract of land adjoining the properties of Eli Christian, Dr. Krone, and others near the Swift Island Ferry. At that time, a cottom mill was in operation at Swift Island and James reportedly built Montgomery County's first cotton gin. James and Martha had a son, Richmond, in 1799. It is not known when James or Martha died or where they are buried. An old deed, written in 1849, in which Martha deeded her Montgomery County property to Richmond indicates that she was a widow and living in Carroll County, Tennessee at that time. Richmond had at least two wives and sixteen children. Richmond's first (?) wife was Catherine Bennett born 1805 from Center (now Norwood) N.C. Their ten children were William, Cudly, Bob, Nancy, Elmira, Martha Suetta, John R., Green, Nelson Jones, and Margaret C. After Catherine's death in the early 1860's, Richmond married Mary Ann Hilliard. Their six children were George, Virginia, Richard, Rosa Belle, Calvin, and Alexander. Richmond died in 1881 or 1882 and is reportedly buried at Zion Methodist Church. Mary Ann died Jan. 1, 1929 at the age of 89 and is buried in Richfield where she lived her last years with her daughter, Belle.

The following is an account of Richmond's sons and daughters, all born in Montgomery County Near Swift Island:

- **William** Smith (Jan. 19, 1821 — Sept. 18, 1891) was the eldest son of Richmond and Catherine. (William's complete family history follows.)
- **Cudly**, son of Richmond and Catherine, left Montgomery County in 1845, heading for Ten-nessee with his family, a wagon, two oxen, and a milk cow.
    - Cudly's four children were named after his brothers and sisters, John, George, Elmira, and Nancy. He later moved again, first to Texas, then to Daisy, Oklahoma where some of his descendants still live.
- **Bob**, son of Richmond and Catherine, lost his life during a cave-in at the Christian Gold Mine. He had two children at the time of his death and a daughter, Bobbie, was born soon afterwards. His widow remarried and moved to Florida.
- **Nancy**, daughter of Richmond and Cathe-rine, was born Nov. 10, 1823. On Nov. 9, 1856, she married Lewis Phillips (July 9, 1815-Aug. 3, 1867). Their daughter, Jane, born Mar. 7, 1860, married Daniel Williams June 24, 1888. Jane's and Daniel's children were Bill and Ida. Jane was buried in South Carolina and Bill and Ida were buried in Con-cord.
- **Elmira**, daughter of Richmond and Cathe-rine was born in 1827.
- **Martha Suetta**, daughter of Richmond and Catherine, was born in 1831.
- **John R**., son of Richmond and Catherine, was born in 1839. He enlisted in the Confederate Army Aug. 1, 1861, and served in Co.E, 28th regiment. He died in Virginia, Jan. 19, 1863.
- **Green**, son of Richmond and Catherine, was born in 1840. He, like his brother, John R., enlisted in the confederate Army Aug. 1, 1861 and served in Co. E, 28th regiment. He was wounded during the battle of Fredicks-burg in Dec., 1862. Green returned to Montgomery County and married a girl named Julia (born 1845). He settled in the western part of the county near Swift Island and served for a time as Postmaster of the

Swift Island Post Office. Green and Julia had a daughter, Mary Catherine, in 1868. Mary C. married Thomas Moyle from Rowan County on Dec. 14, 1890.

- **Nelson Jones**, son of Richmond and Catherine was born May 22, 1843. Nelson and his first wife, Mary Ann, had a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, on May 4, 1866. Mary Elizabeth married Benjamin Stewart on Dec. 21, 1882. After Mary Ann's death on Sept. 20, 1872, Nelson married Tobitha Evaline Hilliard, daughter of Mary Ann Hilliard Smith, on Aug. 10, 1873. Their son, John C. was born June 28, 1874, and married Carrie Mahaffy Nov. 28, 1900. John C. died in 1909 or 1910. Nelson died on Jan. 8, 1890, and is buried at Zion Method-ist Church. After Nelson's death, Tobitha (Tabby) married three more times, first to C.W. Wooley on Dec. 28, 1892, next to T.A. Holden, and then to Reece Johnson. She died in 1917 at the age of 60 and is buried in the city cemetery at Concord, N.C.
- **Margaret C**., daughter of Richmond and Catherine, was born in 1845.
- **George Holmes**, son of Richmond and Mary Ann, was born in 1866. George never married. He made his home near the Pee Dee River, and was buried at Zion Methodist Church.
- **Virginia (Jenny)**, daughter of Richmond and Mary Ann, was born in 1867. She and her husband, Rome Myers, raised their family, Gray, Richard, Raynelle, and Robert in Gold Hill in Rowan County. Jenny is buried at Gold Hill.
- **Richard**, son of Richmond and Mary Ann, was born Dec. 27, 1873. He and wife, Minnie Ballard, from Wadeville, had seven children, Luther S., Gorah, Lucy, Thelma Virginia, Clara, and two sons who died in infancy. Luther Stevens rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the U.S. Army. He wed Mary Stowers of San Antonio, Texas, where they made their home and he is buried there. Gorah (Jack), who never married, lived his life in Montgomery County. He is buried at South-side Cemetery. Lucy married Judge David Armstrong and lived in Troy. She is buried at Southside Cemetery in Troy. Thelma Virginia, (Teddy) married A.J. Hughes and moved to Greens-boro, his home town. She is buried. there. Clara married A. Leon Capel and lives in Troy. Richard died on March 6, 1951, and was buried at Wadeville Baptist Church alongside Minnie and the two infants.
- **Rosa Belle**, daughter of Richmond and Mary Ann was born Oct. 28, 1874. George Green Ritchie wed Rosa Belle and they made their home in Richfield. They had four chil-dren: Nellie, who died as an infant; Otis B. who married Mary Turner; Hattie Mae (Mrs. Fred Hargrove Wall) who lives in Siler City; and Bessie Lee (Mrs. Theron Mauny) who lives in Albemarle. Rosa Belle died on March 29, 1927 and was buried in Richfield Cemetery.
- **Calvin Chisholm**, son of Richmond and Mary Ann, was born March 20, 1876. Calvin and wife, Ada Moore of Montgomery County had three sons, Alfred R., Clyde Calvin and Gerald Moore Smith, and two daughters, Mary Blanche and Virginia. Alfred R. was born May 5, 1922 and died Oct. 7, 1944, as a result of an auto accident. He was never married. Clyde Calvin, born Mar. 1, 1910, married Hildreth Jones. He later married Elizabeth Ogborn Lassiter and they presently live in Thomasville; Gerald Moore, born Aug. 8, 1905, married Margorie Warford first, and then Frances McMahon. He and Francis presently live in Thomasville. Mary Blanche married L. Banks Ritchie of Badin; Virginia, born April 16, 1920, was married to a Hall. She died during child-birth Oct. 15,

1944, at the age of twenty-four, just eight days after her brother was killed in an auto accident. Clyde Chisholm died Dec. 9, 1950 and is buried at Thomasville.

- **Alexander (Sandy)**, son of Richmond and Mary Ann, was born in 1879. Richmond was 80 years old when Alexander, his youngest child, was born. Alexander was never married and moved to Richfield where his mother lived after his father's death. Alexander was buried in Richfield. ---- Helen Smith Crepps and Brenda Crepps McIntyre N