

George R Newton



No Picture Available

Born: 1750 New Hanover County, NC
Married: 1763 to Nancy Ann Moore
Died: 1782 New Hanover County, NC.
Parents: Abraham Newton & Sara Graves

Occupation: Farmer

Family:

Wife:

Nancy Ann Moore

Children:

Samuel

James

George

Isaac

Ann

Reubin

Susan

Rachel

Catherine

Military service:

Served as a private in the North Carolina Militia from Duplin County and fought at the battle at Moore's Creek Bridge.

NEWTON, GEORGE.

1740-1810

DUPLIN CO. N. C.

George Newton, a Revolutionary Soldier of Duplin County, N. C., was one of four Newton brothers who moved there several years before the Revolution, the other brothers being Isaac, Samuel, and Jacob Newton, all being Revolutionary soldiers. George married Nancy (or Ann) Moore. They had nine children, viz:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. Samuel | b. 1764, m. Nancy Brock, dau. of Barnett Brock, R.S. |
| 2. James | b. 1766? m. Susan Pigford. |
| 3. George | b. 1768? m. Mary Robinson. Moved to Screven Co., Ga. |
| 4. Isaac | b. 1770, m. Elizabeth Alderman, dau. of John. |
| 5. Ann | b. 1772? m. Daniel Alderman (1st wife). |
| 6. Reubin | b. 1774? m. Margaret Bordeaux. |
| 7. Susan | b. 1776, m. Thomas Alderman. |
| 8. Rachel | b. 1779? m. Jacob Straughan. |
| 9. Catherine | b. 1782? never married. |

George Newton was in the battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, Duplin County, N. C., Feb. 27, 1776, serving in the Duplin county militia. After his death, his widow moved with their son, Samuel, to Screven County, Georgia, where she drew land as the widow of a Revolutionary Soldier in the 1827 Land Lottery. She died at Samuel's home about 1830.

*Huxford shows incorrect dates of birth and death.

Article from pgs 2-6-217 of "Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia" by Folks Huxton, V 4

At the time of their marriage in 1763, George was about 21 years old and Ann was about 14. On 28 October 1765, George Newton received a patent of 200 acres of land in New Hanover County, North Carolina, situated on a branch of Rockfish called Horse Creek. Recorded in North Carolina Patent Book 18, page 173, number 211. [This researcher remembers her father telling his children that his Newton ancestor was granted land by the King of England....this was apparently that grant. JNT] Source: *Colony of North Carolina 1765-1775 Abstracts of Land Patents* by Margaret M. Hofman, 1984; page 18.

George Newton was a patriot soldier and fought in the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, New Hanover County, North Carolina, 27 February 1776. That battle was the first victory for the Americans in the War of the Revolution. George's name is included in the list of those brave men, which is displayed on a monument at Moore's Creek Bridge National Battlefield, thanks to the 20 January 1977 efforts of Betty Lois Newton Salter, who lived and died in Colquitt County, Georgia, and whose father was a descendant of George and Ann.

Above information from online research at: Ancestry.com

Battle at Moore's Creek Bridge



The Engagement at the Bridge

When Lillington arrived at the bridge on the 25th, he quickly saw the position's defensive advantages. The creek, a dark, sluggish, stream about 35 feet wide, wound through swampy terrain and could be crossed in the vicinity of only over this bridge. To dominate the crossing, Lillington built a low earthwork on a slight rise overlooking the bridge and its approach from the east. Joining Lillington the next day, Caswell sent his men across the bridge to throw up earthworks there. Thus by the evening on February 26, the patriots straddled the bridge. Lillington with 150 men waited on the east side of the creek, and Caswell with 850 men were camped on the west. MacDonald's loyalists, 1,600 strong but with arms for less than half that many, camped 6 miles away.

MacDonald had lost the race to the bridge and now had to decide whether to avoid fighting once more or to cut through their opponents. At a council of war the younger leader carried the debate, and eventually all agreed that the enemy should be attacked. An element in the decision was the report by a scout that Caswell's position lay on their side of the river and was thus vulnerable.

At 1 a.m. on the 27th the loyalists set out on their march to the attack, with a party of 75 picked broadswordsmen under Capt. John Campbell in the lead. By now MacDonald had fallen ill, and Donald McLeod was in command. The going was slow, for the route lay through thickets and swampy ground. During the night Caswell abandoned the camp and withdrew across the creek. Once on the other side, Caswell's men removed the planks and greased the girders. Posting artillery to cover the bridge, they waited in darkness for the advancing Scots.

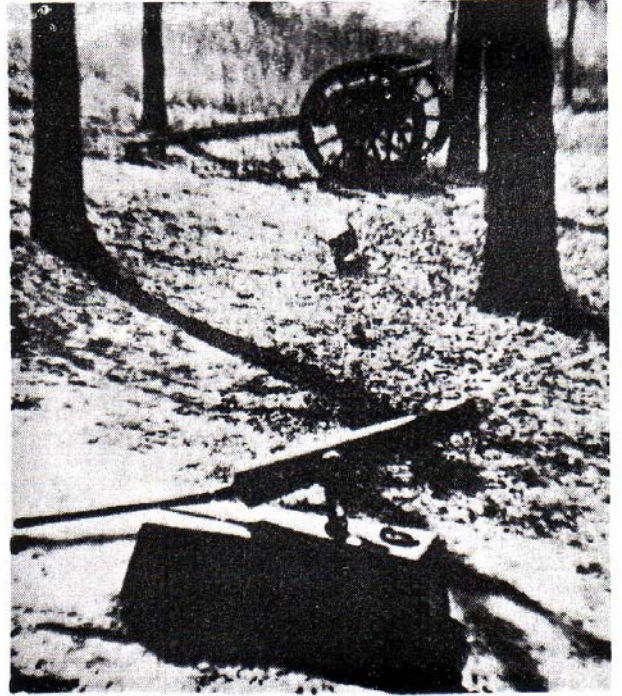
An hour before dawn the loyalists came upon Caswell's deserted camp and found the fires burning low. Moving on to nearby woods, McLeod regrouped his men and passed the rallying cry - "King George and Broad Swords" - along the line. There they waited for daybreak. Suddenly gunfire sounded near the bridge. Though it was not yet light, McLeod couldn't wait any longer. Three cheers rang out - the signal for the attack - and the loyalists rushed the partly demolished bridge with broadswords out and bagpipes skirling. Picking their way over the bridge and onto the opposite bank, they got within 30 paces of the patriot earthworks before they were met by a withering fire of musketry and artillery. Nearly all the advance party were cut down, and the whole force soon retreated. It was all over in a few minutes. Pursuit turned the repulse into a rout. The loyalists lost some 30 killed and 40 wounded. Only one patriot died.

Within weeks the patriots had captured "all suspected person" and disarmed "all Highlanders and ex-Regulators that were ... in the late battle." The spoils included 1,500 rifles, 350 "guns and shot-bags," 150 swords and dirks, and £15,000 sterling. Some 850 "common Soldiers" and most of the loyalists were captured. The leaders were imprisoned or banished from the colony. The soldiers were paroled to their homes.

Though the battle was a small one, the implications were large. The victory demonstrated the surprising patriot strength in the countryside, discouraged the growth of loyalist sentiment in the Carolinas, and spurred revolutionary feeling throughout the colonies. The British seaborne force, which finally arrived in May, moved on to Sullivan's Island off Charleston, S.C. In late June patriot militia repulsed Sir Peter Parker's land and naval attack, ending the British hopes of squashing rebellion in the South for two years. "Had the South been conquered in the first half of 1776," the historian Edward Channing concluded, "it is entirely conceivable that rebellion would never have turned into revolution ... At Moore's Creek and Sullivan's Island the Carolinas turned aside the one combination of circumstances that might have made British conquest possible."

Information from online research "Battle at Moore's Creek"

The Tory element being stronger in the south - - the British command made plans for a campaign in that direction. Governors Martin of North Carolina, and Campbell of South Carolina thought the subjection of these two states would be a simple matter. Both had fled the colonies for the safety of a British Warship, and together they planned a coastal invasion. A Highland Scottish settlement along Cross Creek (Now Fayetteville, North Carolina) loyal to the Crown, answered Martin's appeal. The Scotchmen assembled some two thousand strong under General Donald McDonald, and marched to join Clinton on the coast. Learning this, the Patriots met the Tories at Moore's Creek Bridge February 27, 1776, and completely defeated the kilted force. The rebel forces in eastern North Carolina were under the commands of Colonels James Moore, Alexander Lillington and Richard Caswell. Clinton, unable to land his force, withdrew.



Moore's Creek Battleground

Above information found in the book, "One Heroic Hour at King's Mountain." By Pat Alderman, pg 6



Bill Ballard's drawing of the decisive moment during the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge

http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/mocr/adhi_1.htm

Below are copies of Revolutionary War pay voucher documents April 1785

George Newton is on this list

Wellsborough Treasury Office		April 1785	
	Am't. due Forward		452..15..2
28	Daniel Watson	9..17..5	
29	Thomas Trice	4..8..	" 15..6
30	John Umstead	6..16..	
31	James Latty	1..	"
32	Pamphyl Herndon	1..12..	
33	Nathaniel Lewis	" 12..8	
34	Richard Clement	" 16..	
35	John Clark	5..	
			31-3..1
36	Samuel Allen	14..18..8	
37	Andrew M. Spence	5..1..3	
38	James Hogg	12..4..2	
39	George Newton	9..6..	
40	Benjamin Wheeler	16..12..	

Information on Revolutionary War pay vouchers follows:

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

During the Revolutionary War years, 1775-1783, there was very little hard cash (specie) in the new states. Paper money (currency) was printed both by the Continental Congress and by the individual states, but rarely, if ever, was there sufficient specie or bullion in the Continental or state treasuries to back up these issues of paper money. The saying, "Not worth a Continental," is based on the public lack of faith in the paper money which was issued between the outbreak of the Revolution in 1775 and the ratification of the United States Constitution in 1789. A depreciation in the value of paper money resulted in an inflationary situation. At one point, near the end of the war, one dollar in gold or silver was worth \$800 in paper money.

Notwithstanding their weak financial condition, however, the newly independent states were confronted with enemy troops to fight. Fighting—then as now—was an expensive operation. Soldiers had to be paid, and weapons, ammunition, clothing, food and transportation had to be provided.

PAY VOUCHERS AND CERTIFICATES

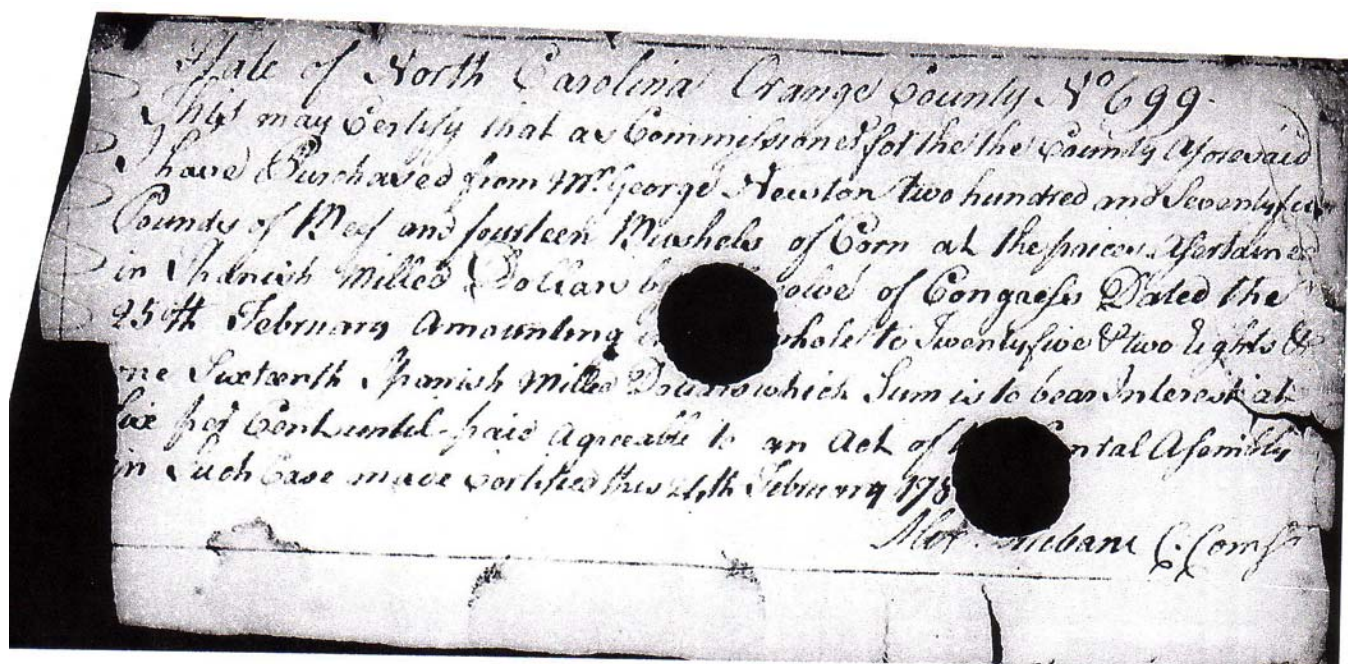
With little or no gold or silver in their treasuries, yet obliged to provide for necessary expenditures, North Carolina and the other states resorted to a complicated system of credit notes. In North Carolina this did not represent a new system, having been used during Governor William Tryon's administration (1765-1771) to defray the expenses of the War of the Regulation.

Very simply stated, the following procedure was used: In place of hard cash for military service, soldiers were issued vouchers or certificates as written promises that they would be paid a specified amount in hard cash at some time in the future. The same system was adopted to pay for goods or other services that were bought or impressed as the war progressed. (As a comparison, the situation would have been the same had the U. S. Government decided to pay its soldiers in World War II in savings bonds instead of dollars.)

Why did the state adopt the voucher-certificate system instead of issuing larger quantities of paper money? There was little public faith in paper money. As the value of paper money decreased, it became virtually impossible to correlate the value of goods or services in terms of hard cash by means of paper money. Merchants were unwilling to trade goods which were worth \$1 in gold for \$800 in paper money if there was a chance that the following week the value of paper money would depreciate to a ratio of \$1 gold-\$1,000 paper.

There were at least two other reasons for the state's choice of the voucher-certificate system: First, the system permitted the government to defer actual payment of the costs of the war to some future time. Most certificates stated that they would not be paid for one, two, or more years, by which time (it was hoped) there would be gold and silver in the treasury. To lessen the inconvenience of such deferred payments, vouchers and certificates were designed to draw interest. A second reason for the system was that certificates and vouchers could be issued in any amount. No matter how worthless the paper currency was, it still had to be printed, and such printings had to be authorized by the legislature. On the other hand, an army passing through could issue a voucher or certificate for goods purchased or impressed simply by completing the details of name, date, amount, etc, on a printed form—or lacking a printed form, the entire certificate could be written out in longhand.

<http://www.archives.ncdcr.gov/FindingAids/Circulars/AIC1.pdf>



Above is a copy of a pay voucher from Orange County, NC, issued to George Newton for 275 pounds of Beef and 14 bushels of corn.

ADMINISTRATION BOND

North Carolina }
 County of New Hanover }

Know all Men by these Presents, that We, Ann Newton, James Wright and Pettigrew Moore, all of the County Aforesaid, are held and firmly bound unto His Excellency Alex Martin, Esquire, in the just and full Sum of four hundred pounds Specie; to be paid to the Said Alex Martin, his Successors, or Assigns: To the which Payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our Heirs, Executors and Administrators, jointly and severally, firmly, by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals, and dated this **Second Day of July 1782**.

The Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the above bounden Ann Newton, Administratron (*sic*) of all and singular the Goods and Chattles, Rights and Credits, of George Newton, deceased, do make, or cause to be made, a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the Goods and Chattels, Rights and Credits of the Deceased, which have, or shall come to the Hands, Knowledge, or Possession of the said Ann Newton or into the Hands or Possession of any other Person or Persons, for her and the same so made, do exhibit, or cause to be exhibited, into the Secretary's Office, and one attested Copy thereof to the County Court, where Orders for Administration passed. within Ninety Days after the Date of these Presents; and the same Goods, Chattels and Credits, and all other the Goods, Chattels, and Credits of the Deceased, at the Time of his Death, which at any Time Hereafter shall come into the Hands or Possession of the said Ann Newton or into the Hands or Possession of any other Person or Persons for her do well and truly administer, according to Law; and further, do make or cause to be made, a true and Just Account of her said Administration, within One Year after the Date of these Presents; and all the rest and Residue of the said Goods, Chattels and Credits, which shall be found remaining upon the said Administratrin (*sic*) Account, (the same being first examined and allowed by the Governor and Council, General Court, or County Court) shall deliver and pay unto such Person or Persons respectively, as the same shall be due, pursuant to the true Intent and Meaning of the Act in the Case made and provided: And if it shall appear that any Will and Testament was made by the said Deceased, and the Executor or Executors therein named do exhibit the same into court, making Request to have it allowed and approved accordingly, if the said Ann Newton above-bounded, being therefore required, do render and deliver the said Letters of Administration, (Approbation of such Testament being first had and made in the said Court:) Then this Obligation to be void and of none Effect; or else to remain in full Force and Virtue.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered, } her
 in the Presence of } Ann Y Newton {Seal}

Tho: Maclaine mark

J. Wright {Seal}

Pettigrew Moore {Seal}

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 INVENTORY of the ESTATE of GEORGE NEWTON

A Just and True Inventory of the Estate of George Newton, Deceased ----

9 Cows & Calves 3 Cows & Yearling  
 4 three year old Stears (*sic*)  
 1 two year old Stear (*sic*) 1 four year old Stear (*sic*)  
 1 Yearling Heifer 1 Barren Cow 1 Bull  
 1 horse 3 Mares 1 Yearling Do (cow? mare?)  
 21 hogs at home 27 hogs that lies out  
 4 feather Beds & furniture 1 Bedsted  
 3 puter (*sic*) Dishes 3 Basons (*sic*) 11 plates 14 spoons  
 8 knives & six forks 7 Chairs 1 Chest  
 1 Table 1 weavers Loom 1 rifle gun  
 1 Candlestick 3 pots 1 frying pan 6 hoes  
 2 ploughs 3 axes 2 wheels 1 smoothing Iron  
 1 reap hook 4 Judgs (*sic*) 1 Man's saddle 6 Bottles  
 2 Iron wedges 1 hackle 2 sides Leather  
 3 prs. Cards 735 Dollars Currency  
 3 silver Dollars 4 hors (*sic*) Bells 12 Books  
 2 pounds 5 Shillings Due 10 head of Sheep  
 200 Acres Land in New Hanover County

Sworn to **July Term 1782** Ann Y Newton

Tho: Maclaine mark

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 ESTATE OF GEORGE NEWTON

New Hanover County, North Carolina, Minutes, County Court

September 1797 Term; page 225:

On Application of Samuel Newton by his Attorney Will N [illegible name] John Jones, John Bloodworth & Samuel Buxton, or any two of them, appointed to divide the estate of George Newton, dec'd & make return to next court.

[Transcribed by Janice Newton Thurmond from document received from North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27 November 2007.]

In the name of god amen I George Newton of the County of Orange being very sick and weak in body but of Reasonable mind and memory. Thanks be given unto god: Calling Unto mind the mortality of my body, do make and ordain this my last will and Testament: and first of all I give and Recommend My Soul Into the hand of god that gave it, and my Body I Recommend to the Earth to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discretion of my Executors: and as touching such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased god to Bless me in this Life I give devise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form: First I give and bequeath to Mary my dearly Beloved wife during her widdow hood all my Estate Real and personal and all the Rite and proveledge of In and to the same provided and it is my will that she Cause my two youngest Children Sarah & John and my daughter Lett^s Child Elizabeth to be Schooled as far as she may think necessary, and that My Children Under age and my wife mary have their Support from the produce of my Lands and moveable property and it is my will that after my wifes deas all my Lands and the remainder of moveable property Be sold and the Money arising from such Sales to be Equally divided between All my Children and grand Child Elizabeth Viz Lett^s Newton, William Newton, James Newton, Henry Newton Isaac Newton, George Newton, Robert Newton, Sarah Newton, John Newton, Elizabeth daughter of Lett^s And I make and ordain them my wife mary and my two Sons Henry Newton and Isaac Newton Sole Executors of this my Last will and Testament

And I do hereby disannul all and Every former Will and Testament Executors by in any ways heretofore named Willed and Bequeathed. Ratifying and Confirming this And no other to be my last will and Testament in Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this Nineteenth day of February In the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and one

Signed sealed published pronounced and declared by the said George George Newton as his last will and Testament. In the presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names.



James Latta Jr

Henry Newton

North Carolina Orange County May 21st 1801

The last will & Testament of George Newton was exhibited in open Court, and it appearing to the Court that Henry Newton one of the subscribers to said will, is a devisee of real Estate in and by said will, and therefore not competent to give evidence to the Execution of it, the same was duly proved by the Oath of James Latta Jr a subscribing witness to said personal Estate contained in said will, & just the real Estate of the said George Newton - then came Isaac Newton one of the Executors therein named & being duly qualified to execute said will so far as the same is proved & proper -

Isaac Newton

August 21st 1801. Then came Henry Newton the other Executor named in said will and was duly qualified

Henry Newton



George Newton is buried at Wells Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery in Wallace, Duplin County, NC.

