Marina Constantia Hunter

by Matthew Nagel

This research paper, written by Matthew Nagel, a student of Dr. Donald W. Spooner, chairman of the Social Studies Department, Lake Forest High School, Illinois, was sent by Dr. Spooner to Dr. Thornton Mitchell. Chief of Archives & Records Section, Archives & History, Raleigh. Dr. Mitchell sent it to us for possible inclusion in our Bulletin.

Three letters, dating back to 1828, involving the engaged Marina Hunter and John Savage were found in the attic of a chest in New Jersey. Two of these letters were from Marina and one was from John. These letters were deciphered as well as possible considering their age and weathering, and then analyzed to gain a better understanding of the historical individuals involved and their troubled engagement.

The analysis should be read with a fundamental knowledge of the letters as a group in an attempt to better deepen the understanding of the contents of the letters.

The overriding conflict between Marina Hunter and John Savage is the question of whether they will still be married. In John's letter to Marina, he confuses her by first telling of his affection toward her and then stating that if she felt she would be happier with someone else, he would consent. Marina thought his letter to be contradictory as she stated in Letter C. However, two reasons influenced John's contradictory statements. Economically, Marina's family seemed "well off", as the bank note (Letter D) to her cousin, William Lord, revealed, as well as the fact that Marina spent two summers in a second home in Smithville, North Carolina (presumably located on Cape Fear, Smith Island). John, as mentioned in all three letters, was having problems with his health, thus, as John stated in Letter B, he did not think he could provide Marina with the "stiles" he would like, a hope prompted by Marina's wealth, while his poor health added to his doubts of making her happy.

Marina is a concerned, religious, family-oriented person who stated, "I consider myself bound under a solemn engagement to you." She seemed to be affectionately close to her mother (whom she did not live with) and her Aunt Lord. She did not like to think of leaving them. Marina had a conflict between her family and John, as if she is in the middle being pulled at each arm. On the one side is John, who does not write much and has her confused with Letter B, however her affection towards him must be strong in order for her to pursue the matter. Her love for her family causes her to wonder if she should leave them for "a land of strangers". There also may be a trace of jealousy concerning Aunt Lord, for it is she who Marina lives with and she who does not like Marina to write to John much; although the reason may be due to caring, mother-like advice.

However evident are the holes along the road to marriage, both seemed to want to be together. John said that when his health and business improved, he would like to visit Marina. He also created a persuasive image of the country in which he lived (Connecticut) as to possibly add a bit more weight in her decision to leave her family. Marina also exhibited her desire to still marry John. In reply to his letter she pronounced that she did not care if she lived in "stile" and "comfort is all I ask". In the same letter she explained the significant change in her appearance while she told John of all the marriages occurring with her friends, both facts indirectly tempting John all the more to come and see her.

But what affect did the contents of these three letters have toward the first outcome of John and Marina's supposed future marriage? Since the letters and the financial statement were found together, one of two things may have occurred; either they were not eventually married and one of the two sent him or her letter(s) back to the other who then saved all three letters, or they finally were married and kept the letters together. However, considering the personal contents of the letters, I doubt that either John or Marina would have liked to have shared the letters with others. Thus, it is my assumption that the two were eventually married and for some reason they kept all of the letters together. Otherwise, if they had not become married to each other, and one of the two did end up with the letters (assuming both finally did marry someone) whoever had these letters would have disposed of them after finding a new love.

Letter to John Savage from Marina

Postmarked July 17th

Smithville July 15th 1828

Your letter was handed me by Cousin William on my birthday as a present suitable for the occasion. I read it with pleasure, as it assured me of the re-establishment of your health, for what gift of Providence ought we more to prize than health, for which may we always be thankful. You

Continued on page 4
Gifts and Loans

The Society acknowledges with appreciation the following gifts and loans: paint for Servants’ Quarters, given by Mr. and Mrs. Walter G. Craven; plants, given by Mr. and Mrs. Allen S. Bech; leather portfolio; 1968 Wilmington Historic District Development Plan, given by Mr. John Debnam; wafer iron, given by Mrs. John L. Pickrell; iron kitchen implements, given by Miss Catherine Carpenter; 1781 map—Cape Fear River, with the Counties Adjacent, and the Towns of Brunswick and Wilmington, against which Lord Cornwallis, detached a Part of his Army, the 17th of January last, loaned by Mr. John L. Sanders; history of the Parish of Telfort in Wiltshire, England, home of the John Ashe family, 18 post card views of New Hanover County, given by Lt. Col. Charles B. Gault; donations by Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Bauder, Mr. and Mrs. Lenox G. Cooper, Jr., Leslie N. Boney, Architects, Mrs. E. Reid Tooms, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Wright, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Charles P. Graham, and anonymous donors.

Servants’ Quarters Preservation Project
by James Robert Warren

In 1974, seeing the need for restoration of the Servants’ Quarters, John Robert Lane, Jr. and I developed the concept of Old Wilmington by Candlelight for the purpose of preserving the building. I called Mrs. E. M. McEachern, president of the Society at that time, and proposed the idea. She was most encouraging as was Henry Jay MacMillan, who offered to provide the seed money from the Latimer House account for preliminary promotion. This money was repaid with ticket revenue from this very successful tour numbering eighteen hundred people.

MEETING

Date: May 30, 1980
Time: 8:00 P.M.
Place: Thalian Hall
Subject: Dictionary of North Carolina Biographies
Speaker: Dr. William S. Powell

Following the meeting there will be a reception at the Latimer House at which time the Clarendon Cup will be presented.

Dr. William Stevens Powell, Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was born in Johnston County, N.C. He is the former Curator of the North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, at the University. He received his A.B. degree from the University in 1940, a B.S. in 1947 in Library Science, a M.A. in 1947. Dr. Powell has published many books and periodicals on North Carolina history. His is editing an eight volume work, Dictionary of North Carolina Biographies the first volume has just been issued.

In Memoriam
Miss Mary Cline Warren
Initially, plans were for restoration of the Servants’ Quarters as our Ida B. Kellam Archives Library. The Board of Directors decided that preservation of the building in adaptive use as town house apartment could greatly assist the Society. Dr. Charles P. Graham graciously agreed to serve as chairman of the preservation project and designed the initial plans. We were given two grants totaling $16,000 in matching funds by the National Park Service, which were administered through the North Carolina Division of Archives and History.

While researching the Servants’ Quarters, Mrs. Ida B. Kellam and I discovered in the Nicholas W. Schenck Diary in our archives information proving that it had been constructed at a date prior to the construction of the Latimer House and had been used by R. B. and J. C. Wood. Removal of two wall layers revealed the original plaster on brick wall with ghost marks of the original stairway. The floor level had been raised and the fireplace made smaller. Under the added bricks of the fireplace was discovered a crane showing that it had once been used for cooking. Required archaeological research was contracted to Dr. Thomas Loftfield. Exterior and interior excavation showed that the ground level had been raised considerably, and that the double porch had been added when the dwelling had been converted to a servants’ quarters. Evidence showed that the openings on the second level had been windows instead of doors. We discovered a filled cellar at the west end of the building. Dr. Loftfield did a test square of the cellar and had to go to another project. I completed the excavation of the cellar, a self-contained site. A wealth of artifacts was recovered. Kathryn Carson and I reconstructed many of these. Examples are on exhibit in the kitchen of the Latimer House and at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. A glazed pipe depicting Indian with headress has been documented as being made in North Carolina between 1770 and 1840. Additional research about these artifacts will provide a better understanding of the early residents of the dwelling and also the Latimer family since many Latimer items were thrown or dropped in before the area was filled.

After completion of the archaeological phase, structural work was ready to begin with plans developed by Leslie N. Boney, Architects, under the supervision of Dr. Graham. First phase of structural work included exterior restoration by McCinnis Construction Company. Second phase of the interior was completed under Dr. Graham’s supervision. Interior painting was completed by John Robert Lane, Jr., Mrs. Paul Jennewein, Howard Highsmith, Dr. Landon Anderson, Daniel K. Martin, Mrs. Phil Brinson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul MacDonald, Mrs. John Goethel, Mrs. Ellen Breen, and me with paint donated by Mr. and Mrs. Walter G. Craven.

The project is now completed and Mrs. Ellen Breen is the happy resident of 215 Orange Street.

Old Wilmington by Candlelight has provided all funds for the preservation project with the exception of the grants of $16,000. Many individuals and organizations are to be thanked for assisting the Society with this annual event. The tour and the resulting project serve as an outstanding example of the civic involvement of many people with the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society.

The following material provides information about the property and its residents:

On 4 June, 1844, William A. Wright sold to Henry R. Savage, a lot located at the northwest corner of Third and Orange Streets having a frontage of 99 feet on Third Street and a depth of 165 feet on Orange Street. Listed on the city map as part of lots 53 and 58B, (BB-530). (Now listed as lots 6 and 6% in Block 140). The lot was sold for $650 with reference to the appurtenances there.

On 23 July, 1845, Henry R. Savage sold to Zebulon Latimer, for $1,000, a lot located at the northwest corner of Third and Orange Streets, having a frontage of 99 feet on Third Street and a depth of 165 feet on Orange Street. Listed on the city map as part of lots 53 and 58B, (HH-281). (Now listed as lots 6 and 6% in Block 140).

James F. Post, builder of many houses in Wilmington, left a ledger of part of his work. In the ledger we find recorded that in October, 1852, he made a contract with J. C. and R. B. Wood for carpenter work on the Latimer House for $3,125. Family records show that the house was built by the Wood brothers. By October, 1852, the masonry must have been completed as Mr. Post records his account for putting in windows, hanging doors, blinds and other items. Post makes no reference of any work involving the servants’ quarters.

On 22 November, 1852, Z. Latimer made application to North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co. for fire insurance on his dwelling for $6,000 coverage. He described the dwelling as located on the northwest corner of Third and Orange Streets, made of brick, new, has slats, a tin roof, 2 stories with basement and attic. House 47 x 45 feet, has 8 grates in first and second stories, 3 fireplaces and a cooking range in the basement. 4 chimneys. Thirty-three feet north is a two story brick dwelling and woodhouse. Both houses have tin roofs. Application made to A. A. Brown, Agent. [KK-70]. The brick dwelling is the servants’ quarters and is not referred to as new.

On June 29, 1843, Z. Latimer married Elizabeth Savage, daughter of Timothy Savage, Jr. [Wilmington Chronicle, Wednesday, July 5, 1843] Z. Latimer died in 1881 at age 70 years, and his widow, Elizabeth Savage Latimer, died November 11, 1904, (Oakdale Gravestone Records).

On March 30, 1882, Henry G. Latimer and wife Carrie A. Latimer, Edward S. Latimer and wife Anna H. Latimer, William Latimer, and Herbert R. Latimer, all of Wilmington, gave a deed to Elizabeth Latimer, widow of Zebulon Latimer, deceased. The will of Z. Latimer left his property to the parties of the first part, subject to dover rights of party of the second part. They deeded to Elizabeth Latimer a life right to the lot at the corner of Third and Orange Streets, 99 feet on Third Street and 165 feet back on Orange Street, (S.S.-131).

On 25 April, 1889, H. G. Latimer and C. A. Latimer his wife, E. S. Latimer and A. H. Latimer his wife, H. R. Latimer and F. E. Latimer his wife, deeded to William Latimer, for $12,000, the above named property. Begin at northwest corner of Third and Orange Streets, run north on Third Street 99 feet to lot occupied by Henry Savage; then west and parallel with Orange Street 165 feet; south parallel with Third Street 99 feet; then east with Orange Street to the beginning, it being the same lot conveyed by Henry Savage, deceased, to late Zebulon Latimer, (ZZZ-92).

By will dated January 21, 1916, probated September 15, 1923, William Latimer devised this property to his wife, Margaret Iredell Latimer, (WB L-354).

By will dated September 9, 1948, this property was devised to Herbert R. Latimer—will probated September 10, 1956, by Margaret Iredell Latimer, (WB T-165).
Marina Constantia Hunter

Continued from page 1

would indeed have judged incorrectly had you attributed my silence to a disinclination to correspond with you, but I was some time concluding whether it was most prudent to write or no, so afraid am I of acting improperly, and my dear good aunt thinks it best I should write seldom, indeed she would prefer my not writing at all, as it is not frequently the case, that girl in this part of our globe communicates by letter with the gentleman to who she is engaged; I never think it necessary for a female to make any professions of love or affection, for a gentleman before marriage, it is quite sufficient that they consent to give themselves up as willing subjects to obey.

You need not feel hurt at my charging you with forgetfulness, I know men are such inconsistent beings, they are always liable to be suspected by the fair sex—it might have been at the close of evening, when everything is still and silent, and all nature is tranquil and serene, but this thought presented itself to my imagination, and I do not know that it was altogether erroneous, particularly as you are getting so absorbed in business I cannot expect to have a place at all times in your thoughts; however, you can judge best if I am correct or not in my opinion, but I would not have you apply that passage of Scripture, "Judge not, that ye be not judged," I am pleased of hearing of your prospect in business, I hope it may increase your happiness, I cannot say that the idea of leaving my precious home and beloved relatives is very pleasant, no it is almost heart-rending, I never allow my thoughts to dwell on it for a moment, although I know impressions made on my heart, are never obliterated by absence, no it feels every wound of those I love you forgot when you applied that passage of Scriptures to me which stated, the gentleman should forsake Father and Mother, I do not know how I shall feel to live in a land of strangers as I have never been left altogether with them; what will my dear Mother do for her only comfort (as she calls me)? Who will cheer her desponding moments? Although we have always been separated, she is very dear to me; who will my beloved aunt find to enliven her lonely evenings? it is true she has grandchildren but I have always been her constant companion; I must hasten from this subject as it always makes me feel melancholy and unfit for society, [?] you notice Aunt not wishing me to write so often, and threatened if I grow negligent, you can do so too, if we were near each other, I could have a little quarrel about this, but I will not notice it. I hope you will in your next letter be more lengthy, as you say you wanted to write so much, that it caused you to forget half that you should have written, you only said that to try my patience and curiosity; you must write oftener once a month is too seldom although Mr. Holmes is so near he writes to Caroline every week, and she never thinks of announcing his letter, he visits the Sound every other week, they are to be married as soon as we all return home; we have been here exactly a month, our family as usual is very large, and you know it is very pleasant, every house is occupied, it is much gayer than it was last summer, the officers are agreeable, except one, who is a complete pedant, and there is nothing that I dislike more; you must excuse me for entertaining you with this nonsense, but I really thought I was addressing one of the girls, so unaccustomed am I to correspond with gentlemen, I earnestly trust you destroy my letters, as it generally happens that I write in a hurry, therefore have not time to form one letter, it is now after eleven, and my lamp is very dim, but Cousin William is to leave here at daylight for town and I wish him to take it up, you may direct your next one to him, to this place, as [?] the mail comes here, [?] is with you, it must enliven you very much, your brother's family were here a week or two past. They are all well; Cousin Anne Hatridge has some idea of visiting New York next month; I must bid adieu, with the sincere desire that my Heavenly Parent may guide and protect you through dangers seen and unseen.

/s/ Marina

Letter from John Savage to Marina Hunter (Letter B)
Postmarked July 26 Middletown
Middletown July 18 1829
My dear Marina,

When I reflect on the length of time that has elapsed since the receipt of your last letter, it fills my mind with a feeling I am unable to describe, to have permitted your kind letter to remain so long unnoticed is almost unpardonable, and I fear had you caused me to think that I did not intend writing you any more, but my dear Marina I hope you will believe me when I say that you have not been absent from my mind since I last wrote you, and that the attempts I have made to answer your last letter have not been few, truly I must say that I have destroyed more paper in trying to write you this time than I ought. I have written two or three long letters but could not persuade myself to forward either of them. I have chosen the most lonely place to commune with thee and the most silent hour, when all nature was hushed in sleep and not a breath to disturb me, but alas I could not even then write. I am in the shade the same place and time to write when I commenced this but it was excessively hot and extreme pain in my head would not prevent me to proceed—it is now four or five days later and I can not allow a longer time to pass away without assuring you that you still are very dear to me—do believe me my dear Marina that although we have been separated a long time, the affection I once acknowledged for you and the desire I had to possess your heart and hand still remains unchanged—but when I reflect that my possessions of this world’s goods are un competent to support you in the stile I could wish, these thoughts frequently arise, was I not in fault in requesting you to wait until my situation would warrant a union, and am I not still in error in keeping you engaged when my prospects have not improved according to my expectations, my dear Marina, do you not think that it would be much more for your happiness to forget me [?]. I don’t doubt but there are many who would be more capable of making you happy than I am, although the affection cannot be greater than mine, be pleased to think seriously of your happiness and write me that I may not continue in these unpleasant thoughts, whatever may be your determination of for your happiness I will consent, for to see you happy as I have often said, is all I ask—I will now refer to your letter which I received rather unexpectedly I had called Donny often at the post office and found nothing that I had concluded to wait with great patience until you might possibly think of me I found that from the date and the postmark that it remained in office of our mail 3 long days [?]. I was fearful that I had written something that was unpleasant but as you did not remark I was quite satisfied and very grateful for your letter—what pleasure there is in receiving a letter from a distant friend—even if it is not received until [?] late however, I (regret) that you misunderstood some parts of my letter, if in apologizing. I am not afraid of making bad worse, I would try to do it, but be assured that in making extracts from your letter, I did not intend to cast any reflections whatever upon the good intentions of your good friends—no I [beg] if I have ever written any to hurt your feelings in that respect you will pardon me, for I have always entertained the highest opinion of them. You requested that I would understand your last letter—but I must confess that there was something I did not understand—I will only name one small one, “Will you believe me when I say I always expect to be a miss”, a miss—how that sounds was you serious? suppose I had acquired something that I thought would permit my visiting the south and propose taking you into a colder climate and you should say that you always expected to be a miss do you think I would be disappointed? but without jesting, if my business should improve or in short if I were able to I should like to propose to bring you on say next fall or spring, how do you think you would like it [?] do you live in the cold country since I received your letter, brother Henry has arrived south, it appears quite natural to have him once more. Sister Jerusha has gone to Boston to visit sister Harriet, and, if my physician recommends I think of visiting there myself; I do not know but you may infer from mentioning “physician” that my health is very bad, but I assured it is not if you recollect, my face was very sure before I left Wilmington, and I do not think I was recovered perfectly from the fever I had there my lips have been very troublesome and I have not found anyone excepting the present Dr. that appeared to understand the cause. — when brother H. arrived he (thought) that I had better get the advice of Doctor Todd, considered one of the first physicians in this state + I must confess that I have felt very unwell, but I now think that I shall get along at once I think myself much better now. Long before this I presume you have taken with your abode at Smith Ville. I hope you will pass a very pleasant summer the spring and summer months in this country are delightful I do not think you have an (any) conception of the beautiful scenery—the air is pure, and everything appears to have that blemish which nature is only able to adorn. Sister Jerusha sends her best love to you. There is [?] desire of going south with her partly on account of her health and a desire to spend a winter in warmer climate, and would be willing to take charge of an infant school. You have probably heard of these schools as they have become very celebrated. I am not able to give you much information respecting them but you may imagine a room full of little children just able to speak all kneeling and thanking there maker for life which I believe is their 1st lesson and then see them marching the room very regular and singing the multiplication tables to the tune of Auld Langsine, [etc. etc.] I cannot give you but very little idea of the instruction they recieve, but I suffer to say that they receive such instructions that when they arrive at an age that they would probably be sent to school they are able to go into the higher classes (instead of r.o.c.) and have a knowledge of the multiplication tables. I believe are instructed in geography, etc. how do you think it probable that scholars might be had if she should go out—this school would not interfere with any of the other schools and perhaps Mrs. Corfelector would be willing to form with her. This lady can have recommendation from some of the first. In a division [?] New York as to character and competency for the talk etc. etc.—I should think that such a school would take very well—for they are very fashionable in the northern states—and I should think that it would suit the Miss Rofinitt’s—and if she could be interested in it I do not doubt but a school might be established—This lady has taught in New York but owing to her health she was obliged to leave but her health is much better I do not know but perfectly recovered it has been so long since I was desired to mind in this when I wrote, she is a very agreeable lady and I think would please you would you be kind enough to take the trouble to inquire about this and give me best and earliest information You will oblige one that is desirous of doing good and an affectionate gesture and your own friend. Please excuse this consulting, for I am afraid you will not be able to read it and take good care of your health for the sake of him that loves you—and I will call myself once more your very sincere, affectionate friend.

/s/ John
Letter to Mr. John C. Savage from Marina Hunter
Middletown, Connecticut (Letter C)
Postmarked—21st Wilmington
Smithville September 17th 1829

I have allowed your letter to remain a long time unanswered, and perhaps my not perfectly understanding it may have been the cause; you fear I concluded (or would conclude) you did not intend writing again, oh, how fortunate for us frail mortals, that we have conscience for our monitor, have I even charged you with inconstancy?—no—This is not my nature, some obvious reason must present itself ‘een before I convict a friend of this unpardonable crime; but do not I pray you, let this open confession make you think you may trespass too far on my (?) with impurity in the commencement of your letter you wished to know if you were not in fault in engaging yourself without have a competency to live in the St. you could desire. Also, if you were not still in error, in continuing engaged as your prospects have not improved according to your expectations, and then you say, do not I think it would be best to forget you, when I consented to resign friends, home, and all for you, it was in the presence of one, that is acquainted with our inmost sentiment, and I conceived myself bound under a solemn engagement to you—be it prudence directs you to request me to consider well, my happiness, perhaps you are at present aware that our engagement had best be broken off; if so, I insist on your candidly acknowledging it to me, believe me, I shall not for a moment, esteem you less, for doing so; you must be sensible that our union will lead to additional expenses, you spoke of stile in your letter (which I am sure you will say I am determined you shall observe) I do not desire it, comfort is all I ask, even of a course nature, rather than dependance. I must confess your letter was really mysterious to me, often your speaking of being in an error, you propose coming on in the Fall or Spring and wish to know, how I would like to live in a cold country. I cannot exactly give an answer there, as I could not be able to determine before I try it, it will entirely depend on the affectionate reception, and kind treatment I meet with from those that love you, do you think I could find an affectionate Aunt Lord there? Or any one that will love and feel for me as she does? I trust the hearts of the people are not affected by the climate; as to the time of your coming, it depends on your own inclination, (but remember this is not as much as to say that I will be always ready) tho I have heard from indifferent persons, in fact, from your Sister Maria, that you are to come out with your Brother Henry. I felt surprised, if it should be so, that I had not been informed of it by you, they all say that I was not greatly distressed at hearing it, as I received the information with a smile and blush, but I rather think astonishment was the cause, I fear whenever you do visit Wilmington you will be obliged to receive a formal introduction to Miss Hunter, as her appearance has changed so much, that I am sure you have to take several glances before you recognize the same Marina that you left two years past, time has indeed made a visible alteration, I have grown more than you can imagine, you must not think I am jesting, it is real earnest; not understanding your letter, I read only a part of it to Cousin Polly Lord; (now I am almost sure you will not like it, but I can trust her confidence, and I wished her to assist me to solve it). She says I must remember her to you, and tell you she thinks it is a contradictory epistle, in the first of it, she thought, you such a philosopher, that you were to give up all ideas of happiness, and lose to the shrine of prudence, and she was ready to commend you for your determination, when a moment after, issued forth so much [of what she calls] love, that she concluded you would rather be a botany at the altar of Hymen—remember this is all from her, what do you think of it? I expect this you are weary of this strain, and feel a desire to hear a little of our news, what shall I tell you that will prove interesting? I presume you have heard by the papers of the deaths and marriages that have taken place during the summer? But the weddings are not over, in about ten days, I am to attend my friend H. Clitherall as bridesmaid to that sacred alter, (this is only the third time I have served in that capacity during the last four months). She has at last consented to give her heart and hand to Capt. Spotts who really deserves it, and is worthy of all her affection she can bestow on him; he is only 40, a small man, perhaps you have seen him, as he was stationed here four years past with his family, he lost his wife soon after he left this, he has only 3 children, for my dear Hatty to take charge of, they go directly to Orleans, where they will reside for some time, the idea of parting with her is distressing, I do not know how your brother Henry will like to hear this, as I heard he was very much pleased with her last winter, you can tell him, but you must not let him know it came from me, has he any idea of bringing Mrs. H. Savage out with him? Carnes says she longs to hear his voice, and wished he would come; you have doubtless heard of W. Davis' disappointment as he is in N York? I think Margaret Anderson has treated him cruelly, after his going all the way to Richmond to see her, I do not know but he deserves it, still I do not approve of coquettes. You may of also tell your brother that Mr. John Davis, the rice planter is courting Mrs. Eagles, I know this will grieve him, also that Ann Wingate, is engaged to Duncan Wichan, who is only three years younger than herself, he had better hasten home, I must tell you that and she was positively engaged to him when she left here. They say he does not appear much affected by it. Giles Maleth and his wife have returned home to live, did you not feel for Anna Calender? Are you not tired of all that I have written? But I have from the commencement endeavoured to be as plain as I could, as your letter was too unsatisfactory, therefore you must excuse me I have more to tell you, but as I always write in a hurry, you must be contented with this, and I shall judge from your speedy reply whether its reception afforded you pleasure, our summer has passed pleasantly, but for the last ten days I have been very unwell, we have just heard of the death of Cousin Sally Londons second son; I hear you have been in a depressed state of mind, what has been the cause of it? It is a shame you should give way to those feelings instead of always appearing lively and happy, altho you do not care about writing me, I often hear of you as to the infants school you mentioned. I have interested myself, but fear the young lady will not meet with success, well, when shall I hear from you? I think this letter is too long to be neglected one hour; where does Mrs. Kooth intend spending her winter? I long to get to town, that I may see Mrs. Lord. I regretted not being with her, during her affliction, it is time for me to retire; therefore must bid adieu.

Sincerely your friend Marina
Postmarked September 13, 1831

Bank of the United States
Sep. 13 1831
William C. Lord Esq
Wilmington N.C.

Sir,

On the 29th of July last $1021.57 was placed to your credit on the books of the bank being the equivalent of 9½ percent of a deposit of £2098 8/2 made with its agents in London for your use, and in compliance with the request contained in your favor of the 5th inst. I beg to say that the above sum is subject to your order.

Very respectfully,

Yr. Obi. Serat.
J. Cowperthwait
Md Cashier

FOOTNOTES

1. Marina Constantia Hunter, 1808-June 1838, was the daughter of William Daniel & Sarah Jane Hunter; William Daniel Hunter's funeral was held 3 March 1813. St. James Records.

2. William Campbell Lord married 1011 Eliza Jane Hill, his funeral was held 7 June 1847; Eliza Jane Hill, 12 May 1794-10 July 1875, was the dau of John & Eliza Hill. N. H. County Deed Book I, p. 49; St. James records; Oakdale Cemetery records.

3. Smithville is now Southport. Name changed 1887.

4. Elizabeth Bradley Lord, Mrs. John Lord, 1763-March 1847, had a residence in Smithville, it "being my summer residence"; her brother was John Bradley; her children were William Campbell Lord, Ann Blount Lord who married Alexander Hattridge, John B. Lord who married Mary Fullerton Tumore & Sarah Elizabeth Lord who married John Rutherford London. Family records; St. James records; N. H. County will Book AB, p. 461.

5. John C. Savage & Marina C. Hunter were married 20 May 1830; she died 14 June 1839; they had at least two children. Eliza Lord born 1831 & Jemison Hunter born 17 April 1833. St. James records; Wilmington Advertiser 22 June 1838.

6. John H. Holmes married 17 Dec. 1828 Caroline Wright, 1808-1835; she was the daughter of Judge Joshua Grainger & Susan Bradley Wright; John married 21 Aug. 1838 Caroline Davis Cochran, daughter of General Thomas & Mary Owen Davis & widow of Joshua Winslow Cochran, 25 Dec. 1799-6 Oct. 1836; John Holmes' funeral was held 1 Oct. 1839 & his widow married 13 Feb. 1844 James Severn Green; Caroline Davis Cochran died Nov. 1856; John Holmes was "of Connecticut". Family records; Ida B. Kellam records; St. James records.


12. Mrs. Caroline A. Eagles married 10 Nov. 1830 Lt. John H. Winders, U.S. Army; he was stationed in Smithville in 1833 & in 1840 was a captain. Southport & Environs, Reaves 1978; St. James records.


