

"HISTORICAL ADDRESS JAMES OUTLAW MONUMENT UNVEILING

Address by A. T. Outlaw, Register of Deeds for Duplin County, Kenansville, N. C., at unveiling Exercises of a Monument to the Memory of Captain James Outlaw and Family, at Outlaw's Bridge, said County, Sunday, May 5, 1936.

"Kinsfolk, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have come here for the purpose of unveiling a monument to the memory of Captain James Outlaw, the founder of our family in Duplin County. This is entirely fitting and proper, and in doing so, we shall look briefly into his genealogy, and give some facts concerning his life.

OUTLAW is an old English name and dates back to about the time when surnames first came into use. It is found in a work called the Hundred Rolls of King Edward I, in the year 1273. It is variously pronounced - Outlaw, Outia, Outlar, Outler - and that matters not; but the correct spelling O-u-t-l-a-w should not be changed. For the present it will be spoken distinctly. As to the exact origin of the name, no one knows, but there seems to be no foundation whatever for the idea that it orginted from some terrible crime. Nor is there any foundation for the story that the name came from Rob Roy of the famous McGregor Clan. The Outlaw family name precedes the McGregor troubles. There once appeared a news paragraph in a London Newspaper saying the family is descended from King Edgar Atheling, son of Edward the Outlaw. London genealogists attach no importance to that statement, and find no reason to assume that such is true. Likely the name came from religious or political disturbances with the Crown. It was not unusual for numbers or groups of people to be declared "Outlaw." The result was, they were deprived of certain privileges and benefits.

In old England it was a large and prominent family. The Outlaws belonged to the Gentry, i.c., they were people of education refinement and ranked next to the nobility. As an evidence of that fact, in the public records and elsewhere, they are usually designated as "gentlemen." In a History of Norfolk County, by Blomefield, there is considerable record of them. They were educated at Emmanuel, Pembroke, Jesus and Corpus Christi Colleges, and were connected with Bentry, Brandeston, Necton, Wishingham, Ringland, and other parishes. In some of the parishes there are numerous monumental inscriptions to the family name.

Richard Outlaw of County Bedford is the first record, in the first year 1273. (In English records the name carries an "e" on the end. The counties are mentioned just the reverse from our style. They say "County Bedford" and we say "Bedford County.") Later, however, the family lived principally in County Norfolk. Roger Outlaw was made Lord Justice of Ireland by King Edward about the year 1326. There are references to legal proceedings back to the years in Fourteen hundred. Sir Adam Outlaw as priest at St. Peters prior to 1500. His will is dated 1501. He is buried in the church. "Sir" was a title given to priest at one time. Then others served as Rector in several of the parishes that have been mentioned. The family Coat of Arms was granted to Thomas Outlaw, son of Ralph, of Wishingham parish

in the year 1613. The family was once in possession of that parish through the marriage of Thomas Outlaw's son Ralph to (1st) Elizabeth Kemp, sister of Sir Robert Kemp, and to (2) Sarah Hunt, granddaughter of Sir Thomas Hunt. This Ralph Outlaw had a son Ralph and the records show that the family held the court of the parish prior to and about the year 1670. A family Coat of Arms was an official insignia like that of a State, and was a mark of dignity and distinction, descending from father to son. Edward Outlaw, son of Ralph, was a well-to-do mercer of Norwich. His will is dated 1657 in which he mentioned all of his family and left a fund for the poor of Wishingham. And there are many others in English records that could be mentioned.

The family in America came from county Norfolk. One Captain John Outlaw was in Elizabeth parish, Lower Norfolk County, Carolina. His name is in the Court records in connection with certain suits, one of which is concerning a boat he owned. Apparently he was not permanently located. No record of land to him and no record of any family has been found. One Captain John Outlaw, possible the same man, was connected with the Hudson Bay Company about 1681 as Captain of gun boats. His name is connected French Canadian history. In 1692 he married at Quebec to Frances Dennis, daughter of a French nobleman. The marriage certificate, in French, states he was an Englishman, from London, and the widower of Mary Saille. In French his name appears as "Sir Jean Capitaine Houstlas."

Captain Edward Outlaw, 1 was in Elizabeth parish, Virginia, prior to 1678. He was a sea captain, associated with Dennis Aishley. Together they bought and received grants for land at a place called Beach Ridge on the Western branch of Elizabeth river. A certain grant to them recites that if was for a certain number of persons transported into the colony. The government compensation for the transportation of settlers was in land, so many acres per person transported. Edward Outlaw settled on the land at Beach ridge where he lived until his death, in 1714. His will is in the records for Norfolk County, at Portsmouth. He is our ancestor. He was the first of six of the same name in succession. His wife's name was Elizabeth. His two daughters married William Bustin and Robert King. His sons, Edward and Ralph, moved to Chowan and Bertie Counties, this State, about 1720. They are the ancestors of a large and prominent family in Bertie County, including George and David Outlaw, congressmen, Captain William Outlaw, major Lewis Outlaw, Captain Edward Ralph Outlaw and others, too numerous to mention. They intermarried with the Cherrys and Askews in about the same manner as the Duplin Family did with the Gradys and Whitfields.

Edward Outlaw II, died in Bertie county, in 1738. His wife's name was Anne (or Nancy). He left a large family. Among them were Edward, George, Lodwick, Benjamin and Peletiah. They all moved to Duplin County about 1745, and all of them, save Edward, moved away to South Carolina and elsewhere.

Edward Outlaw III, received several grants for land in Duplin County (then New Hanover), between the years 1745 and 1750. The first grant was for land in the fork of North East and Goshen where William Kornegay, a son-in-law, later lived.

In the year 1753 he purchased from Constantine Whitfield, a brother-in-law, a tract of land on the North East, described by metes and bounds, where the said Whitfield then lived. It had been granted to Luke Whitfield, another brother-in-law, on June 26, 1748. These men were brothers of Patience, the wife of Edward Outlaw. Many of the descendants of Constantine Whitfield have been prominent and outstanding citizens. Portraits of two of them General Stephen Miller and Dr. John Miller Faison, now hang on the wall in the Duplin Court room. Edward Outlaw and his wife, Patience, lived on the tract of land mentioned until his death in 1759. It was willed to his son, Alexander, with a life estate reserved for Patience. It then passed from Alexander to his brother James and from James to his son William. Mrs. Chelly Outlaw Maxwell, grand-daughter of Captain William Outlaw, is the present owner. Her life is an honor to her people and a benediction to this community. This tract of land is now known as the George Outlaw old place, and there, resting the green sward, are the ashes of the founders of the family in Duplin County.

"Colonel Alexander (E.) Outlaw, first son of Edward and Patience (Whitfield) Outlaw, was born about 1738, probably in Bertie County, but spent at least forty years of his life in this community. He married Penelope Smith about 1766. She was a sister of Peter and James Smith who lived on Buck Marsh in this neighborhood. Unfortunately the public records do not tell us the names of their parents or where the family came from to this County. When the Revolutionary War came on, Alexander Outlaw as a Captain in the Duplin Militia and served under Colonel James Kenan in Expeditions against the Tories. Later he was a recruiting officer and Quartermaster of the Tenth Regiment. During the war he moved to Washington county, in the western part of Virginia, where he served as a militia officer and fought with Colonel Campbell's men in the battle of King's Mountain. He then moved to Greene County, Tennessee (then a part of North Carolina), which he was closely and prominently identified with public affairs for many years. He moved, during old age, to Cahaba, in the territory of Alabama, where he died in 1826 (Note- 1827). His daughters married Judge David Campbell, Judge Joseph Anderson, Colonel Joseph Hamilton and Paul McDermott. His only son, Major Alexander Smith Outlaw, married Jane Tucker Woodson. A complete outline of Colonel Outlaw's family and descendants appears in "Outlaw Genealogy" published in 1930.

"Edward Outlaw IV, another son of Edward and Patience (Whitfield) Outlaw, lived in this community until about forty years of age. He was a soldier in the Revolution and served as Clerk in Alexander Outlaw's Company in a campaign against the Tories in February, 1776, and as an Ensign for the Wilmington division. Later he was in Militia service in South Carolina and there, according to an old family record, he married Annie Eunice. He died about 1820. They were the parents of Morgan and Edward Outlaw V, who moved to Georgia, prior to 1820. Edward Outlaw V, married Keziah Sharpe in South Carolina. She was a daughter of Wiley Sharpe, a noted duelist and Indian fighter and soldier in the Revolution under General Marion. They were the parents of Edward Outlaw VI, Dr. Meschek, N. B.

Outlaw and nine others. Edward VI married Mattie Creech and they were the parents of Keziah, James, William and Mary. Thus ended the line of six in succession of the name Edward. Dr. Outlaw married Mary E. Smith in Lee County. Later they moved to Tennessee and thence to Rector, Arkansas, where he died in 1895 and she died in 1916. They were the parents of Dr. Edward B. Outlaw, who died in 1897, Dr. Morgan Outlaw, now City health Officer at Rector, and several others.

Anne (Nancy) Outlaw, daughter of Edward and Patience (Whitfield) Outlaw, married Peter Smith of this community. He was a soldier in the Revolution and served as a Sergeant in Alexander Outlaw's Company in a campaign against the Tories in February, 1776, and later in Carter's company of the Tenth Regiment. They moved to New Hanover county and later to the Peddee section in Marlboro district, South Carolina. They were the parents of eight children, including Colonel Alexander Smith who was a soldier in the Revolution when only sixteen years of age and was a Major in the Creek Indian War of 1812-13. He was a very energetic and public spirited man and possessed considerable wealth. He married Mary Dewitt in Marlboro district and they moved to a large plantation on Big Pigeon River in Cocke County, Tennessee, where he died in 1824, at the age of seventy-nine. Their only son, General Alexander Evans Smith, heired the large estate. He was a member of the Assembly, an Elector and a member of the Tennessee Constitutional Convention of 1834. He died in 1871.

Elizabeth (Betty) Outlaw, daughter of Edward and Patience (Whitfield) Outlaw, lived all of her life in this county. She married William Kornegay of Craven County. The Kornegays were German Palatines and came to America with Baron De Graffenreid in the settlement at New Bern in 1710. William and Elizabeth (Outlaw) Kornegay lived near Alum Springs and Kornegay's Bridge. They were the parents of ten or more children including William, David, Isaac, George Fisher, Zilphia, Betty and Nancy. He died June 22, 1812, and she died April 30, 1821. Among scores of worthy descendants a few will be mentioned. Henry Robert Kornegay was Clerk of Superior Court of Law and a prominent Lawyer of Kenansville for many years. Peter Hargett Kornegay was Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners back in the nineties. Moses F. Westbrook served the County, faithfully and well, as Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners for several years.

Only two others, D. T. McMillan and George W. Ward, have served the County in that capacity for that long a time. Another descendant, Judge Wade Hampton Kornegay, of Vanita, Oklahoma, was born near here. He was educated at old Grove Academy, Millard Seminary, Wake Forest College, University of Virginia and Vanderbilt University. He moved to Oklahoma in the nineties and has served that State as a member of the Constitutional Convention and as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

Captain James Outlaw, whom we now honor, was a son of Edward and Patience (Whitfield) Outlaw. He lived all of his life in this section. He served in the Revolution as private, sergeant and lieutenant in regular service, and was a leader among the Whig forces. Often, it is said certain Tories of this section sought to capture or kill him but he was always watchful

and made his escape. Several Troy families lived within a few miles of him. Upon the removal from Duplin county of his brother Alexander, he assumed control of the county militia in this district and was a captain in that service for many years. During that time the County was divided into militia or military districts and for forty or more years this section was known as Captain Outlaw's district. The districts later became townships. In his day he was the largest land and slave owner in this part of the County and was recognized as one of the County's leading citizens. He was a Justice of the old County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for a period of twenty-six years, an unusual record, and served that Court for some time as Chairman and Presiding Justice. During that time this Court had control over practically all County matters such as sentences for crime proof and acknowledgement of deeds, whills, and administrations, divisions of estates, orphan's accounts, conduct of officers, county property, care of the poor, etc. Again, as recognition of his ability, he was one of seven leading citizens of the County who were appointed by an Act of the Assembly to serve as Commissioners of the town of Sarecta, the County's first established town. The others were: Col. Charles Ward, Captain George Miller, Samuel Houston, John Hill, John Mattchett and David Murdock. Sarecta was the first settlement and the principal trading place at that time. Dr. William Houston who lived here, deeded the land to the Commissioners for a town and lots laid out and sold by them. However, other settlements grew rapidly and Sarecta has never amounted to more than a thickly settled community. doctor Houston was a practicing physician and surgeon for more than forty years. He was the County's first representative in the colonial Assembly. Chairman of the Court, and was appointed by the Crown to be Stamp Distributer for North Carolina unde the British Stamp Act of the Seventeen-sixties. Hugh Maxwell, a great grandson of Doctor Houston, married Repsy Grady, a granddaughter of Captain Outlaw. There the Maxwell branch of Captain Outlaw's descendants are also the descendants of Doctor Houston. Robert G. Maxwell, of this community, is among the many worthy and honorable descendants of Doctor Houston. Robert G. Maxwell, of this community, is among the many worthy and honorable descendants of Doctor Houston, John Grady and James Outlaw. He had served his County as a member of the State Senate and for many years he has taken an active and leading part in every movement for the public good. James Outlaw died April 22, 1826, at the age of eighty two. His wife was Elizabeth Grady, daughter of John and Mary (Whitfield) Grady. She died Sept. 3, 1830, at the age of eighty. They were the parents of eleven children, as follows: 1. Mary, married Jacob Williams and they had ten children. 2. Patience, married Timothy Grady and they had six children. 3. Edward, married Zilphia Kornegay and Elizabeth Grady, eight children. 4. Elizabeth, first wife of Henry Grady, twelve children. 5. John married Charity Grady, ten children. 6. James, died young. 7. Alexander, married Sarah Grady, three children. 8. Chariety, married Alexander Grady, eleven children. 9. William, married Charity Grady, four children. 10. Lewis, married Elizabeth Whitfield. Thirteen children. 11. Nancy, first wife of

William Whitfield, seven children.

"The descendants of James and Elizabeth (Grady) Outlaw are all about us and some of them are plain, honest, hard working people. We shall mention, briefly and modestly, only a few of the most outstanding among them.

"Edward Outlaw, a son, was for some years a Justice of the old County Court.

"William Outlaw, a son, succeeded his father as captain in the County militia service and served the County as a Superintendent of Common Schools, from 1856 to 1864. He was instrumental in establishing Washington Female Academy in this neighborhood, 1848, and deeded an acre of land for it. It was indeed an Outlaw institution. The trustees were Bryan K., Joseph W., James, George and Grady Outlaw.

"William Outlaw, Jr., a grandson, was a Justice of the County Court at the beginning of the Civil War. He gave his life to the Confederacy.

"Grady Outlaw, a grandson, was a Justice of the County Court at the beginning of and during the Civil War. At the close of the war he was appointed by Governor Holden to be a member of the County Provisional Court and served it at times as the presiding Justice.

"Lewis Outlaw, a grandson, was a soldier in the Mexican War. He was the first man in Duplin County to volunteer for the service. During the Civil War he was a Captain of Junior Reserves or Home Guards, or both, and at the close of the war served as Captain in an organization called Local Police. His parents, with several of the family, moved to Kentucky in the eighteen-forties. Of those, William Henry Outlaw was the grandfather of Judge Nigle C. Outlaw of Garza County, Texas. Now only thirty-eight years of age has served as County Attorney, Conciliation Commissioner, Presidential Elector and as substitute District Superior Court Judge.

"James Whitfield, a grandson, volunteered for service in the Mexican War and died in that service. Ex-Sheriff Bland Wallace of Kenansville, who died in 1928 at the age of ninety-two, is my authority for the statement that Lewis Outlaw and James Whitfield were the only volunteers from this County. He was a witness, when a boy of about twelve years, on "general muster" day in Kenansville when volunteers were called for. Jackson Kent Outlaw, a great grandson, was a member of the State House of Representatives from this County in 1872-3 when a young man of only twenty-five years. His nephew of the same name is now a prominent physician of Albermarle.

"Benjamin Franklin Grady, Sr., a grandson, was Clerk of the County Court for several years. During his service as Clerk he was employed to transcribe several volumes of the County Registry that were in bad condition. His work is a model of Excellence and has received hundreds of compliments.

"Alexander Outlaw Grady, a grandson, was a member of the State House of Representatives and a political leader for many years. His son, Benjamin Franklin Grady, Jr., was an educator, statesman and philosopher. He has often been described as one among the most learned men this State has produced. The brilliance of his intellect and profound knowledge, may be seen

perpetuated in his distinguished son, Judge Henry A. Grady, who is, indeed, an honor to the family and to the State of North Carolina.

"Paul Davis Grady, a great great grandson, is now President pro tempore of the State Senate and at the same time Robert Grady Johnson, another great great Grandson, is Speaker of the State House of Representatives. Eugene J. Johnson, another great great grandson, is now Solicitor of Duplin General County Court. There are hundreds of worthy descendants of James and Elizabeth (Grady) Outlaw among the Outlaws, Gradys, Whitfields, Kornegays, Maxwells, Simmons, and other. They are too numerous to mention.

"An now, ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor and pleasure to me to intruduce to you Little Elizabeth (Jordon) Outlaw and a lineal descendant of James and Elizabeth (Grady) Outlaw. She will now unveil the monument.

"You now observe the family Coat of Arms, the names of Captain James Outlaw, his wife and children. Of all that, you have already heard. On the first Sunday in April a similar monument was to have been unveiled to John Grady at B. G. Grady High School; but on account of inclement weather the actual unveiling was not held, and the monument was appropriately dedicated. His daughter, Elizabeth married James Outlaw and the two families have intermarried for generations. They are practically one and the same. This occasion marks the accomplishment of our purpose, and the end of a long struggle to erect monuments to the memory of John Grady and James Outlaw who were pioneers in this part of Duplin County. And now, in behalf of the Grady-Outlaw Literary and Historical Association, we respectfully deliver this handsome monument, or boulder, into the care of the trustees of this School. Here it is to remain as a memorial to our forefathers, and as an inspiration to present and future generations."

(The following account of the unveiling exercises of the James Outlaw Monument appeared in the Duplin Herald, Warsaw, N.C., May 9, 1935.)

" JAMES OUTLAW MONUMENT UNVEILED

Address Replete with Much Historical Information Relative to Duplin

Dedicatorial ceremonies in connection with the unveiling of a monument to Captain James Outlaw, distinguished ancestor of the Outlaw family in Duplin and throughout Eastern North Carolina, were held las sunday afternoon on the campus of Outlaw's Bridge School.

The principle address was delivered by Hon. Albert T. Outlaw, Register of Deeds of Duplin County, of Kenansville.

Hon. Henry A. Grady, of Clinton, Resident Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, presided as master of ceremonies. He presented the Rev. Abner H. Outlaw, of Elizabeth City for the invocation.

Little Miss Elizabeth Jordan Outlaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Outlaw, unveiled the monument.

Hon. R. G. Maxweell, of the Outlaw's Bridge community, accepted the monument on behalf of the trustees of the school.

The principal address was replete with much valuable historical date related to the personalities and the historic background associated with the developement of Duplin County.

Mr. Outlaw traced the genealogy of the Outlaw family the earliest accounts in England, and followed the family line through to the present day, noting in his carefully prepared paper the contributions and distictions of the several members of the family.

Much of the political, educational and cultural development of the county is intertwined with the members of the Outlaw, Grady, Kornegay, Whitfield, Maxwell and Simmons families the speaker indicated.

Monuments have been erected to the memory of Joyn Grady and James Outlaw, pioneers in Duplin county,, "To remain as a memorial to our forefathers and as an inspiration to present and future generations."

There was an attendance of more than 500 person for the unveiling exercises on the occasion of the dedicatorial exercises of the John Grady monument on April 7, but the memorial was presented and the historial address made by Judge Henry A. Grady."