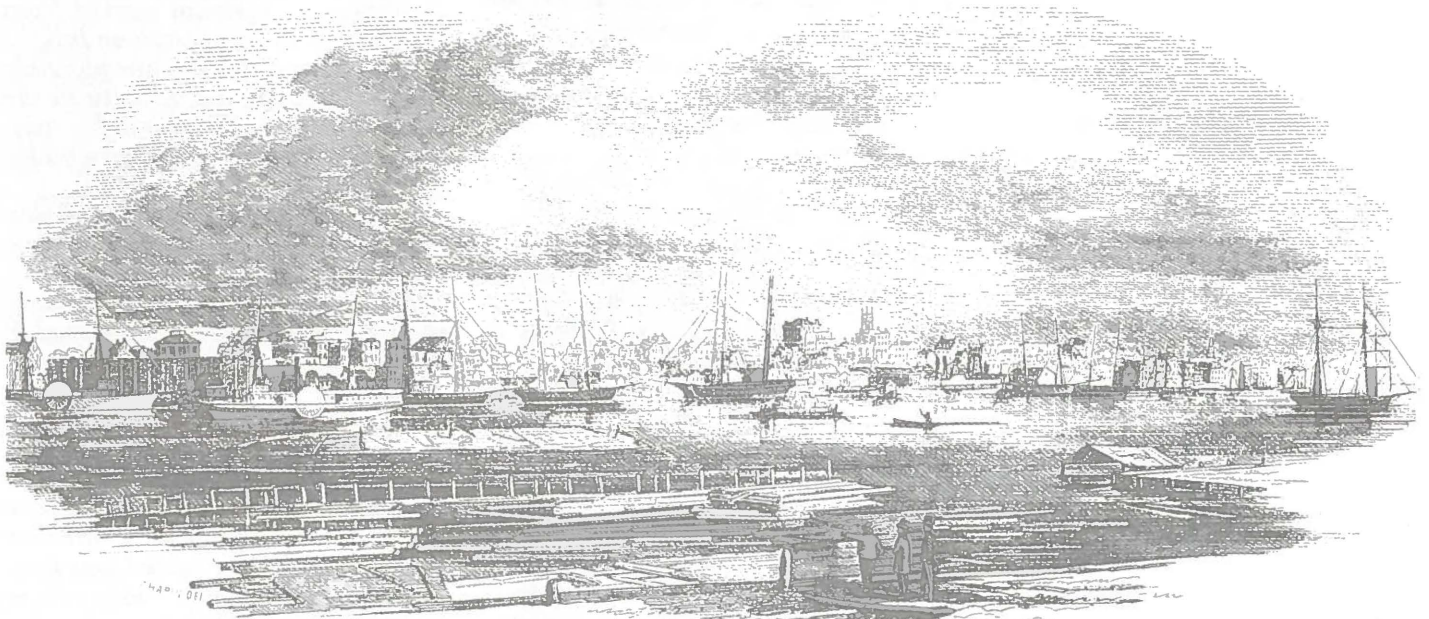


FAMILY: THE CAROLINA GLOVERS, PART VI



Wilmington, North Carolina waterfront

The final installment in the "Carolina Glovers" series for Quarterly News had not been written when Jewel Spangler Smaus passed away last summer. Several years ago, after Mrs. Smaus had completed the first two articles in this series, Longyear asked her to prepare a synopsis of the concluding chapters. We are pleased to share with our readers the part of this synopsis that covers the unfinished portion of the series. It should be emphasized, however, that the extract is in draft form, and not to be considered the final version of Mrs. Smaus'

article. It shows the direction in which Mrs. Smaus was moving in her research, specifies what she had documented, and raises questions and theories that may interest future researchers. Her comments are supplemented by information we were able to glean from our recent perusal of the wealth of research material in her collection. Mrs. Smaus' synopsis appears in standard type, while our additions appear in italics.

We will move on to George Glover's decision to take on a building project in Haiti. This was a puzzle for some time because there seemed to be no clues as to how he became involved in this venture. It seems like a rash thing for him to have undertaken. There was extreme unrest in that country. The papers were full of reports. Admittedly they were often contradictory. At one

time there would be a terrible revolution with murders, etc., and then would come a report that all was calm. *The island of Haiti and Santo Domingo was ruled from 1822-1844 by General Jean Pierre Boyer. In 1844 a revolution occurred which resulted in the division of the island into two republics. From that time, two political divisions have been maintained.*

As I began to read the papers carefully, I realized that there were uprisings going on also in America, especially with the Indians. In particular, at this time [ca. 1840] there was an uprising of Florida Indians in which settlers were brutally murdered. There was an uprising in Philadelphia over some situation, that bordered on revolution. And this new United States was not far yet from its own revolutionary times. Also there was now beginning the fear of "the gathering storm" in the rebellious situation of

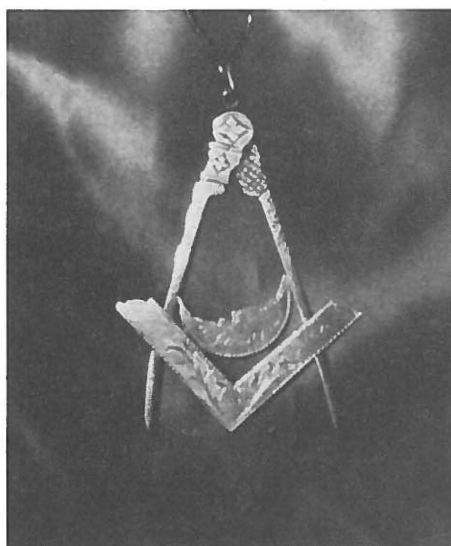
the slaves. So all in all, it would seem that the atmosphere of the time made Haiti seem not so different to Glover as some situations at home.

Charleston, from its early history, was home to French settlers from Haiti. There was, and still is, the French Society — a large and prominent group of French descendants. A letter, in French, from a friend of Glover's who was leaving, gives some clue as to the Haitian venture. It also indicates that Glover spoke French.¹

Another fire precedes George Glover's move to Wilmington.² In May of 1843, Wilmington experienced a fire that destroyed many buildings. *The Wilmington Chronicle reported on May 3, 1843: "[The fire] is doubtless, all things considered, the most calamitous event that has ever befallen Wilmington, ravaged as it has a number of times been by fire; . . . The fire of Sunday last, destroyed, we think, at least two hundred buildings of every kind, besides an immense deal of other species of property."* The number of buildings ultimately reported destroyed was around 600. Glover arrived soon after, obviously to take part in the rebuilding as he had in Charleston. Again, others as before were drawn to the city for the same reason. Furthermore, Wilmington was beginning to overtake Charleston as a center for shipping and commerce.

*Elizabeth Earl Jones, who did extensive research into Mrs. Eddy's life in the South, describes Wilmington as it would have appeared in 1844: ". . . the streets were lighted by oil lamps tended by hand. In the homes open fireplaces, oil lamps or taller dips, were used, and there was no sewerage or running water. There was but one issue a week of the newspapers, so when news of unusual interest occurred between times a street crier proclaimed it. This same crier at night walked through the streets of the city calling, 'All's well,' like the watch on a ship. Indeed, Wilmington got many of its quaint customs from the seafaring folk within her borders, as this was a seaport of no mean capacity."*³

Glover attended St. John's Masonic Lodge and made many friends who were Masons. I have copies of records that indicate this, for I visited the Lodge and was given access to the old books, as well as permission to photograph the Masonic "jewel" that Glover would have worn in his office of Junior Deacon. The Masons figure prominently in the life of Glover and later his bride. . . .



Junior Deacon's Masonic "jewel," St. John's Lodge, Wilmington

It has been possible for me to bring to life this period because of the unusual assistance I have had from local historians, historical societies and the history room of the county library. What emerges is the story of instant welcome of the newly married Glovers by the townspeople. *The couple arrived in Wilmington early in 1844, after their stay in Charleston. A letter from Mary's family in New Hampshire dated Feb. 6, 1844, was addressed to her in Wilmington.*

It was a small town, and extended hospitality to newcomers. And, of course, Glover was already known. In particular, Mr. and Mrs. Zebulon Latimer became friends. Mr. Latimer was of the same age as Glover and Mrs. Latimer the same age as Mrs. Glover. Furthermore, they had married at about the same time — and the wives had almost immediately become pregnant. The Glovers stayed at the new Hanover House, and the Latimers lived above the bank across the street.

(Mrs. Latimer's uncle was cashier of the bank.)

Again, because of the research, we will have a detailed description of the Glovers' activities here. *Mrs. Smaus elsewhere in her notes has elaborated on Glover's business activity in Wilmington. She writes that after the 1843 fire, which destroyed the custom house building, he became active in Wilmington affairs, probably working on the new custom house. He may also have been planning to contract for the building of a cathedral in Haiti. Mrs. Smaus felt, because of Glover's known presence at a Masonic meeting in Wilmington on May 30, 1843, as well as the appearance of his name as a passenger on a steam packet from Wilmington to Charleston on July 12 of the same year, that he was probably engaged in business activity in the North Carolina city prior to his marriage and his later move there with his wife in 1844.*

The young Mrs. Glover entered into the life of the town, almost at once contributing to the local newspaper. *Mrs. Glover's review of a performance of "The Death of Rolla" appeared in one of the local papers. She wrote a number of poems in Wilmington, including one entitled, "Written in Wilmington, N.C. when expecting to leave for the West Indies." In it, she expresses her nostalgia for the home of her youth: "Home of my heart New England's shore/ I've parted long from thee/ And I may view those scenes no more/ Where childhood reveled free. . . ."*

The poems written immediately after Glover's death are somber, and yet in spite of the anguished tone, hope somehow emerges, as in "Thoughts at a Grave": "Ye stricken ones who sorrow o'er the sod/ No love of thine out-

DIED.

In this town on Thursday night the 27th ultimo, after out 12 days illness, of Bilious fever, Major GEORGE W. GLOVER, aged 30 years, a native of Boston.

His end was calm and peaceful, and to those friends who attended him during his illness, he gave the repeated assurance of his willingness to die, and of his full reliance for salvation on the merits of a Crucified Redeemer. His remains were interred with Masonic honors. He has left an amiable wife, to whom he had been united but the brief space of six months, to lament his irreparable loss.—Communicated.

George Glover's death notice, *Wilmington Chronicle*, July 3, 1844

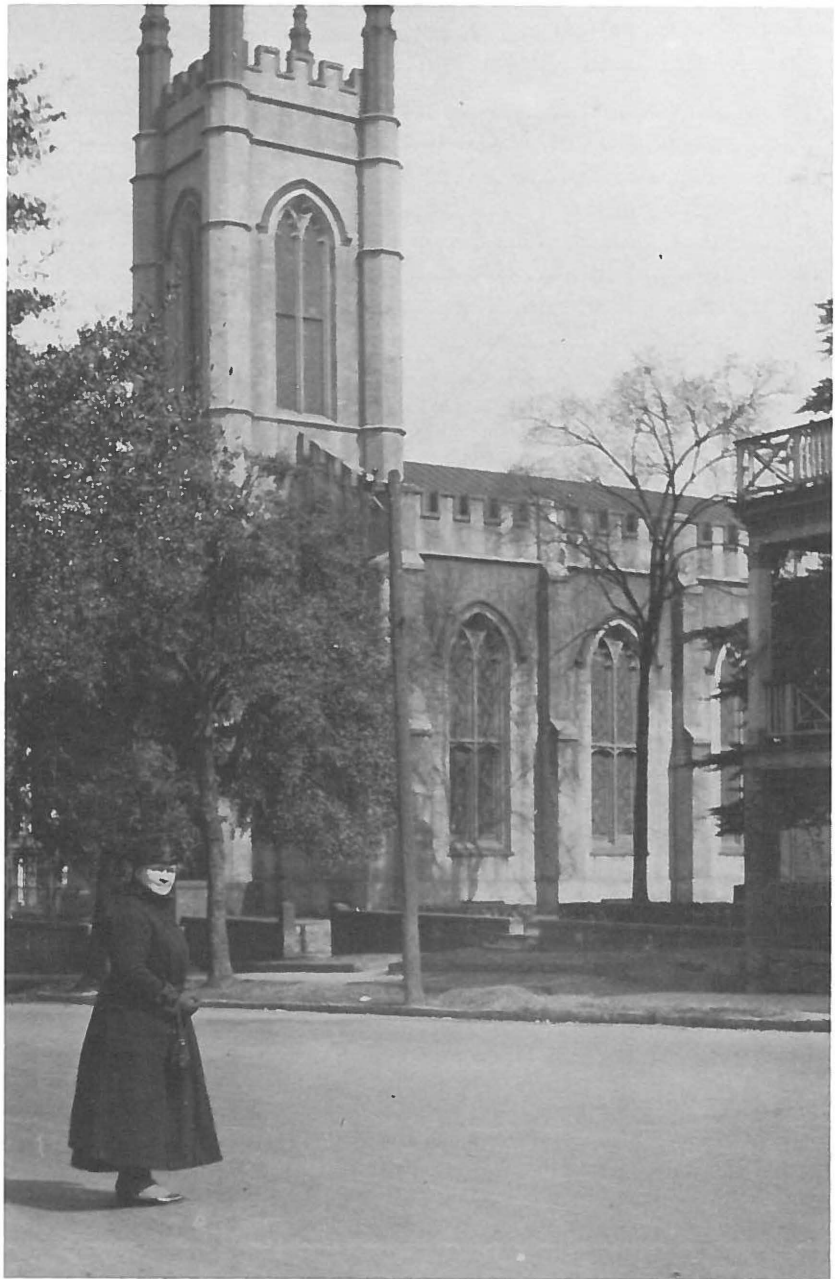
weighs the love of God." And in a poem entitled "Written on leaving N. Carolina July 19th 1844," she writes: "Speed O speed ye swift-winged hours/ Bear me o'er your fading form/ Guided by Almighty power/ Frailest barks outride the storm."⁴

She took music lessons from Mrs. Sarah Ann Cooke,⁵ who was organist for St. James' Episcopal Church and an accomplished musician. She gave not only piano lessons, but voice as well, and became a good friend to Mrs. Glover. Mr. Cooke was a commission merchant, and seems to have made Glover's acquaintance in this manner in the rebuilding of the town.

In the meantime, Glover was making plans for his Haiti venture — the building of a cathedral. We have only Mrs. Eddy's word for this. But there had been fires and earthquakes in Haiti, so it seems logical that there would be rebuilding, as there had been in Charleston and Wilmington. *It is thought that Glover had collected building materials in Wilmington for the cathedral that were lost either by theft or fire. The Wilmington Chronicle reported on April 24, 1844 a loss of lumber and building materials by a fire on the wharf. This may have included Glover's.*⁶

Then suddenly all was over. Glover contracted the dread yellow fever, and died. It was called also "stranger's fever," and sadly enough, Glover would have thought himself no longer a "stranger," and thus immune. It would appear that his work at the wharves, where the ships entered from the West Indies, exposed him to what later became known as the "cause." *The records of St. John's Lodge describe the gravity of Glover's situation just days before his death: "June 25, 1844. . . Brother G.W. Glover being represented as very sick and in indigent circumstances, his case was referred to the Committee of Charity." Three days later the minutes of a special meeting read: "Convened for the purpose of paying the last tribute of respect for Bro. George W. Glover who died on the night of the 27th."* Glover's funeral, which was attended by many of his fellow Masons, was held at Hanover House on June 28, and his remains were interred at the cemetery at St. James' Church. Mrs. Eddy writes: "The Governor of the State and his staff, with a long procession, followed the remains of my beloved one to the cemetery."⁸

The young wife was suddenly a young widow. I will use [Clara] Shan-



St. James' Episcopal Church, Wilmington
(Mary Beecher Longyear in foreground)

non's description of her grief — how the Masons . . . roused her from her grief and comforted her. *The following is from Miss Shannon's account: "After [Glover's] burial she shut herself up in her room, and gave orders to a maid to sit outside the door and not permit anyone to enter. She continued this for days, eating very little food. One day a friend of her husband, who was a Free-Mason, went to the door and forced the maid to allow him to enter. Within he beheld that lovely tear-stained face, her hair dishevelled, her eyes red with weeping. . . . Her grief was such that she refused to be comforted. At length he said, 'What would your husband say to you if he came now and looked at you? . . . What would he say to you for this action, and*

*yielding to your agony of grief?' She said that wakened her; she got up saying that it was all right — he could go away, he had done his work. . . . Then the Masons and friends helped her get ready to return to her parents. . . ."*⁹

What will be new is the discovery of Glover's will, since it has been said for all these years that he did not leave one.¹⁰ Mrs. Smaus' persistent research led to the discovery of the will — a major finding. Dated June 25, 1844, it reads as follows: "I, George W. Glover, being in sound mind, do make and ordain this my will and testament. It is my wish and desire that my body shall be interred with Masonic orders; and as I have no money on hand, I am compelled to throw myself upon the charity of my Masonic Brethren for my

Wilkesboro N.C. Nov 25. 1844

I Geo W Glover being in sound mind do
make and ordain this my will and testament.

It is my wish and desire that my body shall
be interred with Masonic orders, and as I have
no money on hand, I am compelled to throw myself
upon the charity of my Masonic Brethren for my
burial expenses, and for a sufficiency to transport my
beloved wife to her relatives, the same to be reimbur-
sed them out of any funds that may be collected
for my estate hereafter.

I wish all my tools and every thing belonging to
me to be sold (except such articles as my dear wife
may wish to retain) and the money arising therefor
together with all debts and any other whoso that can
be collected, to be applied to the payment of my
just debts, (which are but few and of small amount)
and the residue if any to be paid to my wife.

It is my wish that my body should be interred
in such a manner as that it can be sent on to
my friends in Massachusetts if it can be so done
without too much inconvenience and expense, but
this I leave to the discretion of my executors hereinafter
named in whom I have every confidence.

I hereby appoint and request my friends Isaac
Northrop, L H Marsteller, William Cook ^{to act as} my executors
to this my last Will and Testament, and request my
wife to hand over to them or such of them as may act
all evidences of debts due and, together with all vouchers
of debts paid by me, which are to be found in my
trunks, valise or in my possession at my death.

Signed & acknowledged
in the presence of us
who signed it in the
presence of each other,
in the presence of the
testators

G W Glover

Attest
Geo T Carter

State of North Carolina } September
New Brinover, County Court } Term 1844

This paper writing purporting to be
the last Will and Testament of G W Glover
was exhibited to Court and offered for probate
at the same time L H Marsteller, one of the
Executors named in said Will renounced his
right to executorship under said will, the will
being then duly proved by James T. Miller, one
of the subscribing witnesses thereto was ordered
to be recorded and filed; at the same time Mrs.
Cooke one of the executors named therein, duly
qualified as such

Test L H Marsteller, Clerk

George Glover's will

burial expenses, and for a sufficiency
to transport my beloved wife to her
relatives, the same to be reimbursed
them out of any funds that may be
collected for my estate hereafter.

"I wish all my tools and everything
belonging to me to be sold (except such
articles as my dear wife may wish to
retain) and the money arising there-
from together with all debts due me
everywhere that can be collected, to be
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sachusetts if it can be so done without
too much inconvenience and expense,
but this I leave to the discretion of my
executors hereinafter named in whom
I have every confidence.

"I hereby appoint and request my
friends Isaac Northrop, L.H. Mars-
teller, and William Cook to act as my
Executors to this my last Will and
Testament, and request my wife to
hand over to them or such of them as
may act, all evidences of debts due me,
together with all vouchers of debts
paid by me, which are to be found in
my trunks, valise or in my possession
at my death. G.W. Glover."

This reveals that Glover signed the
will shortly before he died, leaving all
to his "beloved wife." He also states
that his debts are "few," leaving the
enigma of his wife's lack of funds to be
yet unraveled. Glover's statement does
nothing to support the theory that he
had lost most if not all of his money
in the building materials that were
burned or stolen. His comments in the
will, "I have no money on hand," and
"I wish . . . everything belonging to me
to be sold," raise questions in light of
his statement, also from the will, that
"my just debts . . . are but few and of
small amount." Cooke was named the
executor, and I am hoping to yet find
what he did — or did not do — to leave
the estate in such poor condition. I
have some doubts as to Cooke's effi-
ciency. In addition to the will, Mrs.
Smaus uncovered an inventory of
Glover's effects, dated October 8, 1844,
and signed by William Cooke. The
items listed are largely building
materials, including wood and iron
doors, stoves, "a case of instruments,"
and brass locks. Mrs. Smaus found
that Glover had a lawsuit filed against
him just before or during his illness. He
ultimately lost the suit, and Cooke, his
executor, settled the claim. No details

as to the nature of the suit have emerged. It evidently was brought by a Charles B. Morris in December 1843 and was not settled until September 1845.

Since slaves were simply "property," this would have left the widow the right to dispose of them as she saw fit. I have spent much time trying to solve the mystery as to how she freed the slaves, as she has said.¹¹ There were three methods that she could have employed: 1) The Underground Railroad. There is in Wilmington the Burgin-Wright house, now one of the beautifully restored historic homes. A tunnel, said to have been used by the Underground, runs from this house to the river. . . .

2) The widow could have appealed to the American Colonization Society. It was especially strong in North Carolina. Most interesting is the fact that after Glover's death, Mrs. Cooke took the widow Glover on a riverboat trip to Fayetteville, which was up river from Wilmington. *Elizabeth Earl Jones tells of a woman from Fayetteville, Rebecca Hodges, who in 1909 spoke with Sue Harper Mims about meeting Mrs. Glover at a dinner in Fayetteville in 1844. Miss Hodges recalled Mrs. Glover as "a very beautiful woman, brilliant in conversation and most gracious in her manner."*¹²

This has been described as an effort to keep her occupied after her husband's death, as she waited for his affairs to be settled. However, there may have been a more important reason.

Two of the most prominent men in the American Colonization Society lived in Fayetteville, and it may have been more the purpose of the trip to search out ways to free the slaves. Several thousand had been freed through their efforts, being sent to a colony in Africa.

3) The third manner in which the widow Glover could have freed her slaves — the most interesting so far uncovered — has to do with a connection mentioned earlier with the Latimers. A letter of Oct. 13, 1848 from the Anti-Slavery Society in New York to Mr. Latimer in Wilmington came to light recently.¹³ *The letter, written by a representative of the Anti-Slavery Society using the pseudonym "Tuble Cain," reads as follows: "... this is to inform you that the Slave that was at the American Hotel which was informed was yours is now on her way to Canida [sic]. I sent for her and told the man to tell her that I had a bundle*

for you and when she came myself and some friends just taken her up and put her in the cab and drove off with her so you need not give yourself any uneasiness. She is safe enough but why I write is to inform you that I want her clothes in order to send them to her. I wish therefore that you would inform me whether you will let me have them. Just send your letter to the Anti-Slavery office. . . ."

Charles S. Blockson, who wrote an article on the Underground Railroad for *National Geographic* (July 1984), feels that it is very significant, and an unusual find, for the freeing of slaves was a very hush-hush affair, even in the free states because of the opposition from those who were slave hunters or believers in states' rights.

It may be that at the time of Glover's death, there were only a few slaves needed, what with the coming trip to Haiti. It would be logical, the experts say, for Mrs. Glover to have taken her slaves with her on the arduous journey home. *The "arduous journey" is detailed by Mrs. Eddy in her notebook: "From Wilmington N.C. to Weldon in the Cars, thence to Portsmouth Va. through the dismal swamp; by rail Road from Portsmouth down the Elizabeth River and up the Chesapeake Bay and the Ptapsico River to Baltimore by Steam boat abreast of Baltimore in the River changed steam Boats in which we proceeded down the Ptapsico up the Bay and Elk River to Frenchton from thence crossed the State of Delaware to New Castle where we embarked on Board the Ohio proceeding up the Delaware to Philadelphia there took the Boat passing up the Delaware to Bristol Pa. then took cars through Trenton N.J. Rokaway Elizabethtown Newark and other minor places to Jersy City crossing the Ferry to N. York took a Hack for the American Hotel remaining there until Monday Night Then took passage in Boat on the North River for Boston landing at Stonington Ct. Then took cars passing through Providence and other places till we arrived at Boston thence took cars for Concord N.H. Travelling in four days and Nights the distance of about 14 hundred miles — July, 1844."*¹⁴

Mr. Cooke conducted her as far as New York. In her pregnant condition, she would certainly have needed the attention of at least her maid, and perhaps a man servant. What is most significant, is the location of the hotel in New York where Mary Glover was met by her brother George. Perhaps a coin-

cidence — but an interesting one. It was the American Hotel! Although much research has been done, nothing specific has come to light concerning the hotel and the Anti-Slavery Society. But this is not unusual because of the secrecy always involved. One hotel owner of this period became very upset when a slave was freed at his hotel in this manner, for then he said, if this became known, he would lose all of the southern trade.

To conclude the series, I would like to go forward and remind the reader that this series, "Family: The Carolina Glovers," is in fact the beginning of the Glover story concluded in the earlier *Quarterly News* series, "Family: From New England to the Black Hills." Then I would repeat the ending of that first series: the last meeting of the Glover boys — Mrs. Eddy's grandsons Andrew and George — with their grandmother. The punch line would be Adelaide Still's statement that Mrs. Eddy said of George's appearance, how much he resembled Major Glover.¹⁵

And so we would come to a complete circle in our story.

Jewel Spangler Smaus

1. The letter appears in Robert Peel, *Mary Baker Eddy: The Years of Discovery* (Boston: The Christian Science Publishing Society, 1966), p. 68.
2. See Parts I and II of this series for background on the Charleston fire of 1838, the year Glover arrived in the South.
3. New Hanover County Public Library. Elizabeth Earl Jones, "Mrs. Eddy in North Carolina," p. 19.
4. Mrs. Glover copied these poems in a notebook, which is in the Archives of The Mother Church (copybook #2).
5. Longyear Museum and Historical Society. Elizabeth Earl Jones papers.
6. See Peel, *Mary Baker Eddy: The Years of Discovery*, p. 322.
7. Jones, p. 20.
8. *The First Church of Christ, Scientist and Miscellany*, p. 312.
9. Shanon, "Golden Memories," pp. 10-11.
10. North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.
11. *Message to The Mother Church for 1902*, p. 15.
12. Jones, p. 57.
13. The letter was found with family papers of the Zebulon Latimer family, at the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society, Wilmington, North Carolina.
14. Archives of The Mother Church. Copybook #2.
15. Archives of The Mother Church. Reminiscences of M. Adelaide Still.

A Research Footnote Jewel Spangler Smaus

"There is nothing in American history more absorbing than the ante-bellum South. It holds a sweet and sour essence unlike any other period in the life of our nation," John T. Synon wrote some years ago in a critical review of a book concerning black history.¹ "Yet, too often," he continued, "writers of Southern history are plagued with [a] sort of malaise . . . either they can't see the trees for the magnolias, or, from the other side they blind themselves to the inherent decency of Southern people." In the case of this particular book, he complained, "Southerners are always the villains. . . . White is black and black is white, as it were."

My introduction to the South as a Westerner steeped in early American, and in particular, New England history, seemed like a journey into a foreign, or at least a new-found country. The black-white concept had been my somewhat hazy background, with emphasis on the Civil War. This had come alive for me when I researched Mary Baker Eddy's son's war years. But even this has a western orientation because his service was in western campaigns.

Several research trips to the Carolinas have given me a better understanding, a deep respect and love for Southerners and the South. Mrs. Eddy's short, happy, and finally tragic time in the Carolinas gave her a similar feeling, best described in the beginning of one of her letters to the Christian Science Church in Wilmington, North Carolina. She wrote: "Long ago you of the dear South paved the way to my forever gratitude, and now illustrate the past by your present love."²

As I began my research, I soon learned that the results of the Civil War are still echoing and re-echoing throughout the South — that it is more often referred to as "The War Between the States," or, in earlier writings, as "The Late Unpleasantness." Throughout my research that focuses on the 1838-1844 ante-bellum era, there are constant references to those conditions that exploded into the War Between the States. These conditions were sometimes referred to as "the gathering storm."

The Reverend Samuel Gilman of Boston and Charleston, wrote to his friend Benjamin Peirce, the distinguished Professor of Astronomy at Harvard, in 1837: "How the South and the North can continue as one people, I cannot comprehend. . . . I see no clear way through this fast gathering cloud and darkness, save the interposing hand and Providence of God."³

One of the tragic consequences of war is, of course, the destruction. For a researcher in the ante-bellum period, the destruction of priceless records makes research at times difficult — and in some instances impossible. This particular period of my research has been called by some historians a "dark period" because of lack of records.

But what is amazing is the fact that so much has been saved. For instance, the state records for South Carolina, kept at first in Charleston during the war, were sent to Columbia for safe keeping. It was thought that Charleston would be set afire. However, the battle scene shifted and Columbia was burned, leaving Charleston city records intact, whereas vital state records were destroyed. Yet, at the South Carolina State Archives, I have found many helpful records.

The Charleston Library Society holds a poignant reminder of the fire damage of the 1838 conflagration that brought George Glover to the city. A surviving city directory for that year is partially burned, but still intact enough so that most of the pages are readable. Complete runs of the two Charleston daily newspapers of G.W. Glover's era are now on microfilm and available, among other places, at the University of California at Berkeley. I have spent many hours with the microfilm reader reliving history as it happened day by day in Charleston at the time of Glover's residence in that city.

As time goes on, records of past history become more scarce. This is especially true in the case of personal accounts, and accounts of events at the time of their happening. It is for this reason that the earlier research of Elizabeth Earl Jones and others concerning Mr. and Mrs. George Glover's brief history in the Carolinas is important. Researchers, historians, and biographers look for primary sources, but also build upon what has been gathered and written about the past, taking care to check and double check as far as is possible.

This present research is yet another building block for the future.

1. Review in the Charleston, S.C. *Sun*, August 30, 1964, of the book *Insurrection in South Carolina* by John Lofton.
2. Mary Baker Eddy, *The First Church of Christ, Scientist and Miscellany*, p. 176.
3. South Carolina Caroliniana Library. Samuel Gilman letter to Benjamin Peirce, August 7, 1837. See Part II of "The Carolina Glovers" series for Gilman references.

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