

**1: Memoir Of John Howe Peyton Part 24 Online**

*John Howe Peyton's Montgomery Hall is the history of Montgomery Hall, a former plantation near Staunton in Augusta County, Virginia, acquired and improved by John Howe Peyton, a distinguished lawyer, Commonwealth Attorney, and Virginia State Senator born in in Stafford County, Virginia. Montgomery Hall was named in honor of Peyton's.*

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â€” fast â€” latest novel. Part 12 There seems never to have been a time that people did not wish Mr. He quickly put a stop to it, however, by declaring his entire unwillingness to take the office, not that he did not consider it an honor, but because at his then age, he was not willing to enter upon its onerous duties. We regret that among the beautiful tributes paid to him at this time, in the Richmond papers, we have not been able to get any other than that which follows. It will doubtless be inc. This is the Supreme Court of the State, whose decisions have the weight of law, and, therefore, it is of the highest importance that a profound lawyer should be elected. For many years Mr. Peyton has practised in the Courts of Common Law and Chancery, and in the Court of Appeals and no one has acquired a higher reputation as a Jurist. If elected, his decisions will command the respect of every able jurist and honest man in the State. The following very interesting reminiscences are taken from the Spectator of They were written by one of the most intelligent and cultivated gentlemen of Augusta, who is still, in , living in the county. He wrote under the signature of "Senex. At the November term, , of the Circuit Superior Court, Staunton, a case which had excited great public interest, in which the late Hon. Peyton was one of the parties, was tried. Some time before a portion of the public road running entirely through these lands was closed by order of the County Court upon Mr. The closing of the road gave great offense to a neighborhood commonly called the North Mountain neighborhood. Peyton was, during his absence in the Senate at Richmond, rescinded, thus re-establis. From this decision Mr. Peyton shortly afterwards appealed to the Circuit Court, then the appellate tribunal in such cases. Before the case came on for trial there was an excited controversy in the newspaper in regard to the whole matter in which it was freely charged that the order of Court obtained by Mr. Peyton was in the nature of a purchase and sale of the public rights in the road. When the case came up for argument before Lucas B. Thompson, the excitement among the friends of the parties was intense, the Court house was crowded to overflowing, princ. Peyton two of the most prominent members of the Staunton bar appeared, Thomas J. Michie and Hugh W. Sheffey; the other side was represented by A. Stuart and David Fultz. The opening argument for Mr. Peyton was delivered by Mr. Sheffey, the junior counsel. He made a strong legal argument, closely following the record and confining himself strictly to the merits of the case. He was followed by Messrs. Stuart and Fultz, who maintained the very remarkable proposition that the order of the County Court obtained by Mr. Peyton was an invasion and violation of the public rights, which could be redressed in no other way than by annulling that order at a subsequent term of the County Court as had actually been done, and unless this last proceeding could be sustained, they contended that their clients would be the victims of a wrong for which they would be absolutely without remedy. In some of their remarks they were understood by Mr. The Court adjourned until the next morning, when the excitement was greater and the crowd larger. In the opening of his remarks the next day, Mr. Michie, who was evidently much excited, said: And so help me G. Stuart jumped to his feet and disclaimed any intention to a. Peyton, to which Mr. Stuart insisted that he had made no attack on Mr. Michie then delivered a powerful and earnest speech in which the position of his adversaries were literally pulverized. He declared as to the North Mountain people that they had come to Staunton in crowds and had attempted to brow-beat the halls of justice. Judge Thompson, in delivering his opinion on the case, decided that the original order of the County Court obtained by Mr. Peyton was a valid and legal order, and that the remedy which the other parties had, if, indeed, the public convenience required that the old road should be kept open, was to pet. Thus ended a controversy which had excited a degree of feeling rarely exhibited in a case where so small a pecuniary, or property interest was involved. He made a great impression on me as a youth and I never knew any man who had more of what Edmund Burke styled the "chast. He was represented by John W. Duncan, a

half-brother of Judge John J. It was evident that Mr. Staunton, October 8th, Your letter of the 2nd instant inviting me on behalf of the Whigs of Amherst county, to be present at a festival to be held at Amherst Court house, on the 19th of the present month, for the promotion of the Whig cause, has just reached me. I regret, that for reasons unnecessary to detail, it will not be in my power to accept your polite invitation. You judge rightly, however, in supposing that I cordially unite with you in the objects which you have in view. The next Presidential election is a subject so important and so deeply interesting to the nation, that it cannot be taken into consideration too soon. The issues involved in it are the same with those before the people in , and affect so vitally the public welfare, that too much care cannot be bestowed upon our proper organization--not only to prevent the evils arising from misrepresentation and falsehood, by disseminating among the people correct information, but to secure a full and fair expression of the public sentiment. If these issues are fully and fairly explained, together with the mode and manner in which the Whigs have been disappointed in carrying their measures into effect by the lamentable death of President Harrison, I do not fear a different result in the ensuing election from that which occurred in . Our opponents have not yet designated their candidate. We are as yet uninformed whether we are to encounter the subtle abstractions of the South Carolina nullifier, or the wily artifices of the "Northern man with Southern principles" or whether we are to face both. Not so with the Whigs. Let Whig clubs then be established in every county in the State; let the people be correctly informed what Whig principles are, and why the battle of is to be fought over again; let the people know that the Whigs are not only in favor of a sound currency but of a currency of uniform value throughout the Union--a national currency, consisting partly of the precious metals and partly of paper, convertible at pleasure into specie; and that they maintain, that in the present commercial condition of our country and of the world, this species of currency can be best attained by a well-regulated national bank. Let them know that we prefer indirect to direct taxation--that we are the friends of a tariff, to raise the necessary revenues for the general government--so arranged as to protect our home industry, and to create a home market. Let them know that we are the friends to a distribution of the monies arising from a sale of the public lands, according to some equitable ratio, and that we are not willing that a fund pledged by the States for specific objects, shall, after those objects are secured, be diverted to others not contemplated by the parties at the creation of the trust. Let them know that we, as our name indicates, are the friends of rational liberty; that we are for preserving the balances of power as established by the Const. If these topics are fully discussed, and the people made clearly to comprehend their bearing, the election of a Whig President in , can scarcely be questioned. You will pardon me for entering upon these subjects so much at large, when addressing myself to those who are more capable of doing them justice, and more interested in the issue than myself. I am an old man, and cannot expect to reap many of the fruits of a Whig victory, but I have a country and family that will enjoy them; and therefore I feel a deep interest in their success. As I cannot be personally present, permit me to offer as a sentiment: During the summer of , while Mr. Peyton and the entire family were outing, on his Jackson river estate, called Isleham, or the "upper farm," for he owned another estate lower down the Jackson river, he accompanied, on horseback, a surveying party, engaged in locating or rectifying certain lines. At many points on their route, the surface was rough and hilly, and near the high banks of the river overgrown with brush. While riding up one of these steep banks, through undergrowth and brambles, his horse, a spirited animal, was beset by a swarm of bees. The animal began to plunge and soon became unmanageable, and rus. Peyton off or he was thrown, falling heavily to the ground, stunned and helpless. It was thought at the time that he was fatally injured, but after being removed to the dwelling, he revived, after one of his tenants, Mr. Meadows, had drawn from his arm a quant. Payne, of Covington, an old friend and skillful physician, was by his bedside in less than two hours, and through his care and attention, Mr. Peyton was enabled to return to Montgomery Hall within a fortnight, and soon resumed his ordinary life. It is supposed that this accident was the beginning of the end, the commencement of his decline, that he never fully recovered from his injuries, which affected the hips and spinal cord. The following summer he was prostrated by an attack of apoplexy, but such were the recuperative energies of his vigorous const. Peyton, in Roanoke, where he was extensively and elegantly entertained and where it is thought he may have indulged imprudently--in his then state of health, in the luxuries of the table. The writer was with him on this visit, and remembers well the numerous and splendid dinner parties given him

by General Edward Watts, George B. Preston, of Greenfield, Mr. Burrell, Colonel Lewis, Dr. His friends in the Senate, saw with pain and regret his declining health, and Mr. Peyton himself realizing it determined to abandon all public employment. Accordingly in the month of December, , he announced in the following letter his purpose to retire: The term for which I was elected your senator is drawing to a close, and as it is not my intention to become again a candidate for your suffrages, I feel it a duty inc. In taking leave of the district I tender you my grateful acknowledgements for the distinguished honor which you conferred upon me four years ago by electing me to the station I now occupy. Whilst acting in the discharge of the duties devolved upon me by this elevated trust, it has been my anxious desire to promote your interests and the general welfare of my native State. That such is the opinion of my const. I have now arrived at a period of life when the quiet and repose of the domestic fireside are much better suited to my tastes and more congenial to my feelings than the arena of politics and the strife of parties. Besides this I have duties to discharge to a young and growing family incompatible with a longer continuance in public life. I have felt the less difficulty in coming to this conclusion because I know I can do so without injury to the Whig cause or Whig principles, in the success of which the people of my district feel so deep an interest. Their intelligence furnishes ample a. There were universal expressions of regret on this occasion.

**2: Jane Gray Avery " By Jane Gray Avery**

*John Howe Peyton, eminent lawyer and statesman, was born at Stony Hill in April, , the son of John Rowzee Peyton and of the fifth generation in his Peyton family line in Virginia. After completing his education at the College of New Jersey at Princeton, Peyton soon began the practice of law.*

His paternal grandparents were John Peyton and Elizabeth Rowzee. He had a half-brother named John Howard. He was the son of John R. Peyton, of Stony Hill, Stafford, who was known and acknowledged in his day as a man of gifted intellect and penetrating good sense. He lived in the seclusion of the country, devoted to rural pursuits and the cultivation of social happiness. He died in , in his 45th year, and now sleeps under the solemn trees of Stony Hill Cemetery side by side with his father. Peyton inherited in a remarkable manner these moral qualities, and was, says Mr. Trained in the best principles, and early imbued with a veneration for the noblest characters of antiquity, Mr. Peyton did not seek public favor by courting the populace, or his reputation might have been more extended. His virtue was of another complexion. Peyton m first Susan Madison, d of Wm. Strother Madison, a relative of Bishop Madison, by whom he left issue, one son, the late Col. Peyton, of Roanoke, who m Sally, a d of Judge Allen Taylor, by whom he left issue a large family, of whom there are now living: Walter Preston, of Abington, whose eldest daughter m Judge Geo. Peyton, of Kanawha, W. Sally, who m T. Reed, and left one child, Betty, who m Dr. Berkeley, of Roanoke, a relative of Lord Botetourt, once Gov. Peyton died in deeply regretted by a numerous circle of friends throughout the State and country. He was a man of ability and learning, a ripe scholar, possessing all the essentials of a great writer. His mind was broad, his power of dramatic description remarkable, and in his analysis of character, elaborate and distinct. With his clear, vivid and eloquent style, and love of literature, he would doubtless have risen to the first distinction, as a writer, but for a physical malady vertigo , causing partial paralysis, which early interfered with his labors, and finally put an end to his life. He served at different times in the General Assembly and in other public positions, and was universally respected for the purity of his life, the activity of his benevolence, and the rectitude of his conduct. Peyton m secondly Ann Montgomery, d of Maj. John Lewis Peyton, who m Henrietta E. Yelverton, unnm, a resident of Texas. Susan Madison m Col J. Ann Montgomery, d unnm. Mary Preston m Robt. Gray, and has issue: Lucy Garnett m Judge Jno. Hendren, and has issue: Boys Telfair, of Ohio, and they have issue: Margaret Lynn m Capt. Cochran, of Staunton, and they have issue: Kent, of Wythe, and they have issue: Cornelia m first Dr. Thos Brown, and at his death he left issue: Brown m secondly Wm. Greene, of Augusta, but they have no living issue. After completing his preliminary studies at Fredericksburg, he proceeded, in , to the University of New Jersey Princeton , where he graduated M. He immediately obtained a considerable practice, to which he devoted himself with laborious assiduity. In , he was elected the representative for Stafford to the House of Delegates of Virginia, and was regarded from the first as a brilliant debater, and at the end of the session it was conceded that he had no superior in the Commonwealth as a parliamentary orator. Popular in the House, he was more so in society, from his agreeable and instructive conversation and many accomplishments. During the years he continued a member of the General Assembly, he was a leading spirit, and his labor were crowned with uniform success. He was the author of the celebrated report and resolutions on the subject of a tribunal for settling disputes between the State and Federal judiciary, adopted by the Senate and House, January 26th This report and resolutions terminated the matter of a proposal from the State of Pennsylvania to amend the Constitution of the United States. He now gave his entire energies to the law, and the distinguishing peculiarities of his intellect made themselves more manifest. It was observed that in all of his investigations his philosophical mind rose above the technicalities of the common law to the consideration of general principles, and he was never more eloquent than when expatiating upon those principles which lie at the foundation of all duty and are equally applicable to all its forms. He was not unmindful of other duties which devolve upon the citizen, and in , when war was declared against Great Britain by the United States, was commissioned a major of volunteers and marched with the Augusta troops to Camp Holly, and served until the end of the war, in , when he resumed the practice, and was elected mayor of the city of Staunton. His success at the Bar, and he was now considered

one of the most learned and ablest Virginia lawyers, and the ablest criminal lawyer and public prosecutor Virginia had ever known, did not engross his intellectual activity. He contributed to the reviews papers rich in lessons of truth, wisdom and faith; on literary, social and political subjects, and maintained a correspondence with President Jefferson, Gov. In , when he had attained the height of his fame, his friends urged him to accept a position on the General Court of Virginia, but as this would have required his removal to another district, he peremptorily declined. In the Senate, he occupied a commanding position of influence, and gave a general support to the Whig party. He opposed the annexation of Texas, a revenue tariff, and a war with England on the question of the Oregon boundary line. In the course of an exhaustive speech on the subject, he said: America was already, in , too vast to be national and too rich to be democratic, and any extension of her borders would only increase the evils; 2. He objected to a clause in the Constitution of Texas which refused to the Legislature power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves. No one had a deeper or more inextinguishable thirst to promote human liberty and happiness. All his ambition for personal, professional or literary success was controlled by this master passion of his nature; 3. He was opposed to the American government assuming the debt of Texas, and 4. On the question of tariff, he held that direct protection was a legitimate object of legislation and he opposed any tariff which gave merely incidental protection. He derived his doctrine on the question both from the justice and necessity of the case, and from the explicit avowal of those who framed the Constitution, and of those who sat in the first Congress under it, that it was designed and desired to lay duties for the encouragement and protection of domestic manufactures, and he would allow no arguments of expediency to induce him to abandon his ground and to fall in with the friends of a tariff for revenue giving incidental protection. This phraseology he denounced as a device of demagogues who were willing to conceal or abandon their principles in order to secure success. He expressed the opinion that the independence of the American continent from the control, political and physical, of European nations, was of paramount importance, and had any European government aided Spain in her efforts to subdue her revolted American colonies, seeking to secure their independence and establish republican government, he favored armed intervention by the United States. He advocated popular education, by means of State aid, and a generous system of internal improvements. On all of these questions his speeches were able and eloquent, exhibiting a soundness of view, an extent of research, a manliness of principle, an accuracy of learning, and a vigor of style never surpassed in Virginia. In , he was appointed by President Harrison a visitor to the United States Military Academy at West Point, and wrote the interesting and instructive report of the Board of Visitors for that year. In , owing to impaired health, arising from a fall from his horse while hunting on Isleham, one of his estates in Alleghany, he resigned his seat in the Senate, the office of Public Prosecutor, and all public employments. In person, he was tall and handsome, with large piercing blue eyes, and a countenance of majestic benevolence. Very attentive to his attire, he dressed usually in blue broad cloth with gold buttons. He enjoyed among his contemporaries the reputation of being a metaphysician, a logician, and a political economist of the first order; a profound and comprehensive lawyer and general scholar; a man of massive intellect without affectation, and of genius without conceit. He kept up a large establishment at Montgomery Hall, and dispensed a generous hospitality, contributed liberally to all public works, was open as day to melting charity, and left at his death, April 3rd, , the reputation of being a perfect gentleman and one of the best of men. We follow this outline by interesting sketches, giving more in detail the leading characteristics of Mr. These sketches were written by surviving contemporaries, who, from intimacy in daily life, had the best opportunities to know him as a man, a lawyer, statesman and citizen. The first is by Prof. The late John H. During the prime of life he pursued his profession with a laborious assiduity rarely equalled, and though as age advanced upon him he remitted his efforts, he did not discontinue his practice until a short time before his death, which occurred April 3, , in the 69th year of his age. None of his contemporaries secured a more ample reward in either reputation or pecuniary emolument. We have spoken of Mr. Peyton as a complete lawyer. Law, as the practical profession, has several departments, and it is not unusual to see a lawyer distinguished in some of them, with a compensating deficiency in others. Some practitioners are successful collectors; some are much esteemed as judicious advisers in matters not strictly legal; some are favorite advocates, with a subdivision into those who are influential with the court, and those who are persuasive before a jury; some are

designated good judges of law, or, in other words, safe counsellors, and of some the forte is Common Law Practice, while others are distinguished in chancery lawyers. The organization of the courts in Virginia, and the nature of the business, at least in the interior, requires every lawyer to enter upon the whole of this miscellaneous practice; and it is not to be wondered at that some, even good lawyers, are not equally strong in every part. Peyton knew every part of his profession thoroughly. He had studied diligently as a student; he had known the expectant struggles of the young practitioner; he had practised under the old system before the reorganization of the judiciary, and afterwards under the new; he had met in contest the strongest men in each department of the profession, and he had made himself a champion in all. We may add that some lawyers who exhibit the highest skill in securing the rights of the clients, are foolishly ignorant of their own; in other words, they let slip the fair, well earned profits of their profession—“not so with Mr. He knew the value of his professional services; he gave them to the fullest extent to those who applied for them, and then he insisted upon just remuneration. We notice this point, not at random, but to present a feature belonging to the character of the complete lawyer. The characteristic of Mr. This efficiency had for its elements native vigor of intellect, great resoluteness of character and courageous self-confidence, ample and thorough acquirements and the quickness, precision and dexterity of action that belong only to those who have been taught by a varied experience to understand thoroughly human nature. Peyton was ready, entertaining and instructive. But conversation was not his forte, though he was fond of it. He was not fluent, his manner was sometimes too direct for the highest style of polished social intercourse of a general nature, and besides he had a remarkable way of indulging in a strain of covert satirical banter, when his words would be so much at variance with the expression of his countenance, and particularly with the expression of his mouth, that the hearer was often in an uncomfortable state of uncertainty how to take him. His person was large, and his bearing dignified but not graceful. His manner was unaffected, but not without formality, nor was it perfectly conciliatory. Some styled him aristocratic, while none could deny that his self respect and confident energy gave an imperious cast to his demeanor. We have oftener than once thought applicable to him, in a general way, those lines of Terence: If it is asked what was the style of his speaking, it may be replied—“just what might be expected to belong to such a man as he has been described, that is to say, never was the speaker a more complete reflection of the man than in his case.

**3: John Howe Peyton () - Find A Grave Memorial**

*Genealogy profile for John Howe Peyton John Howe Peyton ( - ) - Genealogy Genealogy for John Howe Peyton ( - ) family tree on Geni, with over million profiles of ancestors and living relatives.*

It is cause of deep regret, that in these days, so much of the reverse is prominent. If I had known it in time, and that ladies were to be present on the interesting occasion, I should have gone down to the Court House, but I do not take a daily paper and did not know of it. I remember your father as an elegant and courtly gentleman, genial and kind to all, both old and young; and that he belonged to a n. I have read the pamphlet through I had read the account in the papers , and have mailed it to Sam and the boys. Many other interesting letters have been received from distinguished persons in all parts of the State, from the South and West, but s. We feel the less difficulty in omitting them, though coming from such men as Gen. Peyton, of New Jersey, R. Parrish and other eminent men and lawyers, because they knew Mr. Peyton only by reputation, not personally. We have mentioned Mr. The happiness derived from this auspicious union was such that it may be cla. Among the noteworthy women of Virginia during the early part of the present century--our comparatively unknown and entirely unsung Southern heroines--was the subject of this sketch. Remarkable for her practical ability and efficiency, her graceful and accomplished taste, the extent and variety of her literary attainments, the unselfish generosity of her heart, and her unostentatious charities, no one was more highly esteemed while living, or was more mourned when, in her bright and useful career, struck down by the hand of death. Nor is there one of those departed Matrons--the peerless women of Virginia,--whose memory is more cherished by those among whom she lived; for, it was her peculiar good fortune to be at once the life and joy of her family, the "bright particular star" of the society in which she moved, and the pride and ornament of the community. Her father Major John Lewis, was a man of large fortune, having inherited this extensive and valuable estate from his father, Col. William Lewis, commonly called the "Civilizer of the border. A little more than two years after the surrender of the British Army at Yorktown, by Lord Cornwallis, October 17th, , namely, in the winter of when Was. He married, in , Mary Preston, the fourth daughter of Col. William Preston of Smithfield, County of Montgomery. Mary Preston Lewis is reported to have been a woman of great personal charms and of uncommon vivacity of intellect, and of varied accomplishments. As spirited as beautiful, she was one of the true type of that Virginia character which has made itself known and felt throughout the world. Sweet Springs, July 23rd, I hope nothing will happen, not even an indulgence of my affection for her, to cause her coming home again shortly, for to you, I confide with confidence her entire education, and I hope your labors will be crowned with success by Him above, who is able to give abundantly. It has been with much persuasion and many difficulties I have succeeded in getting Mr. I know your penetration is sufficient, and in your judgment and tenderness [to improve both] I have entire confidence. You can do more to improve her than I can and I know you will. I have many happy proofs of the great good, both in mind and manners, that have accompanied your exertions towards my family. My respects to Mrs. I have sent a cot and bedding for Anne and Lynn. Mary Preston Lewis died at an early age, leaving a large family of young children, and it devolved upon the subject of this sketch, as being one of the oldest, to act the part of mother and sister towards them--a duty which she n. The portals of Montgomery Hall were always open to receive them and her younger brothers. In fact it became the home of her sisters, three of whom were subsequently, at different periods, married from it: Her two younger brothers, John Benjamin and Thomas Preston, also resided with her several years while attending school in Staunton. Anne Lewis, the third child of Major John Lewis and Mary Preston, and according to contemporaneous accounts, the most favored of them all; was entered in her ninth year at the school--a school in great repute at that day--of Mr. Greenfield, Botetourt County, Va. The painful duty of informing you of the death of our beloved Sister Lewis devolves on me. She expired on Wednesday the 4th, Feb. She had lingered for some time but no dangerous symptoms appeared in her complaint, nor was any alarm excited. She, however, became suddenly worse, and sent for Mary Woodville, who set out instantly and took with her Doctor Patterson, of Fincastle, but before they arrived she was struggling with death. She died with all the firmness of a Christian hero, firmly relying on the merits and mediation of an all-sufficient

Saviour, and declared that her hope and confidence were so great that death presented not one solitary terror to her, but rather that he appeared to her as a friend who was to conduct her out of this into a far better world that she had long looked forward to with ardor--and called on her relations and friends around her to witness with what composure a real Christian could die, and actually closed her eyes with her own hands. The family are now dispersed, and the house locked up and the plantation forsaken for awhile. Sarah, Lynn and Thomas are at Mr. What future disposition will be made of them or the property is not yet decided on. She did not make a will. My wife is very sick and confined to her bed with something like the nettle-rash. Sarah is well and I am in my general health. Elizabeth Madison, Montgomery Co. The reader will probably excuse a brief reference to this valley which is so remarkable for its scenic charms, the cascade being the most striking point, that one cannot pa. And yet the country has many, many charms, peculiar to itself and of a peculiar character; and although it is certain that a vicious mind will think of G. In one of the loveliest spots in this picturesque land, Mr. Crutchfield had wisely established his school--no doubt influenced in his choice by its central position in the State, its retired situation and the extreme healthfulness of the climate. Amidst these rural scenes in the "sweet sequestered vale," Anne Lewis spent her early youth, making much progress in learning and acquiring a fund of valuable information. Studying with unexampled industry, she carried off the highest prizes. But even in this, the school of highest grade at that period in Western Virginia, she was in a measure deprived of that thorough and liberal education which her ambition craved. When she completed the course and returned home it was with a painful consciousness on her part of how little she knew and how much she had yet to learn. She often spoke in after years in a lively and amusing way of her life at this remote seminary, and of how the scholars had to rough it; of what would now be styled their hards. She alluded to her own life at this season of her early joys, as smooth and pleasant, and to the valley of the Falling Spring as a kind of earthly paradise. Her opening years here and at her home at Sweet Springs, were eminently happy and this sunny morning betokened the short, but cloudless day that was coming. Concerning their life at Mr. His table was liberally supplied with whatever the country produced, such as beef, mutton, poultry, and now and again with game and fish furnished by the forests, and the mountain streams. Of foreign luxuries they saw little or nothing. Their coffee was generally roasted rye, or a mixture of rye and "Rio," and their evening drink was milk or Sa. When they visited distant friends they rode on horseback, or were crowded into Mr. In their intervals of toilsome labors, and Mr. It must be remembered that these hours of leisure were not given to enjoyment only,--hours so favorable to improvement were better employed. When they returned from the fields, their hands tinted with the rich purple and crimson of the flowers they had gathered, it was not the blood stain of murdered time. On the contrary they were only signs of the eagerness with which they pursued knowledge as well as pleasure, in some department of natural history, for they were always accompanied in their outdoor excursions by a teacher. Trees were waving, flowers blooming, birds singing, and insects revelling around them--the very pebbles in their pathway contained a history of the past within them; the stream flowing by them had its finny tribes, most wonderfully adapted to their element, and these lighter hours were given to an examination, almost a study, of these objects--animate and inanimate, as they came from the hands of our Creator. And it may be safely a. It was during her sojourn at this school, while spending a holiday with her sister, Mrs. He had recently returned from active service with the army of , of which he was a daring and enterprising officer. She was at this time in the flush of opening womanhood, at the romantic age, and listened with wrapt attention and delight to his eloquent conversation, his graphic and animated accounts of the camp and field. She was herself rich in what has been styled with poetic license the fatal dower of beauty and was as clever as pretty. The result may be as easily imagined as told--they were speedily betrothed and shortly after her return to the paternal roof, though her beauty drew suitors for her hand from far and near, were married It was a fortunate marriage and brought her all the happiness promised by a union with the chosen of her heart. Her home was thereafter in Staunton for a few years and subsequently till her death at Montgomery Hall. She thus returned to the original location of her great grandfather the "lord of the hills," to pa. Many a dark tale of ma. Fort Lewis was the only place of security west of the Blue Ridge and south of Winchester. It was a fortress of little architectural extent or pretension, but in its a. In her new home Anne Peyton soon developed more fully the n. She made herself intimately acquainted with the real condition of the

negroes on these plantations and set on foot remedies for the evils necessarily incident to their condition. Her labors were attended with success, and not only the physical but the intellectual and moral condition of these unfortunate beings was improved and advanced. Happily the prosperity of Virginia was in her day so exuberant, that there was little poverty of any kind. There are, however, always cases of want to be found in every community, and these she sought out and relieved when and where the world was not cognizant. In a word she offered bread to the famis. Her tender sympathy extended even to the brute creation. She could not patiently endure to see dumb creatures suffering from cruelty or want of proper care, and the very animals instinctively regarded her as their thoughtful friend. Anne Montgomery Peyton became the mother of ten children, all of whom reached years of maturity, and with two exceptions married and have families of their own, and all now survive but her second daughter, Anne Montgomery, who died unmarried in , and her son Yelverton. She was, as we shall see, a most careful mother and affectionate wife, looking up to her husband as a superior being, and took upon herself the heavy burden of care in connection with the rearing and education of this numerous family, to which her husband could give little attention from the absorbing pursuit of his profession and the overwhelming character of his engagements. It was truly in the domestic sphere that she most shone, and her children owe so much to her teachings and example, to her maternal tenderness and training, that the recollection of their days at the Hall is the most precious remembrance they carry with them through life. Her mind was always active in devising means for the benefit of her children. Nor would she allow any personal inconvenience or discomfort to interfere with her plans for carrying them out. She often entered into their juvenile games and amusements. Nor did it lessen the deference and respect they felt for her. She knew when to be little and when to be great. When to exercise her authority, how to enhance her influence, and the value of example in enforcing both. Thus obedience became so easy that her children soon combined the pleasure of antic. Of course in every family there are to be found wrong tempers, feverish ailments, and perverseness of disposition, and willing obedience cannot be, at all times and on all occasions, obtained however consistently authority may be maintained.

**4: Benjamin "Jane Gray Avery**

*Peyton, John Howson: is buried in the Trinity churchyard on W. Beverley St. in Staunton in Augusta County. He was the second son of John Rowzee Peyton and Anne Hooe. He was born at Stony Creek in Stafford County 29 April and died at his residence near Staunton on 3 April (sic).*

Memoir of John Howe Peyton - novelonlinefree. Please use the follow button to get notification about the latest chapter next time when you visit novelonlinefree. Use F11 button to read novel in full-screen PC only. Drop by anytime you want to read free "fast" latest novel. Enjoy Peyton, was sustained in his opinion of him by some of the ablest jurists of Virginia, amongst them was Benjamin Watkins Leigh, who said to him that "Mr. Peyton was the greatest lawyer west of the Blue Ridge. Peyton, exerted all his popularity and power in favor of Mr. Thompson, and on his election, said that he had accomplished a long cherished wish, that of defeating an ambition of Mr. But he signally failed. It is well known that Mr. Peyton did not wish the office of Judge, much preferred to retain the greatly more lucrative and equally honorable situation of public prosecutor, as in the interest of a large and growing family. Major James Garland, now Judge of the Hustings Court of Lynchburg, himself a great lawyer and statesman, about the time I went to the bar of Nelson county, said in a conversation with me: But for the course of the Senator from Augusta and Rockbridge, your father would have succeeded in the election of John Howe Peyton, than whom there is no greater lawyer in the Commonwealth. Frazier has so well described him as a common law lawyer and the most eminent prosecutor that Virginia has ever had, that I forbear to say anything further with reference to that matter. That is a part of the history of the jurisprudence of this State. I will add, that I have seen his c. I am told that he had a grim way of preventing such as had not the ability from entering into the profession of the law. In his library there was a rare old edition of Littleton on Tenures. He considered this book as the basis of the laws of real property in England, and he thought that it should be first read without c. It rarely happened that the young man did not hand him back the book, at the end of a short time, announcing his purpose of seeking a livelihood in some other field. Thus he was instrumental in keeping some from the profession, who, by entering into the law, would have derived no profit to themselves, nor reflect credit upon the profession. And on the other hand, when he discovered merit in a young man, no one was more prompt, active and generous in encouraging it. His conversation with his son and myself above referred to, on Uses and Trusts, exemplified the fact that he had not forgotten, in his maturer what he had learned in his younger years. I have been told that Mr. Peyton had acquired the habit of reading, or at least looking over, Blackstone once a year, and it was rarely the case that he referred to precedents and decisions of the courts, which has become the bane of the profession of this day, but for authority he went down to the deep foundations of the law, treating and regarding it as a fixed and accurate science, not depending upon the opinion of this jurist or that, and thus arriving at just conclusions alike convincing to judge and jury. There have been many men whom the accident of applause or fortune have made great, but few who were great in themselves. Amongst the latter, Mr. Peyton stands in the front rank. As a man, he was true, n. As a father and husband, he was active and earnest in his endeavors to fill the part of a true man; as a lawyer he stood second to none, and by the breadth of his learning and knowledge, his clear and comprehensive manner, and his earnest and determined performance of duty as a public prosecutor, he has won a position such as few lawyers have ever attained. As a statesman, the high praise which his generation gave him, the deep respect in which he was held by the eminent men of his time, and the undying record which history bears to his genius and achievements, mark him as one of the great men of Virginia, who may be proud of her son, while she can justly regret that he should have sought privacy and retirement, in preference to national glory. Modest, sincere, learned and determined, Virginia has had few to equal--none to surpa. In the past, he moulded and controlled the opinions and actions of the times, so in the future may he ever serve as a model for the true and the good, and prove an incentive to the ambitious. May the young learn to emulate his life and example, while the old revere and respect his memory. From my earliest recollection, I was familiar with the personal appearance of Mr. His figure was too distinguished to pa. He was tall, erect and portly; his head set gracefully on his shoulders; his garments always appeared to fit well, and exactly

corresponded with his age and station; so that altogether, in his person, he came nearer my ideal of gentlemanly elegance than any one I have ever known. Peyton discontinued the practice of his profession before I was capable of forming an independent and intelligent estimate of his ability as a lawyer. During my boyhood I frequently heard him speak in the Court-house; but I was then unable to appreciate forensic efforts. From the attention and the deference to his utterances shown by the citizens generally, I had no doubt that he was a legal oracle. According to my recollection of him, he never attempted flights of eloquence. There was nothing, I believe, flowing or ornate in his style. He used no "big words," but in the plainest language spoke directly to the question at issue, making himself understood by the most illiterate jurymen; and whatever the verdict, he never failed to excite admiration for his ability and the dignity of his deportment. He was often eloquent, in the highest and best sense of that word. While I was a boy I heard an intelligent citizen endeavoring to repeat a part of one of Mr. My impression of Mr. My father, although a physician, was fond of discussions at the bar, and during the sessions of the courts spent most of his leisure time at the court-house. Peyton a great lawyer, and a man of great intellect. Although fastidious in his taste and a severe critic, I never heard him speak otherwise than in terms of respect and admiration of Mr. I well remember the scene in the old county court, when Mr. Peyton formally retired from the bar. That tribunal was one of the most beneficent inst. The body was self-perpetuating and very careful to maintain its respectability in the election of new members. To be a member of the Bench under that system, was generally conclusive of the fact that the individual was worthy of and enjoyed the confidence and respect of the community. The Justices were not professional lawyers, and depended greatly upon the attorney for the commonwealth for advice and a. When he resigned his office in the former Court, the a. They adopted resolutions expressive of their appreciation of his ability, uprightness and uniform and marked courtesy to the Court. He doubtless always exhibited the same respect for the County Court of Augusta, composed of his familiar friends and neighbors, professionally unlearned as they were, as he ever did for the Judges of the Supreme Courts of Virginia or the United States. The Justices were unwilling to give him up, however, and as the next best thing to having him as their legal adviser, they elected him a member of their own body. He accepted the office in the spirit in which it was tendered, and I remember to have seen him on one or more occasions afterwards sitting on the County Court bench with the other Justices. While I have disclaimed any competency to speak of my own judgement, of Mr. Peyton as a lawyer, I had the pleasure of knowing him personally as intimately as a boy and youth could know a gentleman of his age and position. My father was his physician for many years before his death, and his confidential friend. I have heard it said of Mr. Peyton, and I believe truly, that if he liked a man he liked everything belonging to him--his children and even his dogs. Liking and trusting my father, he seemed to extend the same feeling to me. While I was still a small boy, he found me out, and wherever he met me would familiarly accost me by name. I remember to have encountered him on one occasion on the highway leading from town to Montgomery Hall; he could not let me pa. He stopped me on the spot and detained me for a considerable time in conversation. He was exceedingly fond of a good joke and his style of conversation was often sportive. On the occasion referred to, there was something in his manner or expression suggestive of mirth and I was suspicious that he was amusing himself a little at my expense; yet I parted from him with a feeling of elation at enjoying the familiar acquaintance of such a man. He had no toleration for dishonesty, impudence or sham. To people whom he considered honest and well behaved, however, ignorant or lowly, he always felt and acted kindly, but from others, whom he thought unworthy, he could not conceal his disapprobation. He was not in the habit of giving utterance to censorious or unfriendly remarks about persons, and I am sure I never heard him speak unkindly of any one. He was eminently a just man in all his dealings with his fellow men. Requiring from others what was his due, he most scrupulously gave to every man whatever belonged to him, as far as he could. I early learned to regard him as the personification of justice. Peyton was living I heard my father eulogize this trait in his character. I have no recollection of having been in Mr. His manner then to me and other guests was all that could have been desired. He was not reserved and distant on the one hand, nor on the other did he embarra. Recognizing the presence of each visitor and extending a cheerful greeting, he made all feel welcome. His hospitality was proverbial. Possessed of ample wealth, he admitted a large number of persons to partic. Upon principle, he discountenanced wastefulness, but

he used his money with an enlightened liberality, freely expending it for all useful and proper purposes, and contributing bountifully to all public enterprises. I have understood that Mr. Peyton had for many years kept by him a last will and testament written by his own hand. But about a year before his death, when he was physically unable to write, except to sign his name, owing to some changes in his family or estate, he desired to execute a new instrument. It was necessary for him to obtain the a. On returning from Mr. Peyton that I would make a pair copy of it by a particular day, when the latter proposed to come to town and append his signature before witnesses. The copy was duly made and on the appointed day Mr. He selected as additional witnesses, Messrs. Cochran and Benjamin Crawford, and I was dispatched to request the attendance of those gentlemen. While I was unwilling to appear obtrusive by remaining in the room uninvited, the scene interested me so deeply, that I could not go away entirely. Withdrawing into an adjoining apartment, I heard all the preliminary conversation, which I felt sure Mr. Peyton would not object to. He explained the provisions of the will, as far as he thought necessary, and appeared anxious to satisfy his friends present of the justice and propriety of his course. Amongst other matters, he referred to the n.

**5: To Thomas Jefferson from John Howe Peyton, 24 February**

*Born in Stoney Creek, Stafford, Virginia on 29 Apr to John Rowzee Peyton and Ann Hooe. John Howe Peyton married Ann Montgomery LEWIS and had 11 children. He passed away on 27 Apr in Staunton, Augusta, Virginia, United States.*

Please use the follow button to get notification about the latest chapter next time when you visit LightNovelFree. Use F11 button to read novel in full-screen PC only. Drop by anytime you want to read free "fast" latest novel. Part 5 On leaving home to go the round of the circuit, Mr. He was sober, industrious and honest--every way worthy of the trust reposed in him. Thirty odd years later, when Mr. Peyton was prostrated by paralysis in , his attached servant and friend was ploughing in a field near the Montgomery Hall Mansion. From that hour to Mr. Among those whose admiration for the character of this faithful servant led them often to speak of him with pleasure, was the late Col. Baldwin, who never, while he lived, allowed Ben, and the history of his good and faithful services, which for several years came under his observation, to go unmentioned--or unrewarded. Owing to the bad conditions of the roads we were much fatigued and bore many marks of travel-stain. The so-called town of Huntersville consists of two ill-constructed time-worn, though it is not time which has worn them, weather-beaten cabins built of logs and covered with clapboards. One of these wretched hovels is the residence of John Bradshaw, the other is called the Loom-house for these people are self-sustaining. They spin and weave. The big wheel and the little wheel are birring in every hut and throwing off the woolen and linen yarn to be worked up for family purposes. The home-spun cloth, too, is stronger and more durable than that brought by our merchants from Northern manufacturers. The chimney is enormous and so short that the room is filled with light which enters this way. It is an ingenious contrivance for letting all the warmth escape through the chimney, whilst most of the smoke is driven back into the chamber. In the chimney-corner I prepared my legal papers before a roaring fire, surrounded by rough mountaineers, who were drinking whiskey and as night advanced, growing riotous. In the back part of the room two beds were curtained off with horse-blankets--one for the Judge, the other for myself. In the loft, to which they ascended, by means of a ladder, his daughter and the hired woman slept, and at times of a crowd, a wayfarer. The other guests were sent to sleep in the Loom-house, in which was suspended in the loom, a half-woven piece of cloth. Three beds were disposed about the room, which completed its appointments--one was allotted to Sampson Matthews, a second to John Baxter, the third to George Mays, and John Brown. The loom was used as a hat-rack at night and for sitting on, in the absence of chairs, in the day. There is profusion, if not prodigality in the rich, lavish bounty of the goodly tavern. We had no venison, as this is a shy season with the deer, but excellent mutton with plenty of apple sauce, peach pie, and roasting ears. As a mark of deference and respect to the Court, I presume, we had a table-cloth--they are not often seen on Western tables and when they are, are not innocent of color--and clean sheets upon our beds. This matter of the sheets is no small affair in out of the way places, as it not unfrequently happens that wanderers communicate disease through the bedclothing. A false modesty seems to prevent those salutary ablutions which are so necessary to health, and I did not commend myself to the good graces of the hired woman by insisting on my foot-bath every morning. We remained five days at Huntersville closely engaged in the business of the Court, which I found profitable. Pocahontas is a fine grazing county, and the support of the people is mainly derived from their flocks of cattle, horses and sheep, which they drive over the mountains to market. There is little money among them except after these excursions, but they have little need of it--even what is supplied by the happy country they possess, and of which they are as fond as the Swiss of their mountains. It is a pretty country, a country of diversified and beautiful scenery in which there is a wealth of verdure and variety which keeps the attention alive and the outward eye delighted. His house is every way a respectable dwelling, with plenty of room and much good furniture. I was much disappointed not to find a letter awaiting me from my dear wife. Ben Crawford has, however, relieved my anxiety, by telling me that he saw you on Sat. I have seen none of our relations or connections since I left home--have learned these facts from others. Accept the best wishes of your husband for yourself and our dear little girl, and believe me, Yours affectionately, JOHN H. In , John H. Peyton obtained an appointment as cadet at West Point for his brother-in-law, John B. Lewis, of the Sweet

Springs. As young Lewis was inexperienced, had never traveled beyond the limits of Virginia, Mr. Peyton determined to accompany him to the United States Military Academy, though the journey at that day was long and tedious and his professional engagements made his absence at any time a matter of great inconvenience to himself and clients. The following letter to Mrs. Peyton will be read at this day with interest and something like astonishment, so great has been our progress and development within the past sixty-five years--such changes would hardly have occurred in European countries in centuries. At that day the old-fas. The entire journey, therefore, from Staunton in Virginia, to West Point, was made in what were called "hacks,"--most of them rickety and unsafe, and in steamboats no better, and not so safe as the Tug and Ferry boats of the present and as unlike as possible the floating palaces of our day. It must be remembered that railroads were not opened in the United States until , and travel was somewhat in the unsatisfactory state described by Mr. Pickwick, "is in a troubled state, and the minds of coachmen are unsettled. Stage-coaches are upsetting in all directions, horses are bolting, boats are overturning and boilers are bursting. There was not much improvement in things in Virginia since A. The taverns were miserable, and the rural districts almost dest. Excitement there might have been in journeying then, but none of the pleasant exhilaration which attends a jaunt in a Pullman now-a-days. New York, June 18th, The view of the city, Fort McHenry, the light-house on North Point, and of the Chesapeake Bay, with its numerous vessels spreading their canvas to the winds just as the sun was sinking below the horizon, was animating and enlivening, majestic and sublime. From the prow of the vessel, I contemplated this interesting scene as long as the light enabled me to enjoy its beauties. Soon after dusk a pealing bell summoned us to the supper table, where we were surprised to find a sumptuous repast spread out. We had not antic. After partaking of the good cheer, we drew lots for our berths. I was unlucky--my berth was so warm, not to say hot and stuffy, that before I could get any sleep our arrival at French town was announced. How long we might have courted sleep on these hard and narrow couches, I know not. We were not left to make the experiment any length of time, but were shortly roused up by the bustle among the seamen and pa. The breakfast table, when we entered the so-called saloon, was smoking with coffee and steak, and about the time we had paid our respects to both, the boat was at Chestnut street wharf. Under his guidance, after another cup of coffee and a hot roll, we proceeded to attend to the numerous commissions with which we were charged. This occupied us something over four hours, when we bade our friends adieu and went aboard the New York steamer. The stages were running with such rapidity, however, that it was impossible to call, as I wished, upon my old friends, Dr. Comfort, or deliver the letter for Miss Waddell, but I chanced to meet a young gentleman of my acquaintance from Was. I shall make it a point to stay over a day at Princeton on my return. In due time we arrived here. Benjamin is perfectly well, does not regard either the fatigues or loss of sleep, but I am worse for the wear and tear. And I would not advise those to take the trip whose only business is pleasure. On yesterday I dined with Mr. Gallagher, where I met Mr. Reid, who, you may remember, preached some time since at the Presbytery in Staunton. He is to preach in New York to-day, and I hope to hear him. He is highly esteemed here as a preacher and man. In the evening I took tea with Mrs. For the most part I was unable to gratify their curiosity, having recently neither seen nor heard of the kith and kin in Richmond or the Northern Neck. Huston, of Tennessee, to whom I was introduced on yesterday by Gen. Shortly after his eldest son, William, entered upon the practice of law in , when attending court at the Warm Springs, Bath Co. Peyton was employed to defend a man charged with horse stealing, and as there was only circ. Peyton, who was much exhilarated, for it must be remembered that the case came on after dinner, set up the defence that according to the principles of science, and of a new science likely to prove both useful and ornamental, it was impossible his client could be guilty. He then referred to and explained the theories of Gall and Spurzheim, and declared that according to the phrenological b. He argued with much gravity and ingenuity in this direction, amidst the suppressed giggling of the bar, to the great chagrin of his father, who was the public prosecutor, and to the thorough mystification of the county court. This body was composed of country gentlemen unacquainted with law, and it was one of their boasts that they made up their decisions, not so much in accordance with the principles of common law, as of common sense. His father, in reply, commented severely upon the airiness of his son, as inconsistent with the administration of justice and the dignity of the profession. Peyton, both burst into a hearty laugh. What would a cow do without her tail,

especially on our fly-pestered prairies, or the Pampas of South America? What would a monkey do without this caudal appendage and its prehensile quality? With him it takes the place of hands. And shall we have philosophers telling us we received our hands when we lost our tails, and that the monkey lost the use of his hands because of his peculiar facility of using a tail? A beautiful science," said he, "is the phrenology, according to the theory of the learned counsel for the prisoner. To all standing in the unenviable position of his client, it will prove, if the learned gentleman be correct, not only a thing of beauty, but a source of comfort and a joy forever. To the murderer, the burglar, the highwayman, to all in fact, who wish to be rid of the responsibility which attaches to their actions, it will become a positive blessing. Not to these only, but to the entire community--it opens a brilliant prospect of life, of life as it should be in this enlightened age, at this advanced period in the progress of the world. Upon the ruins of our present immature civilization it will uprear a charming state of society. Throughout the world, at least so much of it as is illuminated by the light of phrenology, perfect liberty will obtain, and the present generation will wonder at the darkness in which their ancestors groped. Justice will reign supreme, and our statute books will be no longer disgraced by those dreadful laws founded in ignorance, superst. It will be clear as the noon-day sun, that law and liberty cannot co-exist, that they are natural enemies.

**6: John Lewis Peyton: A Confederate Abroad – Virginia Center for Civil War Studies**

*Research genealogy for John Howe Peyton, as well as other members of the Peyton family, on Ancestry.*

Peyton was descended on both sides to several of the First Families of Virginia. His father, John H. Peyton ; the middle name various given as Howe, Howzee or Howson of Montgomery Hall had married his wife in 18xx, but she would die while William was a fifteen, and his sister Mary Preston Peyton Gray was three. Their father would remarry in , to Anne Montgomery Lewis daughter of Major John Lewis of Sweet Springs plantation , and their half-brother, lawyer John Lewis Peyton would represent the state of North Carolina in Europe during the American Civil War and eventually write a biography of his elder half-brother. Congressmen and state legislators. Peyton, son of John R. The elder Peyton then practiced law for the rest of his life in the Shenandoah Valley and Blue Ridge Mountain area of the Commonwealth, including representing former Virginia governor and U. President Thomas Jefferson in several lawsuits including concerning the Rivanna canal. In he began studies at Yale University , and graduated the following year. Boyden, who would marry and settle in Staunton as the rector of historic Trinity Episcopal Church. He soon decided to make a grand tour of courts in the U. Admitted to the Virginia bar in , he began a legal practice in Augusta, Bath, Pocahontas and surrounding counties. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia in , but Peyton declined for health reasons and instead supported his less-wealthy friend Harrison for the office. Samuel Goode of Mecklenburg County. Peyton and his family would reside there until except for a period developing coal properties as discussed below. Peyton also served as a local magistrate and sought to improve agricultural practices and well as improve local roads and bring other internal improvements to the area. Henry Clay , whom he admired. Federal officials refused to let Peyton return to the South without giving a written promise that he would not aid the Confederate States of America , which he refused to give, instead writing and publishing another letter to Mr. Rives on May 15, , which foresaw the damage to Virginia during the war but rallied to her side. After his death, his family had to sell his remaining properties. Eskridge, having just witnessed the death of his son-in-law Walter Preston in Abingdon. Preston was the second of his sons-in-law to die, and Peyton had also lost a son, another son-in-law and three daughters during the war years, [33] although William M. Peyton suffered a stroke two days later and died on February 16, , survived by his wife. Although initially interred at the Eskridge family cemetery, his remains were expected to be returned to a graveyard with more of his family.

**7: Results for John-Howe-Peyton | Book Depository**

*John Howe Peyton The second who came to the county was John Howe Peyton, of Montgomery Hall, who settled in Staunton in , on receiving the appointment of Attorney for the Commonwealth. He was the son of John R. Peyton, of Stony Hill, Stafford, who was known and acknowledged in his day as a man of gifted intellect and penetrating good sense.*

Different dates in the 3 references listed below Sketch of the Hon. John Howe Peyton, of Staunton, Va. Madison, a niece of James Madison, D. William Madison Peyton m. William Preston, of Smithfield. His elder son by his second marriage is Col. In he was elected a member of the House of Delegates from his native county, and served until He entered the legislature as the friend of James Madison, and advocated the foreign and domestic policy which after- wards guided Mr. Peyton removed from Fredericksburg to Staunton, owing to protracted ill health he had suffered for years with chronic dysentery , and to accept the responsible office of Public Prosecutor in the Augusta, Albemarle and Rockbridge district. For over thirty years Mr. Peyton discharged the duties of this office, pg 8 There never was a broader contrast presented in the same person than that between Howe Peyton the lawyer, the Public Prosecutor, or even the senatorial candidate amongst the people, and the same individual in his own home. Here, in the midst of his family, or surrounded by friends, all the rigor of his manner relaxed, and he was the model of an affectionate husband and father, and the most genial of companions. He was "given to hospitality," and there was perhaps no mansion in all this favored region where it was more generously and elegantly dispensed, through many years, than at " Montgomery Hall. Robert Porterfield, and on his return was chosen mayor of the city of Staunton, and served till Peyton married his second wife, Ann Montgomery, daughter of Col. To her warm affection, which was displayed in the care of his only son and child by his first marriage, William Madison Peyton, pg 12 In he was elected state senator for the Augusta and Rockbridge district, and served after a second election till , when he resigned the position on account of his declining health. Peyton was elected without opposition. During this term he was prostrated by an attack of paralysis, and resigned his position as soon as he had sufficiently recovered from it to understand its serious nature. In he was one of the Board of Visitors to the U. Military Academy at West Point, and wrote the able and instructive report of the board for that year. He had previously served several boards, find was for over ten years President of the Court of Directors of the Western Virginia Asylum. John Howe Peyton, Esq. They add a willing testimony to the distinguished ability, fidelity and zeal with which he has guarded the interest of the Commonwealth within the limits of the County, to his impartiality, prudence and firmness as a Public Prosecutor, and the commendable courtesy which has marked his intercourse with the Court, as becoming a public officer and a representative of the Commonwealth. And it is the order of the Court that this testimonial, as an additional tribute of respect, be spread upon the records. Immediately after his resignation he was sworn on the commission of the peace, but never took part in the proceedings of the court. He retired to his estate of Montgomery Hall, Augusta county, Va. It may be truly said of him that there was no one in his public or private relations who was more loved, more honored, or more mourned by those who knew him best. He left by his first marriage an only child, the late Col. William Madison Peyton, of Roanoke, a man eminent for his talents and acquirements, who served the state with great advantage to the public as delegate in the legislature, as state proxy in the James River and Kenawha Company, and in other stations. Susan Madison was born on 12 Oct She died on 15 Jul Children of The Hon. Son 14 Peyton died, in infancy. Son 2 Peyton died, in infancy. The best information is that it was Maj. John Lewis, but some accounts indicate it may have been his brother William L. She was born on 2 Mar Ann Montgomery Peyton H was born ; she died, young. Lucy Garnett Peyton H , born ; married the Hon. Margaret Lynn Peyton, born ; married Capt. Virginia Frances Peyton, born ; married Col. Cornelia Bernard Peyton, born ; married Dr. Reprinted from the New England historical and genealogical register for Jan.

### 8: A Guide to the John Howe Peyton Letter, #Ms

*PEYTON, John Howe, lawyer, born in Stafford county, Virginia, 3 April, ; died in Staunton, Virginia, 3 April, His ancestor, John, emigrated to this country in , and settled in Westmoreland county, Virginia John Howe was graduated at Princeton in , and admitted to the bar in , establishing a reputation as a criminal lawyer.*

Born on September 15, Graduated from the University of Virginia with a law degree in Lieutenant colonel in the Virginia militia. Agent to Great Britain during the Civil War. Member of the Whig political party. Failed to gain British recognition of the Confederacy during his time as an agent. Secured Enfield rifles for the state of North Carolina. Illness prevented Peyton from finishing school at VMI, but he later transferred to the University of Virginia and studied law. This piece was one of many that he produced throughout his lifetime. In the following 10 years, Peyton travelled across Europe due to his involvement in the Millard Fillmore administration. While in Chicago, he met Henrietta Washington and married her in They returned to live on a plantation in the western portion of Augusta County near Staunton. A physical ailment prevented him from joining the Confederate army. Instead, he accepted an appointment from the governor of North Carolina to be an agent to Britain. Two significant works that Peyton produced as a result of his time abroad are *The American crisis, or, Pages from the note-book of a state agent during the Civil War* and *Rambling reminiscences of a residence abroad*. John Lewis Peyton succeeded in obtaining firearms, but he and other state agents failed in gaining recognition from the Confederacy. Letters and firearms Letters are the primary source that can be used to determine why John Lewis Peyton went to England and what he accomplished there. Upon arrival in England, Peyton experienced difficulties in his mission. At the period of [his] arrival, there were no arms to be had here. His first few months in the country were spent meeting with Confederate commissioners, British officials, and travelling around the country. It was not until late in that Peyton sealed a deal for the purchase of rifles. However, there were also a number of agents, such as Peyton, who worked backstage in private meetings and rallied support among the British public in order to try to sway the government and the people. Therefore, the Confederacy operated on different levels of diplomacy. The state agents appear to have been more successful in consolidating the support of members of the upper class than in appealing to the general public. This ended up hurting the Confederacy. The agents abroad, both official Confederate commissioners and individual state agents, did not have a great deal of practice in the field of diplomacy. The Confederacy appears to have underestimated the challenge at the beginning of the war when they were confident of victory. Peyton spent the majority of his time abroad in London and among officials, aristocrats, and the wealthy. In his *Rambling Reminiscences of a Residence Abroad: England-Guernsey* , Peyton devotes a chapter to the discussion of the poorer areas of London. He speaks of the working class sections in derogatory terms. Matthew Poteat, Henry Toole Clark: McFarland, , Louisiana State UP, , Saunders, Otley and Co. Further reading Blackett, Richard J. *Britain and the American Civil War*. Louisiana State University Press, *The Cause of All Nations: Blue and Gray Diplomacy: University of North Carolina Press*, *Rambling Reminiscences of a Residence Abroad: About the project* This page was created as part of an undergraduate research seminar taught in the Virginia Tech History Department by Professor Paul Quigley in Fall Follow the link to return to the course homepage:

**9: John Howe Peyton**

*John Howe Peyton was born in Stony Hill, Stafford County, Virginia on April 3, He attended the College of New Jersey at Princeton, graduated in He passed the bar and became a lawyer in , focusing on criminal law.*

Henry Peyton of Aquia, one of the sons who remained in Virginia, settled in Westmoreland County and acquired land there. Henry Peyton of Aquia died in He married Ann and they had Valentine and John Peyton. Henry Peyton of Aquia Creek acquired a considerable amount of land in Stafford County, which was created in Henry Peyton died in Stafford County in During his lifetime, he was a magistrate for his county and a representative of Stafford County in the House of Burgesses. He was on the first vestry of the present Aquia Episcopal Church in Stafford County, newly rebuilt in , and his name appears there on a plaque commemorating this first vestry. Aquia Church was built on land that was likely a former part of Stony Hill plantation. John Peyton owned a great deal of land, both inherited and purchased by him. John Peyton married first, Ann Waye Young, a widow. She was born in Essex County, Virginia, was the widow of Charles Waller, and had children from that marriage. John Peyton died on May 18, at Stony Hill. Stafford County was occupied by Union troops during the Civil War. During the winter of , Union troops were encamped at Stony Hill and Stony Hill was destroyed during this occupation. Anne Hooe was a descendant of many prominent families who settled in Virginia in the seventeenth century. John Rowzee Peyton and Anne Hooe had six children: After completing his education at the College of New Jersey at Princeton, Peyton soon began the practice of law. John Howe Peyton moved to Staunton, Virginia in the summer of Peyton was a major and on the staff of General Robert Porterfied during the War of Susan Smith Madison Peyton died in Her maternal grandfather, Col. Her paternal great-grandfather, John Lewis, was the first settler of the area and known as the Founder of Augusta County and Staunton. An additional connection for her was living in the stone house in Staunton, then owned by her husband, that was formerly the property of her Lewis relatives. In following the completion of a new residence, John Howe Peyton moved to the property in Augusta County that he named Montgomery Hall as a tribute to his young wife. She died there on January 1, He attended Virginia Military Institute in and and was graduated from the University of Virginia in In , John Lewis Peyton was appointed by Henry Toole Clark, then Governor of North Carolina, to go to England as an agent of the State of North Carolina in an effort to gain support for the Confederate cause and break up the northern blockade of southern ports during the Civil War. In , after spending the Civil War years in England and living on Guernsey in the Channel Islands for many years, John Lewis Peyton returned to Staunton with his wife and young son and built Steephill, a Gothic mansion, on ninety acres of farmland. John Lewis Peyton inherited a farm from his father in Alleghany County, Virginia and owned it until He also owned a farm in Ohio, and over time, several other properties in Augusta County and Staunton. John Lewis Peyton was very content in Staunton, corresponding with his many friends and acquaintances, and was well-known as an historian and was the author of a number of books, including History of Augusta County, Virginia. He died in and his wife, Eliza Clark Washington Peyton, died in He was a lawyer in Staunton from until his death, served during the Spanish-American War, and was the presidential elector representing the Tenth Congressional District in Thomas Lewis surveyed Augusta County and laid out the town of Staunton. Peyton commissioned the Collins firm to design a house for them which they later built at East Beverley Street in Staunton. Prior to living at Steephill, Lawrence Washington Howe Peyton maintained an orchard business on the property. Peyton later commissioned Sam Collins to design plans for remodeling Steephill in the Georgian style. He had the cottage dismantled and rebuilt at Steephill. At one time, the sundial formerly belonging to John Peyton at Stony Hill was in the garden at Steephill. They had four children: The Peyton children sold Steephill in Steephill was first purchased by the city of Staunton for further increasing the acreage at Gypsy Hill Park. Most of this acreage was retained for the park, but the house and some acreage were later resold as a private residence. Steephill in the s.

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