

Old Hickory's Birthplace

AN OLD AND LONG - FOUGHT CONTROVERSY REVIVED IN CONGRESS

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

MR. STEVENSON, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, it is an old controversy, but recently I have discovered that in the last edition of the Congressional Record, the permanent one, the myth that Andrew Jackson was born on the McKemey plantation in North Carolina has been engrafted on our Congressional Record, and I desire to controvert that proposition and once for all place before the Congress and the country the evidence as to the birthplace of Andrew Jackson.

The speaker was Representative William E. Stevenson of South Carolina. He was speaking in the national house of representatives at Washington. In short, the old, old controversy over the birthplace of Andrew Jackson has been set going again. Of course every good American knows—or should know—all about Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)—except, perhaps the place of his birth. Andrew Jackson, after service in the Revolution and a wild youth on the frontier, became a lawyer. He served in the national house and senate. He defeated the Creeks and Seminoles. His defeat of the British at New Orleans in the War of 1812 is one of the great battles of history. He was the first American governor of Florida (1821). He was the seventh president of the United States. His firm stand against nullification in South Carolina is history. He died at "The Hermitage," Nashville, Tenn. "Old Hickory" is one of the popular figures of our history.

The Andrew Jackson controversy seems to have been a sort of double-barreled dispute. First there was a controversy over the house in which he was born—the McKemey house or the Crawford house. That was apparently settled in favor of the Crawford house. Then the question was: Was the Crawford house in North Carolina or South Carolina?

As to the first controversy: Andrew Jackson, Sr., had land on Twelve Mile creek. This land was—or is now—in North Carolina, very close to the present North Carolina—South Carolina state line. When Andrew Jackson, Sr., died he was buried in a graveyard near by. From the funeral Mrs. Jackson went either to the home of her sister, Mrs. James Crawford, or to that of another sister, Mrs. George McKemey. The two homes are only a few miles apart, but the Crawford place is now in South Carolina and the McKemey place is now in North Carolina.

One story had it that Mrs. Jackson, starting for the Crawford place, stopped on the way at the McKemey place, where Andrew was born, and then went on to the Crawford place, where she took up residence. The other story had it that Mrs. Jackson went directly to the Crawford place and that Andrew was born there.

The historians made a great ado about the question of Andrew Jackson's birth—whether it was at the Crawford place or at the McKemey place. It was finally settled—at least to the satisfaction of most people—in favor of the Crawford place.

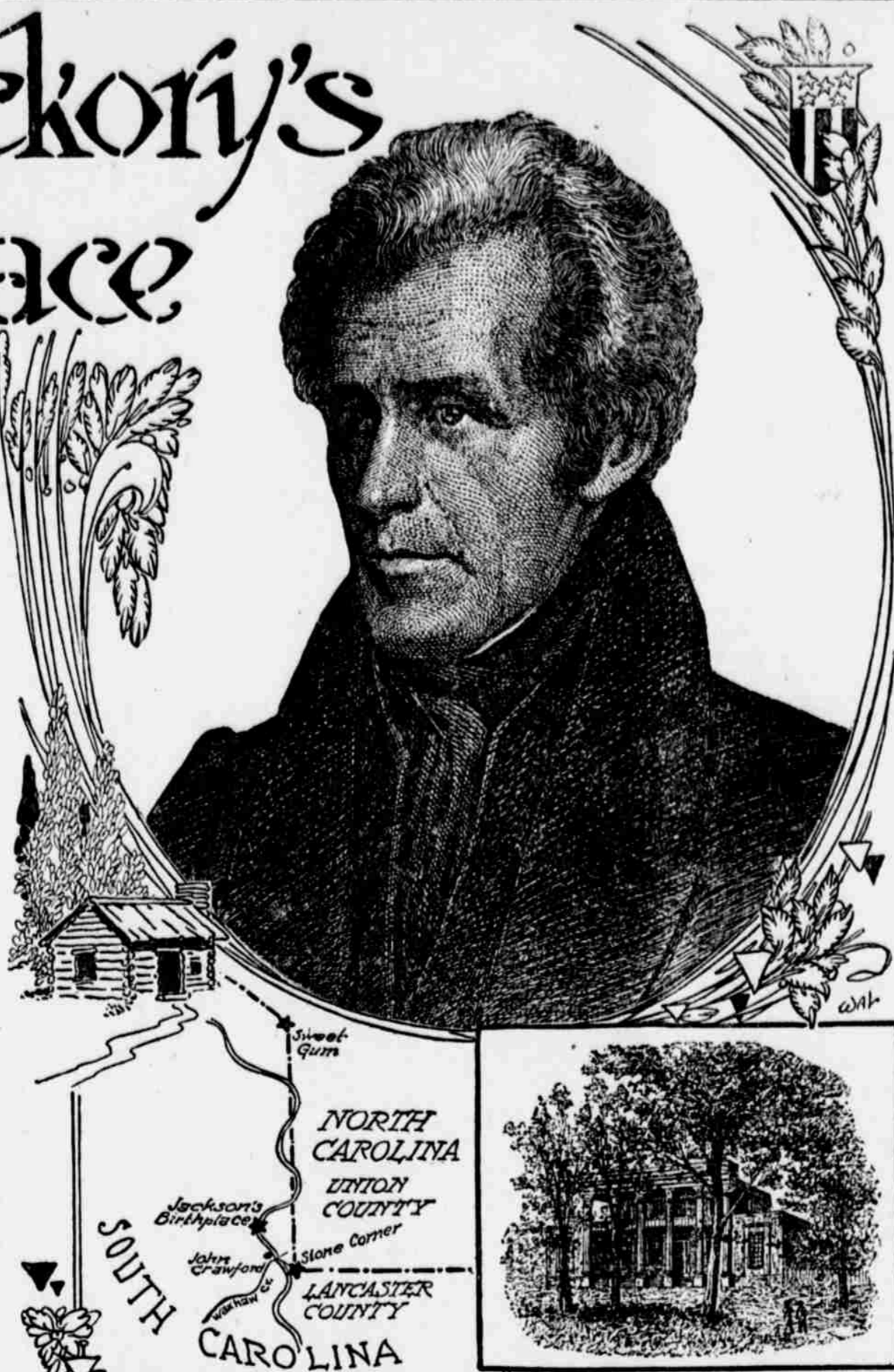
Later a new controversy broke out. This time it was over the question of the location of the Crawford place—was it in North Carolina or in South Carolina?

Though this controversy died out there is a curious conflict of opinion even to this day. From the debate in the house it appears that most of the encyclopedias of the present day say he was born in North Carolina. The histories differ on the point. Recently a monument was erected in North Carolina over a spot stated to be his birthplace.

It appears that in 1767, when Andrew Jackson was born, the line between the two states in the vicinity of the Crawford plantation was in dispute and had not been legally settled. According to Mr. Stevenson the eight-mile line between the rock corner on Waxhaw creek to the Gum tree corner on Twelve Mile creek was in dispute beginning with 1765. He said in his address: "The State of South Carolina claimed that it was a straight line and the State of North Carolina claimed that it followed the road, and all the maps, as I will show you by one of them presently, carried it by the public road, which threw the James Crawford grant of land largely into North Carolina. Meanwhile the Crawfords were granted a tract of land by South Carolina, and the same tract of land was granted by North Carolina to Gen. Andrew Pickens, that being the place on which General Jackson was born. So that from 1765 until an agreement was reached in 1815 the Crawford land, on which Jackson was born, according to one claim was in North Carolina, and according to another was in South Carolina, and the map showed the Carolina road as the dividing line, and that threw the Crawford land largely into North Carolina, though the Crawford house was in South Carolina. Therefore, while the claim was set up that Jackson was born in North Carolina, it was well established and everybody admitted that he was born on the Crawford plantation. There was no dispute about that. The dispute was whether the Crawford place was in North or South Carolina."

Now, of course you've heard that famous story about what the governor of North Carolina said to the governor of South Carolina. But dollars to doughnuts you don't know what made them so dry. Well, here's all about it, on the word of Mr. Stevenson:

Now, in 1813 the two States reached an agreement and sent a commission to settle that line, and extended the northern line, which had only been run about to Tryon, and ran it out to the Georgia line. That commission worked two years. They adopted the straight line from the stone at Waxhaw Creek to Gum at Twelve Mile Creek, which put the Crawford plantation in South Carolina and established the Crawford land as Crawford's and not as Pickens'. That was ratified at



a great conference between the governor of North Carolina and the governor of South Carolina on November 2, 1815, at Greenville, S. C. Some of you may have heard of the remark of the governor of North Carolina to the governor of South Carolina?

Several members. What was it? Mr. Stevenson. Finally, at a long sitting, when the refreshments ran low, the governor of North Carolina is said to have remarked, "The governor of North Carolina wishes to remark to his excellency the governor of South Carolina that it is a long time between drinks." [Laughter.] Now, that was when that was settled, and the agreement on that straight line settled it that Andrew Jackson was born in South Carolina, because nobody disputed that he was born on his Uncle James Crawford's plantation, that that was where his mother lived. That was one of the burning questions settled, and was in direct issue, because of Jackson's great prominence as a general just then.

Mr. Stevenson—oddy enough, he was born in North Carolina—went into all details of the controversy. Probably a concise summary of the evidence in favor of South Carolina is the report of the Historical commission of South Carolina to the general assembly of South Carolina at the regular session of 1908. Mr. Stevenson used it as an exhibit. It made the following points, among others:

During the lifetime of Andrew Jackson it was almost universally accepted that he was born in South Carolina, but of recent years it has come to be widely spread that he was born in North Carolina. The encyclopedias and biographers either state that his birthplace is a matter of doubt or that it was in North Carolina. But the most impartial and acceptable evidence all points to a well-defined spot in South Carolina as his birthplace.

Jackson himself repeatedly declared that he was born in South Carolina, and actually fixed the spot upon a map, and his is the only evidence we have before us that would be admissible in a court of law.

And, finally, in his last will and testament, General Jackson declared that South Carolina was his native State. He said:

"The large silver vase presented to me by the ladies of Charleston, S. C., my native State, with the large picture representing the unfolding of the American banner presented to me by citizens of South Carolina, when it was refused to be accepted by the United States Senate, I leave in trust to my son, A. Jackson, Jr., with directions that should our happy country not be blessed with peace, an event not always to be expected, he will at the close of the war or end of the conflict present each of said articles of inestimable value to that patriot residing in the city or state from which they were presented who shall be adjudged by his countrymen, or the ladies, to have been the most valiant in defense of his country and our country's rights."

Here are seven direct statements from Jackson that he was a native of South Carolina. As to the location of the spot in South Carolina whereon stood the house in which he was born the following evidence is offered:

In 1843 Amos Kendall, one of Jackson's closest personal friends—in fact, so close that during Jackson's occupation of the office of president he was credited by Jackson's political opponents with being the "power behind the throne" and, as a member of the little coterie of Jackson's personal friends and advisers, was contemptuously referred to as the "kitchen cabinet"—published several parts of a life of Jackson, which was, unfortunately, never completed. That work was prepared so much under Jackson's eye that it might almost be called an autobiography. It contained a map showing what Jackson regarded as the exact site of his birth. The evidence given on that map is confirmed by four earlier maps. The first of these

is a plat to a grant of land made to Robert Crawford by the governor of that Province of South Carolina in 1775. The plantation so granted contained 620 acres, and lay along Waxhaw Creek, with the line between the Provinces of North Carolina and South Carolina as the eastern boundary.

The certificate to the plat recites that the tract had previously been granted to Andrew Pickens by the governor of North Carolina under the misapprehension that it lay within the bounds of North Carolina. At the time of Jackson's birth the line between the two Provinces at this point had not been agreed upon or blazed out. In 1764 Governor Bull had directed that a straight line connecting a gum tree on Twelve Mile Creek with a stone about a mile south of Waxhaw Creek should be considered the line until an agreement should be reached. In 1772 this line was officially agreed to, and by that agreement the land whereon Crawford then lived was shown to be South Carolina territory, and was then formally granted to Crawford, who had doubtless been on it for some years. In 1808 the States of North Carolina and South Carolina entered into a conventional agreement for definitely fixing the boundary line between the two States at certain points. One of these points was the eight-mile line referred to above. In 1813 the commissioners and surveyors appointed by the two States ran, blazed out, and made a map of the line. This map shows the landmarks along the line. On the plantation granted to Robert Crawford in 1775 two houses were shown on this map, those of J. Crawford and R. Crawford. In 1820 the State of South Carolina began the compilation of a series of maps of the districts of the State under the supervision of Robert Mills, the great American engineer. The contract for surveying and making a map of Lancaster district was given to J. Boykin, a native of that section of the State and a surveyor of wide reputation. His map fixes "Gen. A. Jackson's birthplace" on the Crawford plantation exactly where the map made under General Jackson's direction in 1843 placed it. Before publishing Mr. Mills sent a proof of the map to General Jackson, who wrote back that the birthplace thereon given was correct; that he was born on the Crawford place. In the same year (1820) Eugene Reilly, "surveyor and engineer," delineated a map of Lancaster district, differing from Boykin's map as regards landmarks, but placing "General Jackson's birthplace" exactly where Boykin placed it.

There is no evidence within the reach of the general investigator to contradict Jackson's statement that of several witnesses who have given testimony from hearsay and tradition that Jackson was born at the house of one George McKemey, a relative. There is not one single direct statement from anyone that he or she knew of his or her own knowledge of the place where Jackson was born, as all of this hearsay testimony was offered long after Jackson and all of his elders and contemporaries were dead.

General Jackson had half a dozen or more biographers who wrote during his lifetime, at least four of whom were his intimate friends—John Reid, John H. Eaton, Gen. James Gadsden, William Cobbett, Goodwin and Amos Kendall—and every one of them credited him to South Carolina, as did hundreds of newspaper and magazine writers of his day; so did the official publications of South Carolina and other States, such as legislative reports and resolutions and journals; and when he died very many editors and eulogists, including the great historian Bancroft, spoke of him as a native of South Carolina, yet fifteen years later, after his contemporaries had passed away and proofs had disappeared, new claimants arrived on the field to claim him as a native of North Carolina. But the evidence is against them, and South Carolina should "acknowledge him as our own" and place a lasting marker on the spot where he first saw the light.

"---and we are a healthy, happy family now"

—Louis Gingras



TINGLING with abundant energy, appetites hearty, nerves strong and steady and their faces radiant with the glow of perfect health, the entire family of Louis Gingras, 9 Harrison Ave., Providence, R. I., are an eloquent tribute to the powers of Tanlac, the greatest family medicine the world has ever known.

"I've put Tanlac to the test four times right in my own family and it hasn't failed me once," declared Mr. Gingras. "My wife, my son and my daughter, as well as myself, have all been built up from a half-sick, run-down, worn-out set of people into a healthy, happy family brimful of new life and energy."

And the experience of this family is only typical of thousands of others whose statements are on file in the Tanlac offices. Hardly a day passes that does not bring scores of such messages of praise from every part of the United States and Canada from families where mother, father, son and daughter have all found health, contentment and the joys of living through simply taking a course of Tanlac.

Take, for instance, the case of John Widner, 1571 Roosevelt Ave., Los Angeles, Calif., who says: "My wife, myself and little boy are now as healthy, happy family as you will ever see—and it's all due to Tanlac."

Or that of Mrs. John Marquis and her family of sixteen living in Manchester, N. H., at 292 Belmont St. She says: "Tanlac has been the only medicine used in our house for two years and it has kept every one of the sixteen here in the best of health."

In Chicago, Frank R. Richards, of 441 South Wood St., writes: "We will never be without Tanlac in our house after the remarkable way it has built up my wife, my son and myself to where we are the very picture of health."

Representative of New York is the case of Chas. E. Van Coll's family, residing at 129 Fourth Ave., Albany. He says: "Every member of our family is enthusiastic over Tanlac. It's certainly a medicine for all the family."

From far-away Canada comes this message: "My little girl, my son and myself are all enjoying splendid health now and Tanlac brought it all about." Mrs. Bert Hewer, 193 East Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

"We call Tanlac 'The Family Medicine' here in our Virginia home, because it restored my mother and sister to perfect health, just the same as it has done me," is the enthusiastic statement of Mrs. J. F. Robertson, Danville, Va.

And on through the list, men, women and children from every state in the Union and every province of Canada unhesitatingly come forward and tell in words ringing with sincerity of the wonderful benefits of health and happiness that Tanlac has brought into their homes that were formerly darkened by the gloom of sickness, suffering and despair.

And should yours be one of those homes where any member of the family is thin, run down and weakened from loss of appetite, caused by indigestion and stomach troubles, you have at your very door the means that will no doubt bring the sunshine of vigorous health back into their lives and yours, just as it has done in so many thousands of other cases. Do not delay. Get a bottle of Tanlac from your druggist today.

One of the Old-Timers.
My brother, who was popular with the fair sex, had quite a collection of photographs.
"Oh," I said to a girl I was showing them to, "you would not be interested in those. They are only some old-timers."
I was speechless when the second one I turned up was her own.—Exchange.

Important to Mothers
Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Ayer* in Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Dr.
"How did the wedding go off? Any hitch?"
"No, nor hooch."

Cuticura Comforts Baby's Skin
When red, rough and itching, by hot baths of Cuticura Soap and touches of Cuticura Ointment. Also make use now and then of that exquisitely scented dusting powder, Cuticura Talcum, one of the indispensable Cuticura Toilet Trio.—Advertisement.

A little learning often saves a man from jury duty.

YOU CAN WALK IN COMFORT
If you shake into your shoes some ALLEN'S FOOT-POWDER, the Antiseptic, Healing powder for shoes that pinch or feet that ache. It takes the friction from the shoe and gives relief to corns and bunions, hot, tired, sweating, swollen feet. Ladies can wear shoes one size smaller by shaking Allen's Foot-Powder in each shoe.—Advertisement.

A smoker's idea of a cozy room is one with six ash trays in it.

A Blowout.
Suiitor—What would you do if I kissed you?
Electrician's daughter—I would use one hand for insulation and with the other I would create a short-circuit by a quick connection against your cheek.—Science and Invention.

If You Need a Medicine You Should Have the Best

Have you ever stopped to reason why it is that so many products that are extensively advertised, all at once drop out of sight and are soon forgotten? The reason is plain—the article did not fulfill the promises of the manufacturer. This applies more particularly to a medicine. A medicinal preparation that has real curative value almost sells itself, as like an endless chain system the remedy is recommended by those who have been benefited, to those who are in need of it.

A prominent druggist says "Take for example Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a preparation I have sold for many years and never hesitate to recommend, for in almost every case it shows excellent results, as many of my customers testify. No other kidney remedy has so large a sale."

According to sworn statements and verified testimony of thousands who have used the preparation, the success of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root is due to the fact, so many people claim, that it fulfills almost every wish in overcoming kidney, liver and bladder ailments; corrects urinary troubles and neutralizes the uric acid which causes rheumatism.

You may receive a sample bottle of Swamp-Root by parcels post. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., and enclose ten cents; also mention this paper. Large and medium size bottles for sale at all drug stores.—Advertisement

Fortunately for the average man, brains are not on exhibition.



WARNING! Say "Bayer" when you buy Aspirin.

Unless you see the name "Bayer" on tablets, you are not getting genuine Aspirin prescribed by physicians over 22 years and proved safe by millions for

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Headache | Colds | Rheumatism |
| Toothache | Neuralgia | Neuritis |
| Earache | Lumbago | Pain, Pain |

Accept only "Bayer" package which contains proper directions. Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets—Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid.