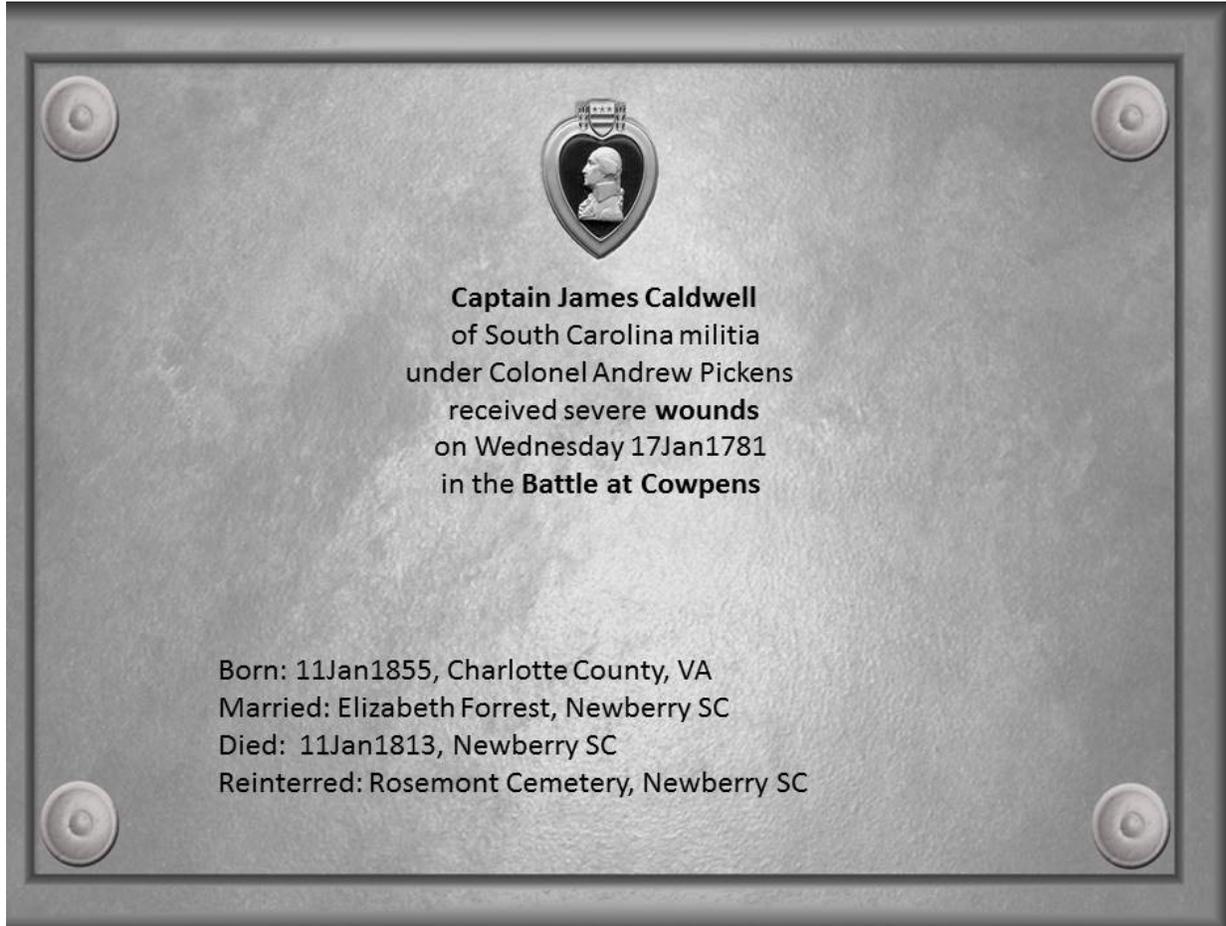


James Caldwell



James Carlisle testified (FPA W8583) that his captain, James Caldwell was mortally wounded at the Battle of Cowpens 17Jan1781. Caldwell's later activities prove that Carlisle's impression was incorrect. James Pettigrew (FPA W5522) said "James Caldwell commanded this applicant's company and was cut almost to death by Tarlton's horsemen so much so that he had to be borne from the field." Family history tells that James' brother, William Caldwell, carried James from the field and nursed him to recovery.

James Caldwell was born in 08Jul1755 to William Findley Caldwell and Rebecca Park Calwell of Cub Creek VA. He moved to SC with his widowed mother in 1770. James married Elizabeth Forrest in Newberry District, SC about 1778. He died 11Jan1813 in Newberry and was buried at the Caldwell Cemetery on Mudlick Road in Newberry (later re-interred at Rosemont Cemetery, Section B5, Newberry).

After one term in the SCar legislature, James resigned and served as Sheriff of Newberry District from 1807 to 1812. He was an elder of Little River/Dominick Presbyterian Church.

http://genealogytrails.com/scar/newberry/sheriffs_hx.htm

There are many variations as to the exact circumstances of the overtaking of the execution of **Michael Love, the Tory**, but whatever account is the most accurate they

all place James Caldwell of Mudlick at the center of the lynching.

Michael Love had earned a reputation as a follower of 'Bloody Bill' Cunningham. Mr. Love was said to be the most ruthless follower, hacking bodies after they were dead, piercing the fallen to ensure no survivors of a skirmish. Too many people in and around the "96" area of Newberry District were directly affected by the horrors of the acts of war and wanted revenge. On 11/26/1784 Judge Ædanus Burke started Court proceedings for the trial of Mr. Love and the hearings ending 12/7/1784. The Judge had ruled in Court that the deeds done by Michael Love had been acts of war and were thereby forgiven with the Treaty of Paris.

The Judge ordered Michael Love to pay the costs of Court and be released. Mr. Love swore he was unable to pay the costs and therefore was sentenced for non payment.

Captain Caldwell, with pistol in hand, marched into the Courthouse, taking the prisoner from the Bar, pulling him through the door and throwing him on a horse held by James Atwood Williams. The prisoner was led to a stooping oak tree near a spring and hanged. The judge was so shocked by the action he fled, not pausing until he had reached a friend's house in Springfield. Another version is that the townspeople waited until nightfall when the judge had retired and the prisoner was in jail to seize Michael Love and lynch him, with James Caldwell as the leader of the mob. When Governor Guerand heard of the actions taken he ordered apprehension of all involved. Judge Burke, later being more informed and having time to reflect, wrote an article excusing the rash act. This deed of the Judge ended the enquiry.

Children of James Caldwell were: Samuel Caldwell, William T. Caldwell, Rebecca Caldwell, Frances Atwood Caldwell, Mary Ann Caldwell, George Forrest Caldwell, John H. Caldwell, James Caldwell Jr., Elizabeth Caldwell, Robert Caldwell.



Rosemont Cemetery, Newberry, SC