

Biography of Edward Barnwell Heyward (1826 -1871)

Excerpt from *Ancestors and Descendants of Nathaniel Heyward (1766 – 1851)* by Thomas DeSaussure Furman (2003).

Growing up Edward Barnwell Heyward lived at Rose Hill plantation during winter and in Charleston in summer. He attended school in Charleston and studied at the South Carolina College, now the University of South Carolina, graduating in the class of 1845. Afterwards, he made an extended trip to Europe, where he acquired a taste for art and literature. On his return home he married Lucy IZARD and they lived for a time in Charleston. Because of his wife's declining health he bought the Goodwill plantation located on the Wateree River about 20 miles east of Columbia and lived with his family there before the War.

He enlisted in the Confederate Army and served as lieutenant of engineers along the coastal regions of South Carolina. At the beginning of the war his father Charles and many of the Negroes from the Combahee plantations refugeed at Goodwill. In the fall of 1865, after the crops had been harvested and sold, these Combahee Negroes returned to the low country plantations. In March of 1866 his father died and left the low country plantations to Edward and his sister Elizabeth, now the wife of General James H. Trapier. She selected Rose Hill and Pleasant Hill as her share of the estate, leaving Amsterdam and Lewisburg to Edward. This amounted to 800 acres of rice land and 1,500 acres of highland. In January 1866 Edward returned to the plantations on the Combahee only to find every dwelling house, threshing mill, barn and stable had been burned. Only the slave quarters remained intact. Nevertheless, he was determined to begin planting again and to return the plantations to their original state. In the fall of 1866, after arranging that Goodwill Plantation would be kept under cultivation, he moved his family back to Charleston and began the task of restoring the plantations. Fortunately he was able to secure a \$15,000 loan that allowed him to begin planting. The problem was labor; but with time, consideration and understanding, he was able to secure the trust and confidence of the recently freed slaves and eventually had more labor than he needed. However, four years of great hardship—lengthy isolation from his family, life in the unwholesome swamps of the low country and the stress of financial, racial and agricultural problems--gradually took their toll on his health. Already weakened by exposure to camp life during the war, he suffered an illness of more than a year and died in Charleston on January 21, 1871.

After his death, the plantations became the property of his three minor sons and the management was turned over to Col. Allen Cadwallader IZARD, his first wife's brother, who planted most successfully for a number of years, paid off the original loan and accumulated some money for the estate.

James Barnwell Heyward II in his book *Heyward* has this to say about him, “...a tall symmetrical man of great personal beauty. His mentality was high, his originality immense and his individually conspicuous. Carefully reared and ever surrounded with every comfort in life, he lived like a noble: indeed, if he were not ‘the noblest Roman of them all’. With a fine education, he enjoyed good literature and loved all the fine arts, himself being no mean artist. enriched by much foreign culture, he was an interesting companion for the most cultured people and a very encyclopedia of anecdotes for the younger set with whom none other was so popular.”

Mary Chesnut in her *Diary from Dixie* describes Edward Barnwell Heyward as the “neatest, most particular man in South Carolina”. On one occasion she recalls a conversation in which

“Barney has no end of scandal, which he derived from his grandfather. It is rough on American aristocracy. He does not allow credit anywhere, nobody is anybody, so to speak except Heywards and a few families into which they have intermarried. Mary Preston said I scored when I adroitly made him tell of the tailor who married into the Heyward family. I had been leading up to the tailor for half an hour. As he let out the skeletons in everybody’s closet, I was carefully stalking the tailor as a fitting retribution to his vanity.”

In another portion of her *Diary from Dixie* she has this to say;

“At Greenville, I witnessed the wooing of Barney Heyward, once the husband of the lovely Lucy Izard, now a widower. He was nursing Joe, his brother. So was the beautiful Henrietta Magruder, now Mrs. Joseph Heyward. Poor Joe died. It was Barney and Tatty Clinch. There is something magnetic in Tatty Clinch's large and lustrous black eyes. No man has ever resisted their influence. She says her virgin heart has never beat one throb for any mortal here below -- until now. Barney Heyward is that mortal.”

Lucy Green Izard was a daughter of Walter Izard and Mary Cadwallader Green, daughter of Allen Jones Green and Lucy Jones, daughter of Major Cadwallader Jones and Mary Pride, daughter of Halcott Pride and Mary Briggs. Allen Jones Green was a son of Dr. James W. Green and Martha Cobb Jones daughter of General Allen Jones and Mary Haynes all of North Carolina. Walter Izard was a son of Henry Izard and Emma Philadelphia Middleton daughter of Arthur Middleton and Mary Izard, and a sister of Anna Louise Middleton who had married Daniel Blake.

Catherine Maria Clinch was a daughter of General Duncan Lamont Clinch, U.S.A. and Eliza Bayard McIntosh, daughter of John Houstoun McIntosh and Elizabeth Bayard. John Houstoun McIntosh was a son of George McIntosh, Minister to France from the Republic of Texas, and Ann Houstoun, daughter of Sir Patrick Houstoun. George McIntosh was a son of John Mohr McIntosh who came the Georgia with Oglethorpe in 1735 and Margery Fraser of Garthmore Scotland. John Mohr McIntosh, son of Lachlan McIntosh and Mary Lockhart daughter of John Lockhart of Inverness, Scotland. Lachlan McIntosh was a son of William McIntosh, III of Borlum and Mary Baillie, daughter of William Baillie VIII and Isabel Forbes.