

held in his office in the drug store, and he was a charter member.

He and his wife were blessed with two children, William "Bill", Jr., and Ann Elizabeth "Betty".

Betty graduated from University of North Carolina at Greensboro and moved to Raleigh. She married James Hilker, and they had two children, Jim and Ann. Ann graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and now is a CPA in Raleigh. Jim took over his father's cleaners. He was married and had two children.

Bill graduated from the school of pharmacy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After graduation, he enlisted in the Air Force and served for four years. He returned to Laurinburg and became the third generation to operate the drug store. On May 1, 1960, he married Martha Ann Cope of McColl, SC. They had three children: Robbin Renee Robertson Bryant; William Neal Robertson, III; and George Everington Robertson. Robbin graduated from pharmacy school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She, her husband (Jerry), and three children live in Greensboro. Neal graduated from University of North Carolina at Pembroke. He is married to the former Tempie Tyson of Wadesboro and Charlotte and is now with the parks and recreation in Union County. George graduated from University of North Carolina at Charlotte and is now employed by Wells Fargo in Wilmington. He is married to the former Jill Shee of Beaver Fall, P A.

William Neal Robertson died on November 2, 1969, and his wife Margaret died on August 19, 1974.

Submitted by: William N. Robertson, Jr., Laurinburg, NC.
Source: Personal knowledge.

874 WILLIE MARGUERITE BULLARD RUSH

Willie Marguerite Bullard was born August 24, 1896, the daughter of Maggie Gibson and William F. Bullard. Willie grew up and was educated in Richmond County, now Scotland County. She was the third of the four Bullard children. Her mother, Maggie Bullard, married R. A. Peele of Marlboro County, SC, after the death of Willie's father. Four children were born to this union.

Willie met Harris L. Rush of Montgomery County in Gibson, and they were married October 24, 1916. They became the devoted parents of six



Willie Marguerite Rush

children: Harris L. Rush, Jr., born July 9, 1917; Vera Marguerite Rush (Monroe) born September 12, 1919; Elizabeth Gibson Rush (Davis) born June 27, 1921; Dorothy Marie Rush (Goodwin) born January 3, 1923; Margie Hilda Rush Davenport (Medlin) born December 25, 1924; and Jeanette McDonald Rush (Smith) born April 24, 1927.

Willie was the proud grandmother to 18 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. She was beloved as the guardian of her family, the Queen, the tender hand of love, and the best of friends to everyone who knew her. We all rejoice that the caption of her picture displayed in the Gibson depot quotes the Saviour's saying, "Well done, thy good and faithful servant, enter into thy rest."

Harris Little Rush died August 6, 1966, and Willie Marguerite Bullard Rush died November 27,

1987. They are both buried at Pine Crest Cemetery in Gibson.

Submitted by: Roxie Goodwin, Foland Gibson, NC

875 HISTORY OF THE HENRY M. RUSHING FAMILY

Henry Matthew Rushing was born on April 12, 1905, in Chesterfield County, SC. He came from a family of three brothers and three sisters. Nancy Bernice Baker was born in Union County on December 5, 1909. She came from a family of one sister and four brothers. The couple was married on May 13, 1933.

Henry was a talented craftsman, builder, and contractor with only a sixth grade education. Bernice was a graduate of a private business college in Charlotte, NC. After their marriage, Bernice became a homemaker and mother. The two set-



Henry and Bernice Rushing on their wedding day May 13, 1933.

led in Union County with Henry working in and around that area. He built the home they lived in there in Monroe, NC. Henry was hard-working and kept busy with contractor work and repairs. Some of his work took him to other areas, and this brought him into Scotland County. In 1945, Henry was offered a job with the well-known company of Morgan Mills in Laurel Hill, NC. Mr. and Mrs. Rushing moved their family of four girls to this nice small community. There he began the task of a new job and building a new home.

His employment with Morgan Mills included building, repairing, and maintenance of this textile industry. Henry was a hard-working employee of Morgan Mills. He was also busy building his two-story, five-bedroom home located on the corner of Lauder and Cameron Street. The home is across from the Laurel Hill United Methodist Church where the family went to church. Henry with others laid the cornerstone of the rebuilt church in the early 50s. He also did building and cabinetry work for many people in the Scotland County area. Henry was highly admired for his work and character. Bernice remained a homemaker but was very active in her church. She loved her yard and always had the most beautiful flowers around. By 1949, the family had grown to five children, all girls. Their names are Suzanne, Nancy, Sandra, Henrietta, and Lucinda.

Henry worked with Morgan Mills through sever-



Family Photo taken on Mother's Day May 1990: Sandra, Henrietta, Bernice, Henry, Lucinda, Nancy, and Suzanne.

al of their changes and buyouts and retired in 1970. After retiring, he and Bernice moved to Long Beach, NC, for about four years. Henry was busier than ever building, repairing, and doing any type of wood-crafting. He decided, that in order to really retire, he would have to move to the country. Mr. and Mrs. Rushing moved back to Union County where they lived until his death in 1991 at the age of 86. Mrs. Rushing lived there until the year 2001. At that time, she moved back to Scotland County where she now resides. Presently, three of the girls- Suzanne Brock, Nancy Walters, and Henrietta Bullard- live in Scotland County. They all have married, have children, and grandchildren. Sandra Driggers married, has a son and grandchildren, and lives in McColl, SC. Lucinda resides in Matthews, NC, and is a Certified Pharmacy Technician. On December 5, 2003, Mrs. Rushing will be 94 years young. She remains in good physical health. She loves reading her Bible and getting calls and visits from family and friends.

Submitted by: Henrietta R. Bullard, 408 Forest Road, Laurinburg, N.C. 28352.
Sources: Family History.

876 GILBERT HARRISON RUSSELL

Gilbert Harrison Russell (May 12, 1865 - June 11, 1926) was the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Russell. He grew up on a farm in Montgomery County, attended free school, and later attended high school at Unionville Institute.

He was a book salesman when he came to Scotland County as a young man in 1888. For several years after settling here, he taught school and farmed. When Scotland County was formed in 1899, Gilbert was elected as the first Register of Deeds for the newly created county. He served in this capacity for six years, retiring from the office in December 1906. He then studied law at Trinity College, now Duke University, was admitted to the bar, and received his



Gilbert Harrison Russell

license to practice in all the courts. He later formed a partnership with W. H. Weatherspoon and practiced also in partnership with E. H. Gibson. During this time he was engaged in a variety of other businesses. At one time he was part-owner and publisher of *The Laurinburg Exchange*, operated a hotel at Laurinburg, and was in the retail merchandise business and in the real estate business as well as farming.

In 1909, he was elected superintendent of the public school system in Scotland County and held that position until February 1914 when he was succeeded by L. M. Peele. He then became postmaster at Laurinburg and continued to hold the office until 1920 when he resigned in order to give more time to his law practice.

In 1923, he was active in the organization of the Scotland County Building and Loan Association. He was elected secretary and treasurer, an office which he held until his death.

He taught the men's class at the First Baptist Church for several years. Later he was superintendent of the East Laurinburg Baptist Sunday School.

On May 19, 1889, he married Katie C. Thrower of Scotland County. Their children were John L., E. A., Walter C., Gilbert H. Jr., Mrs. O.K.