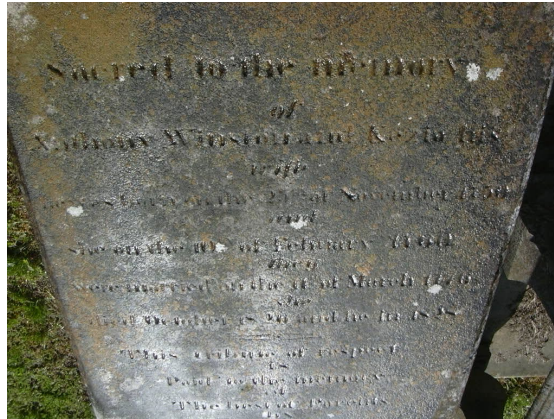


ANTHONY WINSTON, JR.

by Karl Warner Blackmun



Anthony Winston, Jr. was born 15 November 1750 at Hanover County, Virginia, a son of Anthony Winston and Alice Thornton Taylor. Anthony Winston, Sr. practiced law at Hanover County. He owned a tobacco plantation, and his son grew up in that environment. While still a young child, his family moved to nearby Buckingham County, Virginia. The name of the new plantation was “Hunting Towers.” The elder Anthony Winston became the Buckingham County Judge.

When the son was about 15 years of age, Judge Winston adopted an orphan named Peter Francisco. Peter joined Anthony Jr. and his siblings on the plantation. Due to his status in the local community, Judge Anthony Winston was chosen as a Burgess to represent the county at the Virginia House of Burgesses. The Judge served alongside Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington.

Young Anthony Winston married Kesiah Jones, 11 March 1776 at Buckingham County. After the Declaration of Independence, he would become a Captain in the Virginia Militia, where he served under Colonel Skipper from 1799 to 1780.

Captain Anthony Winston had several relatives who were famous heroes of the Revolutionary War. His adopted step-brother, Peter Francisco, was called, “The Hercules of American Independence.” George Washington stated, “Without him we would have lost two crucial battles, perhaps the war, and with it our freedom. He was truly a one-man-army.” A cousin, Major Joseph Winston, was the hero of The Battle of King’s Mountain. Another cousin, Patrick Henry, would become the Governor of Virginia after leading his fellow Virginians in their rebellion against England. George Washington was a “near relative” of Captain Winston—Anthony’s

grandmother, Alice Thornton, was the sister-in-law of Frances Gregory, George Washington's first cousin.

Captain Winston moved his family, including nine children, to Davidson County, Tennessee, around 1801. He operated a cotton plantation adjacent to Andrew Jackson's "Hermitage." Anthony served with three of his sons as Tennessee Rangers under General Jackson in the Creek Indian War. Anthony's children were:

- Anthony III,
- John Jones,
- Edmund (died young),
- William Henry,
- Alice Taylor,
- Joel Walker,
- Isaac,
- Mary Walker,
- Edmond, and
- Thomas Jones.

In 1810, he relocated to Franklin County, Alabama, to land given to him by General Jackson. He established a cotton plantation on this land. He did very well in his final years and died 20 December 1828 at Tuscumbia, Franklin County, Alabama. He is buried at the Winston Family Cemetery at Tuscumbia.