

below it all the way to Wantoot, the canal can still be plainly followed, though so long abandoned, by any one willing to penetrate the morass. In fact, the whole swamp is traversed and intersected by dikes and tributary canals, now overgrown and left to the influences of nature.

This canal, and the "bank" of Maj. Samuel Porcher of Mexico Plantation, a dike* which he erected to protect his lands from the Santee floods, are monuments to the spirit of individual enterprise displayed by the men of St. John's at and subsequent to the period of the Revolution.

This ability is further illustrated in the case of the martyred patriot, Peter Sinkler, who died during the war of Independence. At his death he left for his heirs three valuable plantations and upwards of three hundred slaves.

Betrayed into the hands of the Tories by his brother-in-law, James Boisseau, he was imprisoned in Charleston under the old post-office in a cellar without bedding, with a crowd of other unfortunates, and died under this cruel treatment.

Before he was carried from his home he was compelled to witness the destruction of the following property: 20,000 pounds of indigo, worth \$1.50 a pound; 130 head of cattle, 154 sheep, 200 hogs, 3,000 bushels of grain, 20,000 rails, household furniture valued at 2,500 pounds; besides the carrying off of 55 slaves, 16 blooded horses and 28 mares and colts.—*See Address of Maj. Samuel Dubose before the Black Oak Agricultural Society in 1858. Page 7.*

This account reminds us of the many instances of vandalism in the late war, when the Yankees would destroy what they could not use, even to the poultry in the yards, although women and children lacked for food.

The large fortune of Daniel Ravenel, of Chelsea, who died just before the Revolutionary War, further illustrates

* See note at end of chapter.