

Mary Splatt was the daughter of Richard Splatt (buried October 18, 1728) and Ann Mellish (born November 9, 1700). Ann Mellish was the daughter of—— Mellish, of Wiltshire, England. She married a second time (January 31, 1730-31) to Francis Le Brasseur.

first, he ran alongside in her captured comrade, and surprised her by boarding without firing a gun.

The third blockader, seeing no fight nor anything to arouse suspicion, suffered herself to be surrounded, and when, at a given signal, the American colors were displayed on all three of Gillon's ships, she could do nothing but surrender. Mr. Gillon returned in triumph into Charleston with his three prizes, and soon after this brilliant exploit he was commissioned Commodore in the navy of South Carolina, and sent to France and Holland for the purpose of procuring three frigates for the State, and also of sending out arms, ammunition, clothing, blankets, and other supplies, which were very much needed. He sailed in September, 1778, and arrived in Havana, but failed to reach France until the early part of the year 1779. He procured and shipped a quantity of supplies, but cargoes of indigo, rice and other produce from this country, which were sent to him to be sold in Europe, were so often captured by the British, that much difficulty seems to have been encountered in obtaining necessary funds.

At the instance of Mr. Franklin, the French king had caused to be built, at Amsterdam, a fine war vessel for our service, but under the neutrality laws, the government of Holland was obliged to prevent her sailing. She was called the "Indian." Subsequently she was bought by the Duc de Luxembourg, and Commodore Gillon hired her for three years. But she was too large to float out of the Texel, and it was not until August, 1781, that he at last got to sea in her. He named her the "South Carolina." She carried twenty-eight Swedish 36-pounders on her main deck, twelve Swedish 12-pounders on her fore-castle and quarter deck, with sixty-nine seamen and two hundred and eighty marines.

Gillon took many prizes in European and West Indian seas, but of course the cruise was very expensive, and probably the sale money of the prizes was often lost in various ways, so that it was said that neither the State of South Carolina nor the Duke of Luxembourg profited by the expedition. On the contrary, it was quite costly to the State, and the French Revolution having taken place, the poor Duke had his property confiscated, and the French government afterwards demanded and received payment of his claims.

In May, 1782, Commodore Gillon, having formed an alliance with the Spanish at Havana, conducted a successful expedition against the