

CAPTAIN JAMES SPEED AND MARY SPENCER.

SECOND BRANCH.

Captain James Speed, second son of John Speed and Mary Taylor, was born March 4, 1739, in Virginia, Mecklenburg county. He married Mary Spencer, December 10, 1767, in Charlotte county, Va. He served in the war of the Revolution as a captain, and was wounded at the battle of Guilford Court House, N. C., by a shot through the body, March 15, 1781. While I can not refer to the record-evidence of this service, I can give the following: I often heard Mrs. Lucy G. Speed, who was his daughter-in-law and knew him well, talk on the subject. I often heard her speak of his service in the Revolutionary war and his wound received at Guilford. She stated that he was never able to stand or walk erect afterward, nor able to ride on horseback, but in his old age when he could not walk, he used a sled for going about. I heard his grandson, James Speed (Attorney-General), talk about the same facts; also his granddaughter, Mrs. Lucy F. Breckinridge; also his grandson, my father, Thomas S. Speed, at whose house, in Nelson county, Ky., Captain James Speed's widow lived a good part of her last years and there died. More conclusive still, his son, Judge John Speed, in a published article written in 1828, refers to the subject in this language:

"I was born previous to the Revolution; my father was one of the patriots of that day who shed his blood for liberty and equal rights. In my youth I heard him, and others of our fathers, recount the oppression they resisted, the hardships, the privations they encountered and endured for their own, but more especially for our sakes."

Captain James Speed removed to Kentucky, with his family, from Charlotte county, Va., in the fall of 1782, and settled in what was then Lincoln county, on the road or