

Slammin' Specials

Tuesday & Friday Nights!



Friday Nights Specials

1 lb Snow Crabs
w/2 sides & Hush Puppies **\$11.99**

½ lb Steam Shrimp Dinner
w/2 sides & Hush Puppies **\$9.99**

Ask About Our **\$10.99**
Rockfish Special

Tuesday Nights Specials

Southern Fried Chicken
4 - pc. Dinner **\$8.99**

Southern Fried Pork Chops
w/salad **\$10.99**

301-862-3544

Bring this coupon for

\$1⁰⁰ off

any reg price
dinner entree off
the dinner menu
4pm - close

One coupon per customer.
Expires 10/31/09.

Mon - Fri: 6am - 8pm • Sat: 7am - 2pm • Sun: 8am - 2pm
Located in Old Downtown Lexington Park, Outside Gate 2 PAX NAS

A Journey Through Time

The *TIMES* Chronicle

Columnist Linda Reno is a historian and genealogist specializing in Southern Maryland history. Mrs. Reno is a member of the St. Mary's County Historical Society, St. Mary's County Genealogical Society, Charles County Genealogical Society, Maryland Historical Society and the Maryland Genealogical Society. She has authored many books and articles on local history. We hope you will enjoy these articles and welcome your comments and suggestions for future subjects.

By Linda Reno
Contributing Writer

On March 8, 1678 William Watts, in preparation for his departure as a soldier to the Eastern Shore of Maryland in the Expedition Against the Nanticoke Indians, made his will. His wife, Emma Shanks (daughter of John and Abigail Shanks), had died two years before and so William devised his estate to his three young sons, Charles (age 8), William (age 6), and Edmund (age 4), leaving them under the care of Capt. Gerard Slye. William was dead within a month.

In 1682 John Shanks filed suit against Slye asking the court to place the children

planting corn and suckering tobacco. Craine also said that during the last year the two eldest boys had a yard of linen apiece and a pair of shoes and stockings, and the youngest only an "ozenbuck frock so for the most part of this last year they were almost quite naked with only a pair of drawers apiece that Craine made them from sacking cloth."

"A stranger to the quarter testified that when had asked who the naked and ragged children were, a woman had told him that the children were put to hard work, had little or no clothes, "and were sadly beaten and abused by the overseer and tied up by the hands and whipt."

The court ruled in favor of Shanks but he still did not have custody as of June 27, 1684 when he went back to court saying his grandsons "continue daily to bee very much abused."

"The children and the negro woman belonging to them appeared in court "very much wronged and abused and ye sd Negroe being very sorely abused by Stripes and burning with hot iron in ye private parts by Jno Oliver, overseer to Gerrard Slye."

The court, at last, ordered that Shanks was to immediately take the children and "try to cure the Negro." John Oliver was jailed until he posted security for the "Ne-



One of the entry posts at Little Hackley

in his care saying "I never knew any bastard Children in the province soe used as to victuals and clothes and labour. They have noe manner of cloathes but such raggs and old coats that scarce would cover their nakedness and those given them by the charity of others and as to victuals nothing allowed this present year but salt and hominy and half a bull for meate amongst all the family."

Richard Craine testified that Capt. Slye had given him the eldest Watts son at age 10 to work for half a share. Slye was told the boy was not able to perform such labor but he persisted. Craine worked Charles for two years and for the last year worked William at

groe's cure and his appearance next court."

The children would not have their grandfather for very long as he died January 26, 1685 at his plantation "Little Hackley" that he had named for Hackley Bay, near his birth place in Dumfries, Scotland. "Little Hackley" is located on Colton's Point Road south of Avenue. The house no longer stands.

Last week's article contained an error that was brought to my attention by Jim Ewell. George Armstrong Custer did not fight at the Battle of River Raisin, it was instead his father, Emmanuel Custer. My apologies.

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