

### Mystery Bass Family Members:

This section contains information on some early Bass family members that have an unknown correlation but questions remain about who they were and where they fit in the puzzle.

### Needham Bass (Sr):

In the 1800 census, we find a Needham Bass (head of household of 6). Our Needham however was only about 6 to 10 years old at the time and presumably living with his father Rice. This Needham's house only has one male (who is between the ages of 16-25). Rice by this point would be somewhere around 40-50 years old at this point so if this is a brother of Rice, he is pretty young. We believe Rice's father Andrew died around 1781 which is 19 years before this census. If Andrew had a son Needham before his death, he could be anywhere from 18 to 25 to fit in this census. Confusing though with the other members ages, all female; 1 (age 10-15), 2 (age 16-25), 1 (age 26-44) and 1 (over 45). Note: This Needham is in Wayne County whereas Rice and brothers John and Harmon had left and moved to Cumberland County, North Carolina by this time.

Presumably the same Needham shows up in 1810, still in Wayne County (age 26-44) and family members: three sons (under age 10) so added since the 1800 Census, 1 female (under age 10), and one female (26-44). It is possible that this Needham is connected to the other Besses in the area and shows no son that would equate or our Needham. It is interesting though that Alley Bass who was immediately adjacent to Rice Bass in 1800, is now immediately adjacent to this Needham Bass in the Census which leads me to believe there is likely some connection. Possibly a younger brother or cousin of our Rice Bass.

There is a documented **marriage** between a Needham Bass and a Mary Ann Batcheldar on 6 Nov 1795 in Wayne County. We estimated earlier that the Needham in the 1800 census would have to have been 18-25 in to have been a son of our Andrew, if it is the same person, he would have been between 13 and 20 at the time of this marriage so very possible. Interesting that the Bondsman is an "Andrew Bass". Our Andrew is believed to be dead for around 14 years before this. Of the other known Andrew Besses area, Andrew Sr died in 1770, Dr. Andrew Bass Esquire died 17xx, Andrew Bass Jr (son of Richard Bass) is believed to have died around 1791. That leaves Richard's grandson and Edward's (1752) son Andrew (1778-1802) as a possible Bondsman but he would only be age 17. See Section 1x. I do not know of any other Needham Bass or Andrew Bass in Wayne County at the time.

Name: Nedom Bass

Gender: Male

Spouse: Mary Ann Batcheldar

Spouse Gender: Female

Bond date: 6 Nov 1795

Bond #: 000163791

Level Info: North Carolina Marriage Bonds,  
1741-1868

ImageNum: 000484

County: Wayne

Record #: 01 001

Bondsman: Andrew Bass

<https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=4802&h=9154&tid=171908326&pid=182235194171&queryId=e3d6ccf714f1b03851b8df058afe57f5&usePUB=true&phsrc=jLc457&phstart=successSource>

**A Land grant** in Wayne County from 1804 to a Needham Bass is detailed below. It is probably the same Needham as above as ours was only 10 years old at the time.

Bass Documents

Needham Bass NC Land Grant (probably a brother of Rice)

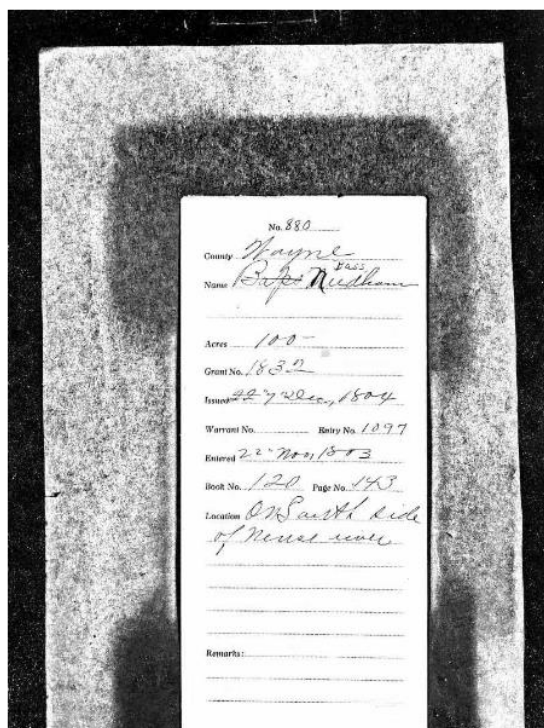
No 880

100 acres

Grant No 1832

Issued 7 Dec 1804

Location On South Side of Neuse River



Of note: Dr. Andrew Bass (not related to us) did also own land along the west side of the Neuse River where the courthouse was built.

#### **Aley Bass:**

In the 1790 Census, we find a female Aley Bass (head of household of 10) immediately adjacent to Rice Bass (head of household of 5).

In 1810 Census, we find Aley Bass (head of household of 4)

#### **Sarah Bass**

Sarah Bass was born in North Carolina around 1805. She is likely the widow of a Harmon Bass, son of the Harmon Bass that was a brother of our Rice Bass. She appears in the 1850 Sumter County, Georgia Census as a 45 year old head-of-household (document 1e1 1850 Sarah Bass). If she was the daughter of our Rice, she must have reverted back to her Bass name whenever she was windowed. Sarah is a critical person for name correlation as her children tie in many of the previously used family member names of Andrew, Rice, John, Horman, Mathew and Sarah (Sarah's daughter). Of note, Needham was not used or at least not given to a child living in 1850.

## Moses Bass

Our connection to Moses Bass, if any, is unknown. But he shows up in Cumberland County. A handwritten note passed down before online genealogy was a thing, seems to place a Harmon Rice Bass (or Harmon and Rice Bass) in the Raft Swamp area 1779-1791. While it is possible there is no connection between us and Moses, I thought it important to document this information for potential, future research. (Note from Brian Bass)

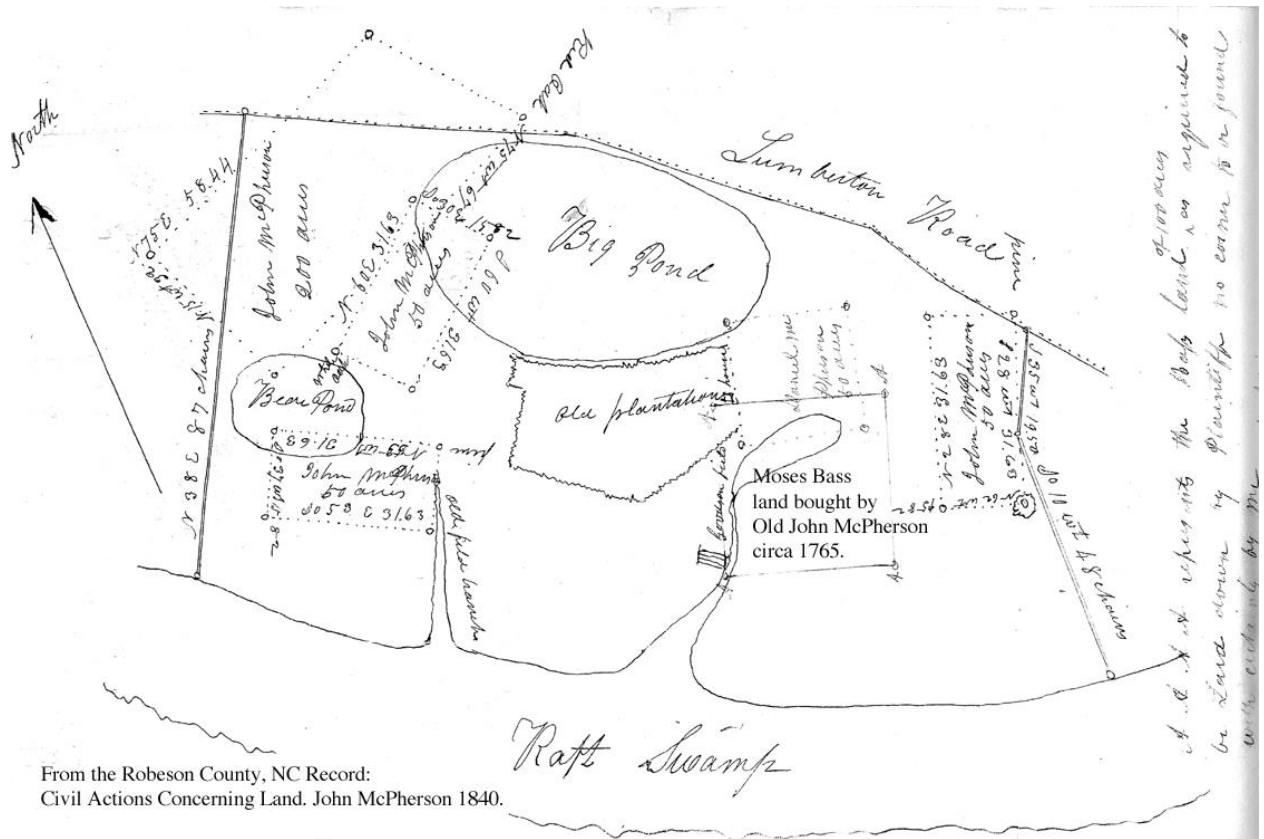
tes - Moses Bass 1700's  
Harmon Rice Bass - Raft Swamp Robeson Co. 1779-1791  
Moses Bass owned grist mill - 8-19-1761 - on Raft Swamp  
Applied for License to keep "Ordinary" 5-20-176.  
"The King of England" vs Moses - Bond \$50.00  
Security: John Smith \$20.00 - Stephen Smith \$20.00  
Andrew Bass - Doctor 1688 - Craven Co - Died 1770 Robeson  
- had moved from Virginia 1698 - Wife Elizabeth Smith  
- Son: Richard 1730 wife Sarah McKinnie 1792  
Notes only say son was Doctor 1812 - 1850 (wife)  
Elizabeth Porter  
    Fiancée middle name  
see No. 3  
s Brother Dennis Edward wed Betty Porter  
300's made wine = Bordeaux + Tokay wines - Rural Fayetteville  
TB Cape Fear froze over =  

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History  
will get mom's to you soon as I can  
get all notes & papers together - photos  
Copied  
holders for Bass get finished will send  
" " Smith Jones - " " "

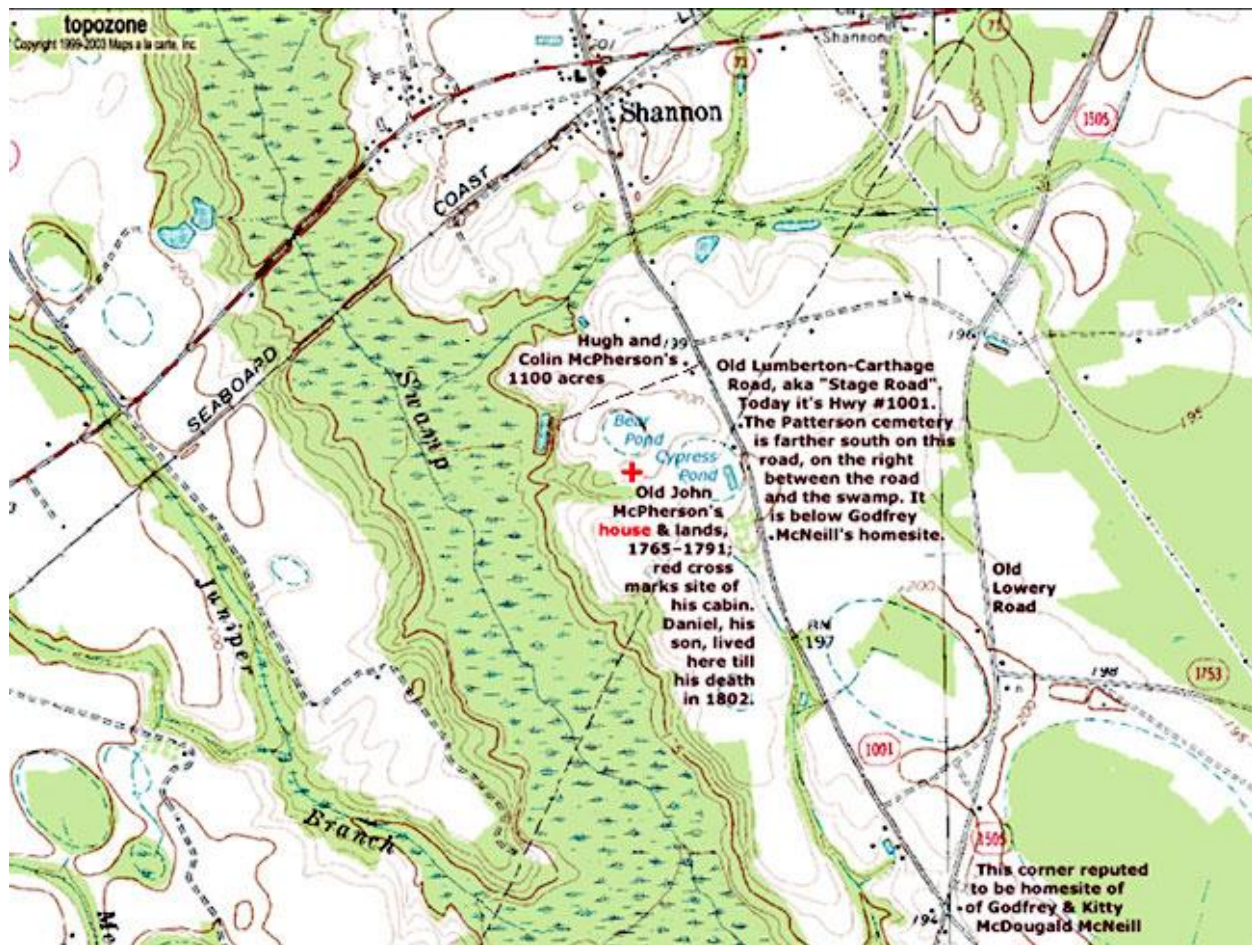
<http://www.capefearclans.com/JohnMcPherson2.html>

The tract Old John and son Daniel settled onto was not south of the Raft Swamp. According to records ([Robeson County Civil Actions Concerning Land](#)), Old John settled around March of 1765 at its northeast edge on Juniper branch just above and west of the current town of Red Springs. Old John's first land purchase there—referred to much later in court records as John McPherson's old plantation—was one hundred acres bought from one Moses Bass (Moses Bass, like John McPherson, is listed in the 1755 Cumberland County tax list). This one hundred acres was a [grant to Bass in 1758](#), and was on the edge of what was called the "Big Pond," a body of water twice the size of Bass's grant. The Lumberton Road at that time skirted the Big Pond. Old John's son Daniel bought 50 acres on the Big Pond adjacent to this first tract. Old John bought four more such tracts, mostly grants, around the Big Pond and the nearby smaller Bear Pond. Old John's son Alexander in Cumberland managed his father's lands in that county, and bought some of his own in the same vicinity, but remained in Cumberland until his death in 1801. In 1767, Old John is found in the Bladen County tax lists for that year living with son Daniel and four slaves, and remained on his lands there until his death in early 1791. Old John's wife's name is lost to us, (although he was married at the writing of [his will in 1789](#)) and her name is not mentioned in the tax lists, as white women were not considered 'taxables.' His four slaves in that year were all taxables. John and his son Daniel were polls, thus taxables, so their names are listed.



From the Robeson County, NC Record:  
Civil Actions Concerning Land. John McPherson 1840.

A. C. A. v. J. M. McPherson. The Robeson land was required to be laid down by Plaintiff to come to a found with title of by me.



<https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Bass-715>

## Moses Bass

Born about 1728 in Bertie County, North Carolina Colony ♀

### ANCESTORS

Son of [John Bass Sr](#) and [mother unknown]

Brother of [Edward Bass](#) [half], [Elizabeth \(Unknown\) Hammer](#) [half], [Aaron Bass](#) [half], [Judith \(Bass\) Canady](#) [half], [William Bass](#) [half], [Sarah \(Bass\) Anderson](#) [half], [John Bass Jr](#) [half], [Lovewell Bass](#) [half], [Elizabeth Bass](#) [half], [Patience Bass](#) [half], [Keziah Bass](#) [half] and [Mary Bass](#) [half]

Husband of [Elizabeth Unknown](#) — married [date unknown] [location unknown]

[children unknown]

Died after 28 Feb 1777 in Prince Georges Parish, George Town Dist, South Carolina Colony ♀

Profile managers: [Chere Lee](#) [send private message], [Anonymous Peterson](#) [send private message], [Gary Gray](#) [send private message], and [Jane McManus](#) [send private message]

Profile last modified 16 Nov 2021 | Created 12 Aug 2012

This page has been accessed 2,175 times.

The Birth Date is a rough estimate. See the text for details.

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## Biography



Moses Bass was a [North Carolina colonist](#).



Moses Bass was part of a Southern Pioneer Family.

Moses was born about 1728. He is the son of [John Bass](#). Moses passed away after 28 February 1777 and before 9 November 1785 in Prince Georges Parish, Georgetown District, South Carolina (now Marion County, SC).

Since Moses' birth date is uncertain, his mother is uncertain as well. Until an accurate date can be attributed to him and thus an accurate mother, I am removing [Love Harris](#) as his mother. [Strutton-11](#) 12:33, 16 May 2017 (EDT)

### Name

Moses Bass had no middle initial. Middle initial "N" often attributed to him was due to a misreading of documents signed by Moses. He was illiterate. "N" was his mark.

### Birth

The date of Moses' birth is much debated. The most commonly found dates are 1697/1698, 1715, 1728. No birth or marriage record has been found. He is named in his father's will dated 18 January 1732, but this is no help since the heirs are not named in birth order.<sup>[1]</sup> Those who choose the 1697/98 birth year believe that Moses and his brother Edward were the two oldest children of Love (Harris) Bass, John Bass' first wife.<sup>[2]</sup>

Those who choose the later birth years, 1715 or 1728, base this choice largely on the fact that Moses first appears in records in 1752. This would seem to indicate a later birth year. Another factor that might indicate a later birth year is that his brothers Edward and John were named executors in



his father's will; Moses was not. It is established by other evidence that Edward Bass was the oldest son (b c 1697) and John Bass was born about 1700. (See their profiles.)

Birth year of 1728 has been used for this profile, but is subject to change pending further research and consensus of researchers. If he was born after 1719, he was born in Bertie County, North Carolina.

## Marriage

No marriage record for Moses Bass has been found. We know from his will that his wife was Elizabeth. There is some evidence that her surname was Goins. Several bequests in his will are to daughters of Jacob Going and to Joseph Going, Jr. "Going" is elsewhere found as Goin, Goins or sometimes Gowen. Since Jeremiah and Wright Bass named in his will are nephews, it is possible that the Going heirs are also nieces and nephew. Perhaps Jacob Going was Elizabeth's brother. In 1788 Thomas Going applied for letters of administration for the estate of Elizabeth Bass (see below). This was postponed pending proof of sanguinity.

Based on Moses' will and the deposition of his nephew Wright Bass, Moses and Elizabeth had no (surviving?) children.

Note: Moses did not marry Hannah Butler in 1729. That Moses Bass lived and married in Boston, Massachusetts.

## Land Transactions & Travels

Moses inherited from his father 100 acres of land on the north side of Bear Swamp in Chowan County, North Carolina.<sup>[3]</sup> At some time he sold this land (record of sale not found) and moved south. He entered 100 acres on the west side of the Northwest River about 3/4 mile from Raft Swamp in Bladen County, North Carolina (present day Robeson County between Red Springs and Shannon) including his improvements on 21 November 1752.<sup>[4]</sup> He was living near "the drains of Drowning Creek" on 1 February 1754 when Robert Carver entered 100 acres there.<sup>[5]</sup> He was taxable on 3 "white" tithes in Cumberland County, North Carolina (formed from Bladen in 1754), in 1755,<sup>[6]</sup> and he received a grant for 100 acres on Raft Swamp in Cumberland County on 21 October 1758.<sup>[7]</sup> On 19 August 1761 the Cumberland County court granted permission for the mill he had erected on Raft Swamp to be designated a public grist mill, and the court granted him a license to keep an ordinary.<sup>[8]</sup> In May 1762 he posted bond not to leave the county before the next court to answer a

suit by the governor and James Simpson, but he was not mentioned again in the Cumberland County court Minutes. (*Note: page 27 of Bell's book mentions the 1758 Land Grant, Brian Bass*)

In the mid 1760s, Moses left North Carolina and moved further south. His home tract was purchased by John McPherson.<sup>[9]</sup> In 1770, Moses was living on the Pee Dee River in Craven County (George Town District), South Carolina. He was listed in a plat for the registration of 194.5 acres in Craven County by William Green. His property bordered Green's.<sup>[10]</sup>

In 1777 when he wrote his will he was living in Prince Georges Parish, Georgetown District, South Carolina. In 1781 Moses Bass was the proprietor of a well-known tavern situated on an island in Naked Creek near his mill. His home plantation and the mill were bequeathed to his nephew, Wright Bass, in his 1777 will. Nothing further is known of Moses after August 1781.

Note: Craven County was one of the first four counties established in South Carolina. In 1768 South Carolina abolished all the counties and established seven "Districts," of which George Town was one. People still often continued to act as if they lived in Craven County. Marion County was formed from Georgetown in 1800; Dillon County from Marion in 1910.

## Battle of Bass's Mill

Not more than twelve miles down river from Cashua Ferry was Bass's Mill, site of an engagement in August 1781. Moses Bass was the proprietor of a well-known tavern situated on an island in Naked Creek near his mill. His establishment became the scene of a violent gunfight after a party of Tories discovered that a party of Whigs had made advance dinner reservations at the tavern. When Colonel Morris Murphey 32 and his detachment arrived on the appointed day and hour, an ambush was sprung just as some of the unsuspecting Patriots were sitting down to their food and cider and others were relaxing on the front porch.

Although the enemy had the advantage of surprise the Whigs had the advantage of the cover provided by the public house. Major Jesse Barfield and his Tories were retreating toward the entrance causeway in defeat, when they heard one of the Patriot soldiers call out in a loud voice, "Good Heavens! What shall we do? The powder is out!" Barfield's men promptly resumed their attack, and Murphey's Patriots were forced to escape down the steep embankment behind the tavern and seek refuge in the thick woods across the creek. Despite its comic-opera overtones, this skirmish had its serious aspects. Two Patriots and an unspecified number of Loyalists were killed, and Murphey's men appear to have lost their horses, a serious setback for a mounted militia unit. Several veterans considered this battle important enough for a mention in their pension statements years afterward. Naked Creek was later known as Mill Creek and is today labeled on maps as Marsh Creek. It forms the boundary line between Marion and Dillon counties.<sup>[11]</sup>

## Death & Legacy

Moses Bass died without issue in Prince Georges Parish, Georgetown District, Province of South Carolina (present day Marion County, SC). The exact date of his death is unknown. His will is dated

28 February 1777 and names his wife, nieces and nephews. He died before November 1785 (see statement of nephew Wright Bass below). There is some evidence he was living in August 1781 (see Battle of Bass's Mill above).

Named in his will are:<sup>[12]</sup>

- to Mourning Going, dau of Jacob Going, one cow
- to Sarah Going, dau of Jacob Going, one cow
- to Elizabeth Going, dau of Jacob Going, one cow
- to Anne Going, dau of Jacob Going, one heifer
- to Cynthia Going, dau of Jacob Going, one heifer yearling
- to "my beloved cousin [nephew] Jeremiah Bass," tract of 100 acres granted to John Smith, one negro named Peter, one negro woman named Fann, one negro boy named Jack
- to "my beloved cousin [nephew] Wright Bass," the plantation, mill, & tract of land containing 444 ac that I now live on, one negro woman Jane
- to Henry Harison, son of James Harison, one negro woman Cate
- to Joseph Going, Junr., one negro girl named Judah
- to wife Elizabeth Bass "one negro man named Jack, one woman named Florah, one woman named Nan, one boy named Isum, one boy named Roger, and my cattle, about 110 head, branded ME, all my stock of horses & mares, all my household furniture & plantation tools, 26 head of sheep, and my hogs, also negro girl Violet." Also she is to have use of land and negroes left to Jeremiah and Wright Bass, Henry Harison, and Joseph Going for her lifetime.
- to Jacob Going, plantation of 50 acres granted to John Crawford
- Executors wife Elizabeth Bass, Luke Whitefield and James Harison

A statement made by his nephew, Right [Wright] Bass, dated 9 November 1785 and recorded 28 June 1786 makes clear that Moses had no children. Wright Bass, heir-at-law by right of primogeniture, states his agreement that the provisions of Moses' will should be carried out.

Whereas I, the within named Right Bass, am the eldest son of Edward Bass deceased, who was eldest brother of the within named Testator Moses Bass, which said Moses Bass departed this life without issue, whereby I, said Right Bass became his heir at law, and I am willing that all the several devises & bequests in the said will should have full effect, for the memory of my deceased uncle Moses Bass and for the several devisees in the within will, and five shillings, I confirm all the devises, legacies and bequests, 9 Nov 1785. Right Bass (LS), Wit: Chas Cotesworth Pinckney, Wm Smith.

Proved in Charleston Dist by the oath of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney 28 Jun 1786 before DI. Mazyck, JP. Rec 28 Jun 1786. S-5, 283-284. (Holcomb, SC Deed Abstracts, 1783-1788, Bks I-5 thru Z-5, 1996. SML 975.7 Hol)

## Research Notes

August 1788. On motion of W. Avery, Esqr. atto. for Thomas Going for obtaining letter of administration on the Estate of Elizabeth Bass, decd. ordered that the same be laid over until next term, for proof of sanguinity [kinship, blood relationship] & that a dedimus potestatem [a commission to take testimony] issue in favour of said Thomas Going to Anson & Richmond Counties & to the State of South Carolina by giving fifteen days notice to Jeremiah Bass of the time & place where such testimony will be taken, ditto for Levi Bass to South Carolina giving Thos. Going fifteen days notice at least."

Bulletin of the Watauga Association," Volume 10:[131](#)

October 14, 1788. Know all men by these presents that I Edward Gowen of the County of Granville for divers good causes and considerations thereunto [me] moving more especially for the sum of £25 to me in hand paid, the receipt of which I do hereby acknowledge, hath bargained, sold & made over, and by these presents, do bargain, sell and make over to my nephew, Thomas Gowen all the estate, right and interest I have or hereafter may have to the estate of Elizabeth Bass, deceased, or any part thereof, and do hereby make over the same to the said Thomas Gowin, his heirs and assigns from the claim of me, the said Edward Gowen or any other person whatever claiming under me. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the 15th day of October, 1786.

Edward Going

Witnesses:

Henry Meghe

Allin Hudson

Jhn. [X] Simmons"

John Simmons later appeared in Granville County Court to prove the deed of "Edward Gowing" to "Thomas Gowing," according to "Court Minutes of Granville County, North Carolina, 1746-1820," page 28 by Zoe Hargett Gwynn.

Granville County Will Book 2, page 79.[141](#)

Kesiah Bass

<http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~lydieanderson/genealogy/Basse.htm>

x. MOSES BASSE, b. 1715; d. 1777, Prince George Parish, Georgetown District, South Carolina; m. ELIZABETH ????

Notes for MOSES BASSE:

Moses Basse died without any children in South Carolina.

xi. KESIAH BASSE, b. 1719; m. WILLIAM JOHNSTON.

<https://www.geni.com/people/Moses-Bass-of-Scotland-Co-NC/6000000144724203275?through=6000000066107159821>

<http://www.bassettbranches.org/tng//getperson.php?personID=I37941&tree=1A>

*Brian Bass note: While many names were commonly used, I thought it worth noting that our Needham's son Charles, named his oldest children Moses, Aaron, Eliza then Charles. While his does not confirm any connection, it may provide a clue as to a possibility.*

John "Old John" McPherson b: 27 Jan 1720 in Argyll Argyllshire Scotland. D: 13 Jan 1791 in Raft Swamp, Robeson County, NC.

<https://goyengogowengoyneandgone.com/1710-20-moses-bass-b-abt-1710-20-m-elizabeth-living-in-marion-co-sc-area/>

