

## **Blount, Frederick** <sup>[1]</sup>

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by Sarah McCulloh Lemmon, 1979; Revised by SLNC Government and Heritage Library, April 2023

**1778–5 Sept. 1823**

Frederick Blount, physician, the oldest son of James and Ann Hall Blount, was born at Mulberry Hill Plantation Edenton <sup>[2]</sup>. He is not to be confused with his uncle, Frederick Blount. His maternal grandfather was the noted colonial clergyman Clement Hall <sup>[3]</sup>; his mother had been a participant in the Edenton Tea Party <sup>[4]</sup>, 25 Oct. 1774. His aunt, Mary Blount, married the Reverend Charles Pettigrew <sup>[5]</sup>, first bishop-elect of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. He had one brother, Clement Hall (d. 1843), and one sister, Sarah Porter (d. 1837), who married James Fuller.

When Frederick indicated a desire to study medicine, his uncle Wilson Blount, by selling two horses, gave him financial assistance to attend medical lectures in Philadelphia. He returned to North Carolina and settled in Hillsborough but apparently failed to establish himself, for in 1806 he moved to New Bern to become the fifth physician to reside there. Here he lived a genteel life, practicing medicine, visiting relatives and friends, attending sporadically to a plantation, traveling to Edenton to see his relatives, and pursuing other leisurely occupations. Presumably reared as an Episcopalian, he became interested in Methodism later in his life. In 1812 he and his siblings were involved in court action in Edenton to settle the estate of their father, who had died intestate.

Blount married a widow, Rachel Whitfield Bryan, on 1 Oct. 1807. A son, Frederick, mentioned several times in correspondence with Ebenezer Pettigrew <sup>[6]</sup>, appears to have died in early youth; a second son, Alexander Hall, and several unnamed daughters were mentioned in his will. Blount was buried in the family cemetery at Mulberry Hill; the date 5 Apr. on his tombstone appears to be an error.

#### **Additional information from NCpedia editors at the State Library of North Carolina:**

This person enslaved and owned other people. Many Black and African people, their descendants, and some others were enslaved in the United States until the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in 1865. It was common for wealthy landowners, entrepreneurs, politicians, institutions, and others to enslave people and use enslaved labor during this period. To read more about the enslavement and transportation of African people to North Carolina, visit <https://aahc.nc.gov/programs/africa-carolina-0> <sup>[7]</sup>. To read more about slavery and its history in North Carolina, visit <https://www.ncpedia.org/slavery> <sup>[8]</sup>. - Government and Heritage Library, 2023

#### **References:**

Blount Cemetery (Mulberry Hill).

Chowan County Records (North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh).

S. M. Lemmon, ed., *The Pettigrew Papers*, vol. 1, 1685–1818 (1971).

*Raleigh Register*, 26 Sept. 1823.

#### **Additional Resources:**

"Frederick Blount." *Fourth Census of the United States*. 1820. New Bern, Craven, North Carolina. National Archives Roll M33\_84. Page 76. Image 81. Accessed April 21, 2023 from [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).

Miller, Stephen F. *Recollections of Newbern Fifty Years Ago* S.l. : s.n., 1873. 19. <https://digital.lib.ecu.edu/13575> <sup>[9]</sup> (accessed January 12, 2015).

"Blount Family Chart." *The Pettigrew papers*. Raleigh [N.C.] : State Dept. of Archives and History. 1971. xvi. <https://archive.org/stream/pettigrewpapers1971lemm#page/n19/mode/2up> <sup>[10]</sup> (accessed October 15, 2013).

#### **Subjects:**

Biographies <sup>[11]</sup>

Physicians, Dentists, Pharmacists, and other Medical Professionals <sup>[12]</sup>

Planters <sup>[13]</sup>

#### **Authors:**

Lemmon, Sarah McCulloh <sup>[14]</sup>

#### **Origin - location:**

Edenton <sup>[15]</sup>

New Bern <sup>[16]</sup>

Hillsborough <sup>[17]</sup>

**From:**

Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press,<sup>[18]</sup>

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**Source URL:**<https://ncpedia.org/biography/blount-frederick>

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