

Bucklesberry, Back in

Lillian Sutton Perry (Part 16)

After the death of her husband, Daniel Elijah Perry (1857-1897), Lillian Sutton Perry (1864-1946) became the head of household and overseer of family business. One of her chief duties was management of farm properties totaling hundreds of acres.

Dan's estate left her with several tracts of farm land that he purchased between 1883 and 1887: the Levi M. Sutton farm of 227 acres; a Contentnea Neck Township tract of 400 acres; and the T. L. Hartsfield farm of 90 acres. In addition, Lillian and her five children inherited property in 1897 from Dan's mother, Susan Rhem Perry (1834-1897), and his stepfather, Eli Hamilton Elsworth Franklin (E. H. E. F.) Perry (1831-1912).

But Lillian was a landowner before her marriage. She inherited a farm from her grandfather, William (Old Billy) Sutton (ca. 1796-1884). Reared on his plantation, Lillian was familiar with the general operation of a farm. Perhaps on the advice of farm managers she employed, produce was sold to the public to maximize profits from her farms. She also rented and sold farm animals and equipment:

1900, December 13: "Three Mules for Sale. Apply to Mrs. Lillian Perry, Kinston, N.C." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1903, June 26: "Town Treasurer's Report of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Town of Kinston, N.C. for the Fiscal Year Ending May 7th, 1903....Mrs. Lillian Perry, 10 days mule hire \$5.00..." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1914, January 7: "One horse and one pony for sale, Apply to Mrs. Lillian Perry." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1914, January 10: "For sale at auction—Five good young farm mules, cultivators, transplantors and other farming tools, about ten tons of hay, 40 or 50 barrels of corn, carts, wagons, buggies, etc. Sale will be held at Mrs. Lillian Perry's farm, on the State Highway Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 11 o'clock. Terms, cash. Easy terms can be arranged before sale..." (*The Kinston Free Press*)

1914, February 14: "Cabbage plants for sale. Apply to Mrs. Lillian N. Perry." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1914, March 6: "Nancy Hawks Slips potatoes for sale by Mrs. Lillian N. Perry." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1914, July 16: "For sale at once—Nine bushels of peas. Mrs. Lillian Perry." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1916, April 15: "For Sale—A Red Calf, 9 months old. Mrs. Lillian Perry, Phone 208-L." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1918, October 1: "Two good milk cows for sale at once. Mrs. Lillian Perry." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1919, August 1: "Cows for sale—Two Jersey-Holstein heifers for sale at once. See Mrs. Lillian Perry." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)

1920, August 28: "Milk cow for sale cheap—See Mrs. Lillian Perry at once." (*The Daily Free Press*, Kinston)