

LEWIS SPEED.

FIFTH BRANCH.

Lewis Speed, son of John Speed and Mary Taylor, was born in Mecklenburg, Va., January 26, 1745. He served in the Revolutionary war and was killed. The tradition in this branch of the family is that he lost his life in one of the battles in North Carolina. In a note-book of John James Speed, son of Henry Speed, Lewis' brother, there is a memorandum showing that a brother of Henry was a soldier in the Revolution and was wounded "in the South," and that Henry "went and brought him to his house and he died there." This memorandum was furnished by Judge John J. Speed, of Detroit, it having been made by his grandfather. In the letter dated 1784, written by John Speed, of Mecklenburg, to his son, Captain James Speed, in Kentucky, it is noticeable that he mentions his sons, Hal and Joseph and Matt, and also his daughters, Sarah Hansard, Lucy Jeter and Martha Apperson, but he makes no mention of his sons, John and Lewis. Before the date of the letter, John seems to have died and Lewis had fallen three years before in his country's service. In all probability he received his mortal wound in the same battle—Guilford Court House—in which his brother, Captain James Speed, received his wound. The battle of Guilford Court House was fought March 15, 1781, between the American forces under General Greene, and the British under Cornwallis. General Greene, in his campaign of that spring for the relief of the Carolinas, had moved from Charlotte, Va., which was an adjoining county to Mecklenburg, and from that section of Virginia he had taken a large body of men. Four of the sons of John Speed were in the regiments theretofore organized, and if the other sons were not already in the service, they probably volun-