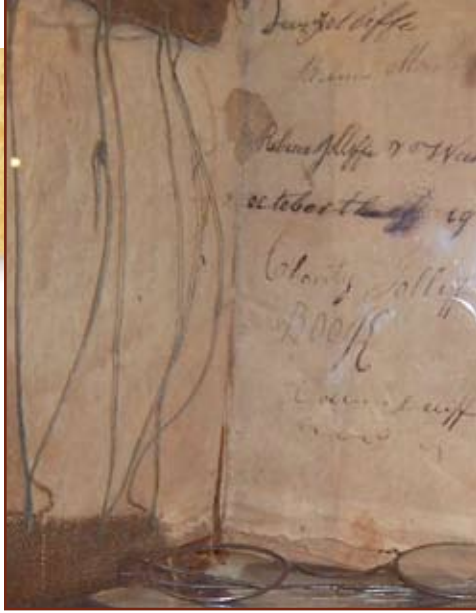


Artist Profile



Charity Prickett's Bible

Charity Prickett

Charity Taylor Prickett Joliffe (1739-1833)

Charity Taylor married Josiah Prickett, eldest son of Jacob, Sr. and Dorothy Prickett, in 1767 in Frederick County, Virginia. By the time Jacob, Sr., Dorothy, and their nine children had moved to Pricketts Creek in 1772, Charity and Josiah had had three children of their own. Eventually there would be eleven children, all of whom survived to adulthood. Charity was a busy frontier wife and mother who tended gardens, cooked over an open fire, sewed and mended clothing, hauled water for weekly laundering, made soap, spun threads, wove cloth—all while having to deal with hostile Indian troubles.

Charity was a textile artist, devoted to her craft. When she was 68, her husband died. From his estate sale, Charity had to buy much of what had been hers. That's how it was for women at that time. So in the fall of 1807, Charity's purchases included the following: cotton cards, worsted combs, and sheep shears for \$1.00; miscellaneous wearing apparel for \$10.00; 36 pounds of wool for \$8.00; big wheel and reel for \$4.00; 4 bags for \$1.50; 1 loom, hinging, and reed for \$5.00. She even had to buy her favorite riding horse and saddle!

Charity was able to carry on her textile work. Her textile legacy lives on, in that some of her tools remain in the family and are still in use. The Pricketts Fort Gallery features Charity's Bible and reading glasses. She married again and lived another 26 years. Charity died at the age of 94 and is buried in the Pricketts Fort Cemetery; her descendants are many.



Woman spins in the evening by the fire (Tunis)