

*Caroline Cripps—Ascending Line.*

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| CAROLINE CRIPPS,<br>born August 27,<br>1791; died Jan-<br>uary 27, 1844. | { Married }<br>{ March }<br>{ 10, 1812. } | DANIEL RAVENEL,<br>born October 26,<br>1789; died Sep-<br>tember 7, 1873. |
|--|---|---|

She was the daughter of John Splatt Cripps (born March 6, 1754, died October 5, 1811) and (a) Elizabeth Farr (born May, 1763, died August 31, 1798). They were married May 28, 1778.

John Splatt Cripps was the son of Wm. Cripps (born 1693, died July 7, 1761), who married (1747) Mary Splatt, who afterwards (July 6, 1766) married Commodore Alexander Gillon.\* She died October 24, 1787.

---

\*Commodore Alexander Gillon was a distinguished man. He was born in Rotterdam in 1741, of an old and wealthy family, known as "LeGillon," in 1600. He came to Charleston in 1766, after having resided about four years in England, and engaged in extensive mercantile pursuits. He is described as singularly handsome, "a man of talents, of elegant person and engaging deportment." He could speak seven different languages, and write five of them. He lived splendidly. He attracted public notice in the year 1777 or 1778, by his brilliant and daring capture of three British cruisers, which were blockading Charleston.

There was only one armed ship in port, and she was matched by any one of the three British vessels. But Mr. Gillon proposed to the Governor that he would proceed against the hostile fleet with this single ship, if he were supplied with a sufficient number of marines. He made some changes in the rigging of the ship, so as to make her look like a merchantman, and proceeded to sea when the enemy were in sight but somewhat scattered. One of the cruisers pursued him, and he affected to run away from her, until he drew her off from her companions. Then allowing her to run alongside, unsuspectingly, as if he were a captured prize, he suddenly disclosed his men, threw out grappling irons, boarded and captured the foreign vessel almost without a fight.

He then divided his prisoners between the two ships, and also manned the captured frigate from his own officers and marines, and could have fought the remaining blockaders, if necessary. But the deception was continued by hoisting the British flag on his own ship, and reversing the American colors, to indicate his capture, and the two vessels then sailed leisurely towards the other British gunboats. On coming up with the