

## **Granville Brian Chetwynd-Staplyton**

*How can I make you acquainted, I wonder? Above middle height, [5'8"] straight and square, fair hair, blue eyes, small fair moustache, a handsome face with a grave expression and altogether of an aristocratic appearance, and no wonder, for this family trace their descent from before the Conquest. He is rather quiet to outsiders but I don't find him so. I think we are something alike in some things, for instance most people think us both very reserved, excepting those who know us best. [Elizabeth Chetwynd-Staplyton to her sister March 1, 1886]*

It stretches one's mind to believe that the mastermind behind the development of an English Colony near the western border of present Lake County, Florida in early 1882, was an ambitious, energetic 23 year-old English entrepreneur and a pioneer of dogged determination, Granville Brian Chetwynd-Staplyton.



Granville Brian Chetwynd-Staplyton

Staplyton, the youngest of four children, was born December 11, 1858, to William and Elizabeth Briscoe Tritton Chetwynd-Staplyton. His father was then the vicar of Old Malden Church, also known as St. John the Baptist Church, Surrey, London, England. Given the surname it should come as no surprise that this family is found in *Burke's Peerage, Baronage and Knightage*, a major royal, aristocratic and historical reference book. Granville descends from Sir Robert Constable, Knight of Flamborough (1423-1480).

Although his father was an Oxford graduate Granville chose Haileybury College where, as an honor student, his interests were drama and geology. He is enumerated as a commercial clerk to a colonial broker in London in the 1881 English census along with his father, his sister Ella, a brother Frederick, a cook, a parlourmaid, a housemaid and a coachman. Another brother Edward, a wine merchant, had already married Mary Beatrice Cowie.

What actually lured him to the State of Florida in the United States of America is speculative. Although not associated with the 15 Limited companies registered in London to do business in Florida, perhaps his London employer was an agent for a land company who backed him financially so that Staplyton could buy up acres and acres of land in order to establish an English Colony, eventually to be called Chetwynd, in Central Florida. It's hard to fathom that, given his young age, he had the personal financial resources to wheel and deal as he ultimately did without substantial financial backing. Yet he began buying land—lots of it—immediately. His first purchases, both recorded in Sumter County March 9, 1882, were 240 acres a bit south of the little town of Lady Lake where, a couple of years later, *Staplyton's Subdivision* would be platted. Then he bought 80 orange tree laden acres around Skillet Pond, later to be called Zephyr Lake, where the land would quickly be cleared and facilities built to accommodate and train young and British future fruit growers.

While cotton was king then the discovery of citrus trees, sometimes scattered among other forest trees, sometimes in groves, and the refreshing and sweet taste of its succulent fruit beyond description Staplyton

no doubt was driven by the potential of great fortunes to be reaped nationally and perhaps even internationally. But there were not yet roads or railroads to get the crops to market. Only unbroken pine forest.

### ***The Florida Southern Railroad***

Early in 1883 he and Orlando P. Rooks, Gardenia's (now Fruitland Park) founder and a horticulturalist of some reknown, took two major steps to bring a railroad to the area. First they, along with \_\_\_\_\_, gave 160 acres to the Florida Southern Railroad Company. Then they hired a railroad engineer to design a route through Gardenia instead of to Dead River near Leesburg as planned. Their pressure and persuasion to reroute from the east of Leesburg to the west worked; the company changed their minds. Provisions were made for a narrow gauge freight train to run from Leesburg to Gardenia on a track laid along the west side of present US Route 441/27, to the town of Lady Lake, on to Ocala and then north to the terminal in Palatka on the St. John's River. The first freight train was in service by December 15, 1883 while the first passenger train rolled through Gardenia a few weeks later—Sunday, January 20, 1884.

Now there was a means of not only providing a faster and more direct way of shipping citrus to the packing houses in Ocala but for transporting potential residents, entrepreneurs and investors to the colony Stapylton envisioned.

### ***Real-Estate Interests***

Quickly he connected with local land agents, specifically The Sumter County Florida Land Company of which he was an officer; first as its corresponding secretary by 1884 and then by 1887 its treasurer, a position he held until 1899. Although Stapylton was the only English officer The Sumter County Land Company focused primarily on developing of another English Colony east of Lady Lake called Conant which legally is in Section 8, Township 18 South, Range 24 East. Stapylton was granted 455 acres by the United States February 5, 1885, 370 of it he sold to The Sumter County Land Company and the remainder to the Florida Southern Railroad. Unlike Stapylton's colony Conant's appeal was to upper class snobs who had little use for citrus growers.

About five miles south of Conant, in an area that soon was to be known as the English Colony of Chetwynd, Stapylton created partnerships with English friends who settled here—almost from the beginning. A couple of Sumter County deeds, for example, name George Elin, Alexander Creery and Cyril Francis Herford as having land interests with Stapylton. Unfortunately only one of three partnership agreements exists in full. Dated December 10, 1884 and probably the second agreement, it is 18 handwritten pages long and full of details.

In that unpunctuated document is named 19 year-old Herford with whom Stapylton had *engaged in the business of fruit and vegetable growers and of all things appertaining to the tillage of the soil and of dealers in land and real estate and of agents for real estate investment in land and other businesses for some time*. Now the two men were admitting Hugh Sandeman Budd, age 28, into a new partnership called Stapylton and Company. They agreed to *become and remain partners in the trade of business of orange fruit and vegetable growers market gardeners nurserymen and farmers and owners of and dealers in lands, house and real estate and of and in all things appertaining thereto or to the cultivation use or improvement thereof and of real estate agents and agents for investment in and for the sale purchase cultivation or improvement of real estate....during the term of five years*. A schedule of holdings, valued at \$10,890.00 and comprised of three *Estates, The Home Estate, The Fruitland Park Estate and The Lake Griffin Estate*, was attached to the detailed partnership agreement quoted in part above. The total capitalization of the partnership, Stapylton and Company, was \$18,150.00.

However, specifically excluded from the partnership agreement was a 120 acre sub-division referred to in the partnership agreement as *Sand Mountain*. The road on the southern boundary of the sub-division was once called Sand Mountain Road, now Lake Ella Road. Located about two miles south of the town of Lady Lake the area had been surveyed July 1, 1884 for Stapylton by George A. Long and platted into 39 lots of various acres or portions thereof surrounding a lake named Ella—probably named for Stapylton's only sister and oldest sibling Ella. The first lot he sold in the sub-division was October 29, 1885 to Francis R. S. Cosens who bought Lot 12. Sumter County Deed indices show 25 sales in *Stapylton's Sub-division* by May 1887. Stapylton is said to have been instrumental in the establishment of a post office near June 9, 1887, the first in Lake County. Lake County had been formed from Sumter County two months earlier.

July 16, 1885 a plat for the town of Yalaha on Lake Harris was surveyed for G. C. Stapylton but the absence of deed records suggests that he never owned land there. Apparently land ownership was not a requirement for platting an area.

In the fall of '85 Stapylton sold 1503 acres—at least 370 of them either swampland or wetland involving 15 separate parcels of land—to his father William for \$15,000, or about \$10.00 per acre—\$10 less than the average cost per acre sold in the area at that time. Some of the acreage included lots on Lake Ella that had been platted the year before. Perhaps some quick capital was needed.

### ***The Home Estate, Stapylton & Company's Academy on Zephyr Lake***

The previous year Stapylton, as the corresponding secretary of The Sumter County Florida Land Company, wrote to an unidentified correspondent that he expected the *British Colony* to increase significantly during the upcoming winter and would be pleased to give information to potential settlers or investors. A London firm supposedly independent of all land companies and agents, Ford Rathbone & Company of London, was named as the agent *for placing pupils with us*. Although their prospectus touted *A Self-supporting Occupation and Opening in Life for Gentlemen's Sons*, this statement, as noted below, was somewhat of a deviation from the company's stated purpose:

*Young [English] gentlemen desiring to learn agriculture.... can be placed with carefully-chosen farmers in the best districts either of Canada, the United States, or Tasmania, where they will receive board and residence in addition to monthly pay, so that from the commencement they can be self-supporting and start successfully.*

By the time Stapylton wrote the above referenced letter he had already purchased, for \$2,200.00, 80 acres from Henderson Tanner, a freed slave who had homesteaded the land in the mid-1870s. This area encircled nearly all of what was then called Skillet Pond but shortly thereafter re-named Zephyr Lake. It is located about a half-mile south of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church on the east side of Poinsettia Road. Stapylton soon sold some of the acreage for home-building on the north side of the lake so that only about 57 acres remained of the *Home Estate* by 1885.

A large complex that included a stable, a boarding house with a separate kitchen and dining hall called *The Hall* had been built for the young bachelors to live while studying the art and craft of citrus growing. Reportedly they were charged \$30.00 rent and \$30.00 tuition each month. A three-month instruction period was thought to be enough by some apprentices who preferred or perceived the benefits of on-the-job training with more experienced growers. Stapylton's personal residences, one while single, the other, a five acre lot when married, are thought to have been on the south side of the lake. All built of sturdy yellow pine, unfortunately none of the buildings or homes remain today.



Left to right: the stables, the boarding house, *The Hall* and kitchen.

June 16, 1885 Stapylton and Company recorded their livestock mark and brand, **S.C.O.** at the Sumter County courthouse in Sumterville.

Legally the *Home Estate* was located in the northeast quarter of Section 4 where Zephyr Lake and the complex were located. Holdings in the *Fruitland Park Estate* amounted to 19 acres in the southeast quarter of the same section plus 40 acres in the southwest quarter of Section 3 to the east of Section 4. In the same

area was the *Lake Griffin Estate* containing 117 acres. By this time the Florida Southern Railway dissected the three *Estates*.

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| <p><b>NE1/4</b><br/> <b>Section 4</b><br/> <i>Home Estate</i></p>            | <p>NW1/4<br/> Section 3</p>   |
| <p><b>SE 1/4</b><br/> <b>Section 4</b><br/> <i>Fruitland Park Estate</i></p> | <p><b>SW 1/4</b><br/> <b>Section 3</b><br/> <b>FP &amp; Lake Griffin Estate</b></p> |

Interest in settling the colony appears to have been slow. While possible that some people were missed the 1885 District 1, Sumter County, Florida census, which included the colony, only 36 people from the British Isles were enumerated. Of that number 26 were single men, two single women, three couples, and two young children. Three-quarters of them were under thirty-years old. However Elizabeth Stapylton wrote that *58 people, nearly the whole of our English colony*, accompanied her and her new husband on their ride to Conant in December that year.

### United States Citizenship

In February of 1885 Granville Chetwynd-Stapylton presented himself to the Sumter County Clerk of Courts to make a *Declaration of Intention to become a citizen of the United States as follows to wit: I G. C. Stapylton, an alien, a Native of England and a Subject of Queen Victoria aged Twenty Six years being duly Sworn, I Granville C. Stapylton do hereby declare that I am now a resident of the State of Florida that I have resided in the United States for the last three years and that it is my bona fide intention to become a citizen of the United States of America and to renounce forever all allegiances and fidelity to any and every Foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatsoever and particularly to the Queen of the united Kingdom of Great Britan [sic] and England of whom I am now a Subject.* Filed February 7, 1885 and recorded June 18, 1885. Stapylton became a United States citizen September 12, 1896 in Lake County, Florida. Obviously not yet naturalized he registered to vote in Lake County September 24, 1888 and voted in every election until 1899.

### Of Weddings and Horses

Stapylton had other intentions too. It seems that James Routledge and his family lived across the pond from him with his wife, their daughters and his two unwed sisters, Harriett and Elizabeth. The siblings were children of James and Sarah Barber Routledge. By that time their oldest sister Emily was probably married to Steele Park.

In the late spring of 1885 Stapylton was smitten by Elizabeth Routledge, who was born August 20, 1853 in Haggerstone, London, England so she was a bit younger than he. They courted for nine months before they



were married December 15, 1885 in the sitting room of her brother, James' home. A Methodist clergyman, then living in Fruitland Park, Isaac R. Vandewater officiated. The only others present were Elizabeth's local family, and Stapylton's partners Cyril Hereford and Hugh Budd. She had no bridesmaids.

The new bride wrote her sister Emily Park, *It was a wedding after my own heart—unconventional to a degree and therefore all the more enjoyable. You asked me what I wore. When anyone asked me what I was going to be married in, I told them “dark blue.” So I was—in riding habit. Granville and his partners wore their riding clothes also. As soon as it was over we joined a huge riding party of about 58 people, nearly the whole of our English colony. It was a cold day but beautifully fine and everything looked lovely in the clear sunlight. It was such a pretty sight to see all the party beginning to move.*

*We started from Granville's old house where there is a large clear enclosure and you can imagine how joyful it would look to see all the horses and their riders trying to get into some sort of order. Our horses wore white satin rosettes on their bridles and we of course led the way.*

*We rode through the woods to Conant, about 6 miles off, where we had an informal luncheon. I shall never forget the bright picture it made, looking back at any turn in the road, to see the whole cavalcade streaming through the trees, the horses of all colours, their riders most of them fine-looking men with their white riding breeches shining in the sun and the woods perfectly gorgeous with the autumn tints of every conceivable shade of red and gold and brown and grey and green.*

A large stable at Stapylton's and Company's compound sheltered horses not only ridden for transportation and pleasure but for racing. There was a race track about a mile west of Stapylton's Sub-division on Sand Mountain Road. Later tracks were built near Montclair a little over two miles west of Leesburg and then on Picciola Island which became the home track of the American British Colonial Racing Association. The first race at Picciola was March 15, 1888. None of these tracks resemble Hialeah or Churchill Downs as pictured below.



Bareback Hurdle Races

Among the histories of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church it has been written that this sport not only involved racing horses but betting on them and other unseemly activities which did not at all please a visiting English priest who had come to check up on the colony's spiritual development or lack of it. If true the critic may have been Stapylton's father William who visited the colony in the mid-September 1885.

### ***Holy Trinity Episcopal Mission, Chetwynd***

*The want of an Episcopal Church and a clergyman in the English Colony known as Chetwynd, Lake County, Florida, has been for some time felt, and a movement has been made to obtain subscriptions to erect a Church in the colony. The only available services are those few held by the Rev. Dr. [John B. C.] Beaubien at Leesburg and Gardenia. These meetings being considered as of too irregular a type to meet our needs, a general meeting of the colony has been called for July 3, 1886, to assemble at a general place, Stapylton & Company's dining hall to discuss what steps shall be taken to provide the neighborhood with a church and a rector.*

As a result of this meeting permission was sought and granted by the Diocese of Florida to establish a mission. The first service of Holy Trinity Mission, Chetwynd, was conducted in December 1886 by The Rev. John Campbell Wheatley Tasker of England at *The Hall* on Zephyr Lake. It was Stapylton who had persuaded Tasker to come. In the meantime a committee had formed to explore sites for the church. A decision was finally made January 28, 1887 to build a church on the present site—about half-way between Fruitland Park and Stapylton's subdivision on Lake Ella—as the crow flies.

Stapylton purchased the one-acre site from Samuel J. Tanner for \$20.00 March 24, 1887. That same day he sold it to the Diocese of Florida for a dollar. Most of the money to defray the total cost of the church, \$2,500.00, was raised through the efforts of Stapylton's father who helped organize a bazaar at his parish in Malden, England to benefit the new mission.

The September 11, 1887 account of the first Vestry meeting of Holy Trinity Mission, Chetwynd, lists G. C. Stapylton as the Senior Warden—a position he held until 1892. Also the lay reader he continued in that position until 1895 when he and his family moved from their home on Zephyr Lake to Leesburg. By then he and Lizzie had two children—Granville Brian, born September 19, 1887, and Ella Mabel, born November 22, 1889. Brian, as he was called, was baptized at the *temporary church* in the Vickers-Smith barn on Lake Geneva while Ella was the first to be baptized in the new church which was finally completed by July 1889. Brian was sent to school in England in 1895; Ella a few years later.

Stapylton may have had a hand in the naming of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Montclair, located two miles west of Leesburg. Established in January 1888 it bears the name of Stapylton's boyhood church in Malden, England. Stapylton and Company owned and operated a nursery in Montclair.

### ***Morrison, Stapylton & Company***

Early in 1886 one of Stapylton's partners, Cyril Herford, relocated to another English Colony in middle Tennessee called Rugby so Stapylton and Hugh Budd bought him out. A Manhattan real estate attorney and winter resident, William Hiram Morrison, then joined them under a new name of Morrison, Stapylton & Company. Together they ventured into the financial world when the firm opened a private or *convenience* bank in a large general store with the only safe in town, *Baer and Campbell*. Located on the northeast corner of Fourth and Main the bank opened April 1, 1886, the first bank established in Leesburg. Later they built the first brick building in town and relocated to the northwest corner of Sixth and Main. At that point Stapylton began to focus his attention more on banking than on real estate endeavors.

As an aside he also had one of the few telephones in the area on his desk. About 1891 the Leesburg Telephone Exchange strung wires along the town streets that enabled telephone calls within a radius of seven to ten miles. And they were also working to connect Leesburg with New York and then London, the former connection completed later in the year. As the story goes when there was a fire someone called Stapylton at the bank who then ran from his office on Main about a block to Orange Street to ring the fire bell.



In the meantime his new partner Morrison established a real estate venture of his own under the names of the Chetwynd Land Company and the Chetwynd Improvement Company that sought to develop communities on either side of *Stapylton's Sub-division* on Lake Ella which, as a town site, would become known as Chetwynd in June 1887. In fact Morrison built a fine large home on the lake in Chetwynd that ultimately burned to the ground in a February 1892 forest fire. It was not occupied nor were two other ruined homes nearby.

Some of those who sold land to Morrison and his associates were officers of the Sumter County Florida Land Company with whom Stapylton was associated—George M. Hubbard and John G. Herndon. Herndon, along with his five brothers, and Hubbard were all involved in businesses in Leesburg—from real estate to jewelry to groceries to hardware. Although young colonist George Elin held the office of secretary early on, by 1892 when the holdings were purchased in a foreclosure sale the principals named were Morrison, Dr. Samuel B. Smallwood of Astoria, New York, Leonard A. Bradley, William H. Prior and Charles S. Allen. All were probably New York land speculators and investors.

As an interesting aside March 26, 1886 Morrison, for \$269.25, rented hammock land on Lake Griffin from W. H. McCormack of Leesburg containing, with the exception of the lime trees, 2,054 *sweet seedling nursery orange trees, some of them budded*. Under the one-year agreement Morrison, his agents or employees could enter the grove at reasonable times *to view the trees, dig, cultivate, bud or remove them*. G. C. Stapylton witnessed the agreement. This transaction may have been for the benefit of the apprentices and others who were trying to re-establish their groves after a hard freeze in the winter of 1886.

By 1890 Morrison retired, moved to Rhode Island, and by 1904 was living in London. So Morrison, Stapylton and Company, was incorporated March 19 of that year as the Leesburg and County State Bank—G. C. Stapylton, president, H. S. Budd, cashier and R. F. E Cooke, assistant cashier. Duncan B. Campbell, a Scotch-Canadian and the co-owner of the general store with a safe was named a director along with two young men who had previously lived in the Colony of Chetwynd, Frederick S. A. Maude and Walter Neve. By then Frederick and Walter operated an up-scale livery stable in Leesburg, *Maude and Neve*. The following year, 1891, *the beautiful* Maude Morrison, referred to by Cooke as *the belle of the colony* in a letter to his father, and coincidentally the daughter of William Morrison and his wife Helen Burr, married Frederick Chetwynd-Stapylton, a broker and a member of the London Stock Exchange and Granville's older brother.

Stapylton still kept a finger in the local real estate market. April 24, 1894, as secretary of the Leesburg Development Corporation (L. B. Lee, president), a plat of East Leesburg was laid out specifically for him. While the new corporation transacted seven sales, dozens of deeds are registered that Stapylton personally sold in Leesburg.

### **Stapylton, the Banker**

For Stapylton the year 1893 was not a good one. The worst bank panic and economic depression in United States history up until then blindsided the nation that March but it didn't seem to impact the Leesburg bank until the following July when the bank in Tavares, then the county seat, closed its doors. As if that wasn't enough stress for the young banker his mother Elizabeth died at 61 in September. The town site of Chetwynd had already folded and the colony's population began to dwindle. Finding the five mile horseback commute from his home on Zephyr Lake to Leesburg inconvenient Stapylton and his family moved to Leesburg in 1895 where they lived for awhile in St. James Episcopal Church's new rectory on Lee Street.

In all probability the relocation was prompted by an on-going struggle to keep the Leesburg and County State Bank solvent, not only because of the continuing depression but because of two devastating freezes in late December 1894 and early February 1895 that completely destroyed and ended citrus production for years afterwards. February 12 a competitor bank, the Bank of Leesburg was assigned to Stapylton because it was felt his bank could pay dollar for dollar. In fact in the wake of the freezes every bank between Jacksonville and Tampa suspended business but not Stapylton's bank. Although deposits plunged from \$175,000 to below \$40,000 in four years the bank's doors were kept open. But people's lives were ruined. *What are we going to do until the next crop comes....without any money?* wrote Frank Cooke to his father George on bank letterhead. *I never have seen a bluer or sicker lot of people.*

An old Leesburg settler, Reuben D. Mathews, recalled an experience with Stapylton during this dark and dismal period. Mathews met with Stapylton and shared his business needs and worries with him. *But how will you live?* asked Stapylton. Young Mathews laughed but made no reply. Stapylton looked at him quizzically and remarked, *I see you can laugh....If you can laugh then you can live.*

Meanwhile to the north the last two Ocala banks in town suffered huge calamities. The First National Bank closed when its president was convicted of embezzling money from the Merchant's National Bank. He committed suicide in his upstairs bedroom when Federal agents arrived at his home to arrest him. Already reeling in the financial aftermath of the Great Freeze which caught them holding mortgages on worthless farm land Merchant's Bank closed also. The assets of both banks were assigned to a receiver, G. Chetwynd-Stapylton. His stature as a successful banker became well known.

State-wide he served as the second vice president of the Florida Banker's Association. Speaking of bank failures at their 1896 convention in Jacksonville he said, *It is difficult to exaggerate the moral and material injury that a community sustains by a bank failure. The worst side of human nature is unfailingly brought out and exhibits itself naked and unashamed. Loss of faith in mankind and in the stability of all human institutions follows a bank failure, and renders many of its victims, for a time at least, cynical,*

*suspicious and unreasonable. The shock to public confidence does incalculable harm to the cause of banking.*

The Stapyltons lived in Ocala about five years where he sang in a church choir, presumably the Grace Episcopal Church Choir. Decades later a gentleman who sang with him wrote Stapylton's son Brian that his most vivid memory of Brian's father was the fascination of watching his Adam's apple move up and down when he was singing.

### ***An Untimely Death***

When the Spanish-American war ended at the turn of the twentieth century Stapylton became involved in the establishment of a so-called *Ocala Colony* in Cuba. Sometime in January 1900 he and his wife moved from Ocala to Havana to *engage in business*. By then their children, Brian and Ella, were at school in England. Some Stapylton family members claim that he may have worked for the U. S. government in Cuba. All that is known for certain is that he and Elizabeth lived there for a little over a year. During that time the couple contracted yellow fever and became seriously ill. Shortly after they returned to their *Gold Block* home in Leesburg—so named because it was built by a railroad contractor named Gold—Stapylton was nominated the Democratic candidate for mayor and magistrate, a dual office. In February 1902 he was elected. At his first court he fined two prominent citizens for indulging in a scrapping match.

Six months later and with his health failing Elizabeth and Granville decided to go to England for rest and recuperation. But he did not recover. October 29, 1902 Granville Brian Chetwynd-Stapylton, age 43, died of tuberculosis at the Rectory, Hallaton, Liecestershire, England, where his father then lived. He was buried at Maldon, his home parish, on All Saints Day, November 1.

October 11, 1887 Stapylton had signed a very simple will in the presence of his brother-in-law Gustav Schneider who had married Harriet Routledge, his Haileybury classmate and friend Gerald Meysey Fellows, and his business partner Hugh S. Budd. After all debts were paid his entire estate was bequeathed to his wife, Elizabeth. It also named his executors: Budd and James Routledge, his wife's brother. Because Routledge lived near Boston, Massachusetts at the time he declined to serve. Court appointed appraisers, Arthur L. Miller and R. Francis E. Cooke, valued Stapylton's estate at \$2,139.55 including a gun valued at \$7.50. The estate was never closed.

His wife Elizabeth and their two children remained in England where Elizabeth died June 29, 1943. It took about 25 years to dispose of all of the properties she and Stapylton owned. But nothing was sold at a great price. Lots 21, 22, 23, 35 on Lake Ella, formerly known as *Stapylton's* Subdivision and the Chetwynd, sold for a grand total of \$50 in 1905.

The *Leesburg Commercial* wrote of him, *In the early days this doughty Englishman put his money into the bank that was destined to live and thrive and prosper long years after he tired of "pioneering" and returned to his home in England. He had the characteristics that in those days were popularly attributed to bankers, being aloof and formal in business hours, but he was staunch in his friendships and the soul of his honor.*

**Note:** The *Ocala Banner* reported June 19, 1903 that *The Church Home and Hospital of Orlando is erecting a new hospital building. The late Granville Chetwynd-Stapylton, who was a citizen of Ocala for several years and endeared himself to our citizens, and took a deep interest in the hospital home. It is proposed to dedicate one of the wards in this hospital to the memory of this beloved citizen and it will be known as the "G. Chetwynd-Stapylton Ward."*

The [Episcopal] Church and Home Hospital provided for the community's medical needs on Anderson St. in Orlando until it ran out of money and closed in 1916. Dr. Christ and Dr. John S. McEwan raised the funds necessary to build a new one, which opened as Orlando General Hospital in 1918. It was renamed Orange Memorial Hospital, and later became the Orlando Regional Medical Center.

Although offerings were taken for the hospital until it closed whether there were memorials established from Holy Trinity or Leesburg friends are not known. No records exist.

