

Emma Leake Chenoweth

Mrs. Chenoweth was born on February 12, 1861 in Millville, Cumberland County, New Jersey. Her parents were Charles Garrison Leake and Mary Page Lore Leake.

She attended Ivey Hall Seminary in Bridgeton, New Jersey, the Abbott Music Institute and Moff College of Oratory in Philadelphia and the Madame Blanchard Coyle School of Music. In her younger days she was an accomplished singer.

She married Dr. George Durbin Chenoweth in 1898 and on his retirement in 1919 moved with him to Yorktown, Virginia.

Among the many organizations she belonged to were the following: The Daughters of the American Revolution, Chairman's Club of the DAR, the American Historical Society, a charter member of the Society of Friends of Comte de Grasse, the American Friends of Lafayette and a charter member and secretary of the Yorktown Branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

Mrs. Chenoweth, in 1934, received the "Medal Officier D'Academie" from France. This was in recognition of her efforts in directing attention to the part Admiral de Grasse played in the Siege of Yorktown, which brought the Revolution to an end. This medal was one of her favorite honors and it is in the possession of the Comte de Grasse Chapter.

Her Revolutionary ancestors were Captain David Page and Captain William Garrison. She became a member of the NSDAR on October 4, 1894, four years after the organization was formed. Her number – 6311 – attests to this. She was very proud that Letitia Green Stevenson, then President General, signed her papers. Mrs. Stevenson was the mother of the late Senator Adlai Stevenson.

Mrs. Chenoweth served as Regent for the Comte de Grasse Chapter for 25 years.