Southern Prestige

What’s New? On the Website

In the upper Atlantic South, from Georgia to Maryland, what mattered socially was how many of one’s ancestors were signers of the Declaration of Independence and/or the Constitution, or what rank they had in George Washington’s army (the so-called Order of the Cincinnati). Older sons of older sons were preeminent, along with membership to comparable women’s groups like the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution). In the lower South, what mattered socially was what role one’s ancestors played in secession, what rank they held in the Confederate army, and what role they played amongst the Redeemers, as well as, of course, the United Daughters of the Confederacy. In both regions of the South, it mattered socially how many slaves and how many acres your ancestors possessed.