

A COLLECTION OF FACTS AND  
PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF  
MY ANCESTORS:

REESE

TERRELL

FRITH

WILLIAMS

CANTERBURY

KINCHELOE

LEWIS

SIMPSON

HART

THOMPSON

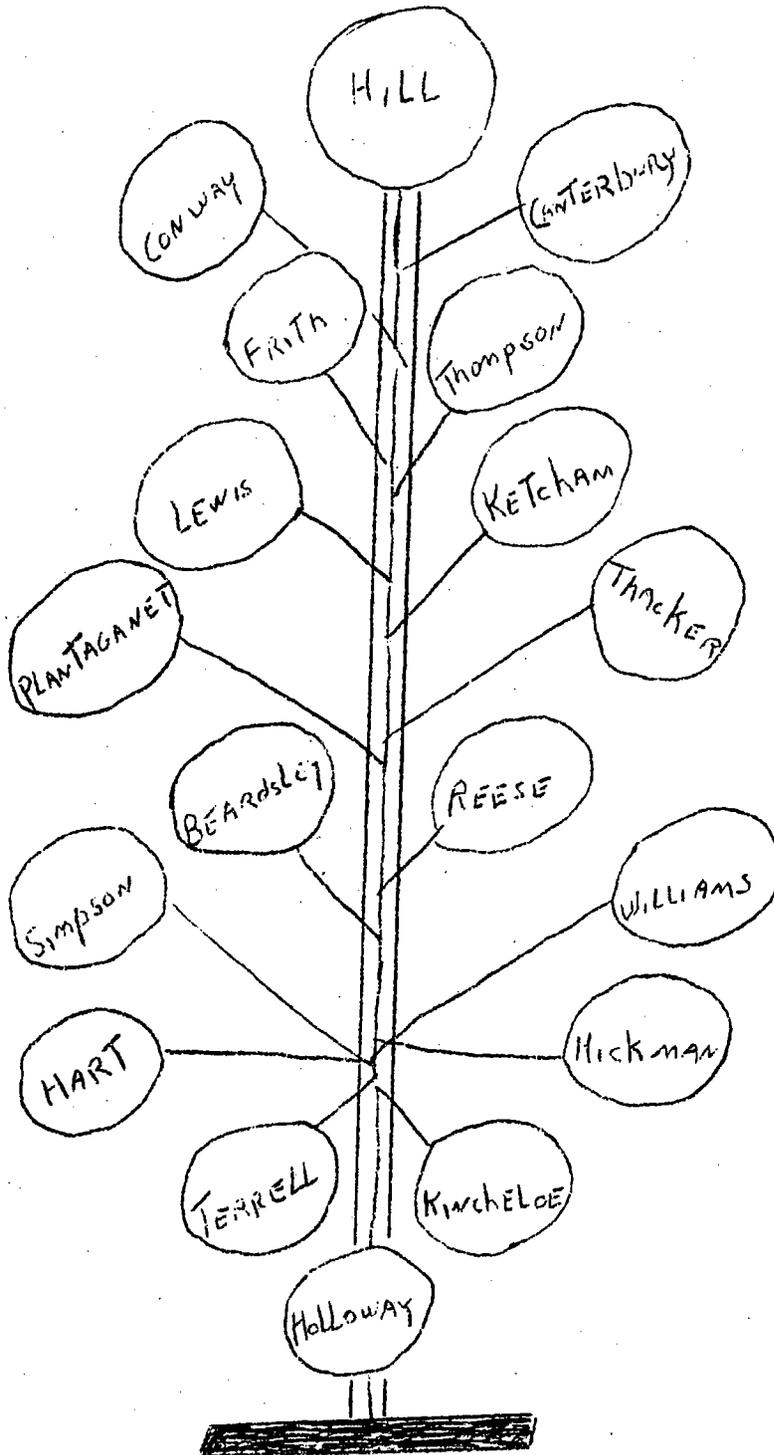
HICKMAN

HILL

KETCHAM

BEARDSLEY

M.L. Gaffney, nee Hill  
13860 Canoe Brook  
Seal Beach, Ca. 90740  
1981



WE WROTE ABOUT THESE

OUR  
FRENCH  
ENGLISH  
WELSH  
FAMILIES.

## FOREWORD

This started in 1976 as a simple narrative of my families for my own descendants. The area has widened and as I found other family members working on some of the same lines it has become far greater in scope than thought possible. As far as we have been able to trace these direct ancestral families originated from either France, England or Wales for none have been traced to any other country.

It is not a true genealogy though charts of some kind are used with each family. To understand these, an example: Louisa Hichman marrying George L. Hill -- the Hickman chart stops with her generation and she is next found in the Hill chart. Indirect or lateral ancestors have been included because they were important to the period or to the family.

There are omissions simple because time did not allow, many records were destroyed in diasters or there was no clue which would lead to a logical conclusion. This is regretful for no one family is more important than another, they all are my ancestors. It is hoped any errors will be understood - none are intended - as well as the occasional use of the personal pronoun.

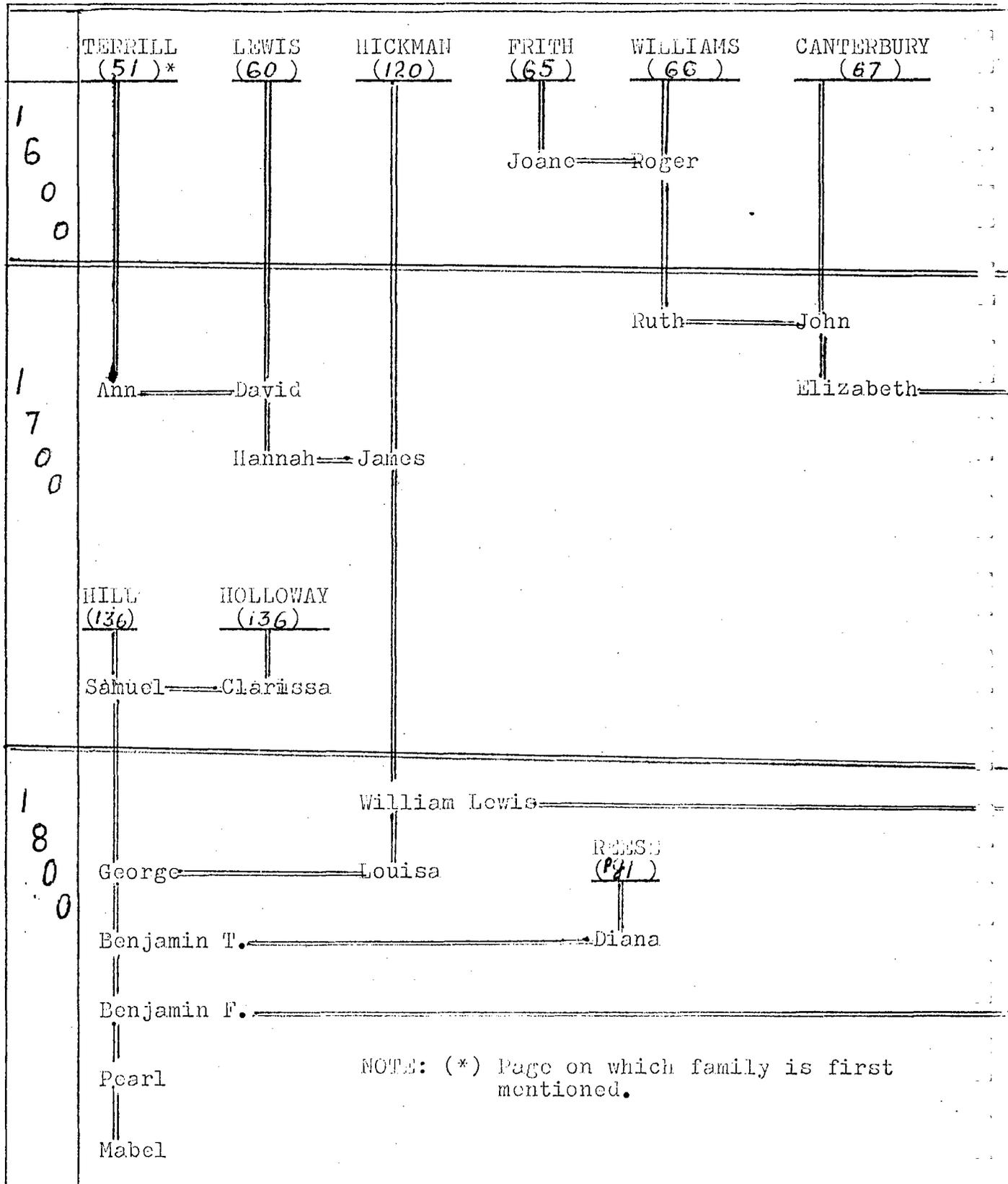
The sequence used seemed to be the most logical. Of necessity there is an over-lapping of dates that can not be avoided.

This has grown with the heroic efforts of many who have shared information and to whom I am deeply grateful. Even then it would never have been accomplished without Ruth who, not as a dutiful daughter, was an earnest seeker of facts. She has edited what I have written, is a tireless and interested participant and this final form is her suggestion which meets with my entire approval.

We have had both disappointments and satisfactions and a great deal of fun. Our final wish is that we could have done full justice to those from whom we come.

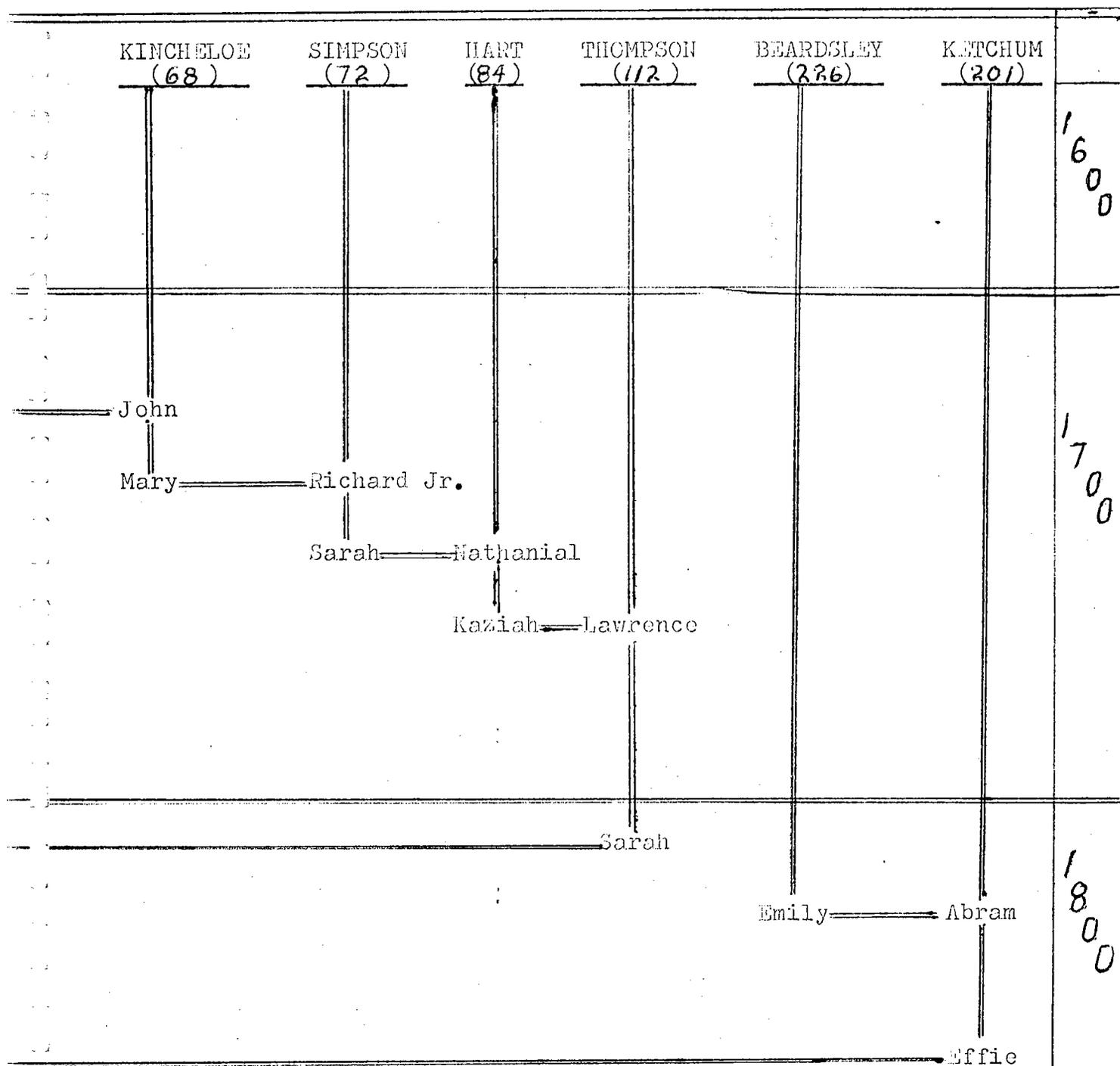
Mabel L. Gaffney  
Seal Beach, California  
March 1980

CENTURY OF ANCESTRAL EMMIGRATION TO AMERICA AND



NOTE: (\*) Page on which family is first mentioned.

LINEAGE TO PRESENT GENERATION (1)



(1) Not all generations for each family appear on this chart.

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MORGAN and Esther Reese,  
Sept, 1866

## MORGAN AND ESTHER EVANS REESE

These are our Welch ancestors. As with many other names, the spelling of Rees has gone through many changes. In Wales in 1171 the common form was Rhys, in England in 1599 it had become Rees but now Reece or Reese are most found and accepted. There is a Coat of Arms from 1700 but we make no claim to it; just the name.

This next is interesting enough to add for our family came from Montgomeryshire. The volume "Pedigree of Montgomeryshire Families", selected in 1699 by the celebrated Welch poet and grammarian, John Rydderch, (manuscript said to be in possession of Sir Thomas Phillips, Baronet, of Middle Hill, Worcestershire) opens with the family of Rhys, "a younger branch of the great family Mathrofran". So the name is old to that area and we can assume that long ago there was a common ancestor named Rhys.

Morgan acquired a Bible in 1827. ( This Bible is now held by a great-grandson). The year 1789 is printed on the cover. Census records verify that as the year of his birth, no month or day is given. On the fly leaf Morgan listed many names and dates that have been helpful to us in our research.

His last entry was: "Esther Rees, wife of Morgan Rees, was born 27 April 1791. It is thought that both Esther and Morgan were born in Wales, probably in Montgomery County and in or near to Newtown. We have no knowledge of earlier history for his family nor of hers of Evans.

Old records of the Church of England, LLanllwchaiarn Parish in Newtown show that marriage banns for Morgan Rees and Hester (sic) Evans were at the church on April 5, 12 and 19, 1812. No record of

their marriage was found. Canon Jones, present rector in Newtown, concluded that they were not married in the Church. That conclusion was doubted for only marriages performed in the Church of England were recognized as legal in the British Isles during that period. Through papers from Sara Amos and further research by Betty King we know that Esther Evans of Llanllwchaiarn, Montgomeryshire and Morgan Rees of Shropshire Parish were married in the church in Shropshire on 6 May 1812. It is true that marriages usually took place where the Banns were read but this one did not.

Ann, their oldest child, was born in February, 1813 in Chirbury, (sometimes seen as Cherbury) Shropshire, England. Chirbury is not found on maps seen so far, it could be on or near the river Severn which runs thru Newtown. It is probable that the other 14 Reese children were born in Wales.

From "History of Newtown, Wales" we see it to have been "known prior to 1539 during the reign of Henry VIII". It had "good corn ground and meadow and much plenty of wood and the like to Newtown, where to one side of the town cummeth a little brooke into the Severn." It also was a "great town for the Flannel Mart" built ca. 1832, "the finest built Flannel Mart in Wales".

Betty King saw a record of Rate Book for Newtown, Llanllwchaiarn United District which shows two men by name of Morgan Rees. They were listed in Llanllwchaiarn, Kilcoven Parish, Kilcoven Township. One property had house and land owned by Lord Clive and taxed six pounds, the other with house and land owned by Lord Clive situated at Covenmaiar and taxed two pounds. While either could have been our Morgan, we agree he probably was the first one named. He eventually had 15

children to house and he certainly need room for the large family.

There was a school or seminary in Newtown where the oldest son, Thomas, probably received his education and participated in some religious studies. Although there is no actual record of schooling for any of the children some may have read and written both Welsh and English.

In America the Reese families were often known as Baptist Church members. Ann had been baptised in that faith, along with her Aunt Mary Reese, in Wales in 1830. Despite that, Ann and David A. Davies were married in the local Church of England on 2 June 1837. This record is kept in a safe in the basement of the New Church, Llanllwchaia Parish and was seen by Henry and Sara Amos. For many years I have had a small picture of the Old Church. On the back Ann's son, David Lewis Davies, wrote: "This is the church in which Mother was married, now in ruins. It is beyond doubt over one thousand years old. D.L.D." The picture also shows the Severn river running in the foreground.

Surely Morgan, while working as a Weaver, may have cultivated some land, especially as in 1840 on the ship's passenger list, Esther gave her occupation as "Farmer". As a young child I asked my grandmother questions about Wales, names of my Reese relatives, the journey to America on a sailing ship, many more should have been asked but were not for then I did not know how important it was to go deeper into the lives of her parents and she was less than three when they left Wales. The family was bilingual for she taught me to count to five in Welch, all she remembered. The correctness of this was verified recently when I was sent a small napkin from a St. David's Day dinner. On it were printed those five words, among others, in both English and Welch. (St. David is Patron Saint of Wales.)

Between February 1813 and mid September 1837 Morgan and Esther became parents of fifteen children including one set of twins. Sadly one twin, Martha, died in infancy. Of the five sons and ten daughters five had red hair and ten dark. While there is no description of the family we are fortunate to have their names and birthdates. Those already born are listed by Morgan in Bible in 1827 and continued as the others came. There is no information of Esther and Morgan's early years.

At sometime between 1837 when Diana was born and 1840 the important decision to leave Wales for America was made by Morgan and Esther. It was in this era that the woollen Mills of New England and New York were expanding and owners were searching the British Isles for workers to man the looms. Morgan had become a weaver of flannel, one of the most sought after skills and the lure of not only increased income but better education for his children, the opportunity to own land that was denied him in Newtown and even, perhaps, the urging of his family led him to accept the challenge.

In 1897 Ann's son, David, wrote that while on a visit to Whitesboro, New York he "wanted to see some of Mother's cousins" so other Reese/ Evans relatives must have come to the same area but none have been found.

As told by Betty King; her family legend is that Morgan took his daughter, Elizabeth 16 and two oldest sons, Thomas 20 and William 18 and the four of them sailed for America entering through Canada. Although the date, name of ship and place of entry are unknown it is true that many came from Europe to the northeast States via Canada.

Once located Morgan and probably the two boys began work in the New York Mills near Whitesboro with Elizabeth taking over the household chores. It was common for pay to be divided; one half in money, one half to be used in the Company store where food and clothing could be purchased. In due time he sent for the rest of his family. Esther with Jane, 22, and the seven youngest children set sail from Liverpool on 12 May 1840 on the Vomed Carol of Carolton under the command of Captain Bird. Oldest daughter, Ann, with her husband, David Davies, and their two young children were on the same ship.

The voyage from Liverpool to New York City took six weeks. Diana at 2½ remembered little of the journey except for the sailors calling to her and dropping candies into her pinafore. It was a long hard trip. Families brought their own food and bedding and were responsible for the complete care of themselves.

In the summer of 1977 in Whitesboro I saw that part of the passenger list of the Vomed Carol of Carolton showing Esther with children Jane, Esther, John, Ellen, Richard, Joseph, Maria and Diana, the last to become my grandmother. In later years she told me that her sister, Sarah, stayed in Wales and baby Martha was forever asleep in her little grave. Not finding a listing for Mary Reese it was good to find among papers Edith Aitken has this item: "Jane Reese and one other did not come to America." We all agree that it was not Jane but Mary who stayed behind with Sarah. Her delay in joining the family was not long for her son, Joseph Edwards, was born in New York in 1841. It seems likely that Sarah was married and that she and her family did not want to come to a new country. It can be told here that when Morgan's estate was settled in 1878 Sarah was not listed as one of his surviving children.

On landing in New York City Ann Davies and her family traveled west to the Welch Hills area near Granville, Ohio while Esther and children west northwest to Whitesboro, perhaps using the Erie Canal which had opened to commerce in 1825. Some of the things that Esther brought with her are still in possession in the family. They include a luster teapot, stone jar and flat irons.

The younger children went to school in a building that, while still standing, is now being used as a home.

The 1850 Federal Census shows Morgan, Esther, son Joseph 16 and Joseph Edwards 9 in the home of Adam Cast. Elizabeth with young Esther, Ellen, Maria and Diana were living in another house. We don't know why the family was separated but, if they were in Mill houses, the smallness of them could be the reason. It was also puzzling to know where to place Joseph Edwards in the family but through Edith Aitken we learned that Joseph was son of Mary Reese Edwards. My grandmother had said she had a sister who married, had a child and had died a young woman. That one surely was Mary.

Sometime between 1840 and 1850 Morgan and Esther purchased 103 acres of land lying between the beautiful little towns of Oreskany and Whitesboro. It is difficult to read the old deed to the property showing Morgan paid \$1500.00. The land sloped down to the Erie Canal which is now filled in. The Barge Canal farther away now handles water traffic.

The buildings on the farm, if any, were unsuitable and by 1855 Morgan had built a home for his family and, no doubt, shelter for his stock and crops. The house was placed down a slope near to a spring

giving Esther the very modern convenience of running water in her home, a rarity at that time. Morgan and son John who bought an adjoining farm planted a long line of sugar maple trees. These tall trees, huge in circumference still line the road. Flora Humphrey has pictures of the farm and the 2 story large home as they were after Richard took over the farm from his father. The house is no longer there and the land has been sold.

Another family story is that Morgan had wanted to buy the land on which a famous Revolutionary battle was fought in which General Herkimer lost his life. This is now known as the Oriskany Battlefield and is owned by New York State classed as a Historic Site. A towering monument was erected in 1844 where the famous battle of 1777 was fought. It is a beautiful spot with gentle rolling land overlooking the lovely Mohawk Valley with hazy blue hills in the distance. For some reason Morgan changed his mind and bought nearer to Whitesboro.

In 1897 Ann's son, David, visited his Uncle Richard on the farm. He told of an important day in Morgan's life in a letter to his niece Clara. "It was August 6, 1844 and the Democrats of New York were meeting near to Whitesboro, and on that day grandfather made \$600.00 selling vittles, feeding horses and selling the right to do so to other people. I guess he never made so much money in one day before or after in his life-time".

This was 4 years after Esther and children arrived and such opportunities to add to their stock of funds came seldom. How much Esther and children may have helped we don't know. Was it that day that made it possible to put aside money to help buy the farm, build

the house and purchase stock and seed to plant his fields? That venture surely shows the doggedness with which he pursued his dream of living in America and owning his own land. It may have been the caste system in Britian that sparked his determination to leave Wales. It was possible thatand his ambition for better education and life for the children.

There is no way of knowing how long Morgan stayed at the Mills while getting his land into production or what help his children gave him. A record of 1850 shows 50 acres improved, 50 unimproved. He listed cash value as \$2500.00 which was \$1000.00 more than the amount shown on the Deed for the bare land. He raised hay, oats and rye. Flora Humphrey wrote it was indicated he also raised buckwheat, corn, potatoes, peas and beans, had a cow, 2 pigs to slaughter, a few chickens for eggs and owned 2 horses.

1855 saw many changes for the Reese family. It was then that Morgan renounced his citizenship and allegience to the Queen in Britian and became an American citizen. It was also in that year that the New York state census lists Maria 20 and Diana 18 as living as "boarders" in a Mill house, they were listed as "aliens". I did not know of the daughters when old enough working in the Mills but it now seems probable. These houses, close to the Mills, are still standing, small and quite charming in their simplicity. There has been an effort by a group of present day citizens to have these homes declared as a historic site and I, for one, hope they are successful.

The influence on Morgan and Esther of an established church is hard to assess. At that time all religions other than the Church of England were classed as Non-Conformists churches. No record has been found of either Morgan or Esther joining any church in America. There was a small Welch church near their home in Oneida County, not knowing they were members it might be assumed they clung to the Church of England.

Church records show that some of the children joined the Baptist Church in Whitesboro. In 1848 the Church Board granted Thomas the right to go out as a Baptist preacher. He had presented a letter to the Board in 1842 and evidently went through the next six years of testing by the Board before he was given their blessing. Did Thomas have some training for the ministry at the Non-Conformist school in Newtown, Wales? Thomas left New York, went to Ohio and then to Illinois and Iowa where he served as paster of various Baptist Churches.

Sometime during the years Esther wrote this little verse in her Bible

"Esther Rees, her bock

God give her grace in it to look  
and when her pealing bell doth toal  
The Lord of Heaven receive her soul.  
When I am dead and out of mind  
It is in this Book my name you will see  
And when my name you plainly see  
you can no help but think of me.

Esther Rees, her hand and pen"

Joseph at 16 and William at 27 sailed around Cape Horn in 1849 for the goldfields of California. The year before 17 year old Richard had left home for an adventurous life making two trips to California to the Sacramento area. His name is found there in the 1850 Federal census. It is quite possible the three brothers met during those hectic days of searching for gold. William and Joseph did find gold and after two or three years started home bringing it with them. Along the way fearing robbers they buried part of their store. It is not known how much William kept of his share, Joseph had nuggets and enough to have a gold watch case made. The buried gold was lost for neither brother ever returned to the hiding place to bring it home.

With the children growing up and beginning to scatter to build their own lives Morgan, Esther, daughter Esther and son John on the farm next door remained in New York.

Esther continued to stay with her parents. She did not marry, was a member of the Baptist Church for many years and died when just 40 years old in 1866.

A few years after the exodus of the children to the mid-west, Richard was asked to return to Whitesboro with his wife to take over his parent's farm and to care for them. It is possible that Morgan and Esther were not in the best of health. A picture of them taken in Utica in 1866 shows them as elderly, erect and appearing reasonably well. They are seated side by side; she in her white cap and stiff silk gown appears to be of slender build. Morgan was more robust and appears quite tall. From this picture it is possible to imagine her hair as red, it looks to be quite abundant, as is his.

No one ever described them to me so I can only form my own opinion as to their ambitions and dreams. I knew their sons Richard and John, their daughters Maria, Ellen and Diana. In addition I know descendants of Ann, Joseph, Thomas, William, Elizabeth as well as of Ellen, Richard and John, nor can I omit my personal family of Diana. Because of this I feel qualified to say that Morgan and Esther were people to look upon with some degree of pride. It was no small task to bring fifteen children into the Old World, come to a strange new country leaving behind a small grave and at least one daughter, and then in America to acquire a sizeable property.

Richard and wife, Myra, returning to the farm tenderly saw to the comfort of his parents, also giving them the pleasure of being with their grandson and three granddaughters as they came along. On 28 June 1873 Esther died. Morgan lived until 24 February 1878, five years without the wife he had married sixty-six years before. They are buried beside each other with young Esther next to her mother in that hillside cemetery in Whitesboro overlooking the beauty of the Valley they surely loved.

Richard who had been great comfort and help to his aged parents died in 1914. He with Myra are also on this same plot facing that beautiful Mohawk Valley. A tall white granite shaft centers the area with names of our Reese family.

Morgan left a Will made some years before his death. He left a modest amount to Richard and Myra in recognition of the loving care given him and "my beloved wife". To the other surviving children, William, Thomas, John, Ann, Elizabeth, Ellen, Maria and Diana "the rest of his estate to be divided equally", another token of affection from their parents.

## Bibliography

Topographical Dictionary of Wales	Lewis
History of Newtown	Rowlands 1914
Map of Newtown	
Reese family in Wales & America	Mary Reese (no relation)
Bible	Morgan Reese
Bible	Esther Reese
Letter re: Banns 1812	Cannon Jones
Record of marriage 1812	
Picture of Old Church, Newtown	
Census records: Federal and State	
Partial passenger list: Vomed Carol of Carolton 1840	
Naturalization Papers 1855	
Deed to farm 1855	
Record of land and crops	
Cemetery records: New York, Ohio, Minn.	
Several Obituaries	
Pictures, Morgan and Esther	
Personal recollections	
Letters from:	Thomas Reese
	David Davies
	Lura Ritchie Yanda
	Sara Amos
	Flora Humphrey
	Betty King
	Edith Aitken

Morgan Reese

His Book 1827

Ann Reese was born February 14<sup>th</sup>

Mary Reese was born May 29<sup>th</sup> 1833

Sarah Reese was born April 27<sup>th</sup> 1817

Jane Reese was born December 5<sup>th</sup> 1818

Thomas Reese was born September 25<sup>th</sup> 1822

William Reese was born May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1827

Elizabeth Reese was born January 13<sup>th</sup> 1822

Ester Reese was born November 14<sup>th</sup> 1820

John Reese was born September 9<sup>th</sup> 1824

John Reese was born 21<sup>st</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1829

Richard Reese born May 17 - 1831

John Reese born May 1 1833

Martha Reese Born May 1 1833

John Reese born March 10 - 1837

John Reese was born September 10<sup>th</sup> 1839

Another Reese wife of Morgan Reese

was born April 27<sup>th</sup> 1791

MORGAN REES

b. 1789  
m. 6 May 1812 Shropshire, Eng.  
d. 24 Feb. 1878

ESTHER EVANS

b. 27 April 1791  
m. 5/12/19 April 1812 Newtown, W.  
d. 28 June 1873

1. Ann  
b. 27 Feb. 1813 England  
m. 2 June 1837 David Davies  
d. 15 Dec. 1889 Granville, Ohio

2. Mary  
b. 29 May 1815  
m. date unknown \_\_\_\_\_ Edwards  
d. ca 1841 Whitesboro, N.Y.

3. Sarah  
b. 27 April 1817  
m. unknown  
d. unknown

4. Jane  
b. 9 Dec. 1818  
m. unknown  
d. unknown

5. Thomas  
b. 18 Sept. 1820 Wales  
m. ca 1845 Betsy Huggell  
d. 1889 Dunlap, Iowa

6. William  
b. 3 May 1822 Wales  
m. Martha Jane Lewis ca. 1855  
d. 1879 Chicago, Ill.

7. Elizabeth  
b. 19 Jan. 1824 Wales  
m. 1851 Elias Ellis  
d. 1893

8. Esther  
b. 16 Nov. 1825 Wales  
m. unmarried  
d. 1866 Whitesboro, N.Y.

9. John  
b. 9 Nov. 1827 Wales  
m. ca. 1860 Margaret Williams  
d. Jan. 1908 Fairmount, Ill.

10. Ellen  
b. 23 Sept. 1829 Wales  
m. 4 Mar. 1858 Rodney Hill  
d. 1899 Clinton, Ill.

11. Richard  
b. 17 May 1831 Wales  
m. Myra Coleman  
d. 1914

12. Joseph  
b. 1 May 1833 Wales  
m. ca. 1862 Virginia (died at Catlett birth)  
d. 1871, Fairmount Illinois

13. Martha  
b. 1 May 1833  
m. ca. 1858 Whitfield Hyatt  
d. 1914 St. James, Minn.

14. Maria  
b. 16 March 1835 Wales  
m. ca. 1858 Whitfield Hyatt  
d. 1914 St. James, Minn.

15. Diana  
b. 12 Sept. 1837 Wales  
m. 4 June 1860 Benj. T. Hill  
d. 1 July 1921 Chicago, Ill  
bur. Clinton, Ill.

Esther Reads her Book  
God give her grace in it to look  
and when her passing Beel hath  
that the Lord of heaven receive  
her soul

When i am dead and out of man  
it is in this Book my name you  
will see and when my name you  
plainly see you can no less than  
think of me

Esther sees her name and  
prayer

Last Will and Testament of Morgan Reese on file in the Oneida County Court House located in Utica, New York

Morgan Reese of Whitestown, Oneida County and State of New York do make publist and declare this to be my last will and testament in the manner words and figures following thats' to day.

First - I order and direct my executor hereafter named without delay to pay and discharge my debts and all funeral and testamentary expences after my decease.

Second - I hereby nominate and appoint my beloved son Richard W. Reese to be executor of this my last will and testament.

Third - In consideration of the care, labor and services required to take care of my self and my beloved wife, Esther, in our aged feeble condition I hereby will devise and give to my son Richard W. Reese the sum of five hundred dollars and the further sum of one hundred dollars to my daughter-in-law Myra wife of my son Richard.

Fourth - I hereby will bequeath give order and direct that the balance of my estate whatever the same may be, shall be at the decease of myself and wife, be equally devided between all my children, share and share alike (excepting the widow of my son Joseph Reese and her daughter).

Fifth - I hereby make void and of no effect all former wills and testaments made by me and revoke the same.

In Witness Whereof I the said Morgan Reese have to this my last will and testament set my hand and seal at Whitestown aforesaid this 17th day of May 1872

his  
Morgan X Reese  
mark

Witnesses:

Morris Wilcox Whitestown

Richard Garth Dr.

Peter Arhirlgen Dr.



Copy of Statement sent to the Relatives, Sept. 16.

Account of funds belonging to the Estate -  
Note of Dr. W. Reese card survey in bank 2685  
Amount of things which belonged to Father & Mother 42.00  
as they were appraised - \$ 2731.17

1876 Money paid out to be deducted for  
Father's and Mother's sickness & burial \$ 123.99

1876 April 14 Paid William Goos for Basket Service & Sleigh \$ 12.40  
Doctor's Family Bill \$ 7.50

1873-1876 Paid Family Vest for Father 3.50

For serving Citations & attending in court \$ 16.35

" Release 3.00

" New Commission 93.75

Inscription on the Monument for Father \$ 12  
Expenses \$ 5.00  
351.39

\$ 981.59

Recapitulation.

Whole Amount of Fund \$ 2731.17

" " to be deducted 981.59

- Balance 1749.58

Amount to be divided between 9. 194.40 each

This is a Xerox copy of a page in an account book that belonged to Richard Reese. I'm sure the hand writing is that of my grandmother Rachel Reese who was at that time seventeen years old.

Lina Hambley  
30 Sept 76

MARY REESE EDWARDS

b. May 29, 1815

m. \_\_\_\_\_ Edwards

ca. 1840

d. 1841

Mary was born 19 May 1815, the second daughter of Morgan and Esther Reese. It is possible that like her older sister, Ann, this took place in Cherbury/Chirbury, Shropshire, England.

When Mary was 25 the family made the move to America, Oneida County, New York. The Vomed Carol of Carolton passenger list does not show Mary as having sailed with the rest of her family. Edith Aitkens found a paper showing that "Jane and one other stayed in Wales". As Jane is listed on that particular passenger list it is concluded that Mary was the one who came later--for she did come to America. This same paper found by Edith shows her as Mary Reese Edwards. According to census records her son, Joseph Edwards, was born in Oneida County in 1841.

My grandmother, 22 years younger than Mary, told me among other family tales that she had a sister who married, had a child and died a young woman. This probably was Mary.

In the 1850 census Joseph Edwards, 9 years, was shown as living with his Reese grandparents in Whitesboro and again in the same home in the 1855 New York State census. In 1860 he was living in Fairmount, Illinois with his uncle, Joseph Reese. Nothing more is known of Mary's son. I never heard his name mentioned by other family members. By the time of his Uncle Joseph's death, ca 1870, he may have struck off on his own and failed to keep in touch with his Reese relatives. As he is not mentioned among survivors in Morgan's Will it is supposed he had not kept up correspondence with him. Without further clues it had been impossible to trace him.

SARAH REESE

b. April 27, 1817

This third child of Morgan and Esther presents the biggest mystery of the family and will probably never be solved. We do know that Sarah did not leave Wales with her family but elected to remain behind. It is likely that she had married and that she and her husband were established and did not wish to leave. Since she is not listed as a surviving child of Morgan's at his death in 1878 Sarah, perhaps, had died. David Davies, Ann's oldest son, visited Newtown in the 1890's but made no mention in any letters or stories of his trip of Sarah or any of her children so the tracing of her seems impossible.

JANE REESE

b. Dec. 9, 1818

Jane was the fourth child and the fourth daughter of Morgan and Esther.

The ship's passenger list of Vomed Carol of Carolton which sailed from Liverpool on 18 May 1840 and landed in New York City on 29 June 1840 shows her along with her mother, three young brothers and four sisters as being on board. Oldest sister Ann Davies with husband and two young children were on the same ship. I imagine that Jane, 22 years old, spent most of the sailing time of 6 weeks in helping care for the little ones.

Jane cannot be verified in United States census records as can others of the family. A Jane Reese (Meridith) (wife of Daniel Meridith) was received into the Baptist Church of Whitesboro, New York but this has not been confirmed as being our Jane. She is not named among Morgan's surviving children in 1878 and my childhood recollection is that she did not live a long life.

THOMAS REESE

- b. Sept. 18, 1820
- m. Elizabeth (Betsy)  
Hugell  
ca. 1850-55
- d. 1889 Danlap, Iowa

After 4 daughters a son was born to Morgan and Esther, one of the 5 redheads in the Reese family.

The church seemed to have a great influence in his life and it seems logical that Thomas attended a school or seminary in Newtown. He, his father, his brother William and sister Elizabeth came to America ca. 1840 entering thru Canada then south to Whitesboro, New York. Presumably he worked in the woolen Mills.

On 5 February 1842 Thomas presented a letter of commendation to the Whitesboro Baptist Church and on the 5th of March he was received as a member. This indicates he had been baptised in the faith while yet in Wales.

31 May 1845 he was "invited to exercise his gift. On 6 June 1846 the Church voted for him to have his license "to preach the Gospel of Christ" and given a letter of dismissal and recommendation. He severed his link to the Whitesboro Church in 1848 setting out on his journey to become a preacher of his faith.

The next we know of him is his appointment to the Baptist Church, Clinton, Illinois, the church my Hill great-grandparents had organized in their home in 1839 and in which home meetings were held for some time. Thomas served that church from June 1855 to Nov. 1856.

A history of Logan County shows that Thomas founded a church in or near Lincoln, Ill. serving as its first paster. In 1860 Thomas and Betsy with 5 daughters and 1 son were in Fairmount, Vermillion County, Ill.

Further moves for him included Marseilles and Lockport, finally Dunlap, Iowa in 1887. A letter from him to his brother Richard in that year said that he was "sorry I can not come to your daughter's wedding" and "best wishes to your entire family". In recent years it has been established that Thomas died in 1889, he and his wife are buried in the cemetery at Dunlap.

Thomas' daughter Mary is the only child of this Reese family I knew. She and my father were first cousins. Infrequent visits were made between her home in Oak Park and ours on the south side of Chicago. She and her husband, Whitfield Davis, had no children. I remember their home as being very comfortable and there were good conversations when the families were together but I never felt the closeness and easy friendship that I did with other cousins in Clinton and Fairmount. Mary, widowed, died in 1941 and is buried in Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago.

#### Issue of Thomas and Elizabeth Reese

Sarah G.	b. Wisconsin	
William M.	b. Illinois	
Caroline	b. Illinois	
Ellen	b. Illinois	
Grace	b. Illinois	
Mary	b. Illinois	m. Whitfield Davis
	d. 1941	
	Oak Park, Ill.	

William Reese

b. May 3, 1822  
m. Martha Jane Lewis  
d. 1879 - Chicago

The sixth child, a second son, William was born to Morgan and Esther Reese in Newtown, Wales. When he was nearing 18 his father brought him, his brother Thomas, 20, and 16 year old sister, Elizabeth, to America. They entered thru Canada making their way to Whitesboro, Oneida County, New York.

No doubt he too worked in the weolen Mills for some length of time but in 1849 he and a younger brother, Joseph, set out for the gold fields in California. They sailed around Cape Horn to reach San Francisco. After 2-3 years the two brothers decided to return home bringing gold with them. Another brother, Richard, had come to Sacramento though no record seems to exist showing they were working in an area close to each other.

They set out for home, going over-land on this return trip. On the way they feared being waylaid and robbed so buried part of the gold. While Joseph carried some of his share home we have not known how much if any William was able to bring back. Neither man returned for their buried treasure.

William settled in Chicago, married Martha Jane Lewis and established their home at 250 Park Avenue on the northwest side of the city. Two daughters, a son and then another daughter were born there.

William owned a brass foundry on that same northwest side. Fortunately when the great Chicago fire of 1871 raged both his home and foundry were outside the path of the flames. In 1879 William died

His son, William Reese Jr. left no children but through the daughters there were numerous grandchildren.

In Winnebago, Minnesota in the 1920's a granddaughter of William's, May Nicholson Ritchie, and I, by chance, found out our relationship. This was a very happy one and it is from her daughter Lura that I have learned of William's Chicago life. Other cousins have supplied more, otherwise this could not have been written.

#### Issue of William and Marth Reese

Esther Ann

m. Rev. Julian Dixon

Mary

m. Lester Sweazy

William Jr.

MaBelle Elizabeth

m. David Jefferson Nicholson

ESTHER REESE

b. Nov. 1, 1826

d. Jan. 26, 1866

Esther, named for her mother, was the 8th child of Morgan and Esther and was born in Newtown, Wales. She did not marry and while she may have worked some in the Mills in New York my belief is that she was the one child who stayed in the home to help her mother.

According to a Baptist Church note she was baptised 5 Jan. 1850. Later the church notes read: "Died 26 Jan. 1866 - Esther Reese age 40 years".

She is buried next to her mother in the cemetery in Whitesboro. No member of the family seems to know anything about her, her health, her appearance or disposition. Using imagination she can be seen as more retiring than the others and quite willing to share in the household tasks and it is possible that she had frail health. We do know she was the only unmarried of her thirteen brothers and sisters.

JOHN REESE

b. Sept. 9, 1827  
m. Margaret Williams  
d. Jan. 16, 1908  
Fairmount, Ill.

John, 9th child and 3rd son of Morgan and Esther Reese, was 13 years old when he sailed from Liverpool with his mother, 2 younger brothers and 5 sisters on the Vomed of Carol of Carolton to New York harbor. This 6 weeks voyage could have been a keen adventure to this young boy. From New York the family party went on to Whitesboro, Oneida County to be united with his father, two older brothers and one sister who had come to America earlier.

While it is possible that John worked for some time in the woolen Mills his aim was to have his own farm. He and his father planted a long line of sugar maple trees which stood on both Morgan's and John's farms. These have stood for a hundred years or more and yet stand, tall and sturdy.

An 1855 state census record shows John as having 10 acres improved, 10 unimproved, cash value of farm \$700.00 and stock \$60.00. An acre or two was in meadow and he raised oats. From this small beginning he acquired more acreage as time allowed.

He married Margaret Williams in Whitesboro and with her raised their two sons and three daughters, one of these dying as a child.

At some time during these years John joined the Baptist Church and became an active member, for a time acting as a Bible teacher.

In 1871 the family left Whitesboro and settled in Fairmount, Ill. He farmed, remained active in the church with Margaret sharing these activities until her death in 1887.

John lived until January 16, 1908 when, following Masonic

services he was interred in Greenview cemetery in Fairmount where Margaret and their daughters, Phoebe and Mary, are lying.

I was in my early teens when I knew John. He was a quiet man, tall and slim with features very like those of his mother as shown in their pictures.

Issue of John and Margaret Reese

John N.

Sarah

d. as young child

George W.

Phoebe

d. April 25, 1889

Mary

d. Aug. 30, 1905

ELLEN REESE

b. Sept. 23, 1829

m. Rodney Hill

March 4, 1858

d. 1899

This little girl was eleven years old when she with her mother, brothers and sisters left Liverpool on the Vomed Carol of Carolton for her new home in Whitesboro, Oneida County, New York. After a voyage of 6 weeks (May 12 to June 29, 1840) and a trip from New York harbor to Whitesboro which could have been made by boat on the Erie Canal the family settled in. At one time older sister, Elizabeth had in her charge Ellen and three of her younger sisters in a house in Whitesboro.

It is not known but conceded that Ellen too did some work in the Mills as did others of her sisters. She was baptised in the Baptist Church in Whitesboro and despite exact date being unknown other than 1858 a letter of dismissal was granted her.

In 1855 she left her home traveling to Clinton, Illinois to visit her brother, Thomas, then pastor of the Church there. She met young Rodney Hill, whose parents had lent their home in 1839 for founding of this church and subsequent meetings.

Ellen was 4 years older than this handsome young man but that being no barrier on March 4th in 1858 they were married in Taylorville Illinois. Could this have been an elopement or was her brother established in a church there where he performed the ceremony?

The couple, he so tall and vigorous, she, short and more gentle, took up life on a farm just up the hill from his parents. As I knew it there was a small house at the top of the hill across from what later was the larger home, possibly here was where they lived and their children were born.

There were 4 children; a daughter named for Ellen's mother and oldest sister, and three sons.

Down the hill was Ellen's youngest sister, Diana, who had married Rodney's youngest brother and there were other Hill kin living near.

White I remember going there often so that this great-aunt was more or less like my grandmother to me, she died when I was a child. She was but 70 when her death occurred in 1899.

#### Issue of Ellen and Rodney Hill

Etta A.	b. 24 Dec. 1858, Clinton, Ill.
	d. 1900, Clinton, Ill.
Joseph Braxton	b. 1860, Clinton, Ill
	d. 1906, Clinton, Ill
William Morgan	b. 1862-63, Clinton, Ill.
Frederich Coleman	b. 1874, Clinton, Ill
	d. 1900 Chicago, buried Clinton

MARIA REESE

b. March 16, 1835

m. Whiting Hyatt  
ca. 1858

d. 1914

St. James, Minn.

The name Maria was pronounced as though spelled Mariah with the accent on the "i". This 14th and next to youngest child of Morgan and Esther was born in Newtown, Wales but at only 5 years old left with her family for America. When old enough it is evident that she, as well as Diana, worked in the textile Mills, for at 20 and Diana at 18 we find them listed as "boarders" in a Mill House.

The dauggereotype of Maria, Joseph and Diana taken in 1855 shows her as a handsome young woman, appearing to have poise and character. She had an slert, forceful face, dark hair and eyes.

Maria married Whiting Hyatt, born in New York. She was granted a letter of Dismissal from the Baptist Church in Whitesboro in 1858, that could be about the year of their wedding. Their homes were in Missouri, Newton, Iowa and later in St. James, Minnesota. I believe Whiting was a farmer. There were two sons, Charles and Fred, three daughters, Addie, Ida and one other whose name I do not have.

Over the years when able to Diana and Lillie visited them in St. James and they corresponded regularly. The only time I saw Maria was before 1910 when they visited us in Chicago. By then she was in her 70's, a cheerful person and interested in the family. She was not tall nor heavy, her hair white and, as I remember, her eyes dark.

Addie married a Mr. Zellers, widowed with one son. They had a child, a son, who I have been told lost his life in a fire in 1975, presumably in or about Medford, Oregon. That is where I knew the Zellers family had moved from Minnesota years before.

Among some letters given me recently I found one written by Addie in 1930 from Denver. That was their home at that time and this letter to my mother urged the family to come to see them. By the time I had been given these letters Addie had died.

Records of Mt. Hope Cemetery in St. James, Minnesota showed Maria to have died in 1914 at 79 years of age.

Trying in 1976-77 to locate some descendant of Maria's I learned of 2 great-grandsons in Mankato, Minnesota but a letter sent there was never answered. A name and address was given to me for Addie's only grandchild, Douglas Zellers, in Pasco, Washington but that letter was never answered. It also was impossible to reach him by telephone.

It really is little I can tell of this sister who was so close to my grandmother.

ELIZABETH REESE AND ELIAS ELLIS

b. Jan. 19, 1824  
m. Elias Ellis  
Apr. 12, 1851  
Oneida Co., N.Y.  
d. Feb. 19, 1893

Elizabeth Reese, according to family legend, came to the United States by way of Canada. The passage from Liverpool to Canada cost a little less than the passage from Liverpool to New York, and every pound counted with such a large family to bring across. She probably came with her father and two older brothers, being the daughter chosen to keep house for the men while they worked in the mills to earn passage money for the rest of the family.

Elizabeth was fifteen or sixteen when she came to the U.S. Perhaps she worked in the mills, too, though there is no proof of this. In 1850, however, she and four younger sisters were living with another family, while her parents, Morgan and Esther, were living with a son nearby. The family may have split up to enable the girls to be close to the mills. Probably they all contributed to the purchase of Morgan's first farm in 1849.

In 1851 Elizabeth married a young Welshman from Maentwrog, Merionethshire, named Elias Ellis. Elias' family had come to the United States in 1828 when Elias was just five years old. Elias' father Joseph had bought a farm in Marcy, Oneida Co., N.Y., but two of Elias' brothers worked in a bucket and pail factory in Whitestown, later buying the plant and oper-

ating it for many years.

Elias served in the Mexican War from 1845 to 1848. He was shot through the right knee in the last action in which his company took part on the streets of Mexico City, a wound which troubled him for the rest of his life. When the boat which brought him back to the United States landed in New Orleans, Elias was carried to the railroad station and left there, along with the other wounded. A doctor, convinced that Elias would never get back to New York alive because of the infection in his knee, had him brought to his home and nursed him back to health.

Elias had to pay for his own transportation back to New York, being forced to sell his land warrant to raise funds. It was nearly a year after his discharge in Mexico City that he finally arrived back home. Apparently he met Elizabeth Reese shortly after returning to Whitestown, for he bought a house there in 1850 in anticipation of their marriage in 1851. Perhaps he, too, worked for the bucket factory. For on the 1850 census his occupation is listed as peddler.

Elias and Elizabeth were married on April 12, 1851 probably by a Baptist minister. Though Elias had been baptized a Calvinistic Methodist (similar to Presbyterian) in the Chapel Ucha in Maentwrog, after his marriage he adopted the faith of Elizabeth, serving for many years as elder and deacon.

According to the obituary of Richard Reese, his brother-in-law, Elias had accompanied him to California to prospect for gold in 1852, shortly after the birth of Elias and Elizabeth's first child, Robert Morgan. Their second son was not born until four years later, after the family had moved to Logan County, Illinois. Perhaps Elias had made enough prospecting to pay for their farm there. In Logan County he served as justice of the peace from 1861 until 1865.

Seven more children were born to Elizabeth and Elias in Illinois, but four didn't survive infancy. Elizabeth told her youngest child Frances that the climate where they had lived in Logan County was very unhealthy. Perhaps that is why the family moved to Independence, Missouri, shortly after the end of the Civil War. The Ellises purchased a 200 acre farm five miles east of Independence where, on November 26, 1867, my grandmother, Frances Laura, was born.

The Ellis farm was between Independence and Kansas City, but Elizabeth Ellis also operated a boarding house in Kansas City. Apples were grown on the farm and taken in to Kansas City to be sold. Probably Frances, being the youngest child, didn't have to work very hard around the farm. She told me of excursions to pick berries in the fields around the farmhouse, always having to remember to wear a sun-bonnet because of her fair complexion. She was short, like

Elizabeth, who was able to stand under Elias' outstretched arm, with dark hair and hazel eyes.

After Robert's marriage to Minerva Allen in 1880, Elias and Elizabeth turned the farm over to their sons Robert and Thomas to operate, and the parents moved in to Independence with young Frances. Frances, like her older sister Elizabeth, attended a ~~women's~~ college in Independence which is no longer in existence, probably Woodlawn. After graduation Frances was offered a teaching job at the college, but she couldn't accept it as she felt that her parents needed her at home. Her sister Elizabeth had married George Randall, an Independence brick contractor, and William, an older brother, had married Pearl Penter, so Frances was the only one left at home to care for her parents.

Frances loved poetry and could recite many poems from memory. Her love of poetry is manifested by the name she gave her third child, Helen Lenore, named for two of Poe's most famous poems, "To Helen" and "The Raven." She passed on her fondness for poetry to her daughter Helen, who could also recite long poems from memory.

Early in 1893 Elizabeth slipped on the ice in front of her home and fell, striking her head on the hard pavement. She lingered on in a coma for several weeks and died on Feb. 19, 1893. Like all her brothers and sisters, Elizabeth had lived a busy, productive life. She had very definite ideas about what was right and wrong and passed these on to her children: drinking was wrong; cardplaying on the Sabbath was wrong; idleness was wrong. She was the

heir of that great 19th century revival that had swept through Wales, producing a sober, thrifty, industrious, God-fearing folk.

At the time of Elizabeth's death, Frances was engaged to be married to Frederick Marion Burkett, a well-driller. Because of her father's wishes, she did not postpone her marriage, but was married in her mourning dress. Elias lived with the Burkett family for several years, then moved in with his son William's widow and young daughters after William died of typhoid fever in 1895. He often came to visit the Burketts, and his granddaughter Helen remembers him sitting in a big chair with his crutches by his side watching her and her older sister Mary painting and cutting out paper dolls. Sometimes he would point with a crutch to a drawing, offering a suggestion for a color or shape--an indelible memory to a four-year-old child. Elias died on Dec. 31, 1902, and was buried beside Elizabeth and their son William in Woodlawn cemetery.

ELIAS ELLIS

ELIZABETH REESE

b. 20 July 1823

b. 19 Jan. 1824

m. 12 April 1851, Oneida Co., N.Y.

d. 31 Dec. 1902

d. 19 Feb. 1893

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CHILDREN

Robert Morgan

b. 1 Jan. 1852, Whitestown, N.Y.  
m. 1 Sept. 1880, Jackson Co., Mo.,  
Minerva Allen  
d. ?

Ian Elias

b. 27 Apr. 1856, Logan Co., Ill.  
d. 1856, Logan Co., Ill.

Edith Viola

b. 6 Jan. 1858, Logan Co., Ill.  
d. 14 Oct. 1858, "

Benjamin Thomas

b. 16 Sept. 1859, Logan Co., Ill.  
m. 1897, Jackson Co., Mo., Minerva  
Ellis  
d. 1942, Port Arthur, Texas

{ Frank Lester  
Elizabeth Eve

b. 7 Mar 1861, Logan Co., Ill.  
d. 1861, Logan Co., Ill.

Elizabeth D.

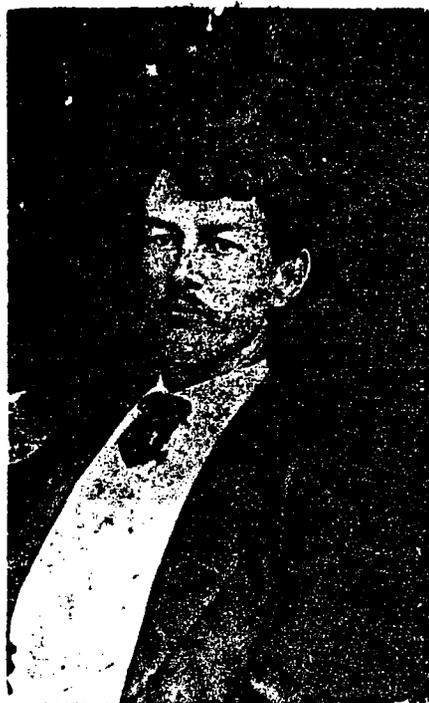
b. 14 June 1863, Logan Co., Ill.  
m. 28 Feb. 1882, Independence, Mo.,  
George W. Randall  
d. 2 Aug. 1912, Independence, Mo.

William E.

b. 19 Feb. 1865, Logan Co., Ill.  
m. 6 May 1889, Independence, Mo. a  
Pearl Pentter  
d. 19 Oct. 1895, Independence, Mo.

Frances Laura

b. 26 Nov. 1867, Independence, Mo.  
m. 1 May 1893, Independence, Mo.,  
Frederick M. Burkett  
d. 28 Oct. 1950, San Antonio, Tex.



ROBERT MORGAN  
ELLIS



ELIZABETH REESE  
ELLIS



BENJAMIN THOMAS  
ELLIS



FRANCES LAURA  
ELLIS  
BURKETT



ELIZABETH ELLIS  
RANDALL

## RICHARD WASHINGTON REESE

Of all my great grandparents I think "Grandpa Reese" had the most interesting and adventurous life. Certainly up to the age of thirty he was the most traveled. Although my mother and my Uncle Harry both remember him well they know little of his early life. Both recall him talking at great length about the "Gold Rush" but do not remember any specific details. With their help and using his obituary as a guide the following relates the information I have of him to date.

Richard Washington Reese was born the 17 May 1831 in Newtown, Montgomeryshire, Wales. He was the fourth son and eleventh child of Morgan and Esther Evans Reese. His father recorded his birth in his Bible along with his fourteen brothers and sisters. This Bible is now in the possession of Richards grandson Philip Reese who resides in Waterville, New York.

At the age of nine his adventures started. He had been just five days at sea on the voyage to his new home in America when he celebrated his ninth birthday. The "Carroll of Carrollton" set sail from Liverpool, England on the 12th of May 1840. She docked at New York the 29th of June. The ships passenger list shows Ester Reese age 50, Jane 21, Ester 15, John 15, Ellen 11, Richard 9, Joseph 7, Maria 5, and Diana 3. Also on the same ship were the oldest sister Ann with her husband David Davies and their two small children. Surely this was a tedious journey for the older members of the family but for a small boy it must have been filled with excitement. According to family stories Richards father Morgan, two older brothers Thomas and William and an older sister Elizebeth had preceeded the family and found employment in the Dexter Woolen Mills in Oriskany. The family could have made their way from New York by boat or train. The railread and the Erie Canal both passed through Criskany and close to their new home so either route could have been taken. This very well could have been Richards first train ride. My mother was told that her grandfathers first home in America was near the Oriskany Battlefield. This appears to be correct as the family arrived in time to be included in the 1840 census. Some of their neighbors enumerated on the same page are known to have lived in that area. Many years later while on a visit to his Uncle Richard, David L. Davies wrote to his niese back in Ohio

RICHARD WASHINGTON REESE

" The other day in the company of Philip (Richards son) I visited the Oriskany Battlefield. On the farm on which most of the fighting on that eventful day was done your great grandfather Morgan Reese lived several years, and at one time intended to try to purchase it but finally decided that this farm would suit them better, principally on account of the location. In 1844 the Democrats of New York State had a ratification meeting on August 6th and on that day grandfather made \$600. serving vittles, feeding horses and selling the right to do same to other people. I guess he never made so much money in one day before or after in his lifetime." I might add here that the battlefield was located on the main road from Utica to Rome and anyone traveling in either direction would have to pass it. I do not know how long the family lived in this area but from census records I learned that they were in New York Mills in 1850 and by 1855 they were living on the Pleasant Valley Road in the house that Morgan built. This road goes from Whitesboro to Colmans Mills and since my mothers time has been known as the Wood Road.

As we have little information about the next 20 years of Richards life perhaps it is best to quote from his obituary. "Richard worked for four or five years in the Middle Mill (New York Mills). When he was seventeen years of age he went to New Jersey, where with an older brother, he worked for about six months in a batting factory. Thence he went to Boston, where he was employed two and one half years in an apothecary shop underneath the United States Hotel. In the fall of 1851 he went from New York to New Orleans by the steamship Winfield Scott and had quite a perilous passage. The boat got fast on the Florida reefs and at one time bid fair to sink, but the high tide coming in enabled them to back off and they proceeded to New Orleans. The day after landing he found employment in a store where clothing, boots and shoes were sold, but remained there only two months. Thence he took a sailing vessel to the Isthmas and landed at Chagres. Thence he went to Gorgonia, 60 miles from Chagres. There were about 50 of them in the party and when the steamship California, which was the first to round Cape Horn, came, carrying the United States troops, Mr. Reese boarded her and was the only passenger from Panama to San Francisco.

From San Francisco Mr. Reese went to Sacramento, which then had not a single house. There were a few tents and canvas structures where business was conducted. He made inquiry and followed the trail

## RICHARD WASHINGTON REESE

up the mountains and came to a settlement which had about 25 inhabitants and two stores. There he located for the winter and built himself a cabin. Going up the creek which came into that place he found gold one day and with his pan and knife engaged in the mining business, which he carried on there for several months making considerable money. The next fall he came back east by New Orleans. He went up the Mississippi River, a journey which instead of taking a few days took much longer on account of low water, and he was obliged to change steamers three times to reach Cincinnati. He visited his old home in the town of Whitestown but in February 1853, in company with his brother-in-law Elias Ellis, went back to California, and remained there mining four years. A census taken in Sierra County, California in July 1852 lists Richard Reese, age 21, white male, birthplace New York, residence Mass., Although the place of birth is in error I believe this is 'our Richard'. On one of his return trips from California he was beaten and robbed of his gold. I do not know which time this happened nor do I know how much gold he managed to bring home. When I was a little girl my grandmother had a few nuggets that had been kept as souvenirs. We had been told about them and I can remember being disappointed the first time I saw them. I don't know what I expected but somehow they did not come up to my expectations.

My mother was told that her grandparents met and became acquainted when they were both working in Boston. Myra Colmans home was in Richmond, Maine. What prompted either of them to seek employment in Boston is not known. They must have kept in touch while he was off to the gold rush for shortly after his return the second time they were married in Detroit, Michigan on the 7 May 1857. For a time after their marriage he worked with a brother in Chicago and then went into business for himself selling lightning rods and Britannia ware. Although this business was successful they were not destined to be 'city folk'. Richards parents were getting along in years and needed help on the farm. Late in 1859 he sold his business in Chicago and with their first child who was but a "babe in arms" , they returned to Whitestown to make their home with his parents.

Richard and Myra Colman Reese had three children. The first, my grandmother, Rachel Colman Reese was born in Richmond, Maine 1 October 1859. I don't believe that they ever made their home in

RICHARD WASHINGTON REESE

Maine. I think that Myra may have gone home to ~~be~~ with her mother who died just a month before my grandmother was born. She was named for Myras' mother and promptly knicknamed "Birdie". This name stayed with her throughout her life. I never heard anyone call her Rachel nor did my mother.

The other two children were born on the farm in Whitestown, A son born 3 March 1862 was named Henry Philip, no doubt for Myras' brother Henry and her father Philip Colman. He always went by the name of Philip.

Their third and last child was born in 1865 and named Ida Louise. One of Myras sisters died and left a small son who was about Philips age. He came to live with my great grandparents and was brought up as one of their own children. They all went to the local country school and later attended the Whitestown Seminary. The Seminary closed before Ida had completed her education and she went to Oswego normal School. Both she and my grandmother taught school. They all attended the Baptist Church in Whitesboro.

According to records in the Oneida County Court House in Utica Richard Reese became a citizen the 5th March 1863. He joined the Masonic Order and belonged to Hampton Lodge which is located in Westmoreland. He served as Master of this Lodge for seven years. He was instrumental in founding Oriskany Lodge 799 and served as its first Master in 1890 and 1891. His picture still hangs in the Lodge rooms. He was considered an authority on Masonic work and was well known in these circles throughout the county.

He was a staunch Republican and well versed in town affairs and current events. For 25 years he was Justice of the Peace, served as town assessor for several years and in 1890 took the census in the town of Whitestown.

Life on the farm was not to be lonely. I don't believe my great grandparents ever lived alone with just their children. In the early years they lived with his parents and sister. After his fathers death in 1876 her father lived with them for 11 years until his death in 1893. Both came from large families and it appears they kept in close touch. Friends and relatives came for a visit which lasted two or three months and longer. Myra had a brother Henry who was a sea captain. Whenever he was in port he made his home with them.

She also had a sister Annie who never married. She made her home

RICHARD WASHINGTON REESE

made her home with the Reeses and occasionally visited relatives in Massachusetts. After Myras death she and George Elkins (the nephew they brought up) stayed on at the farm until Richard decided to retire.

Like his father before him Richard Reese continued to clear the land and improve the farm. The New Century Atlas for Oneida County printed in 1907 gives accounts of only seven farms in the town of Whitestown. Of the "Reese Homestead" it states the following. "Owned by R.W.Reese.whose address is Whitesboro. It's soil products are general and fruit culture comprises a fine apple orchard of choice varieties. The dominant feature of the farm, however, is it's dairy of 20 thoroughbred Holstein cows. About 80 acres are devoted to meadow and pasture, 20 acres under cultivation and 5 are covered with timber of differant varieties. It's water supply is chiefly from springs and never failing. The farms name is in honor of the Reese family who have been in possession for many years. All buildings are in excellant repair and include a residence, barn and outbuildings."

This is the way my mother and Uncle Harry remember their grandparents home. They always liked to go there especially in the summer. It was within walking distance of their home and they were frequent visitors. There was usually one or two hired men but during haying and threshing time extra help was hired. These men took their noon meal with the family. Often there were ten or twelve for dinner. My great grandmother was known to " set a good table". She did her own baking -bread, pies, cookies ect. and all on a wood stove. She always had a barrell of flour and one of sugar in the pantry. Just about everything else was raised on the farm. They had all the modern conveniences of the day and considered themselves quite comfortable.

Richard was a man of small stature.In later years his hair was white and he had a small beard. He appearantly enjoyed good health as there no records of any serious illness. Although he did a great deal of reading he never wore glasses. At one time he had what was called a cataract removed from his eye. A specialist came from Utica and the operation was performed on the living room couch. My mother was a small girl at the time and she was impressed because my grandmother had to hold his head so he wouldn't make a quick move during the operation.

6.

RICHARD WASHINGTON REESE

About 1910 he rented the farm and went to live with my grandparents in Whitesboro. He devoted his time to his Masonic work and traveling to visit relatives. His son Philip lived in Oswego and had two small children. He went regularly to visit them and his two granddaughters whose mother had died a few years before. These girls were about my mother's age and one year he bought each of them a gold watch. My mother still has hers and to this day it keeps perfect time. After the age of 80 he went to Oregon to visit his sister Maria who had gone there to live with one of her children. No doubt he stopped in Illinois to visit the many relatives who lived there. When he wasn't traveling he kept busy with his many friends in Whitesboro. Sometimes he and Uncle Harry played cards. He still has a lap-board he made for them to hold their playing cards.

On election day in November 1913 he went to Colmans Mills to vote. On returning home he had a stroke from which he never recovered. He died the 5th of January 1914 and is buried in Grandview Cemetery in Whitesboro on the Reese lot.

RICHARD WASHINGTON REESE

b. 17 May 1831

m. 7 May 1857 Detroit, Michigan

d. 5 Jan 1914

MYRA ELIZEBETH COLMAN

b 31 October 1831

d. 5 Jun 1906

CHILDREN

Rachel Colman

b. 10 Oct 1859 Richmond, Maine

m. 22 Dec 1886 Whitestown, NY Henry A. Burr

d. 21 Jul 1952 Whitesboro, NY

bur. Whitesboro, NY

Henry Philip

b. 3 Mar 1862 Whitestown, NY

m. 16 Aug 1906 Oswego, NY Bertha May Murdock

d. 13 Jul 1947 Utica, NY

bur. Utica, NY

Ida Louise

b. 1865 Whitestown, NY

m. 18 Dec 1890 Whitesboro, NY William L. Murdock

d. 21 Jan 1897 Oswego, NY

bur. Oswego, NY

Children of Henry Aaron Burr and Rachel Colman Reese

Myra Louise

b. 4 Dec 1889 Whitesboro, NY

d. Dec 1889

bur. Whitesboro, NY

Helen Colman

b. 10 Oct 1892 Whitesboro, NY

m. 21 Oct 1916 Whitesboro, NY

Charles H. Hebard

William Richard

b. 6 Dec 1894 Whitesboro, NY

m. 12 Aug 1917 Harriet Voss

d. 22 Oct 1918 Rouen, France

bur. Whitesboro, NY

Harry Philip

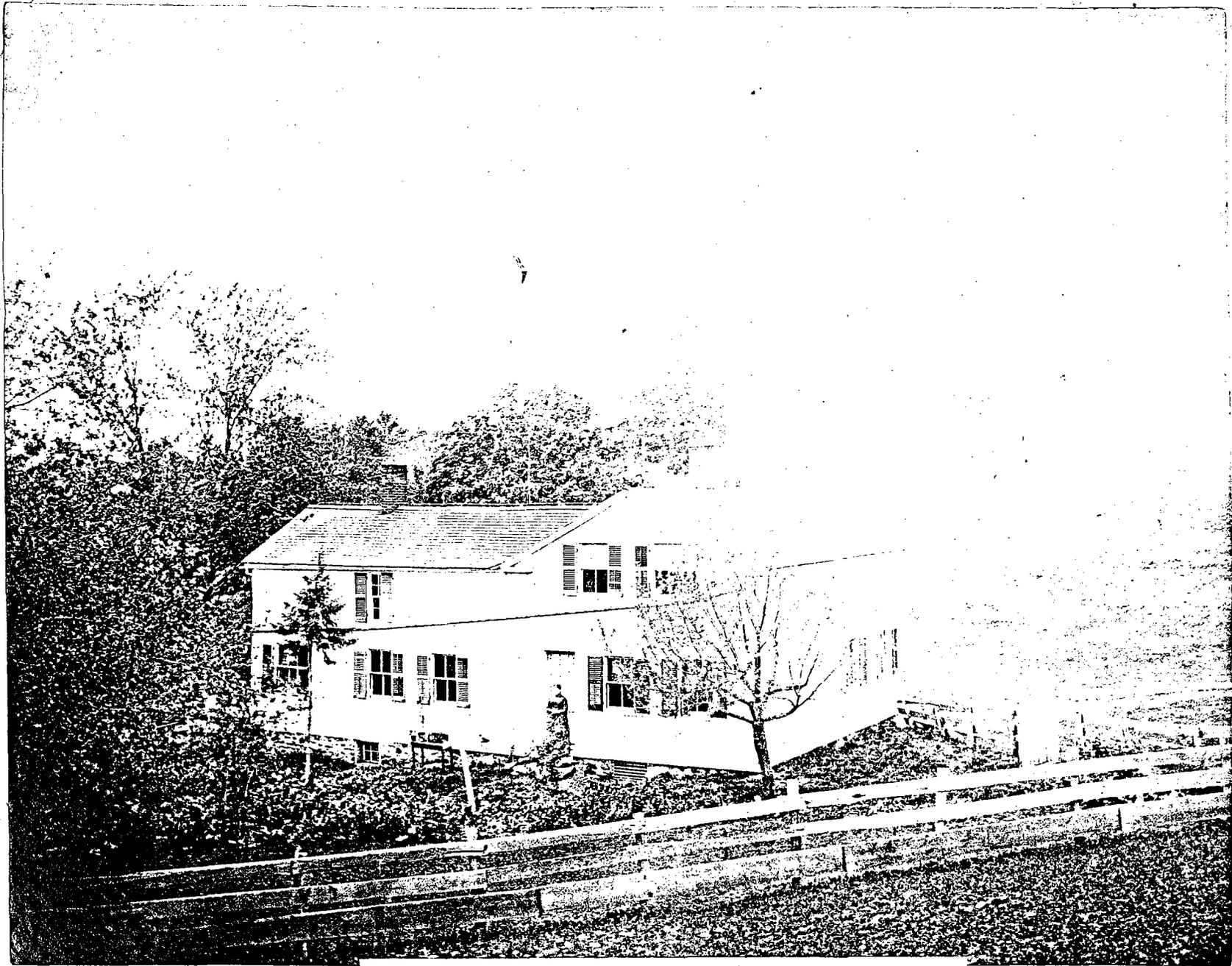
b. 17 Aug 1892 Whitesboro, NY

m. 23 Jul 1923 Olga Bernard

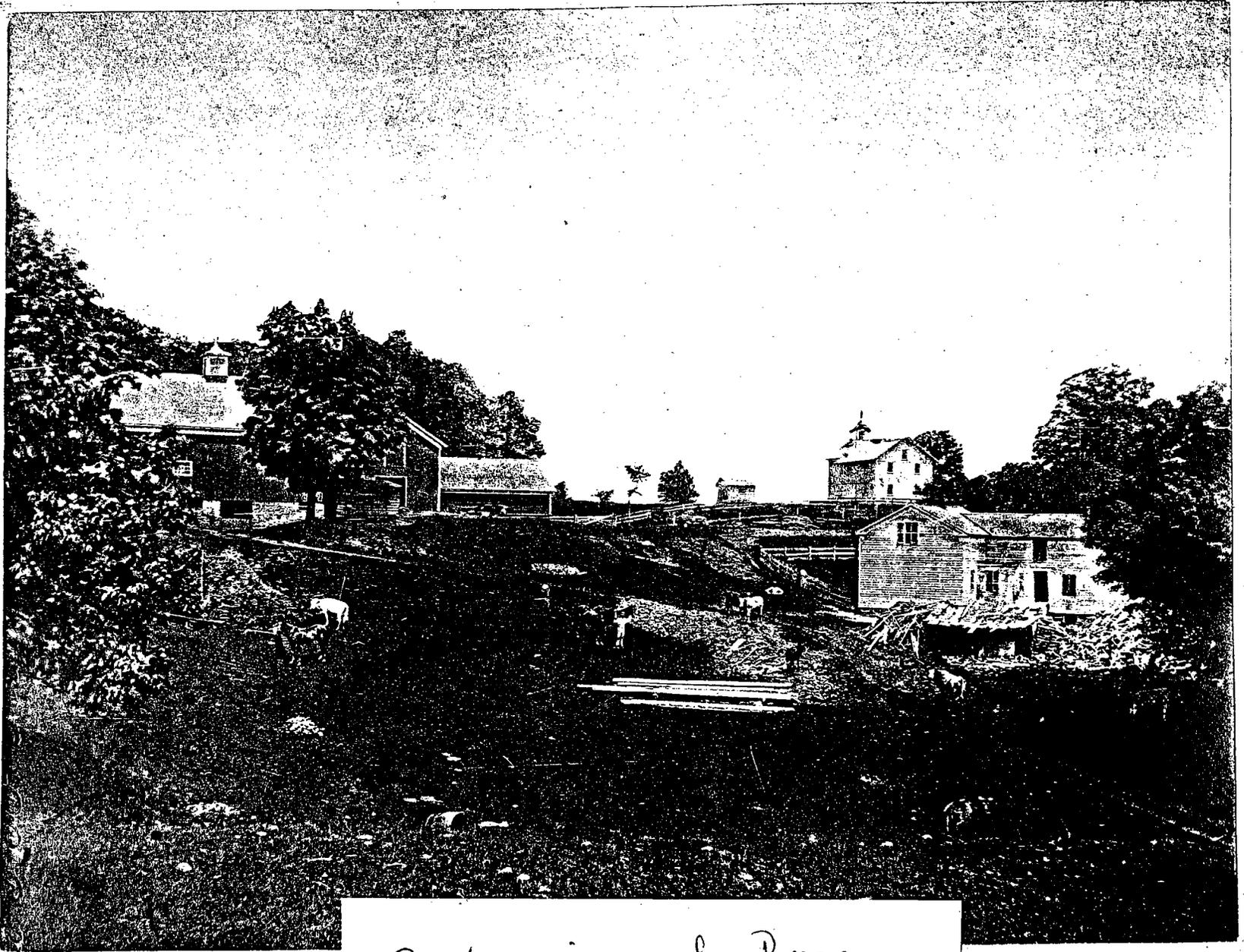


Richard Reese ca. 1890

Enlargement hangs in Oriskany,  
N.Y. Masonic Lodge rooms. He  
served as first master of this lodge.  
Was very helpful in establishing the  
only Masonic Home in N.Y. State  
which is located in Utica, N.Y.



Front view of Reese farm  
Rm. outside Whitesboro N.Y.

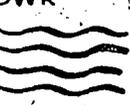


Back view of Reese  
Farm in New York state

WELSH IS THE OLDEST LIVING LANGUAGE IN EUROPE

APPLY FOR HOLIDAY LITERATURE TO THE WELSH TOURIST BOARD, CARDIFF

Y GYMR AEG YDYWR IAITH HYNAF A LEFERIR-YN EWROB HEDDIW

UN  ONE	GORSAF  STATION	MOR  SEA	LLONG  SHIP	CASTELL  CASTLE	HAUL  SUN	DAU  TWO	GOEDEN  TREE
ADERYN  BIRD	GWESTY  HOTEL	CADAIR  CHAIR	FFENESTR  WINDOW	TRI  THREE	AFAL  APPLE	TATW  POTATO	MORON  CARROTS
MODUR  CAR	IAR  HEN	PEDWAR  FOUR	CAWS  CHEESE	HALEN  SALT	PYSGODEN  FISH	GWIN  WINE	LLYTHYR  LETTER
PLAT  PLATE	PUMP  FIVE	GWELY  BED	CINIO  DINNER	SWPER  SUPPER	BRYN  HILL	CAWL  SOUP	CHWECH  SIX
LLAETH  MILK	WY  EGG	OEN  LAMB	ARIAN  MONEY	MAM  MOTHER	SAITH  SEVEN	TAD  FATHER	BANER  FLAG
PLENTYN  CHILD	PEL  BALL	TRAETH  BEACH	WYTH  EIGHT	MEFUS  STRAWBERRY	BARA MENYN  BREAD AND BUTTER	TEISEN  CAKE	DWR  WATER
NAW  NINE	TAN  FIRE	TELEDU  TELEVISION	HEOL  ROAD	LLAN  CHURCH	LLYNI  LAKE		
DRINGO  CLIMBING	YMDROCHI  BATHING	CHWARAE  PLAYING	TREF  TOWN	DEG  TEN	LLEUAD  MOON		

ANFONWCH AM LENYDDIAETH I'R BWRDD CROESO I GYMRU, CAERDYDD

## TERRELL

The Terrell family has been the most accessible to research for they are found to have been either rulers or closely tied to Royal families. The name in its various forms is documented in many writings and the reading we have done has increased our interest and knowledge of not only the Terrells but of eras in history.

As with all families there were rogues and opportunists as well as brave intelligent leaders all products of their positions in society and personal wealth.

The Terrell history can also lead to numerous speculations. One example: were the Terrell brothers sent to the Virginia Colony as a means of removing a disturbing influence in Ireland or were they adventurous men searching for new exciting lives in the young country?

Walter B. Simpson of Elon College, North Carolina has done extensive research and has shared much information. From him I received a direct and unbroken line.

### Earliest known Terrell ancestor

Antenor, King of the Cimmerians, a people inhabiting the shores of the sea of Azov, now known as the Crimea. Lived BC 443

#### 17 generations later

Frankus, King of the West Franks, BC 9

#### 25th generation shows

Marcomis IV, AD 149. Married Athildis, daughter of Coilus, King of the Britains

#### 54th generation lists

Waleran, Count of Vwxin. Hereditary Standard Bearer of France, died 965. Married Eldegrade, daughter of Arnulf Magnus, Count of Flanders, direct descendent of Charlemagne and Granddaughter of Alfred the Great

#### 70th generation

Sir John of Heron, Sheriff of Essex, 1423. Was Treasurer of Household to Henry VI, present at Agincourt in retinue Sir Walter Hungerford and Speaker of the House of Commons.

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## TERRELL-TYRREL-TYRELL-TYRRELL-TERRAIL

Like the Lewis and Beardsley lines these Terrell ancestors also came from France. The name Terrell is Anglo-Norman, originally seen in France as Tryyell, Tyrell, Tyrrel and Terrail. It was not until the 1700's that a Timothy Terrell of Virginia (ca. b. 1658-68) used the Terrell spelling and it has continued to this date in America.

The Norman family, headed by Sir Walter Tyrrell, first gained a foothold in England during the conquest of William the Conqueror. In 1066 the English King, Harold II, was defeated and killed in the decisive Battle of Hastings by William and his invaders from Normandy. Sir Walter, called the "Red Knight of Normandie", was with William.

His name can never be erased from the history of King William Rufus, son of William the Conqueror, for while out hunting one fine English day, King William Rufus was killed by an arrow shot by the "Red Knight". No one there was able to say if Rufus moved when he should have stayed in place but certainly Sir Walter proclaimed his innocence of intent and it was judged an accident. His only punishment, which was probably more painful than we can understand from our vantage point of 400 odd years, was to be sent back to France. After some years, and in accordance with the custom of the times, Sir Walter "made monied compensation for the unfortunate shot and was permitted to return to England, resume his title and his estate".

We can only assume that the family kept to their lands, living quietly under their creed of "Valiant and Noble", for the name does not appear again in History books until the 1400's.

To understand the next bit of Terrell family history we should have been raised in England and taught of the constant upheaval around the royal throne in the 14-1500's, but here goes.

King Edward 4th died in 1483 leaving 2 young sons, Edward and Richard. Young Edward is listed as King of England in 1483 but his Uncle Richard, later known as Richard the 3rd, took exception to the lad of 12 years wearing the crown, conspired to seize the throne and threw both his nephews in the Tower of London. Richard couldn't hope to hide the boys in the Tower for long and he certainly couldn't let them out so a search began for someone who would "do the boys in" and be trusted not to tell.

The man picked, according to Thomas More, English historian of the early 1500's, was Sir James Tyrrell. Sir James was not an unknown in the royal court. He was "Master of Horse" and had followed many other, if more ordinary, orders given by Richard. He was ambitious for his family, so More said, and perhaps feared for his and their lives if he did not obey.

With Sir James watching and directing two of his more burly servants killed the two Princes and buried them under stairs in the Tower. The bodies were not found until many years had passed and there is still dispute as to correct identification of the remains. But there is one fact that can not be ignored. Sir James and his son were arrested in 1502 and accused by then King Henry the 7th of High Treason. Sir James not only confessed to the charge of treason but to the killing of the two boys twelve years before. Sir James was executed, his son released and the family honor restored.

Sir James, not a direct ancestor of ours, was probably of the "kissin'-kin" variety, close enough to tell of here.

The Tyrrell family is listed in DeBretts "Baronetage of England" as:

"The family is descended from Sir Walter Tyrrell who slew King William Rufus and who appears in the Doomsday Book as seized of the Manor of Logham in Essex. He is the common ancestor of several families of the name seated in various parts of England, chiefly in Essex and Suffolk."

Twelve Coat of Arms have been recorded to the Tyrrell name and all have been used. A.C. Fox Davies in "A Complete Guide to Heraldry" says this:

"Occasionally a boar's head will be stated to be borne erect; this is then shown with the mouth pointing upwards. A curious example of this is found in the crest of Tyrrell: "A boar's head erect argent, in the mouth a peacock's tail proper."

Further in the book Mr. Davies states:

"A peacock's tail is not a familiar figure in British armory, though the exact contrary is the case in German practices. "Issuant from the mouth of a boar's head erect" it occurs as the crest of Tyrrell,...."

The Tyrrell family motto is "Sana Crainte" meaning "Without Fear".

Before we can pick up the Terrell story in the 1600's a brief backward look into French and English history will bring other families into the Terrell lines.

Certain Kings of England known to Americans are, among others, Alfred the Great, Richard the Lion Hearted and King John of Magna Charta fame. Among other names is a Queen, Eleanor of Aquitaine, born in France and daughter of the 9th and last Duke of Aquitaine.

She was both a famous and an infamous woman, according to historians, and she does enter into the Tyrrell story.

While on a pilgrimage to a holy shrine in 1137 the Duke died leaving his fiefdom (lands given for services rendered a king) to 15 year old Eleanor. She was, for that time, a highly educated and well traveled young woman. She married Louis, later King Louis VII of France. It was a stormy period politically as well as personally and in 1151-52 she divorced Louis and immediately married King Henry II of England, 11 years younger than she. Henry too was of French blood as well as English.

His mother, Matilda (often called Maud), was a direct descendant of Alfred the Great, King of England 859-901. He it was who defeated the Danish invaders and promoted English culture. She was also the granddaughter of Malcolm III, King of Scotland.

Henry's father was Geoffrey, Count of Anjou, and the first Plantaganet. The name "Plantaganet" was derived from the wearing of a sprig of the plant "Broom" or "Plantagenista, used by Geoffrey as his badge. From Planta Genista was derived the name Plantaganet and from then on the family name was Plantaganet. It was considered and used as a royal family name until 1400. In our direct line the name finally ends in Joan Plantaganet b. 1271. She married the Earl of Gloucester; her 4th great-granddaughter married Sir Thomas Tyrrell.

Retracing our steps to Eleanor and Henry II, first of the Plantaganet Kings, the influence of Eleanor should not be denied. While Henry had married her for her lands, which he hoped to rule with his English realm, she kept control in her own hands of the lands of Aquitaine left her by her father.

When Henry died the throne descended to his son, Richard the Lion Hearted. Although Richard is regarded as a hero in England he actually disliked his subjects and country and spent just 6 months of his 10 year reign on that island. Before his death he bequeathed his kingdom to his brother, John. It was this John who was forced by his Barons to sign the Magna Charta at Runnymede in 1215.

While no Tyrrell name is found in the list of Barons at Runnymede, members of the family were of that group surrounding the King. This is known because some direct descendants of Tyrrell, as we are, are accepted as members of the Order of Magna Charta Dames, an organization based in Philadelphia and composed of lineal descendants of those who were instrumental in forcing King John to sign that famous document.

It seems ironical but recent genealogical research shows that we, along with thousands of Terrell descendants in America, are descended from both this King who signed the Magna Charta and from one of those who forced him to do so.

Without much personal travel and research the details of the next years of Tyrrell history is not known but we can pick up the story in the latter part of the 17th century with three Tyrrell brothers Richmond, William and Timothy

"...of English birth and parentage and of Anglo-Norman descent immigrated to America after they had lived sometime in Ireland as Colonists..."

These three men, settling probably at first in Gloucester County, Virginia, were sent to America as huntsmen for King James II of England. For their dexterity in hunting the King awarded to each brother 1500 acres of land to be settled by them. As our line comes from William, only that direct descent will be followed.

In 1670 William is listed along with 11 others whom brother, Richmond, brought into the Virginia Colony. Richmond received "head rights" land for these 12, "100 acres were reserved for his brother, William", the rest he sold.

No birthdate is given for William other than ca. 1650. He died in 1727, rather an old age according to the times in which he lived. William married Susanna Waters and they lived in St. Paul's Parish, Hanover, Virginia.

General W.J.J. Terrell, writer of "Terrell Family Excerpts" which is used as one reference, wrote that William and Susanna had sons Joel, Henry, David, James and

"certainly a daughter, Ann, who married David Lewis." It seems certain that there were other sons, perhaps Timothy (the one who changed the spelling of the family name), John and possibly one or two more.

We have record of William and Susanna Terrell deeding 400 acres of land to their son, David Terrell, on 16 March 1725 and on same date giving to

"...their son, Henry Terrell of King William County, Virginia, Planter, their true and lawful Power of Attorney, irrevocable to acknowledge their gift of deed to David Terrell of King William County."

Daughter, Ann, was born in 1700 and at 17 married David Lewis who was then 32 years old. Ann died in 1734 leaving 8 children, the youngest, a daughter, still an infant. This child lived to be 103 years of age. Ann's oldest child, William Terrell Lewis, and second child, Susannah, had surely been named for her parents.

No cause for Ann's death at age 34 is known, 8 children in 16 years could be suspected as a just reason. She was buried, perhaps in a family burial plot on the Lewis land or in that Parish in Hanover County, Virginia.

There is no physical description of Ann as there is of David.. "...a large man, faire-haired and blue-eyed..".

David Lewis married again but had no children from his second marriage. A third marriage to Mary McGrath Hart, widow from Philadelphia brought 3 children, a son and 2 daughters, one named Elizabeth. She, a half-sister to Ann's children, lived and died in Clark County, Kentucky near the home of Hannah and James Hickman. (In May, 1979 Ruth and I saw the graves of Elizabeth and her husband, John Martin, in a small stone-walled family graveyard on a farm in Clark County. It lies back of a barn so is not seen from the road.)

The Terrell history is full of exciting material not even touched upon. As one example, Pierre Terrail who when ennobled assumed the name of Chevalier Bayard. He lived 143\_ and died 1524,

was a French soldier-hero and known as "Chivalier sans peur et sans reproche" (the fearless and irreproachable knight) or interpreted as "without fear and without reproach".

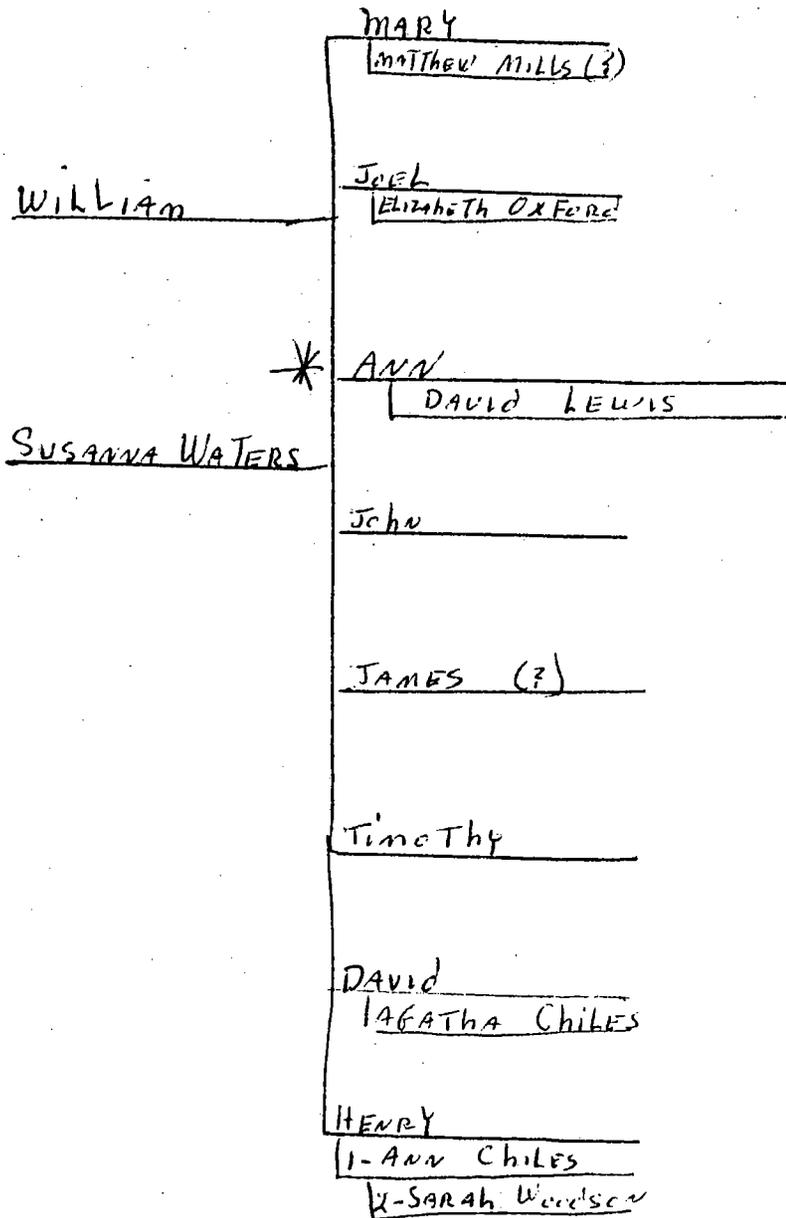
No claim to kin to this man is made but of interest is that the Masonic Order of Knights Templar in Chicago to which my father belonged was named "Chevalier Bayard Commandery". This chapter used the Coat of Arms and the above motto as their insignia. I wonder if he knew of this Pierre Terrail who may have been one of his family lines.

There were Quakers among the Terrell family in their sojourn in Ireland and the name is found on lists of prominent people in the United States.

Children of Ann Terrell and David Lewis

William Terrell Lewis	b. 1718	m. Sally Martin
Susanna	1720	Alexander Mackey
Hannah	1722	James Hickman
Sarah	1724	Abraham Musick
David Jr.	1726	1. Rebecca Stovall 2. Elizabeth Lockhart
John	1728	1. Sarah Tallaferro 2. Susan Clarkson
Joel	1730	1. Mary Tureman 2. Mrs. Gordon 3. Lucy Daniels
Anna	1733	1. Joel Terrell (cousin) 2. Stephen Willis

# TERRELL.



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Eleanor of Aquitaine	Marion Meade
Eleanor of Aquitaine	Desmond Seward
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Little Princes in the Tower	Elizabeth Jenkins
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The lineage that shows descent from Alfred the Great, Eleanor of Aquitaine, King John I and others is accepted by the Order of the Crown according to Celeste Jane Terrell Barnhill. In 1935 Mrs. Barnhill was Chairman of Genealogical Research, Everglades Chapter DAR, Member of the Colonial Dames of America, Member of the Virginia Historical Society and Member of the Institute of American Genealogy.

## LEWIS

I grew up knowing that in the Lewis line of ancestors there was some relationship to Meriwether Lewis who with William Clark opened up the trail to the Northwest. There also was a hint of a tie with the George Washington family, that too was not clear. There was the story of the famous rescue of the Calloway girls kidnapped by Indians in Kentucky and of Daniel Boone, all of it seemed so far back in history I never was sure exactly how these concerned my great grandmother, Louisa Hickman Hill.

A good way to start is to say that Genealogies state that our line of Lewis comes from Sir Edwin Lewis of Brecon, Wales. The book, "Genealogy of the Lewis Family in America" starts with the tradition that the name originated in France and was spelled Louis, meaning brave or strong, and was Anglicized in Wales to Lewis. It is said that all the Welch Lewises are related having sprung from the same original stock.

In the early 1600's there were 4 Lewis brothers in Wales. One of these, Samuel, went to Portugal and nothing more is known of him. William went to Ireland where he married a McClellan and had sons Andrew and John who born born 1678 and about whom there is a thrilling account of his exploits and a third son Samuel born 1680.

Two other brothers were Robert and John; these two came to America ca. 1670. Robert settled in Abington or Ware Parish, Gloucester County, Virginia. He had been a lawyer in England but it is not known whether he practised his profession after reaching the new home. He married and had children. As it is this branch of the family who married into the Meriwether clan and into the Mary Ball Washinton family these pages from the Lewis Genealogy should be read for the history they bring to us and explain the relationship that was never

clear to my young mind.

The 4th of these brothers was John, my direct ancestor, who was born ca. 1640. In England he had resided for sometime with a family of Mostyn in Derbyshire. This family was an ancient and wealthy one owning extensive real estate. This property had descended to and was owned by several generations. We have no idea in what capacity John Lewis lived with this family.

After coming to America where he very easily could have married instead of in Britian, he lived in Hanover County, Virginia. That is where he died in 1726 and where his Will was found on record. During the Civil War records of that county "were burned by the Federal Army" so are unavailable now. This Will named John's children who were:

Mrs. Rebecca Linds <sup>h</sup> ey.	born ca. 1677
Abraham Lewis	ca. 1679
Sarah Lewis	ca. 1681
Mrs. Angelica Freelove	ca. 1683
**David Lewis direct line comes)	ca. 1685 (from whom our
John Lewis Jr.	ca. 1687

No attempt was made by the author of the Lewis Genealogy "to trace the posterity of any children of John Lewis Senior, the Welchman, except those of his 5th child, David," for the author was in direct descent from him.

A descendant of Abraham Lewis had had little success in tracing him or his descendants, nor do we know of the fate of the other son and daughters named.

David Lewis, my 5th great grandfather, is described as a very large man with light hair and blue eyes (this is the only physical description given of a Lewis). He followed the Presbyterian faith and was a benevolent man and a man of integrity. At this time he is the first teacher found so listed in our families though many have followed since. This was done in his older years teaching poor children of the area with no recompense for David.

In 1717 David, 32, married 17 year old Ann Terrell and, with her, had eight children. In 1734 young Ann died and David married again; this marriage brought no children. He left Hanover County and settled with his family in Albermarle County ca. 1750.

Again widowed, David, used to a wife to see to his comforts wooed and married Mary McGrath Hart, a widow from Philadelphia, Penn. An additional 2 daughters and 1 son were born, so that David had young children in the home for a long lo-o-o-ng time. It is noted that he was beyond the usual age for raising a new family but David seemed to marry beyond the age of more youthful bridegrooms. In fact, his oldest child was 41 when the youngest one, Miriam, came along. Mary died leaving him widowed for the third time. He was advanced in age, but evidently he preferred the married life and must have been attractive to women for he became engaged to be married for a fourth time but he died quite suddenly before this could take place.

It was in 1779 that he died from over exertion and from drinking too much cold water on a hot summer day. He was too warm as he had just cut down a tree because there was a hawk's nest in it. From the few dates that have been verified he was about 94 years old and left 11 living children to carry on the name and traditions of Lewis.

One story that survived him is that when he moved to Albermarle County, near where Charlottesville now stands, he was offered 500 acres of the best land for the sum of a pair buckskins. As David had no wish to travel the necessary 50 miles to view it and thinking that the land would be of no value to him, he refused.

He did acquire property for there is a record of a deed in 1750 in which he gave a gift of lands lying on branches of a creek and in 1759 another deed of land is recorded. His Will was probated in the September Term of Court, Albermarle County, 1779. He gave property to 7 of his children to make them equal with the other children and the balance to be divided equally among the eleven he fathered. So David, despite his eccentricities, if any, left an estate and heritage to future descendants.

His daughter, Hannah, became my 4th great-grandmother. There was a strain of longevity in this Lewis family. David was 94 at his death, Hannah Lewis Hickman born 1722 lived to just a month or two less than 100 and his daughter, Ann, born 1733 lived to the ripe old age of 103. In passing it is seen that 5 of his children had multiple marriages as well as longevity so there seems to have been a liking for married bliss.

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Lewis

Virkus

Virkus

David Lewis                      b. ca. 1685, Hanover Co., Va.  
    m. Ann Terrell 1717 (Ann died 1734)  
    m. name and date unknown  
    m. Mary McGrath Hart 1753 (Mary died \_\_\_\_)  
    d. 1779, Albermarle Co., Va.

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ISSUE OF DAVID AND ANN TERRELL LEWIS

Wm Terrell	born 1718	married Sallie Martin
Susannah	born 1720	married Alexander Makey
Hannah	born 1722	married James Hickman
Sarah	born 1724	married Abraham Musick
David Jr.	born 1726	married Rebecca Stovall Elizabeth Lockhart
John	born 1728	married Sarah Talaferrio Susan Clarkson
Joel	born 1730	married Mary Tureman Mrs. Gordon Lucy Daniels
Anna	born 1733	married Joel Terrell (cousin) Stephen Willis

ISSUE OF DAVID AND MARY HART LEWIS

Elizabeth	born 1754	married John Martin
Col. James	born 1756	married Lucy Thomas Mary Marks
Miriam	born 1759	married Col. Gabriel Madison

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FRITH, WILLIAMS, CANTERBURY AND KINCHELOE FAMILIES

Our direct descent from Nathaniel Hart and his wife, Sarah Simpson Hart, was discovered in the early spring of 1978. I had no idea where to start to find their ancestors but I happened to see a North Carolina Genealogical magazine of February, 1978 and answered a query from Della Parker of Pleasant Hill, Missouri re: a Richard Simpson. Her answer opened up new lines and certainly more work for it expanded what little I knew of the Simpsons and, in turn, led to information to the above four families. A direct descent thru these five generations seems clear.

Nathaniel Frith	born ca 1600	married Elizabeth _____
	died 1676-77	
Joane Frith	born ca 1640	married Roger Williams 1660-65
	died 1703	
Ruth Williams	born ca 1670	married John Canterbury before 1703
	died after 1733	
Elizabeth Canterbury	born ca 1695	married John Kincheloe ca 1715
	died 1776-78	
Mary Kincheloe	born ca 1718	married Richard Simpson Junior 1740
	died ca 1798	
Sarah Simpson	born ca 1744	married Nathaniel Hart 1760
	died 1784	

FRITH

Nathaniel Frith made his Will in January of 1677, dying within months for on 4 July 1677 it was proved, probated and filed in Court. The excerpt of this document as found in Virginia in the "Old Rappahannock County Wills - no. 2 - 1677-1682 - page 23" gives to his 2 sons 75 acres of land to each, his movables and cattle to wife, Elizabeth, save one calf, that calf was to be delivered to his granddaughter, Rebecca Williams, daughter of Joane Williams. This might seem a modest estate though we have no idea of kind or value of the movables that were mentioned.

Nathaniel names his wife as Elizabeth but gives no hint as to her maiden name. His sons, Nathaniel and William, were under 17 years of age when their father made his Will, daughter Joane was older, married to Roger Williams and mother to, at least, one child.

WILLIAMS

Joane and Roger were said to have married in 166\_\_ so by 1675 when it is surmised that Roger died there could have been several children born with some living to adulthood.

There are records showing that Roger Williams was in Northumberland County, Virginia in 1665 thru 1669 but there are discrepancies in the Kincheloe, McPherson Family book, main source of information about Roger Williams, and the typed copy of his Will, recorded in old Rappahannock County now known as Richmond County, Virginia, sent to me by Della Parker.

Roger signed his Will on 26 February 1675, death probably occurring within that year. The age "34" is written on the Will but the placement of it could mean that Roger was 34 or that a witness was 34.

Roger mentions just one daughter..."...to my daughter, Rebecca..." with no notation of a daughter, Ruth, the one we would be most interested in. But Ruth is identified by name as daughter of Joane Williams in her Will dated 8 January 1703.

Joane married twice after death of Roger, first to Samuel Wills and then to Lewis Loyd and his Will, recorded in 1680 gives further proof to Ruth Williams' existence and parentage when he bequeathed, among others, "...to Ruth Williams, my daughter-in-law...". We are told that in those days that term was used instead of step-daughter.

#### CANTERBURY

Ruth Williams and John Canterbury were married before 1703, probably in old Rappahannock County, Virginia.

Several Canterbury families were early residents of Stafford, now Prince William County, Virginia. A family legend tells that John was closely related to Lord Canterbury of England, other reports claim that our John was a member of the English royalty.

The name, Canterbury, must have had meaning for Daniel Kincheloe, a grandson of John Canterbury, because when he was willed a tract of land in Prince William County as "improved for his family homestead" he christened it "Canterbury".

No birth, marriage or death dates have been found for John but on 3 April 1717 Ruth Canterbury went into Court and testified.."John Canterbury departed this life without making a Will..". She was appointed administratrix and gave bond.

It is known that John died at his homestead in North Farnham Parish, Richmond County. He had lands on Totusky Creek as shown in a suit his widow brought in that Parish against a William Dunn.

On 1 November 1721 John Canterbury Junior replaced the original sureties on Ruth's bond, which tells us of at least one son and Elizabeth has been accepted by researchers as their daughter.

Elicabeth married John Kincheloe ca. 1718

#### KINCHELOE

It has been accepted that the entire Kincheloe family in America in 1694 had a common ancestor. One researcher wrote, "The original Kincheloe immigrant to Virginia was a Cavalier who fought against Cromwell and came to America after the defeat of the Royalists and the death of King Charles I (1649). He probably landed at Dumfries, Va.; settled on Occuquan Creek and worked at Taylor Iron Works. A family tradition is that after the downfall of Charles I our Kincheloe emigrant fled England to Ireland, where he dwelt some time later leaving Ireland on account of political and religious restrictions, settling in Virginia."

From the few early dates known it would appear that the John Kincheloe who married Elizabeth Canterbury was a grandson of this Cavalier.

John's father was Cornelius Kincheloe who is recorded as living in Richmond County, Va. in December of 1693-94 and, on 26 June 1695 is listed as a planter living on his own land on Totuskey Creek, North Farnham Parish.

John was Cornelius' "proven" son but there is only surmise about the name of John's mother. The name of Kincheloe is accepted as Gaellic but the family is said to be "pure English unmixed with any other nationality".

The Kincheloes are reputed to have been inclined to stick to the land, to marry sons and daughters of farmers and to occupy the frontier in search of good, not poor worked out lands, Education in the home with a family school room and tutor is another tradition. The American's English ancestors must have been at least landed gentry for only upper classes in England in their day received an education.

It is recorded that "John Kincheloe and John Canterbury, apparently a brother-in-law, voted for Lord Fairfax in the election of 1741 which showed a leaning toward the nobility at that late date".

"John Kincheloe's name is on the poll list of electors of Prince William Co. in 1741 and 1744; owned much land on both sides of Bull Run, larger areas of which were perhaps in Fairfax Co., Va., extending eastward from Bull Run to Clifton Station, Va. - several miles on which five generations of descendants were born and buried. Their grave markers were destroyed by Union Army encampments on their site. From these tracts two large farms remain to this day in ownership of descendants." (Quote from Kincheloe McPherson Family.)

John signed his Will 16 March 1746 and died before 25 March 1746 in Prince William County where his estate was appraised, dated and filed. Because part of his original Will and records of that time have been lost from the County Court House, information has been

taken from deeds taken out in the names of 2 (or more) of John Kincheloe's sons.

Before 1749 Elizabeth Kincheloe married for a second time; an Edward Eams, planter and Justice of Prince William County, Virginia.

Elizabeth died between 1776 and 1778. We know nothing of where either she or John Kincheloe are buried.

Their oldest daughter, Mary Kincheloe, married Richard Simpson Junior in Fairfax County, Virginia in 1740. Their history continues in the Simpson chapter.

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Della Parker

## SIMPSON

Virginia was the home of so many of our lineal ancestors that it should be no surprise that our Simpson kin also were Virginians. As of now (1980) we have not gone in depth into this family before they came to America. Undoubtedly they too originated in England.

Della Parker, a descendent as we are, sent me a copy of the Will of my 6th great-grandfather, Richard Withers Simpson, Senior, made 19 September 1761. The Will was proved, County of Fairfax, Virginia in December 1761.

He gave the land he lived on and 204 acres besides to one son, George. To his wife, Sary, the use of all the 14 slaves during her lifetime; after her death they were to be divided among the children. To my 5th great-grandfather, Richard Junior, he named 2 slaves for future ownership and bequeathed him 2 feather beds and furniture. Then he provided that the rest of his estate be divided between his wife, Sary, and his children. (His wife's name was Sarah but we have no maiden name for her) Richard Simpson Senior died at his homestead on the South Run of Pohick Creek, Fairfax County, Virginia.

The inventory of his estate lists 14 slaves, many interesting items of household use, wearing apparel, linens, live stock, barn equipment, 70 gallons of brandy, 200 gallons of Cyder (sic), grain, paper money of 50 pounds-10 shillings, silver of 9 pounds-13 shillings-33 pence and gold of 7 pounds-13 shillings-33 pence, a very sizeable amount to leave. Now is time to add an important item of this estate, one book!

Sarah Simpson made her Will May 1764, it was proved 18 August 1866, Fairfax County, Virginia. She seemed to have only mementoes or keepsakes to bequeath, except for 1 shilling to each of 3 sons, then to a "well-beloved son Wm Barker" the residue of her estate. It has been suggested that Sarah had been married before her marriage to Richard Simpson and Wm was her son by this early marriage, instead he may have been a son-in-law. There is no indication in her Will what he actually did inherit from her.

Richard and Sarah had 6 children, birthdates not known, and names only known through reading of their Wills. They were Moses, George, Elizabeth, Sarah, Richard Junior and Mary. Richard was our direct ancestor.

It is noted that 15 April 1727 Richard Senior had land patent issued to him as "Richard Simpson" for 300 acres, which land he deeded to son, Richard and wife, Mary. The following was copied from the National Genealogical Society Quarterly of January 1922 - No.4, pg 115.

"18 April 1745: Lease. Richard Simpson, Truro Parish, Fairfax County, and Richard Simpson, Junr. and Mary, his wife, son of Richard Simpson, 300 Acres, Fairfax County on Popeshead Run. Named in Boundaries, John Waugh, Giles Tillett. 300 A. granted Richard Simpson, 15 April 1727, father of Richard Simpson, Jr. April 16 1745. Delivered 28 August 1754. Ellzey. page 355"

When the Simpsons came to America will be hard to find. We see them living in Fairfax County, vicinity of what is now Washington D.S. They must have known the early renowned settlers in Virginia.

Richard Simpson Junior, born ca. 1715 and Mary Kincheloe, born 1718, were married 1740 in Fairfax County. At least some of their children were born in Virginia and they were living there when on the 25th of December 1760 their daughter, Sarah, 16 years old, and Nathaniel Hart, 26 years old, from Hanover County were married.

After 1760 and before 1764 Richard and Mary left Virginia and moved to Orange County, North Carolina where Richard had land in both Orange and Caswell Counties in addition to Virginia and Kentucky lands. Some of the Orange County in early North Carolina has been combined with Caswell County thou there is still an Orange County.

Richard must have established a "plantation" but he also represented Caswell County in the North Carolina Assembly. He was known and is shown in many records as "Col. Richard Simpson" but I think there is no record given for any military service. I strongly suspect he was a member of the North Carolina Militia.

Richard Junior must have been a man of stature as well as of property. Apart from his Virginia land, deed to him and wife by his father, there is a record of 3 land grants for 1500 acres in Fayette County, Kentucky, in years 1778, 1784 and again in 1784, and 3 grants in Caswell County, North Carolina totaling 960 acres granted in 1778, 1779 and again in 1779.

The magazine article "Hart Brothers - Early Settlers, Caswell County" by Vance E. Swift shows that Richard was a "large landowner" and that he owned "most of the land on the headquarters of County Luie and Stony Creeks and on the Haw River". That included the High Rock Grist Mill, a ford and a plantation which was on High Creek known later as Herbins Creek. These now are in Rockingham County as county lines have been redrawn in several cases. This seems to establish Richard as a man whose wealth in great part was in land. In reading his Will one may identify land left to Susannah Barton as some or all of his Stony Creek' property mentioned above.

I have yet to see the name of his Manor Plantation on which he and Mary lived nor of the acreage of the different tracts in Caswell and Orange Counties as mentioned in his Will. This does not account for 300 acres, or "lands in County of Kentucky" (now part of the state of Kentucky) or "tract of land purchased from Nathaniel Hart" bequeathed in his Will to others of his children. He names 11 Negros in that Will.

This document was drawn up 5 November 1783 and proven in Open Court. He died ca. 1785 and presumably is buried in Caswell County, North Carolina.

Although Richard was not a partner in the Transylvania Company (explained in the Hart Chapter) his name appears in early Kentucky annals so he must have been in sympathy with the hopes and plans of that group. That could partly be due to the fact that his son-in-law, Nathaniel Hart, and Nathaniel's brothers, Thomas and David, were partners of Col. Henderson, the originator of the Company.

As shown in Richard's Will he provided for wife, Mary, out of the bequest to his minor son, Richard III (at that time 16-17 years old). In January 1786 Mary appeared in court with her attorney to signify her dissatisfaction with terms of her husband's Will. She had "strength of mind" enough to do this, so we can assume that Mary was no weakling but had opinions of her own and was not afraid to ask for better provision for herself.

We do not know what final decision was made by the Hillsborough Court after Mary's appeal was filed. It should be on record there.

Young Richard chose John Reid as his guardian who also qualified as administrator of Estate during young Richard's minority. We can see that all was not harmony though there is no indication that the feeling between mother and son, Mary and Richard III, was other than good.

Mary signed her Will on 6 November 1797. She left "land, person and other property" and nominated and appointed her only son, Richard III, as executer of her estate but did not name any particular acreage bequeathed to him.

Mary Kincheloe Simpson died ca. 1798-99. We assume she is buried next to husband, Richard, in Caswell County. No burial or cemetery records of that period exist.

Our story continues through Sarah Simpson Hart, oldest daughter of Richard and Mary Simpson and wife of Nathaniel Hart.

Will of Richard Simpson, Sn. died 1761

In the Name of God Amen, I, Richard Simpson, being at this time sick and weak but in sound mind and perfect memory make the following disposals of my worldly estate with which God has blessed me after my Just Debts and funeral Expenses are paid.

Item, I give and bequeath unto George Simpson the Land I now live on it being part of two tracts to him and his heirs for ever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto George Simpson 204 acres of land lying on the South run of Pohick that I purchased of Sam Tollburd to him and his heirs forever.

I further Will and bequeath the use of my slaves (to Wit) Jack, James, Bostwin, Cato, Frank, Cosar, Tom, Rhesan, Hagar, Bess, Nell, Ben and Nann to my beloved wife Sary for and during her natural life and after her decease I Will the said slaves:

Item, I give and bequeath unto George Simpson two Negroes Jack and Bess to him and his heirs.

Item, I give and bequeath unto Richard Simpson two slaves Cesar and Tom.

Item, I give and bequeath unto Moses Simpson two slaves Ben and Nan to him and his heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Halley two slaves \_\_\_\_\_ and Hagar to her and heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto Sary Windser two slaves \_\_\_ and Cate to her and heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto Mary Canterbury two slaves Jack and Nell to her, her heirs forever and in default of such heirs then I Will the said slaves to Elizabeth Hally and Sary W8ndSOR to be equally divided between them.

Item, I give unto my granddaughter Caron Happack one Negro James.

Item, I give unto my grandson George Windsor one Negro Frank.

Item, I give and bequeath unto Richard Simpson two feather beds and furniture, the choice of five.

My further desire is that the rest of my estate person all should be equally divided between my wife and 6 children and this I declare and publish to be my last Will and Testament revoking and disanulling all former and other Wills and Testaments by me heretofore made and I do make and ordain, constitute and appoint my two sons George Simpson and Moses Simpson, Executors of this my last Will and Testament.

Signed with my hand and sealed with my hand and sealed with my Seal this 19th September in the year of our Lord 1761

in the presence of us

James Halley Junr.  
Frances Halley  
John Winser

Richard Simpson  
his R mark

At a Court held for the County of Fairfax 21st December 1761 this Will was proved by the oath of James Halley Junr. and John Windser 2 of the Witnesses and at a Court Continued and held for the said County the 22nd of the same Instant. This Will was presented in Court by George Simpson and Moses Simpson Executors herein named who made oath thereto and the same being further proved by the oath of Frances Halley another Witness is ordered to be recorded and the Executors having preformed what the Law requires Certificate is granted them for obtaining a probate thereof in due form.

Fairfax County - Wills &amp; Inventories - Book B - No. 1 - p. 351

In obedience to an order of Fairfax County Court bearing date the 22nd of December, 1762, We the Subscribers whose names are here unto subscribed have appraised all and singular the Estate of Richard Simpson Deceased as was presented to our view as follows:

To one Negro man named Jack	②	40
To one Negro man named Bostwin	②	37
To one Negro man named Cesar	②	50
To one Negro lad named Tom	②	30
To one Negro lad named Jack	②	30
To one Negro boy named Ben	②	20
To one Negro boy named James	②	12
To one Negro boy named Frank	②	10
To one Negro woman named Rhesan	②	30
To one Negro woman named Cate	②	55
To one Negro woman named Hagar	②	55
To one Negro woman named Bess	②	50
To one Negro girl named Nann	②	30
To one Negro girl named Nell	②	25

To one feather bed bolster two pillows Two sheets Blanket rug bedstead cord and hicc (?)

To one feather bed bolster one pillow two sheets blanket rug bedstead, cord and hicc

To one feather bed bolster two sheets Blanket one Bedstead cord and hicc

To one feather bed bolster two sheets Blanket one Bedstead cord and hicc

To one bed bolster two sheets Blanket rug bedstead cord and hicc

To one large chest - one small chest - one trunk

To one small square table

To one large case of bottles

To one spice mortar and pestle - to two candle sticks

To one set of tea ware and one Tea Kettle

To a parcel of glasses and Earthen ware on a shelf

To two punch Bowles and one sugar box

To one large looking and one small looking glass

To one glass lantern

To one pair of fire tongs and shovel and bellows

To one box iron and heaters

To one shew brush and table knives and forks

To one Diaper (?) Table Cloath and two course table cloaths

To two glass decanters and 3 glass bottles

To one white flaggan and three butter pots

To one pair money scales

To one book

To twenty yds white linnen - 13 yds fine white linnen

To 20 yds fine white linnen

To 10 yds fine white linnen

To 175 yds fine white linnen

To 2½ yds white linnen

To 10 yds white sheeting

To 10 yds brown sheeting

To 13 yds fine white linnen

To 9 yds fine Bed ticken

## Richard Simpson Inventory

1761

To one pr. brown sheets - one white sheet  
 To one pr. brown sheets - 2 pr. mems pumps  
 To wearing apparel  
 To 9 sickles and 1 pr. wool cords  
 To 3 yds cotton and a quarter yd. brown linnen  
 To two pr. men shoes - one old bag and lpr. old stockings  
 To 70 gallons of brandy  
 To 200 gallons Cyder  
 To one small chist - three bushels salt  
 To 10 pounds tallow  
 To 4 sides taned leather and 2 raw hides  
 To 1 iron pot - 2 small pots and racks  
 To 1 iron pot & hooks - 2 small pots & hooks  
 To 1 sauce pan - 1 frying pan  
 To 1 parcel iron & lumber  
 To old iron tools and plows  
 To Earthen ware - a parcel of wood ware  
 To a parcel of tin ware - 2 iron Squares & flesh forks  
 To 116 lb. pewter - one pr. stillards  
 To three bells - one old saddle  
 To one milk pan - feathers  
 To four large hogs - nineteen hogs  
 To nine hogs - 14 head of sheep  
 To one cart - one gray horse  
 To one black mare named shift  
 To one old gray mare  
 To one black mare  
 To one gray mare colt  
 To one handmill - 330 feet plank  
 To 29 head of cattle  
 To 1 grindstone - one still and worm (?)  
 To 24 cyder casks - 6 parcel lumber  
 To 50 barrels corn - one iron pot & hooks  
 To 2 iron pot racks  
 To one Red Dearskin

To paper money  
 To silver  
 To gold

L 727.8.4  
 50.10.0  
 9.13.33  
 7. 13. 33

To seven gallons hogg lard - pork  
 To 300 lb. Beef  
 To 10 bushels wheate - 8 bushels oats

E. Washington  
 Thos. Withers Coffey  
 William Simpson

Will of Sarah Simpson (wife of Richard Simpson, Sn)  
died 1766

Will dated May 1764, Fairfax County, Virginia  
Proved August 18, 1766, Fairfax County, Virginia

In the name of God Amen, I, Sarah Simpson, widow of the County of Fairfax in the Colony of Virginia being weak of body but of sound mind and memory calling to mind the uncertainty of this mortal life that is appointed to all once to die, do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following:

Imprimis I give and bequeath my Soul to God and my Body to the Earth to be buried in decent and Christian like manner, according to the discretion of my Executors hereafter mentioned not doubting but humbly hoping for a joyfull Resurrection to eternal life through the merits and intercession of Jesus Christ my Savior and as for the portion of worldly goods it hath pleased God to endow my with I Will and ordain that all debts and funeral charges should be paid Viz:

Item, I give and bequeath unto my well beloved son Moses Simpson one gold Ring posed thus when this you see remember me and if my son Moses Simpson dies without heir for it to fall to my granddaughter Sarah Simpson, the daughter of George Simpson.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Sarah Halley the wife of William Wilkeson one gold \_\_\_ with the two first letters of her name engraven on it.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Sarah Windsor one gold ring with the first two letters of her name engraven on it.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Sarah Simpson the daughter of Richard Simpson one gold ring with her name engraven at large on it.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my three daughters all my wearing apparrial to be equally divided allowing Elizabeth Halley her first choice.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my son George Simpson one shilling Sterling.

Item, I give unto my sons Richard Simpson and Moses Simpson one shilling sterling each.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my well beloved son William Barker all and every part of my Estate except those Legacies above mentions. Lastly I do constitute and ordain and appoint William Barker Executor of this my last Will and Testament hereby renouncing all other and former Wills by me hereto fore made. Witness my hand and seal this \_\_\_ of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven and Sixty Four.

Signed & Sealed in the

Thos. Ford

Wm. King

Benj. J. Suddath

his  
mark

Sarah

her  
S  
mark

Simpson

At a Court held for the County of Fairfax 18 August 1766. This Will was presented in Court by William Barker Executor herein named to made oath thereto and the same being proved by the oath of Thomas Ford and Benjamin Suddarth, two of the witnesses, is admitted to record and the said Executor having performed what the Laws require Certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form.

Teste G. Wagenor ClCur.

Book 1, pg 418, 419--Fairfax County, Virginia

Will of Richard Simpson, Junior

In the Name of God Amen this 25th day of November in the year of our Lord 1783. I Richard Simpson of the County of Caswell and State of North Carolina being in health and Sound Menory do give and dispose of my Temporal Estate in manner and form following Viz:

First I give and bequeath unto my daughter Susannah Barton one Negro girl named Render now in her possession. Also 300 acres of land on the waters of Stoney Creek it being the same Tract whereon her husband David Barton now lives to her and her Heirs forever.

Secondly, I give and bequeath unto my daughter, Kesiah Buchanan (Widow) one Negro girl named Beck, also all my lands in the County of Kentucky in the State of Virginia to her and her Heirs forever.

Thirdly, I give and bequeath unto Margret Williamson wife of Jeremiah Williamson one negro girl named Cate, also the Tract of Land whereon the said Williamson now lives, it being the Land I purchased of Nathaniel Hart, lying on Horsleys Creek to her and hr Heirs forever.

Fourthly, I give and bequeath unto my son Richard Simpson the mannon plantation whereon I now live with all my Lands adjoining the same, also all the rest of my Diferent Tracts in the aforesaid County of Caswell and County of Orange not before or hereafter bequeathed, together with Negroes, Mongo, Jack, Isham, Moll, Tom, Jean, Lond and Rachel, one Silver Watch, one Double Rifle gun together with all my household furniture and stocks of all kinds to him and his heirs forever, not otherwise bequeathed in this Will.

Fifthly, I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter, Presilla Poston when she arrives to lawfull age or marriage one likely horse and Side Saddle to be paid by my son Richard Simpson to her and her heirs forever.

Sixthly, I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Oldham wife of Jesse Oldham, Sarah Hart, wife of Nathaniel Hart, Margann Harris wife of Tyree Harris, Lidie Tate wife of Zacheris Tate, Ede Nunn wife of William Nunn, Nancy Tate, wife of Waddy Tate, one Shilling Sterling each to them and their heirs forever.

Sevently, My will and desire is that my beloved wife Mary have Sufficient maintainence during her Natural life out of the Estate bequeathed to my son Richard Simpson.

Eightly and Lastly, I nominate, constitute and appoint my son Richard Simpson, my beloved wife Mary and son in law David Barton to be Executors of this my last Will and Testament. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

Signed sealed, published and  
acknowledged in presence of  
the subscribing witnesses

Richard Simpson (Seal)

January Court 1786      Book B      page 103

Caswell County, North Carolina

Will of Mary Simpson (wife of Richard Simpson, Junior)

In the name of God Amen, I Mary Simpson of the County of Caswell and State of North Carolina being of a low state of health but of sound and perfect mind and memory do make and establish this my last Will and Testament, Viz:

First I give and bequeath to my daughters, Margret Williamson wife of Jerre Williamson, Kizah Reid, wife of John Reid, my son Richard Simpson and my grand children, the children of Nathaniel Hart and Tyree Harris deceased, one shilling and no more, they having already received their full share of my Estate.

Secondly, I give and bequeath to my two granddaughters Polley Pratt wife of James Pratt and Betsy Currie wife of Hugh Currie four pounds Virginia money to them and their heirs forever.

Thirdly, My Will and Desire is that my land be sold at 12 months credit as also all my personal and other property to the highest bidder and the amount thereof be equally divided between my daughters Elizabeth Oldham wife of Jesse Oldham, Lydia Tait wife of Zacharis Tait, my grand daughters Priscilla Dickens wife of William Dickins, the 3 youngest children of Waddy Tait, dec'd, Viz: Ede, Hedekiah and Jesse which 3 are to represent 1 legatee and draw and share and the 5 children of David Barton by his 1st wife Viz: Zera, Chinai, Polly, John and David who are also intituled to draw 1 share among them - to them their heirs and assigns forever, except 6 pounds Virginia money which my grand daughter Priscilla Dickins has already received which sum is to be deducted out of her part and divided among the others, and that all my just debts are to be by my Executor hereafter to be appointed before said division.

Fourthly and Lastly, I nominate constitute and appoint my son Richard Simpson Executor to this my Last Will and Testament which I have signed and sealed this 6th November, 1797.

In presence of  
Benjamin Burfore

Forster Stanback (Jurat)

her

Mary

mark

Simpson (Seal)

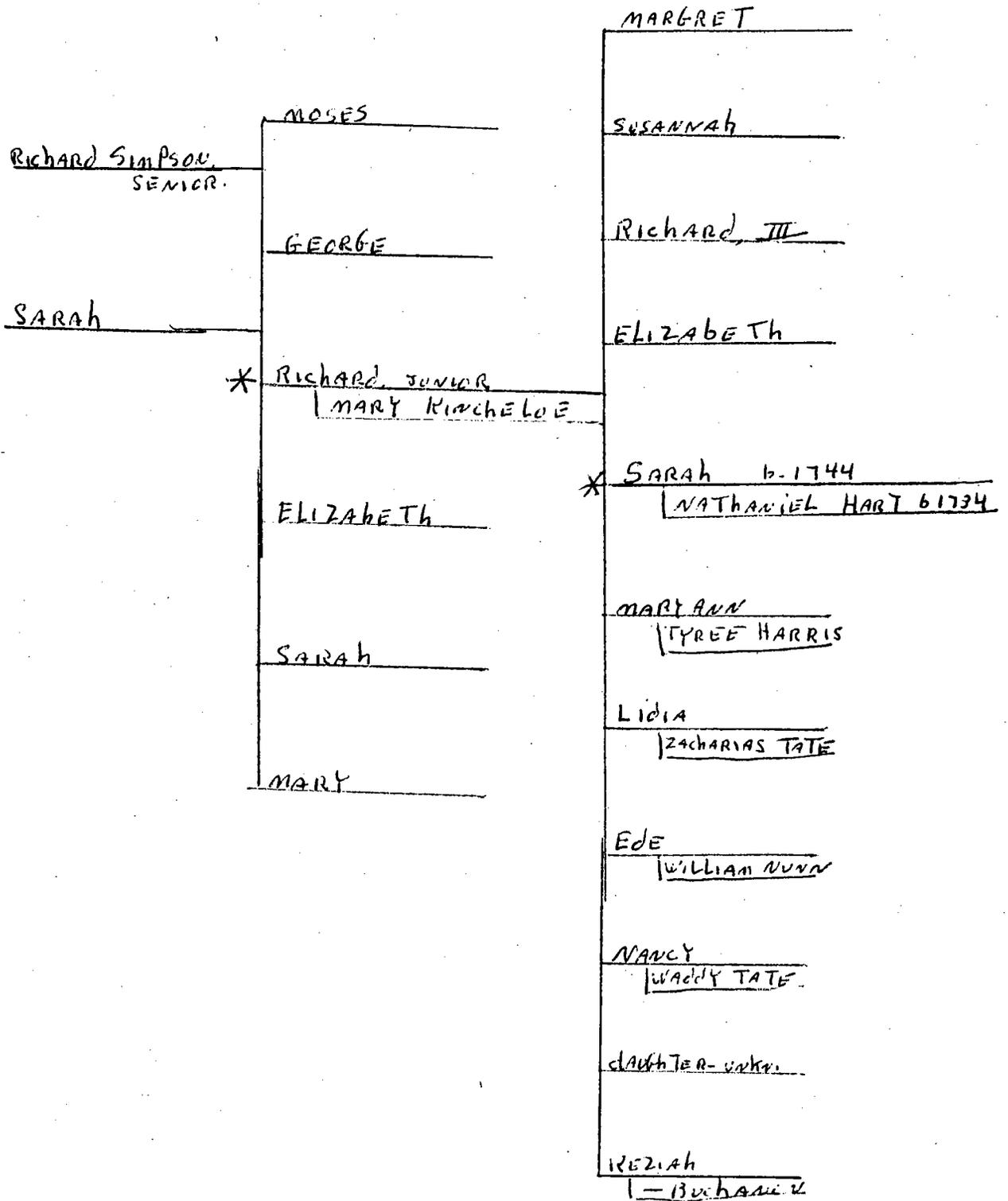
The Execution of this Will was duly proved in Open Court by the oath of Forister Stanback one of the subscribing witnesses and on motion ordered to be recorded at same time Executor qualified and letters issued.

Test: A. E. Murphy CC

Yanceyville, North Carolina

October Court 1798 Book C page 331

# SIMPSON CHART.



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Sarah Simpson

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Mary Kincheloe Simpson

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Vance Swift

Kincheloe, McPherson Family Book

Personal Letters from

Della Parker

NATHANIEL HART

b. May 1734

married: 25 December 1760 Fairfax County, Virginia

d. 22 July 1782

SARAH SIMPSON

b. 1744

d. March 1784

Nathaniel Hart, my 4th great-grandfather, was ambushed and brutally killed by Indians in the afternoon of July 22, 1782 (some accounts show the 28th of July). Daniel Boone said, "Nathaniel was careless". It was less than a mile from Nathaniel's White Oak Station to Fort Boonesborough and he was killed within that area. Ruth and I were not far from where it occurred; as there are no markers no one knows exactly where he fell.

In "The Genealogy of the Hart Family" Mrs. Sarah Young, a granddaughter of his, wrote that his belt and shoe buckles were recovered and in 1883 were in possession of his great-grandson Richard Hart Shaw then living near Horn Lake, DeSoto County, Mississippi. The finding of buckles from his clothing shows that he was wearing the usual dress of gentleman of that time and was not in his frontiersman garb. As yet no description of his personal appearance nor any pictures of him have been found.

An old book in the Illinois Historical Library at Decatur, found by Edna Earle Weld, has an account written by Jesse Benton to one of Nathaniel's brothers. Benton had been one of the group with the Transylvania Company in North Carolina and Kentucky, had married Ann Gooch a Hart niece and had remained a friend and neighbor to the Harts while in Kentucky. He wrote that "Nathaniel was wounded in the hip, then shot and scalped and left to die, his deserted body to be recovered several days later". Jesse Benton was at White Oak Station at the time of Nathaniel's death and wrote this letter on 4 December 1782. The family has denied this brutality, perhaps to soften the blow to the children and Sarah. Nathaniel Hart, Junior, in a letter to Draper written 1838 said, "he fell by the Indian tomahawk in the dangerous season of 1782".

I have read and been told by Kathryn Owen, a student of history and a writer, that had Nathaniel lived longer without a doubt he would have left a far greater mark on Kentucky history.

He was born 8 May 1734 in Hanover County, Virginia, the 5th son of Thomas Hart Junior and Susanna Rice, daughter of Thomas Rice and possibly Aunt to Rev. David Rice of the Presbyterian Church in Kentucky in 1781. Mrs. Young wrote, "Thomas as a boy of 11 had come to America ca. 1690 with his widowed father, Thomas Senior, a merchant of London, England". Other sources declare that at least one daughter came and later married Edmund Massie of Virginia. Little is known and no more has been written of Thomas Senior other than he probably became blind before his death.

Thomas Junior and Susanna had 5 sons, Thomas, John, Benjamin, David and Nathaniel and a daughter Ann. After her husband died ca. 1755 Susanna with her children moved to Caswell County, North Carolina. When Nathaniel was 26 he and Sarah Simpson, age 16, were married on Christmas day in 1760 in Fairfax County, Virginia. She was the oldest daughter of Richard Simpson Junior and Mary Kincheloe Simpson both of whom came from a long line of early Virginia families. The Simpsons also moved to Caswell County ca. 1764. The Hart and Simpson families had both been large land owners in Virginia and Nathaniel and Sarah had been raised in comparatively well-to-do homes.

Nathaniel's brothers Thomas and David were close by, all three holding large estates in North Carolina. In an article about the Harts and Caswell County, we learn of the location as on "waters of County Line Creek and Hostlers Creek".

In Court proceedings in 1765 Nathaniel was granted an license to keep a Tavern at his dwelling, Red House; brother Thomas was one of the two who went his bond. On that same date the Mill that Nathaniel had built on Hosley's (sic) Creek was to be "recorded as a Public Mill".

That he owned a great deal of land is verified by his offering for sale by way of a newspaper article in 1777, two tracts on both sides of County Line Creek. One was for 1850 acres "on which are several plantations". There was a "large dwelling house, workhouse, kitchen with stone chimney, dairy, smokehouse and all other necessary outhouses, gardens etc." In addition Nathaniel listed a "bearing apple orchard of some 300 trees and a number of peach trees". The land was rich and suitable for crops and there was choice meadow land of between 150 and 200 acres. A second plantation of 1240 acres was offered on

a main road. This too had a dwelling house, other buildings and "a Tub Mill newly built on a good stream". (The term "tub mill" was an American expression applied to an ordinary gristmill when it was powered by a waterwheel in which the water was carried on the wheel in something that looked like tubs) It seems evident from Nathaniel's descriptions that agriculture was important. At that time when money was scarce brandy became a medium of exchange and good orchards were essential for the making of brandies. It was a barter system that worked for a time but after 1800 it gradually lost acceptance for heavy drinking became a problem in many communities.

Nathaniel and his brothers continued to be known as North Carolina planters with wide interests. Red House, its exact location not known today, was a focal point for Nathaniel's activities and where guests were entertained. A book published in Dublin, Ireland in 1784 has this to say,

"The house and plantation to which the Negro slave conducted me, belonged to a Mr. Hart, his master, who received me with the greatest hospitality and kindness; but what added to my surprise was to find the proprietor, not only a polished member of society, but an accomplished and complete gentleman ----the refreshments, comforts, and consolation he bestowed upon me with a liberal hand, appeared to afford even a superior degree of satisfaction to him than to me".

To be facetious one wonders if some of that brandy could have been part of the consolation felt by Mr. J.F.R. Smyth even while he wrote his book, "A Tour in the United States of America".

The Hart brothers were active in community affairs as well as on their plantations. Thomas had an enviable record as High Sheriff, member of the State Assembly and other public offices and rose to the rank of Lt. Col. in the Revolutionary War. David also served as an officer in that war. Nathaniel had served on the Jury in Superior Court in Hillsboro, commissioner in his county and as a member of the North Carolina Militia. In 1771 Nathaniel as Captain in the Militia saw action at the Battle of Alamance and received commendation from his men and fellow officers for his handling of several serious situations.

Nathaniel and a friend, Christopher Irvine, were commissioned officers in the Virginia Militia at the same time in 1781; Irvine as Ensign and Nathaniel as Captain. This service was for the area of Fort Boonesborough. Years later Christopher's daughter Mary Irvine married Nathaniel's son John but by that time both fathers were dead from Indian bullets and arrows.

Before 1775 Col. Richard Henderson conceived the idea of buying land from the Indians in an area now comprising almost all of the state of Kentucky which at that time was a county of Virginia. It is told in books and articles that Nathaniel was the chief negotiator with the Indians, mostly of the Cherokee Tribe. At one time he was away from home for 3 months and his son writing to Draper told that he brought Chiefs to stay at his own estate, Red House. Daniel Boone, well-known to these men in 1775, knew the Kentucky territory and helped with the forming of the Transylvania Company by his knowledge of it and his vision of settlement there. The plan was to buy land with the intention of opening these rich new areas to buyers and settlers. There is no doubt that the Company members expected to reap profits from these sales.

Finally the Indians and Transylvania Company members met at a place called Watauga where, in consideration of the land, the Indians were to receive goods amounting to about \$50,000.00. There were 500 to 1,000 Indians present at the negotiations and discussions went on for 20 days before final agreement was reached. Nathaniel, as President of the Transylvania Company, presided at these meetings leading to the signing of the Treaty. Among others, the officers were Nathaniel, Thomas and David Hart, Col. Henderson, John Luttrell, a Revolutionary War Officer and son-in-law of John Hart; 9 men in all. I have read that opposite the table in the open where the Company officers sat with the Indians at one side, were a group of interested men. Among them were Isaac Shelby, later to be the 1st Governor of Kentucky and Nathaniel's son-in-law thru marriage to Susannah Hart, Jesse Benton, already identified, and Lawrence Thompson who also became Nathaniel's son-in-law thru marriage to Keziah Hart.

The treaty finally signed, the meeting ended and the trek to Kentucky began. Col. Henderson kept a daily Journal showing he and a few others set out on Monday, March 20, 1775. On March 22 he mentions Col. Hart and Col. Williams with him but "Hart and Williams set off for home". On Saturday, April 1, 1775 he wrote, "Mr. Hart came up" so we know that by then Nathaniel had left his family in North Carolina and was on the march to Kentucky. Mention is made of Indian attacks, even that "Mr. Hart retreated back with his company". On Thursday, April 20, 1775 Col. Henderson wrote, "Arrived at Fort Boone" where they were received with gun fire to celebrate their arrival.

A new Fort was planned, built and, interestingly enough, Col. Henderson's plans were preserved. Altho not in the same spot there now is a replica in Boonesborough State Park exactly in size and shape as the original with names of those who occupied the cabins. It had 30 cabins including a blockhouse at each of its 4 corners. The plan by Henderson assigned one of these to Nathaniel Hart. The Indians and Canadian Loyalists around Detroit aided the British during the Revolutionary War and terrible attacks were made in April of 1777, July 7, 1777 and August 8, 1778. British spies visited the Fort in their zest for knowledge of the enemy. Officers and soldiers were wounded, killed or captured. As often as possible during a lull in the fighting work on Nathaniel's own Fort went forward.

Several times Henderson seems to have been displeased with Nathaniel. It could have been because he planned to build his own Station, which he did, selecting land near a spring, calling it White Oak Station. He set out to plant corn and other crops, contracting to buy from other settlers and supply the Forts with food.

Many trips back to North Carolina were made between 1775 and 1779, that year deciding to bring his family to Kentucky for now the home was ready for them. Sarah pregnant with her 9th child and her 8 other children set out. They had a stopping place at the Shelby home in Tennessee. Young Isaac Shelby had been an interested bystander at Watauga and is listed among the earliest settlers at Boonesborough, although it was not until 1783 that he and Susannah Hart were married.

The lives of this couple has been so well documented that for this story it will not be repeated. We know from letters to Draper by Nathaniel Junior that somewhere in Virginia before reaching Boonesborough Chinoe Hart was born on the 25th of October 1779. So Sarah with her tiny baby and the older children arrived late that year and, at first, lived at Fort Boonesborough, later making their home at White Oak Station. The spring was nearby, the river not far and Fort Boonesborough less than a mile away. She surely had friends there. Daniel Boone and Nathaniel had long known each other in North Carolina. In fact, the deep feeling for Daniel is expressed in this often retold story. Daniel Boone's saddle bag was once relieved of a large sum of money entrusted to him by friends to buy land rights. The Hart brothers were among those prospective buyers and losers of the largest amount of money in that robbery. Boone saved money to return to each loser the amount of his loss but the Hart brothers, believing so strongly in his integrity, refused to let him repay their money. All the Harts are mentioned throughout many books as his deep close friends.

Sarah must have also known the Irvines, the Calloways, James Finney and others but because of the hostile Indians may not have visited back and forth. But days were full with her large family and household slaves to oversee and care for.

The house Nathaniel supposedly built is gone, another was erected, but the huge chimney and fireplace at the back attributed to him still stands. This house is marked by a large plaque in front put there by the Society of Boonesborough, denoting it as an Historical Spot, "home of Captain Nathaniel Hart". Down a slight hill at one side of the house is a pond; the spring flowing generously is across the road. In Nathaniel's time there was no road as now. Ruth and I stood by the spring, listened to birds singing and looked at the many tall trees and various kinds of undergrowth all about.

Nathaniel was a practical man used to large land deals and business ventures. He knew the settlers pouring into Kentucky had to be fed until their own crops provided them with food. While gardens

and fields were planned and laid out about the Forts, they could not grow enough in those earliest perilous times to feed everyone. It was said that Nathaniel was more interested in growing corn than in selling land. It has been alleged but not proven that he hired men to grow crops and riflemen to guard his workers from Indian attack and wild animals. It is true that he had the capital to do this and it is evident that he desired to increase his wealth and to provide well for his family. The French Tipton papers and an article "White Oak Station" by Mr. Eaton tell that Mr. Marshall, Nathaniel's overseer from North Carolina, brought 90 slaves to work at building and farming some going to Lubegrad. This was near where Dutch emigrants from Pennsylvania settled, later many were killed, those left alive moved elsewhere. This gives some idea of the vastness of his plans for Kentucky and for himself.

He selected an area away from White Oak Station where he planned to build "his mansion" which he would call "Red House" in honor of his North Carolina home. His untimely death prevented that. Kentucky maps show the town of Red House, settled ca. 1849 where the Hart future home would have been.

After that fateful afternoon of his early and cruel death, the family may not have stayed at White Oak Station. Nathaniel Junior's letters indicate they were at Fort Boonesborough. He tells that all the Forts had schools and how he and his brother, John, walked miles to school armed with rifles.

Nathaniel left a Will written only months before his death bequeathing his estate to Sarah and putting on her shoulders the care and education of their children. The Will reads:

In the name of God Amen, the twenty seventh of June 1782, I, Nathaniel Hart of Lincoln County, Virginia, being in sound and perfect health and memory do dispose of my Temporal Estate in manner and form following.

1st, I appoint my well beloved wife, Sarah Hart, my two sons, Simpson Hart and Nathaniel Hart and my two brothers David Hart and Thomas Hart Executors and overseers of this, my last Will and Testament, and my will and desire is that my said Executors or oversees sell of so soon as they shall think fit so much of my real and

personal estate as shall be sufficient to pay off all my just debts as all the expenses that shall be necessary towards the surveying the several tracts of land I now claim either by Settlement, pre-emption Entry, purchase or otherwise in the Counties of Lincoln, Jefferson, Fayette vc, and my will and desire is that my Executors before mentioned give to each of my nine children (to wit) Keziah Thompson, Susannah Hart, Simpson Hart, Nathaniel Hart, John Hart, Mary Ann Hart, Cumberland Hart, Chinai Hart and Thomas Richard Green Hart, Each as they come of age or marry, a good likely young Negro, a good horse and saddle, a good feather bed and furniture and a good tract of land not to exceed 1,000 acres, as near equal in value as may be, which said tract of land and other things so allotted them as aforesaid, I give and Bequeath to them and to each of them respectively and to their Respective Heirs forever, and I leave all my children under the tuition and care of my Beloved wife, to be Educated according to their several \_\_\_\_\_ for which and other purposes I leave to my said wife all the Residue of my Real and personal Estate during her life or widowhood and at her death or marriage my will and desire is that all my Estate both real and personal be equally divided amongst my said nine children then living or their lawful heirs if dead, and if either of my nine children should die without heirs of their body lawfully begotten, my will and desire that their part so allotted or given them as aforesaid be equally divided amongst my other children then living, and whereas it now remains a doubt whether my wife is now with child or not, my will and desire is that in case she should be delivered of a living child, my Executors before mentioned give it a Legacy in every respect equal to those allotted my other nine children, and I hereby revoke and disannul all other wills formerly made by me in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the Day and Year first above written. Signed, Sealed and published in the presence of

William Calk  
Nicholas George  
Nicholas Anderson

Nathaniel Hart (Seal)

Probated January 22, 1783

Copy as found in Will Book A pg 4 1782, County of Lincoln, State of Kentucky.

In 1840 Nathaniel Hart Junior wrote of the attack on his father's station saying, "It is impossible at this day to make a just impression of the sufferings of the pioneers about the period spoken of. The White Oak Spring Fort in 1782, with perhaps one hundred souls in it, was reduced in August to three fighting white men. I can say with truth, that for two or three weeks my mother's family never unclothed themselves to sleep, nor were all of them within the time at their meals together, nor was any household business attempted. Food was prepared and placed where those who chose could eat".

Nathaniel also wrote in that same year, "I went with my mother, in January 1783, to Logan's Station (Lincoln County) to prove my father's Will. He had fallen in the preceeding July. 20 armed men were of the party. 23 widows were in attendance upon the court to obtain letters of administration on the estates of their husbands, who had been killed during the past year. This is exclusive of the much larger number who were killed leaving no estate which required administration".

Two years before Nathaniel's death, Keziah had married Lawrence Thompson; Susannah and Isaac Shelby were married by an Episcopal clergyman in April in 1783. No word is given as to Sarah other than that in March 1784 she died leaving young children. These were taken in and cared for by the young Shelby family. It is inconceivable to think that Keziah and Lawrence Thompson with a small daughter (Sarah Finney Thompson) did not help in rearing some of these orphaned Hart children but there is no exact record as to that and perhaps the Shelbys assumed the most responsibility.

They all lived the pioneer life, suffered the same hardships even though some were more secure financially than others. It must be remembered that many were educated, well-to-do people; the Harts, Calloways, Irvines, Benton, Shelby, Henderson etc., whose aims were to achieve and to provide a rich new life in a rich new part of America.

Land grants show that Nathaniel, among others, had thousands of acres and when the Transylvania Company was denied the right to sell the land to their advantage, the partners were given extensive acreage for themselves.

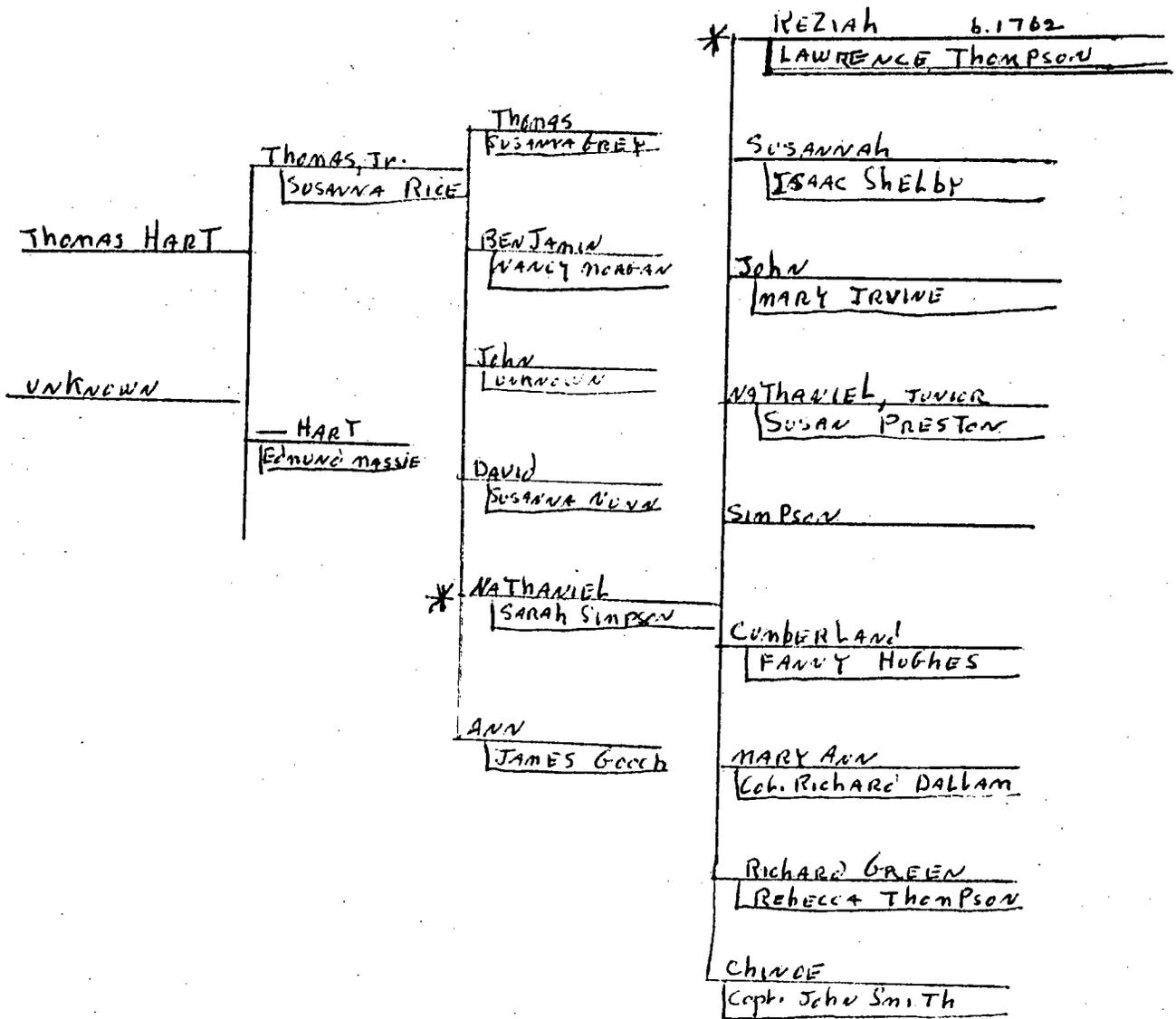
Suits were brought from time to time about boundaries, in fact, lines were often in dispute. Old surveys were based on trees, stone markers, waterways which storms and man could alter or erase. Such legal actions were brought by Nathaniel's heirs but we have no date when his estate finally was settled nor how much each child received in land or money.

Not far from White Oak Station is the Lisle graveyard. A granddaughter, Susan Shelby Thompson, married to Henry Lisle could have built the house now standing in front of the fireplace and chimney Nathaniel is said to have had erected. The property became known as the Lisle home. In the nearby graveyard are 2 large river or field stones which are thought to mark both Nathaniel and Sarah Hart's graves. Some, Mr. Eaton is one, think that Lawrence and Keziah Thompson also are buried near, but no markers are on any of these four graves, indeed one can only guess where Keziah and Lawrence's graves might be. As Susan Lisle was a daughter to them it is entirely plausible that this is correct. The Society of Boonesborough members have future plans to mark the graves attributed to the Harts.

Ruth went to the old graveyard site, but due to uncertain footing I did not. The day in May 1979 was overcast and there are trees and vegetation about so that pictures are not clear. There are pictures contained in the article by Mr. Eaton which gives an idea how the gravesite of this powerful, ambitious, farseeing brave man looks now. Nathaniel's death at age 48 was a blow to the community and certainly to his family. Walking about the home place where he had walked and lived and near to where he had died I felt a little sad that the dynamic life had been cut off so cruelly but he willingly took chances that he could make his dreams come true for the good of others as well as for himself.

When we were in Kentucky Nathaniel's name, as well as other of our ancestors, opened doors and created interest wherever we went. He was only one of the many with the same dreams and hopes and shared dangers. When Jemima Boone with Betsy and Fanny Calloway were Kidnapped 7 July 1776 Daniel Boone and Col. Calloway led the chase one way, Nathaniel leading another group down river. This story had been told to me countless times with no mention of Nathaniel by name nor relationship. It was not until recently that the facts of his life and untimely death became known to me.

# HART.



NATHANIEL AND SARAH HART

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JOHN HART  
(brother to Nathaniel Hart)

This John Hart should not be confused with the John Hart of New Jersey, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and there is no reason to try to connect the various Hart families who lived in northern states with our Virginia and North Carolina Harts much as it is possible they had common ancestors in England.

There is little to tell of this Hart brother who was born in Hanover County, Virginia ca. 1726, said to be the oldest child of Thomas and Susanna Rice Hart. After the death of his father, John joined the rest of the family in their move to North Carolina.

John married, wife's name unknown, and they had one child, daughter Susanna. John died while quite young.

Susanna, surely named for John's mother, married John Luttrell. This is the same John Luttrell who became a member of the Transylvania Company and his name occurs frequently in connection with early days in Kentucky. He was an officer in the Revolution and was killed in a battle with the Tories, as was told by Susanna's cousin. Susanna later married Dr. John Umstead and at her death left no descendants.

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BENJAMIN HART  
(brother to Nathaniel Hart)

Benjamin, or as seen in one instance, Benjamin Franklin Hart was born 1728 in Hanover County, Virginia, the 2nd son of Thomas II and Susanna Rice Hart. For some time, at least, he too lived in Caswell County, North Carolina, and like his brothers served in the Revolutionary War.

He married Nancy Morgan, said to have been born 17 March 1747, daughter of a General Morgan of North Carolina. The marriage is credited with taking place in 1758 which makes that date or Nancy's birthdate incorrect, likely the marriage was later than 1758.

The young Harts moved to Elbert County, Georgia which is in the northeastern part of the state. This county lies next to Hart County and one wonders if that was named for this family.

They raised a large family, 7 sons and 3 daughters. Benjamin, in the tradition of the Hart families, acquired land but no mention has been found of his further interests.

DAR records lists Benjamin as a Private in the Revolution, other records show his rank as Captain, possibly that was in the North Carolina Militia. Whatever his duties in the War there was to be plenty of interest in the family for Nancy became a spy for the Revolutionary forces serving under Col. Elijah Clark of Atlanta, Ga. She is listed in the DAR Roll of Patriots with the letters P.S. following her name. These stand for Public Service, surely a minor rank for the work this brave, busy woman did for her country. It is easy to speculate as how she did her spying, were her husband and children fully aware of her activities, did they assist her in innocent ways and did she ever run a real risk of being caught at the expense of her life? Her work was so important and recognized that a DAR Chapter bears her name. It appears that after the Revolution Benjamin and Nancy lived a quiet life on their land in Ga.

In 1802 Benjamin died in Brunswick, Ga. which is in the extreme southeast part of the state on the Atlantic Ocean. Nancy died in 1840 in Henderson County in the extreme northwestern section of Kentucky where some of her family lived. These facts are found in DAR records.

No further research has been done on these two Revolutionary War Patriots though much should be available.

## Issue of Benjamin and Nancy Hart

John	born 1762	married Patience Land
Morgan	1768	went to Tenn. married, is believed to have been killed by Indians.
Thomas	_____	_____
Benjamin	1770	married Mary Margaret Kincheloe
Lemuet, akso shown as Samuel in Hart Genealogy		
Mark	3 Sept. 1776	married Eliz. Kembro
Sara	_____	married Hugh Thompson
Keziah	_____	married _____ Compton
James	_____	_____
Suckey	_____	_____

Although this list is not verified it has been accepted by Genealogists

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THOMAS HART III  
(brother to Nathaniel Hart)

This Thomas was born 11 December 1730 in Hanover County, Virginia not only the 3rd son of Thomas and Susanna Rice Hart but the 3rd of the name. His father, Thomas, born 1679 in England, came to these shores when only 11 years old so the new son, as were his brothers and sister, was a first generation American.

He too left Virginia for North Carolina settling in Caswell County and, in time, married Susanna Gray. The name Susanna occurs so frequently in Hart families that one concludes it was very popular in those days. A grand-nephew to Thomas many years later wrote that Susanna Gray was "a lady of fortune." However that was, in time the young Harts became parents of 3 sons and 4 daughters.

Thomas was involved in business and community affairs. He was High Sheriff for Orange County in 1762-1763, in related years had commercial interests in a store and a mill and one reference states that Thomas was a lawyer. He acquired vast holdings of land in Orange and Caswell Counties.

He and his brothers, Nathaniel and David, were well-known socially as well as considered to be astute businessmen. The 3 Hart brothers were friends with and involved in the adventures of Daniel Boone for many years.

Thomas was an officer in the Revolutionary War rising to rank of Lt. Col. and was in the Battle of Alamance. He served as a member of the Provincial Congress of North Carolina (1774) and he was one of the proprietors of the Transylvania Company, a project headed by Col. Richard Henderson.

The grand-nephew in his letter told of Thomas making a quick sale of his North Carolina lands in 1780 when Lord Cornwallis and troops invaded the state. He took his family to Hagerstown, Maryland and it was there he had business interests with Col. Nathaniel Rochester in a flour mill and a rope and nail manufacturing business.

The brutal and unexpected death by Indians of his brother, Nathaniel, in Kentucky in 1782 delayed him from fulfilling his earlier desire to move to that state. When he did go in 1794 he built his

home in Lexington at what is now the corner of 2nd and Mill Streets. The home was demolished some years ago to make a parking lot--what a pity. Pictures taken in it's later years show it not the imposing mansion suggested in a book on Historic Houses but still a substantial Georgian home. Considering that this was built in the prevailing mode of nearly 200 years ago when undoubtedly it was surrounded by trees and beautiful gardens it could have been most impressive. It is described like this: "Thomas was an early and wealthy settler. He had a well-known architect, Benjamin LaTrobe, build his mansion and it became thru the years a famous house.....Some people have thought the ell of this house was one of the three sites on Mill St. where Henry Clay had his law offices tho some Clay descendants do not agree."

It is true though that when 18 Lucretia Hart married Henry Clay in this home. She lived her life as wife of this prominent politician in Washington D.C., abroad and in their beautiful home "Ashland" in Lexington, now a "Historic Site". This vast estate is beautifully administered by the State of Kentucky. The house is furnished with Clay furniture and mementoes, the two old conical ice-houses are preserved and the gardens are lovely with hugh ash trees abounding from which the name, Ashland, comes.

We have no picture or description of Thomas. The portrait of Lucretia in the dining room of Ashland shows she was not a pretty woman but it is said she was "not intellectual but of good sense, kind and a devoted mother to her 11 children". She was dark haired and eyed, perhaps she resembled her father in looks and it is suggested that her personal character resulted from early good training by her parents.

Of Thomas' other children one son, Capt. Nathaniel Gray Hart, met a tragic death. He and his comrades were slain at the Battle of River Raisin in 1813. Many years later the remains of these men were recovered from a common grave in Monroe County, Michigan and now are interred in the National Monument at Frankfort, Kentucky. This tall monument is bordered by an iron paling fence and is surrounded by stones marking individual graves, probably officers of

the company. Names are engraved on these and on the center shaft and in every way this is a fitting place for these brave men. Both Capt. Nathaniel G. Hart and Capt. Paschal Hickman, also buried there, are distantly related to us.

It is clear that in North Carolina, Maryland and Kentucky Thomas was a man of power and ability, used to a tradition of wealth and public service, a man of substance wherever he lived. The Harts were a close-knit family and it is too bad there are not more personal facts to add to these short resumes of their lives.

Thomas lived to be 78, dying in 1808 in Lexington where presumably he is buried in a family plot.

## Issue of Thomas and Susanna Gray Hart

- |                   |                                       |  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Thomas         |                                       | married Nelly Grush  |
| 2. Nathaniel Gray |                                       | married Ann Gist   |
| 3. John           |                                       | unmarried  |
| 4. Eliza          |                                       | married Dr. Richard Pindell  |
| 5. Susanna        |                                       | married Samuel Price   |
| 6. Nancy (or Ann) |                                       | married James Brown  |
| 7. Lucretia       | born 18 Mar. 1781<br>died 4 Apl. 1864 | married Henry Clay on<br>11 Apr. 1799<br><br>Clay was born 12 Apr. 1777<br>died 19 June 1852 |

## THOMAS HART

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DAVID HART  
(brother to Nathaniel Hart)

The 4th son of Thomas and Susanna Rice Hart was David born 1732 in Hanover County, Virginia. Following the death of his father in 1755 he with mother, brothers and sister went to Caswell County, North Carolina. Along with Thomas, Nathaniel and possibly Benjamin in the early years, David acquired land and led a busy life concerned with personal and community affairs.

In 1765 he married Susanna Nunn adding another to the long list of Susannas, a name which was repeated many times in the future generations. David and Susanna had 6 sons and 4 daughters.

David, a man of standing in the community as were his brothers, became a partner in the Transylvania Company. "Genealogy of the Hart Family" notes that David accompanied Nathaniel on one of his trips to Kentucky and a David Hart and a Mrs. David Hart are listed one time as being in residence in Boonesborough. If so, it seems transitory as David is shown in 1779-1780 as Justice of the Peace in Caswell County, road overseer, tax assessor and collector of that same period.

A DAR record lists him as Commissioner for collecting Tory property and a year later as Commissioner to dispose of Tory property. Webster defines "Tory" as "a person in the American Revolution who advocated or actively supported continued allegiance to Great Britian". It seems strange to think there were such in the south and it could point up how strongly David felt about his native country. In 1781 he was chosen as Lt. Col. of a volunteer Light Horse Company serving under Col. Henry Lee. David was also in an attack on the Tory forces below the Haw River. At another date, 15 March 1781, he commanded his regiment at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse where one of the great battles of the Revolution was fought. The British won that battle but at such a cost in men and supplies that it is credited by some, with losing them the war. American forces were led by Gen. Nathaniel Green, the British by Lord Charles Cornwallis. After Gen. Greene withdrew his forces "leaving some 5000 British casualties Lord Cornwallis' army marched to Wilmington where they had a supply base, then on to Virginia. Strong French (plan of Gen. Lafayette)

and American forces were at Yorktown and Lord Cornwallis surrendered".

Today there is a Guilford Courthouse Military Park at Greensboro, North Carolina marking that spot. It is open to visitors the year round. We are told that these events and battles were detailed in a letter dated 4 October 1781 that Thomas Hart wrote to their brother, Nathaniel. The detailed information regarding the Battle of Guildord Courthouse was seen by chance in a newspaper article in September, 1979, one hundred ninety-eight years later.

So far no exact date is shown for David's death other than "after 1790". His nephew wrote that David lived and died in North Carolina and that at the time of his letter, 1842, 'his family was living on lands in Tennessee and Kentucky."

## Issue of David and Susanna Nunn Hart

- |               |                      |   |
|---------------|----------------------|---|
| 1. Thomas     | b. 1765              | married Mrs. Mary Cross   |
| 2. Joseph     | b. 1776              | married Eliza A.L. Wheeler  |
| 3. Archibald  | d. No. Caro.         | unmarried   |
| 4. John       |                      | married Priscilla Turner  |
| 5. David Jr.  | d. Vincennes<br>Ind. | unmarried   |
| 6. William    |                      | married Dinah Bradford, dau. of<br>John Bradford who purchased<br>Thomas Hart home, Lexington, Ky |
| 7. Rebecca    |                      | married Capt. Wayne Dickson   |
| 8. Susanna    |                      | married Joseph Cowan  |
| 9. Mary       |                      | married James Hillyer   |
| 10. Elizabeth |                      | married _____ Eaches  |

## DAVID HART

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ANN HART  
(sister to Nathaniel Hart)

After five sons Thomas and Susanna Rice Hart had a daughter Ann born 1736 in Hanover County, Virginia. Could she have been Susanna, shortened to Ann? In one instance, according to Draper, she is shown as Susan. That probably is not correct for in a letter to Draper by her grand-nephew written in 1842 he refers to her as Ann. After the death of her father Ann, her mother and brothers became residents of North Carolina.

She married a James Gooch and they had 2 children, another Ann and another James. The little Ann much later is referred to as Nancy which very easily could have been her nickname but this story will use the name, Ann.

The Hart Genealogy states that the children were orphaned when quite young: the nephew says the mother died, in fact he does not mention the father other than the fact of the marriage.

Some time about 1860 Rev. Wm Buckner Snead wrote of his Gooch ancestors. He gives a conflicting story and the article contains errors which are proved by later writings and known events. He said there were several Gooch children but he is correct in writing that the young Ann married Jesse Benton. Other writers have told of her being raised in the home of Thomas Hart with his daughters, Eliza and Lucretia. If the Rev. Snead is to be believed Ann probably met Jesse Benton in the Hart home. Rev. Snead credits Thomas with raising 4 or 5 young men some, if not all, were orphans of whom Jesse Benton was one. This seems odd for it is written that Benton came from England to America before the Revolution and held an office under King George III who reigned from 1760 to 1820. However Jesse knew the Harts, he and Ann met and married. We know he was in North Carolina in 1775 for he was one of the spectators at the signing of the Treaty at Watauga with the Cherokee Indians. In one place, source unfortunately now lost, he is linked with Isaac Shelby and Lawrence Thompson as among the spectators on that auspicious occasion. A few years later these three men became relatives for Isaac and Lawrence married Nathaniel Hart daughters, first cousins to Ann.

It is unclear as to the Benton's first child but on 14 March 1782 their son, Thomas Hart Benton, was born near Hillsborough, North Carolina. Later than year Jesse was in Kentucky, in fact, was visiting at White Oak Station in July when Nathaniel Hart was killed.

Jesse returned to North Carolina following that sad affair where he, Ann and their 8 children lived until he, still a comparatively young man, died in 1790.

Probably remembering her grandmother, Susanna Hart, who when widowed left Virginia and moved to North Carolina, Ann took her children and effects to Tennessee where she had property. (1798-1801) The novelist, Irving Stone, suggests that this land may have been a grant to her husband from the English King. Settled in, Ann proceeded to found a small settlement, calling it Bentonville. There she built a home, a store, a school and a church. It is to be expected that her help consisted of farm workers as well as those in the house, no doubt these were slaves.

Her son, Thomas, once thought he had tuberculosis and at least 2 of his siblings had died of the disease but work in the open air and care of his health overcame any tendency to it. Thomas worked hard for his education and became a lawyer; entering politics he became a Tennessee State Senator in 1806. In the War of 1812 he attained the rank of Lt. Col. and served on the staff of Gen. Andrew Jackson. History tells of their close friendship, then of a disagreement which estranged these men for a long time.

Thomas may have inherited some of his drive and ambition from his mother for Ann appears to have been a leader in the area where they lived. Thomas became the most well-known of her children. In 1815 he moved to St. Louis, Missouri and became editor of an enterprising newspaper and in 1820 was elected U.S. Senator from that new State. He married Elizabeth McDowell, from a prominent old Virginia family, and they had a family of 5, two sons and three daughters. Sorrow struck the family early with the death of a baby son, then years later the other son died at age of 22.

Their oldest daughter Jessie, named for her grandfather Benton, was a favorite with her father, in fact, as young as 5 she was taken by him to his office in Congress and into his study and library at the home in Washington D.C. From 10 years on she was virtually acting as his secretary and it was there that she developed her great love and interest in writing and government. Neither her mother nor her sisters seem to have shared her interest in politics so Jessie had full access to her father's activities. The picture changed when her sisters married for their husbands were in government, one a Lt. Governor of Kentucky (1863) and one a member of the French Legation in Washington D.C.

When about 17 Jessie met young Lt. John Charles Fremont, army officer and explorer, who later opened up trails and passages to the southwest. John and Jessie were attracted to each other and finally were engaged to be married. He told her the facts of his clouded birth. His mother had fled an unhappy marriage and was refused a divorce, tho many years later it was allowed. John told Jessie that his mother (no record of a divorce as yet) had married his father, a Frenchman by name of Fremonte. The legality of the second marriage was in question and Jessie sensed that he was very sensitive about the facts of his birth.

The young couple, not secure financially and unsure of John's future, planned a secret wedding. They had difficulty finding a clergyman of her faith who would agree to the secret ceremony. Eventually a Catholic priest was found and the marriage ceremony took place at the home of a friend. The young Fremont couple returned to the Benton home, announced their marriage and they continued to live with her parents in Washington. Here it was that Jessie began her long career in holding her marriage close and in furthering John Fremont's aims and work.

Five children were born, the oldest son dying as a very young child and a small daughter died in Paris. The other sons were: John C., Navy Officer graduating from Annapolis and Francis, Army Officer from West Point. The remaining daughter Lily, but called

Elizabeth in the Hart Genealogy, did not marry and remained with her parents thru-out the checkered and often stormy career of Gen. Fremont and his faithful, dynamic wife, Jessie.

He was gone from home much of the time but she never faltered in her chosen path to help her husband achieve the ends he worked for. She knew power and disillusionment, riches and times of scrimping, joy and the sorrow in losing two tiny children but never did her faith in John Fremont desert her. She pulled every string she could to help him win his goals, she stood by him when seemingly he neglected her and the children.

Jessie always had had a closeness to her grandmother, Ann Benton, and even when Ann had to leave her home in Tennessee because of age and illness, going to live near her son in St. Louis, Jessie remained in close touch. It was a sorrow to her when Ann died in 1837. Perhaps Jessie absorbed some of Ann's steadfastness as shown in her move from North Carolina to Tennessee and in helping her son, Thomas, attain his place in life. Jessie was a woman of keen mind, ability and forceful character, so it seems just in saying she had the fighting spirit of her ancestors.

The Fremonts, John, Jessie and Lily, went to California, now opened to travelers thru John's efforts and life was good for awhile. Reverse came and were conquered but at the end of Gen. Fremonts career there, a disappointment of large proportions came to them. It had appeared that he was to have an appointment to govern California when a ruling came from Washington that another man had been appointed. The Fremonts returned east and faced more stormy years. One final disappointment came when President Lincoln refused to come to John's rescue.

Eventually retirement and the aging Fremonts with Lily came west to live in a house on Oak Street in Los Angeles. In 1890 when aged 77, Gen. Fremont made a trip east, possibly to see his sons, and died while away from home. Jessie lived until 1902. I do not know the burial place of the Fremonts nor do I know any more of Lily's life.

Jessie left many written works now housed in University Libraries and in the Huntington Library, San Marino, California so there is a wealth of material on this descendant of the Ann Hart who died so young.

It has not been as easy to locate information on Ann Benton's other offspring. One grandson, Maecenius Benton, born in Tennessee, became U.S. Attorney for Western Missouri and was Representative in Congress for 8 years. He was father of the noted American artist, Thomas Hart Benton, born 1889 in Neosho, Missouri. He studied in both the United States and Europe and his paintings of pioneer life and people and of rural areas of the south are in collections and museums. They are as well known as his murals appearing in public buildings thru-out America. He is counted as one of America's great artists and his career continued until his death in 1975 at his home in Kansas City, Missouri. A book of his life and paintings given me by my granddaughter tells of 2 autobiographical books he wrote which tell of his desire to portray the heritage of his pioneer ancestors.

It is hoped that this short picture of some descendants of Ann Hart conveys the impression of strong dynamic people, much like the earlier Harts and Bentons. In no way is it implied that other of Ann's descendants were not as colorful and worthy of being included with these whose names and lives were more easily located.

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LAWRENCE THOMPSON

b. 1753-54

married. 1780 in Kentucky

d. 12 April 1835

KEZIAH HART

b. 8 March 1762

d. 13 February 1837

A notation on a small slip of paper George Hartsock gave me many years ago reading, "Sarah F. Thompson b. 5 December 1782 in Stockade of Boonesborough, Ky." was my clue to Thompson direct ancestors. Sarah had married Lewis Hickman and my great-grandmother, Louisa Hill, was their daughter. I could relate to Hickman, Lewis, and Hill families for I had been told of them but a Thompson in my Father's family!

In 1978 I learned of other direct ancestors, Nathaniel Hart and his wife, Sarah Simpson Hart, and child, Keziah, who married Lawrence Thompson. Suddenly Thompsons came alive, Lawrence a shadowy figure but definitely my great-great-great-grandfather.

Further information came with the finding of a letter written by Egbert Hill in 1903 and of a Journal kept by Louisa Hill, Lawrence and Keziah's granddaughter. Egbert wrote, "Sarah was daughter of a Captain Thompson". Louisa gave a more definite note, "Lawrence Thompson died 12 April 1835" and "Keziah Thompson died 13 February 1837."

On request National Archives sent Revolutionary War record and application for pension (1832) papers for Lawrence. He was born 1753-54 in Orange County, North Carolina, enlisted in the summer of 1775 and was commissioned a 1st Lt. in the North Carolina Rangers. A young man of 21-22 was not commissioned an officer in the Army unless he had ability, some education and background. In the summer of 1776 Lawrence was elevated to the rank of Captain in which capacity he served in several different companies of the North Carolina Rangers until he resigned his commission in September of 1778. On his pension application he stated that he saw service in several decisive battles, Germantown, Brandywine and others.

At Brandywine (1777) the British under General Howe defeated the Americans. Brandywine was in the area of Pennsylvania and Maryland and there is a creek there by that name. Germantown was part of Philadelphia and that battle of 1777 also was lost by the Americans. This places Lawrence far from his native North Carolina.

Before Lawrence enlisted, Col. Henderson, founder of the Transylvania Company, names him as arriving in Boonesborough on 5 May 1775, returning to North Carolina for enlistment that summer. He is shown by Tipton as a resident of Boonesborough in 1780, 2 years after resigning his commission.

It was in this same year (1780) that Lawrence and Keziah Hart married. We do not know when or where he and Keziah met, probably in Caswell County, North Carolina where she lived with her parents. As his name appears in Henderson's Journal, Lawrence must have been one of the group of men interested in the opening to settlement of Kentucky County and through that common interest would have known Nathaniel Hart, Keziah's father. Some place which eludes me now, a paragraph was seen listing Lawrence in a group of men but not officers of the Transylvania Company who attended the meeting with the Cherokee Indians at Watauga. In that group with him was Isaac Shelby, later the 1st Governor of Kentucky and who became a brother-in-law to Lawrence thru his marriage to Susannah Hart, sister to Keziah.

As seen, in 1780 Lawrence settled in Boonesborough, presumably at first in the Stockade, possibly at White Oak Springs where his father-in-law, Nathaniel Hart, had built his fort. Nor do we know where he and Keziah lived after their marriage. A marriage record for Lawrence and Keziah has not been discovered but in "Tipton Papers" housed at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky, this can be found under heading "Lawrence Thompson".

"Pioneer, neighbor of N. Hart and marr. his dau. Keziah. Marshall brought 90 negroes from No. Car. for N. Hart being his overseer, and took them to Lulbehrad. Thompson went with him. On return attacked by Indians and Marshall killed. So close as to catch Thompson's sleeve and pull it from hunting shirt. On reaching home found 13 bullet holes in shirt. An athlete in Philadelphia. Jumped 36 feet. Stones set up to mark the spot. Father Alfred the fisherman. Dau. marr. Henry Lisle. Had sons. Alfred...."

That Lawrence was an athlete is our first and only description of this ancestor.

On another page under heading of Col. John Holden, Tipton wrote in part,

"Thompson says H (Holden) with John Floyd 178\_\_ Painted Stone and Bear Grass in charge of our part of force in pursuit of Indians who attacked Daniel Boone, 16 whites killed and wounded, 10 Indians killed. Whites retired."

Judge French Tipton knew descendents of those he wrote about and his comments are accepted as authentic of the period.

Nathaniel was killed by Indians in July of 1782, just 5 months before his first grandchild, Sarah Thompson, was born. Nathaniel's wife, Sarah, died 2 years later, March 1784, leaving young children to be cared for. History tells us that they were reared in the home of Isaac and Susannah Shelby. Perhaps Keziah and Lawrence also helped either by taking a child or two, possibly in other ways, but very little is known of their lives in these years.

On an application to DAR by a descendant of his, Mary Frances Amster, the Society has written: "Ky. Reserves and received pension-War 1812-Indian Wars", however, his pension application speaks only of service in the Revolutionary War. Lawrence further stated that he had his commission papers for many years but they had been lost and he could not furnish written proof of his part in the war. A pension of \$429.00 a year was granted him under #R10546.

The name of Lawrence Thompson appears on some court records, roads and surveys but nothing definite to determine how he managed to raise his family. He may have farmed and we know that Keziah had inherited land and possibly money from her parent's estates as well as from a brother, Simpson Hart, who died ca. 1790 in Tennessee where his Will was filed. There is mention of Thompson and other Hart children in court records regarding inheritances.

It is possible that Lawrence entered military service again after resigning his commission from the North Carolina Rangers as he is spoken of as Col. Thompson. That title could have been from the Kentucky Militia or only an honorary title. Governor Shelby was an old friend and his brother-in-law and when Shelby went to lead troops (1812-13) Lawrence also may have gone to war.

Little is known of Keziah Hart Thompson. She was born on 8 March 1762 in Caswell County, North Carolina, probably the oldest of the Hart children and just 17 when her father brought the family from their home in North Carolina to the new life in Kentucky. From what can be deduced from all writings of the Hart wealth and position, the travel to the new home could not have been as that pictured of future pioneers on the Oregon or Santa Fe trails. Although not an easy journey, the members of supportive help in terms of slaves alone certainly eased the burdens. Did trusted slave, known to the family as Uncle Dick, come with them? A portrait of this man is shown in "History of Kentucky" by Z.F. Smith with this notation,

"The first slave brought to Boonesborough, by Co. Nathaniel Hart; from a portrait by Beard, and kindly loaned the author by Mrs. Rebecca Hart, Woodford county. Uncle Dick long lived, and died and was buried at "Traveler's Rest", the old Governor Shelby homestead, yet owned by Mrs. Hart. By white and colored, he lived and died honored and respected"

This book, published in 1895, is found in many Public Libraries and is full of many facts about the Harts, Transylvania Company and early life in Kentucky. Hart family members might enjoy reading it.

Susannah Shelby, Keziah's sister, in the only picture I have seen of any of the family, is dark-haired and dark-eyed, a placid face. Keziah may have resembled her.

Some years after Keziah's death in 1837 a petition was filed by the Administrator of her estate on behalf of some of her children (adults long since) for monies due her as a War Widow. No marriage date could be given by those who testified other than it had taken place before January 1794. This seems to be the date from which they knew the Thompsons. The claim was denied as the Widow Benefit law went into effect after Keziah's death. Those testifying said the Thompsons were of "high character" and those who knew them were sure they were "lawfully married for they never would have lived together in any other way." In those early stressful days records may not have been carefully kept though it is possible some record of the marriage may be found among old forgotten files.

The middle name given to the first Thompson child is intriguing. She was Sarah Finney Thompson - so far no logical reason for the Finney name being used has been found. Efforts to find Lawrence's parents have been unsuccessful; it could have been a name from his antedecents. The only clue, and again no success has been made in tying the families together, is that a James Finney is on the list of Boonesborough residents in 1780.

Another daughter, Susan, married Henry Lisle and the Lisle family lived for many years in the house on the original Hart property less than a mile from the Boonesborough Stockade. Across the road that runs in front of the house is the spring that Nathaniel Hart family used, just north is the Lisle family graveyard where it is said that Nathaniel and Sarah Hart are buried. It has also been suggested by many local historians that Lawrence and Keziah are buried there. No markers can be found but I, for one, accept this to be so.

We must consider that Nathaniel and Lawrence were friends as well as related through marriage. They had shared the trials and hardships in opening up Kentucky, had both served as officers in the Revolutionary War, had both lived in forts and must have talked together of their hopes for the country and for their families.

Whatever hardships his life may have held, Lawrence was a brave and highly respected citizen. In North Carolina he associated with the Hart brothers, Isaac Shelby, John Luttrell, Col. Henderson and others. In Kentucky he and Keziah may have been content with a quiet life caring for and raising their children. He does not appear to have entered into a political life as did Isaac Shelby.

Lawrence was a Patriot but sad to say no one, as far as available records show, has joined DAR or SAR on his record in the Revolution. He made no mention of any illness or injury received during the War but we know he took risks when we read the "Tipton Papers".

Efforts will continue to find more about this man. The Thompson child we are interested in is Sarah, wife to W. Lewis Hickman and mother of, yes count them, 18 children.

## THOMPSON

Recently I have been in touch with Jane Buchanan of Oak Ridge, Tenn. She has shared her findings of the Thompson family and I can now add the following brief notes.

Our Lawrence Thompson's father was also named Laurence (spelled with an U). He served in the North Carolina Militia as a Captain. (Although Tipton Papers name father as Alfred (Alford) Mrs. Buchanan has documents that seem to prove this name and relationship correct)

Our Lawrence's mother was Margaret or Ann Logue. The Logue sisters married Thompson brothers and it appears that Margaret married Laurence and Ann married Thomas Thompson.

Both Laurence and Thomas were named as son-in-laws in the Will of John Logue, Senior. This Will written in 1769 is not found as filed with Court but is still held in the family in Orange County, North Carolina.

John Logue was son of Ephriam and Margaret Logue of Newcastle, Delaware. Ephriam signed his Will in May of 1751 and it was filed with the Court in June of that same year.

This information was found in:

John Logue of North Carolina

History & Hypothesis

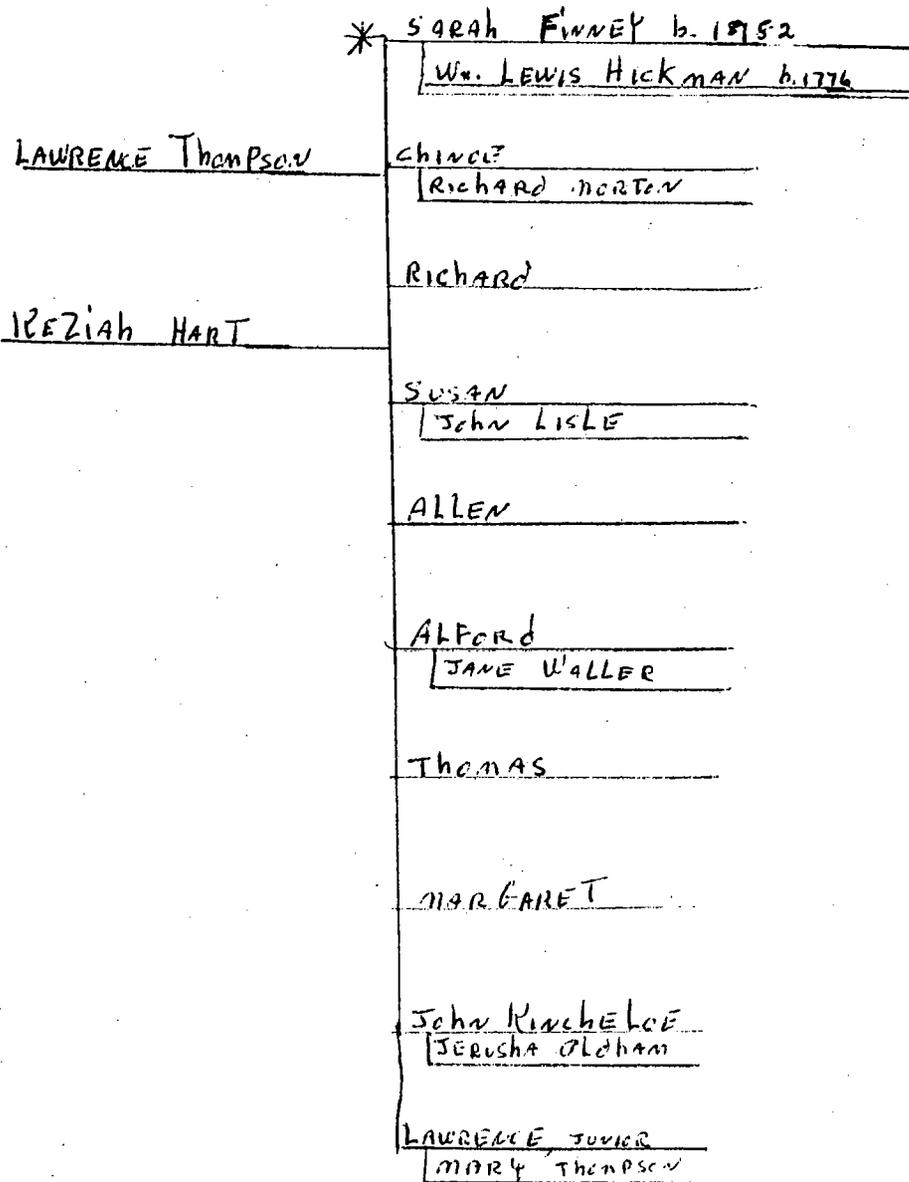
(Logue & Related families of Del, Md, Penn, Va & Tenn)

by Jane Buchanan

In 1926 Frank Nash of Raleigh, N. Carolina wrote:

"The Thompsons were of a race aptly described in American history as Scotch-Irish. They migrated from Ulster in North Ireland to Berks and other counties of Penn. some time in the early part of the 18th century. About 1752 one branch of this family again migrated from Berks County, Penn. through the Valley of Virginia to Orange County, North Carolina, settling on the Eno River about 7 miles north of the present town of Hillsboro."

Thompson.



LAWRENCE THOMPSON AND KEZIAH HART THOMPSON

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MARTHA THACKER (HICKMAN)

Charles Stuart, known as Charles I, ruled England from 1600 to 1647 at which time he was relieved of his head for the crime of treason. But, as with all kings, while ruling he had advisors, none suggesting treason we hope, for one of the King's helpers during those years was a direct ancestor of ours, Sir Edward Conway.

Sir Edward and wife, Frances Burdett Conway, could have spent much of their time riding to and from different royal castles giving words of wisdom on how to handle those savages in the Virginia Colony for Sir Edward was not only a member of the Virginia Company of London but was on the King's Council for Virginia in the year 1620. At some time during Charles' reign he also served as Secretary of State so you can see that Sir Edward was an important man.

The above Sir Edward had a son also called Sir Edward, He married Frances, daughter of Sir Francis Popham. In 1622 this Sir Edward was admitted into the membership of the Virginia Company.

The third generation of Conways included son Edwin, born 1610--died 1675. Since the title of Sir is not inherited but must be earned Edwin either didn't care to do outstanding deeds to attain the King's favor or no deeds were left to be done. At any rate, Edwin married Martha Eltonhead, daughter of Richard Eltonhead of Lancaster, England.

Edwin and Martha had a daughter and called her Eltonhead, poor girl! She married a Henry Thacker and they, at some unknown date, settled in Virginia. In 1672 Henry is listed as vestryman and Sheriff of Middlesex of that colony.

The Thacker's had a daughter, Martha, born 1667 and it was this Martha who married Thomas Hickman on 18 Dec. 1683 as registered at Christ Church, Middlesex, Virginia.

## HICKMAN

This is a long and complex family about which to write. There are several sources of information. One states that the Hickman family came to America from Lincolnshire, England. Although there is confusion about exact relationships of the earliest Hickmans in America some facts seem apparent.

In 1653 a Nathaniel Hickman, said to be married to Avis \_\_\_\_\_, patented land in Northumberland, Va. and on 20 Jan. 1656 his Will was proved in the same county. A Thomas Hickman was probably Nathaniel's son. Thomas also patented land in the same county in 1654, married Mary Pascal who joined him in signing a deed recorded in, again, that same county in 1667. Not all agree on which Hickman married Mary Pascal and perhaps at this late date it makes little difference so we assume it is as stated above.

The 3rd generation of Hickmans in Virginia lists another Thomas born ca. 1660. His marriage to Martha Thacker (born 1667) was on the 18th of Dec. 1683 and is recorded in the register of Christ Church, Middlesex, Va. The son of this marriage that we will concern ourselves with was Edwin born in 1695.

Edwin moved west---all the way to Albermarle County, Virginia--- and at that time it might have been quite a move. There he married Ellinor Webber, widow of John Chiles.

Note on Ellinor: She was daughter of Jane \_\_\_\_\_ and Henry Webber and was the 2nd wife of John Chiles. Chiles is found in Terrell book so in some obscure way he was related to us. Henry Webber, in a Spotsylvania County, Va. deed book, leaves land to 2 Chiles grandsons although land can be used by daughter Ellinor and Edwin Hickman during her life time. Deed is almost impossible to read with no periods or paragraphs designated but it would appear to have included over 2000 acres.

Edwin kept busy for he not only had the 2000 Webber acres and almost 2000 acres in his own name to oversee but also held the office of Lord High Sheriff of Spotsylvania County in 1729, the same position in Albermarle County in 1744, was one of the first Chief Justices of Albermarle County in 1744 and was Magistrate in that county in 1745. He either had a good political machine going or, as we'd like to believe, was a man of substance and intelligence with great involvement in his community. At some time he also acquired land in Culpepper County.

Edwin lived to be 84 dying in 1769. His Will, dated 4 Feb. 1758, left land to his sons and mentions all children by name. Son James, our direct ancestor, born 1724 was left over 400 acres in Culpepper County. One witness of Edwin's Will was Joel Lewis, younger brother to Hannah Lewis who married James Hickman in 1744.

James and Hannah established their home on the Culpepper property and their 9 children were born there. Because stories of some of these children will be found in this Hickman chapter a list of them is included here.

#### Issue of Hannah Lewis and James Hickman

- |    |              |           |                               |
|----|--------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Susannah     | born 1745 | married James Browning        |
| 2. | David        | born 1749 | married Clara McClanahan      |
| 3. | Anna         | born 1754 | married Stephen Holladay      |
| 4. | Rev. Henry   | born 1755 | married Phebe Eastham         |
| 5. | Eleanor      | born 1756 | married Joseph Hill           |
| 6. | Gen. Richard | born 1757 | married Lydia Calloway Irvine |
| 7. | James        | born 1760 | married Elizabeth Bryan       |
| 8. | Joel         | born 1761 | married Frances G. Wilson     |
| 9. | Hannah       | born 1765 | married George Hill           |

In February of 1778 James, 54, enlisted and served with the Revolutionary forces for one year. That same year his 17 year old son Joel also enlisted and served for 3 years. National Archive records show James' rank as Private. It also says he spent time at Valley Forge during that famous siege of privation. In several places James is shown as Colonel and is said to have led a regiment to Yorktown, If not honorary I assume his higher rank was with the Virginia Militia.

James did not receive a War pension but is listed as receiving a land grant in Kentucky. We have a copy of a land grant issued in 1780 by Governor Thomas Jefferson and of Survey 6214 signed by S. Carr for 2000 acres. These particular acres appear to have been inherited by James as heir of his brother, Richard, who "served as Lt. in the War between France and Great Britian". The survey reads, "Richard Hickman Subaltern in Col. Adams Stephens regiment of Regulars raised during the late war between Great Britian and France". In 1781 Gov. Jefferson writes another grant of 2000 acres of land to James Hickman as "representative of Thomas Hickman (another brother) for military services performed". In 1788 Gov. Edmund Randolph issued a Land Grant to James Hickman and his heirs forever, 2000 acres. It is not clear if there were 4000 or 2000 acres but it does seem certain that James was the heir of brothers, Richard and Thomas.

In 1784 when James was 60, he and wife, Hannah, left Va. and moved to Clark County, Kentucky living on Land Grant land and near to farms held by sons, Joel and Richard. James died in 1816 at 92, Hannah in 1822, a few months less than 100. They are believed to be buried in son Richard's family graveyard on his farm, "Caveland", near Winchester, Kentucky in Clark County.

The 4th child of James and Hannah was Henry, born 1755. He is reputed to have graduated from College of William and Mary at Williamsburg, Virginia. Some College records have been destroyed by fire so we cannot officially verify this other than by hearsay from present College records.

Henry became a Baptist preacher and, although no record has come to light as to his pastorates in Va. or Ky., Egbert Hill in 1903 wrote this about his great-grandfather, " Henry Hickman, the great Baptist of Virginia. He got 40 lashes less one for being a Baptist".

Henry married Phoebe Eastham, date and place unknown. They had 8 children, all born in Virginia. The first two children died in Virginia in childhood. The third child, Wm Lewis, was our direct ancestor. Note that Henry and Phoebe gave William as the first name to 2 sons with middle initial of L. Surely, they never intended the first to be known other than Lewis as he was known and will be so called in this narrative.

In 1804, when Henry was 50, he died in Fayette County, Kentucky. We don't know where Phoebe and her youngest daughter, Fanny, lived nor do we know where Henry and Phoebe are buried.

LEWIS HICKMAN

b. 1776

m. 1802 Sarah F. Thompson

d. 1842 Clinton, Illinois

It's open to conjecture how Lewis met Sarah Thompson. They lived in different counties and travel wasn't convenient. But they could have met at the home of Lt. Governor Richard Hickman. Not only was Richard Lewis' uncle but he had a working relationship with the Isaac Shelby family and Mrs. Shelby was Aunt Susannah to Sarah. To add substance to the social connections of the families, Lydia Irvine Hickman's daughter, Mary Irvine, married John Hart, uncle to Sarah,

A marriage bond by which Lewis stated and guaranteed his intention to marry Sarah was signed by her brother, Richard Thompson, thereby giving family approval to the marriage. The ceremony took place early in 1802.

It puzzled me to why Sarah's father, Lawrence, did not sign her marriage bond. From a cousin recently found, Mary Frances Amster; her DAR application papers show a possible and plausible answer. The DAR has inked this about Lawrence. "Ky. res. (erves). 1812: Indian War Pension". This makes it reasonable to conclude that Lawrence was away on military service of some kind. He was known as Capt. during his service in the American Revolution but later, in Kentucky, was called Col. Thompson. This leads me to believe that his higher rank was in the Kentucky Militia or possibly only an honorary title.

Lewis and Sarah had a farm in Madison County where their oldest child of 18 and our direct ancestor was born. She was named Louisa Venona. The family soon moved to Fayette County, the same county where Henry and Phoebe lived. Later records show them as living in Clark County but as county lines were being moved in that era it is highly unlikely that we will ever know exact locations of their farms.

In 1836 when Lewis was 60 and Sarah 54 they left Kentucky and moved to a farm in DeWitt County, Ill. I do not know when other Hickman and related families also came to that area but they did. I personally knew some of their descendants, cousins, such as the Wm Mills family in Chicago and knew of Warren and LLezellen Hickman, among others.

We don't know why Lewis and Sarah left Ky. nor how the move was financed. They had land in Ky. to sell and one or both could have inherited money but no reason has been found for the move to the rich farming area west of the small town of Clinton, Ill. Family notes written of their daughter, Louisa, did tell us..."She never believed in slavery, having been taught from infancy that it was wrong, for her father never would own slaves". This gives us some indication of his thinking and, perhaps, the reason for leaving the state that had been the home of both their families for 3 generations.

Lewis died in 1842, Sarah in 1848. There is an old Hickman-Mills Cemetery, very neglected and hard to get to, out in the country. It has been searched very carefully but their graves were not found. Markers and stones are there but are not readable. At this time, family members can assume that Lewis and Sarah are buried there.

From the large amounts of lands the Hickman family had owned, whether thru land grants, inheritance or bought from others, we conclude they were people of at least moderate means, possibly more. They were people of character and highly respected.

Louisa noted her father's death date in her Journal, "Lewis Hickman died, 27 May 1842". It is fortunate that her diary was written so fully and kept with care for it was only thru this document that many names and dates could be known by us.

The Hickman dedication to the Baptist faith started with Hannah Lewis Hickman and son, Rev. Henry Hickman. In an article using newspaper items of the time the inception of the Baptist Church of Clinton is noted. The first meetings were held in the home of Louisa and George Hill and among the original members were Louisa and George Hill,

Sister Sarah Hickman and Sister Emily Mills (daughter of Lewis and Sarah). Myron Pennington, Staunton, Ill. has the original Church book in George Hill's handwriting for George was the Clerk of the Congregation.

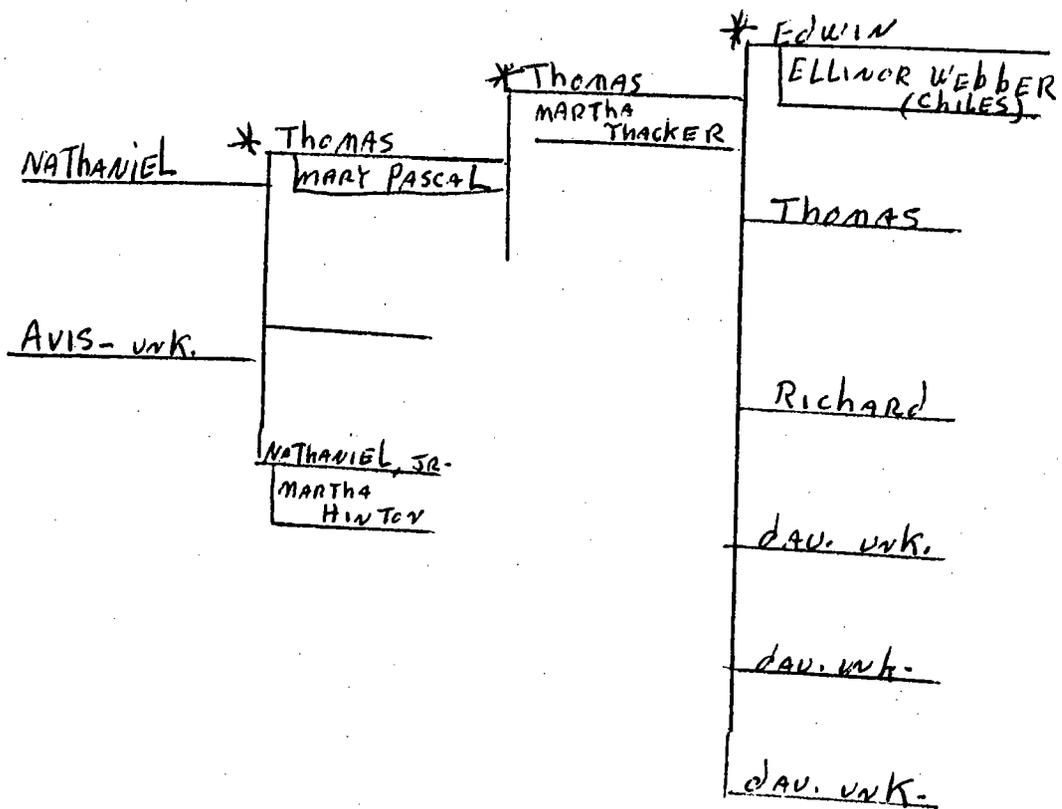
The Louisa Venona Hickman Hill story is told in the Hill section.

#### William L. Hickman

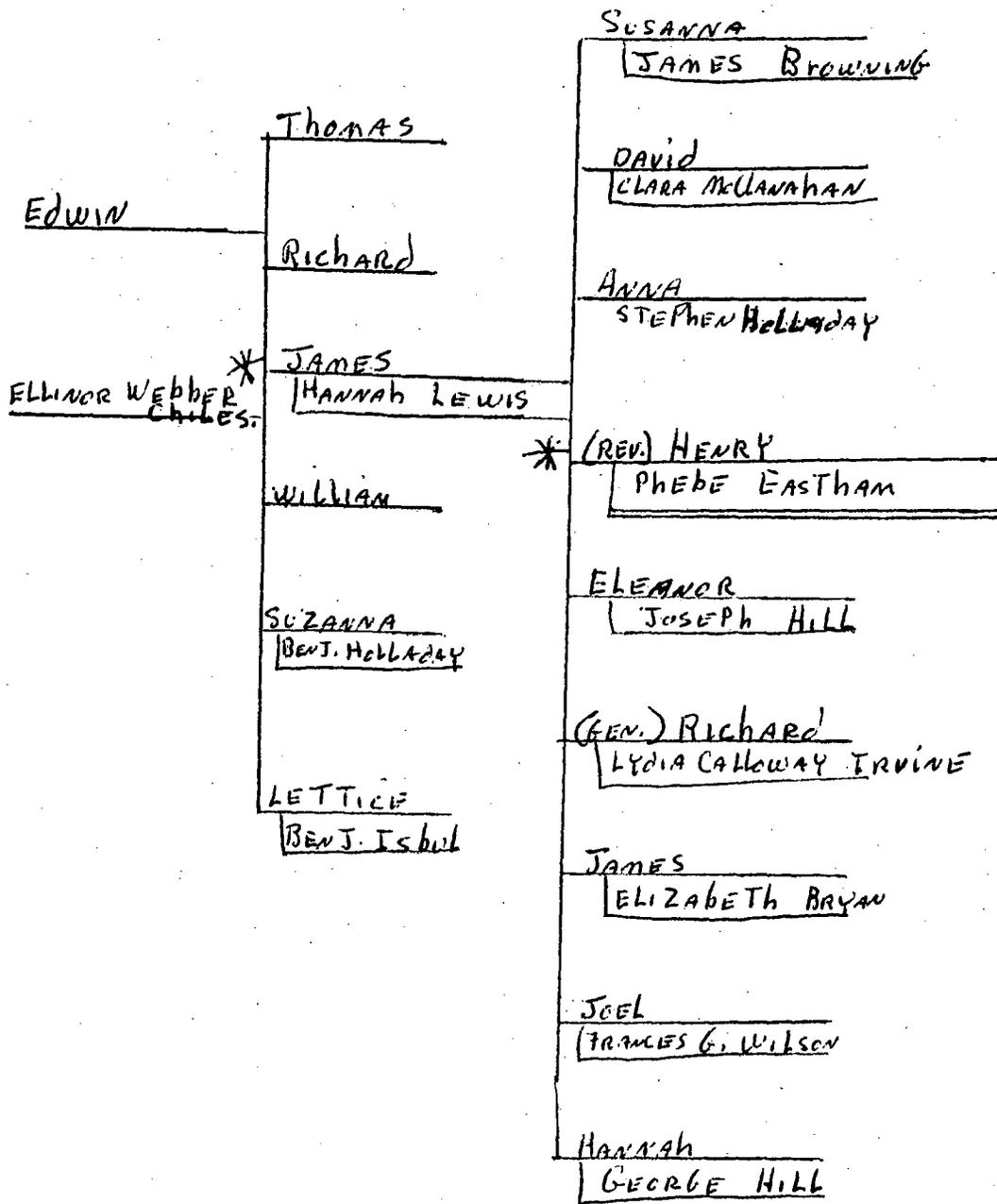
This younger brother of our Lewis, owner of the same name but always called William, spent his life in the small town of Winchester in Clark County, Kentucky. He was spoken of then and is still remembered as "Squire" Hickman. A cabinetmaker of note, some of his work is still found in homes in the area. His own home in Winchester is located on West Hickman Street and is still owned by a direct descendant of his.



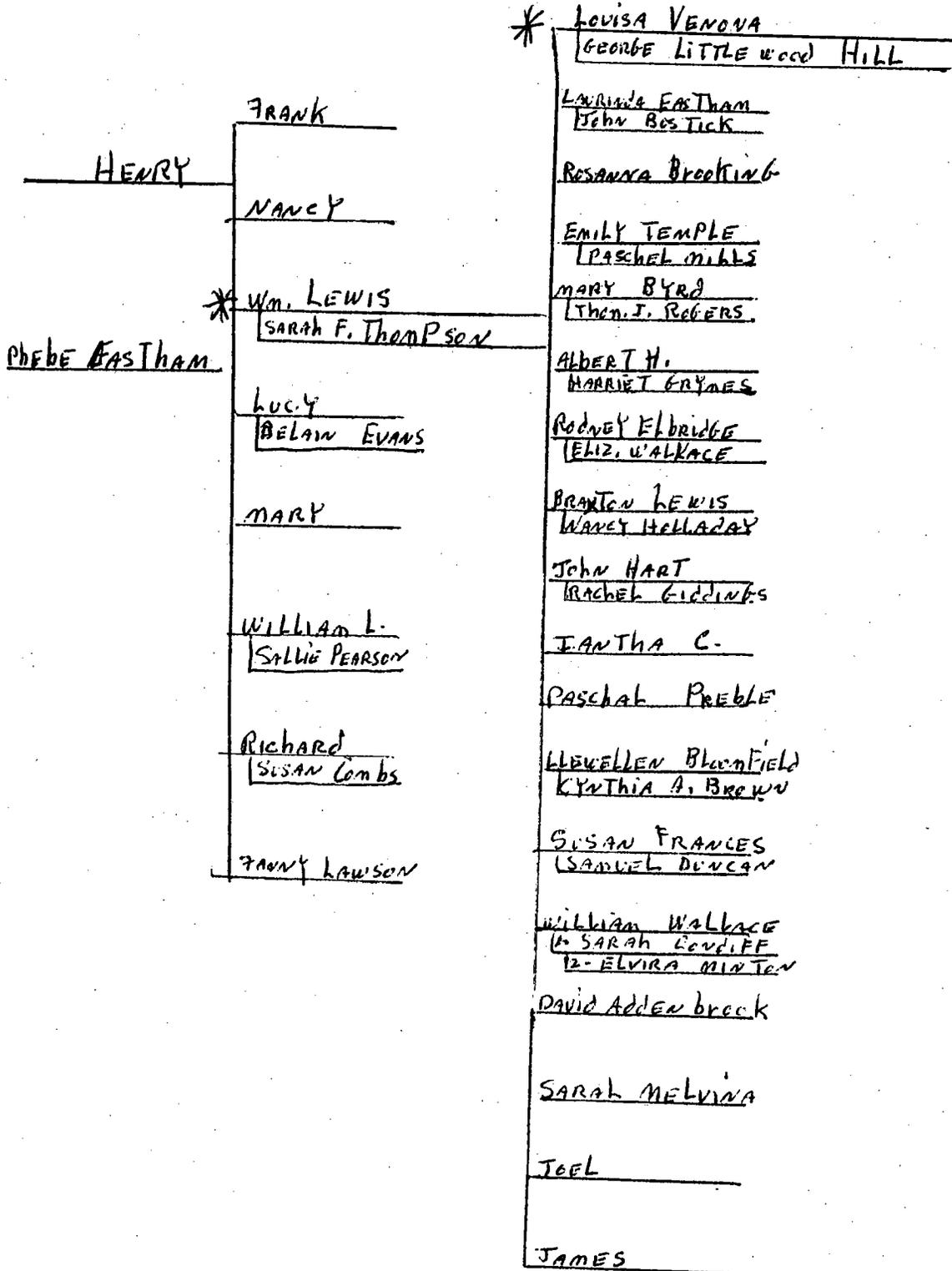
# Hickman - CHART # I.



# HICKMAN-CHART #II



# HICKMAN- CHART #III



RICHARD HICKMAN

b. 5 Nov. 1757

d. 3 July 1832

Another son of James and Hannah was Richard Hickman II whose title of General was from the Kentucky militia. Richard also served in the American Revolution. The DAR, Winchester, Ky, Chapter has compiled a booklet about the Soldiers of the Revolution living in Clark County and says this about Richard.

"Richard Hickman II: b. 5 Nov. 1757 Culpepper County, Virginia (6th child of James and Hannah (Lewis) Hickman). On 29 October 1789 he married Mrs. Lydia Calloway Irvine, widow of Col. Christopher Irvine, who had been killed by the Indians while leading a company of men on General Logan's expedition against the Indians of Western Ohio. Lydia, born 14 Oct. 1764, was the 3rd daughter of Col. Richard Calloway, commander of Boonesborough in the siege of 1778.

Lydia was the little girl who stayed on the Boonesborough shore when her older sisters, Betsey and Frances, with Jemima Boone were captured by Indians, 7 July 1776, when they ventured to the other side of the Kentucky river to pick wild flowers. Lydia gave the alarm to the members of the Fort".

Note: Jemima Boone married Flanders Calloway, brother to Lydia, Betsey and Frances.

Richard's land lay to the west of Winchester, Ky. and the home that he built is still lived in. The present owners retained the original fireplace facings with floor to ceiling cupboards on either side. The house is brick made by slaves on the farm. The land is rolling and pitted with caves. About 400 yards from the front door is a large cave that has been explored for about 3 miles where the water becomes too deep to continue on foot. It has been said that this cave was used many times during the Civil War as a hiding place for troops

of both sides. Certainly it is large enough to be so used.

Richard was active in the early politics of the state starting as a member of the 2nd Constitutional Convention which met at Frankfort in 1799. He was a member of the Lower House of the Legislature being Clark County's 1st Representative from 1793 until 1798. He was a State Senator from 1800 to 1823 with a term as the state's first elected Lt. Governor from 1812 to 1814. He served as Governor during the absence of Governor Shelby in 1813 when Shelby led troops in the War of 1812. Richard was later nominated for Governor of Kentucky but lost by a very small majority.

Richard and Lydia are buried in a small graveyard near their home. The original markers are still in place and readable. In the same stone wall enclosure are 2 unmarked graves that historians of the area are certain contain the remains of James and Hannah Hickman, parents of Richard.

JOEL HICKMAN

b. 10 Aug. 1761

d. 16 July 1852

Joel, the 8th child of James and Hannah Hickman, served for 3 years in the Revolutionary War. After the War he married Frances Wilson, said to be a niece of Patrick Henry's wife. They along with his parents and other brothers and sisters left Virginia for Kentucky. Joel farmed in Clark County. In 1832 he was granted a pension for his army service. He died at 91 in 1852

Kathryn Owen, a historian and writer from Winchester, Clark County, Kentucky wrote to me...

"Your mention of Joel Hickman struck a bell with me. I have visited the burial ground several times. It is now in the middle of plowed ground, no fence around it, only a clump of trees indicate from a distance that a graveyard might be there. At one time it had a nice rock fence around it but most of the wall has crumbled."

In a book of Civil War Days in Clark County, Kathryn wrote, "When the Union Army was in retreat from Richmond, Ky, not many miles from site of this graveyard, the old road led past the farm formerly owned by Joel Hickman. The soldiers stopped to rest in the shade of the graveyard trees and one read aloud from the tombstone of Joel Hickman and he told his comrades, "Boys, here is a Revolutionary soldier's grave." The troops then fired a salute from their rifles and marched on. This scene was witnessed by a member of the Holliday family".

Two grandsons of Joel fought in the Civil War for the south. Their gravemarkers say:

"Lt. Joel D. Hickman born 31 July 1842 Killed at Lexington 19 Dec. 186\_ He was noble, generous and brave"

"Capt. Robt. B. Hickman born 16 Oct. 1840 mortally wounded at the Battle of Stone River 2 Jan 1863 while gallantly leading his men. Died 4 Jan. 1863"



SAMUEL HILL

CLARISSA HOLLOWAY

b.

b. 8 June 1763

married: ca. 1795 Carolina County, Virginia

d. 1809

d. 17 April 1841 or 1847

Any knowledge of my great-great-grandfather, Samuel Hill, was written in the early 1900's by Weld cousins living in Clinton, Ill. He came to Virginia from England before the Revolutionary War and "sided with the Colonists". His grandson Egbert Hill, in a 1903 letter, wrote that Samuel's wife was Clarissa (Clara-Clary) Holloway. After their marriage the Hills lived in Carolina County, Virginia, near Fredricksburg where their 3 sons and 2 daughters were born. Samuel died in 1809 when my great-grandfather, George Littlewood Hill, was but 12 years old.

Only one Samuel Hill from Virginia is shown in the National Archives as participating in the Revolution. It is possible that our Samuel's sympathies to the cause were for him to give money, food, shelter, horses and yet not actively join any military service or in fact he may not have given any material support. The Samuel in the Archives is not our ancestor.

No Will for him has been found but it is evident that one existed for his widow, Clarissa, in her Will of 1841 mentions "properties Willed me by my husband S. Hill".

The 1810 census of Caroline County lists Clarissa (Clary) as head of household, notes the 5 children and 13 slaves owned by her. This certainly indicates there was considerable property and land to care for.

Thru inquiries made by Edna Earle Weld a distant Hill cousin was located in 1979. She quotes some interesting items about this ancestor of ours. Samuel came to America ca. 1770, the same year as the Holloway family came with their sons John, George and daughter "Clara". Clara was born June 8, 1763, as written by her oldest son George, making her a child when arriving in Virginia. In this same writing Samuel also is shown as coming from England, there is no indication that he was on the same ship or even knew the Holloways then or in England, this could be considered as implied.

Another source relates this of Samuel: ".he had a fine farm and slaves, was very industrious and exacted so much from his slaves and neighbors too. Money was his God. He had an ungovernable temper which caused his untimely and tragic death". It should be added to this reference to Samuel's temper that my father and grandmother told me that my great-grandfather George Hill, his son Rodney and my uncle Ralph Hill were slow to anger but had fiery fierce tempers when aroused. This gives credence to the temper attributed to Samuel. Court records may reveal something more of this ancestor and the reason for his death when he probably was in the prime of life. As this is written, research in greater depth is in progress in Virginia.

In 1815 the widowed Clarissa took her children and moved to Bourbon County, Kentucky where we are told in the Weld notes, "She lived near to and was a friend of Henry Clay". We know from family tradition that both George and Louisa Hill were great admirers of Henry Clay. This could partly have been due to the fact that Louisa was a cousin to his wife, Lucretia Hart Clay. The Weld note continues "Clarissa was of a prominent and numerous family", part of whom were in Kentucky by 1815. Her "nephew Holloway" persuaded her to move to Henry County "where land was cheaper".

She bought some 400 acres, part of it uncleared land. (Edna Earle Weld thinks the price was \$10.00 an acre and not the \$100.00 attributed in some records) At an undisclosed date Clarissa "gave to each son 100 acres and to each daughter 50 acres and a negro to made them equal", which accounts for the 400 acres.

The exact location where she lived in her early Kentucky years is not known. The 1820 census for Henry County lists her as head of household and having 5 slaves, 2 male and 3 female.

Clarissa's Will was written 24 April 1841 and filed in Henry County in May 1841 or 1847, the date being difficult to read. It states that her home is "with her son William Hill" who had taken good care of her in her old age and further cites the esteem she had for him and his family. She gives and bequeaths to him all of her estate which she then owned in her own person "independent and apart

from the property that was willed my by my husband S. Hill". She signed with her mark which was often done regardless of a person's ability to write. This Will established William as living in Henry County where Clarissa is buried.

There is a marriage record of 17 December 1834 for William Hill and Amanda Walker, daughter of James Walker. The Weld notes show their children names and as a child I heard my father and grandmother speak of them, especially the men, Horace, Elza (Elzy) and Clay, and of "Cousin Minta". There is an old picture of the Clay Hill home in Smithfield, Kentucky but it is possible the house no longer exists. We do know that George (oldest Hill son) and Louisa who were married in 1822 moved to Henry County from Fayette in 1828. Their 5 youngest children children were born near Smithfield. No present day Hill descendants in that county have been found.

Henry Hill, as told by a 3rd great-granddaughter of his, left Kentucky for Missouri. He decided to go on to Oregon and sadly died on the Oregon Trail in 1852 after leaving his home in Paris, Missouri. Family notes show that before leaving Kentucky in 1837 to live in a free state, George Hill had thought to buy land in Missouri where he had a brother. Instead he decided on Illinois where Louisa's parents lived and from whom he bought a section of 640 acres.

Clarissa's brother, John Holloway, lived in Clark County, Ky. His Will is recorded in the Clark County Will Book 5, pg 273, 1820-23 in which he lists his daughters and sons. Among Louisa Hill's writing in her Journal is a memorial card: "In Memory of John Holloway who was born on the 25th day of May 1761, and departed this life on the 15th day of April 1823, in the 62nd year of his life. Years 61, months 10 days 20".

At this time what is written is all that is known, yet hopes are high that these shadowy pictures of Samuel and Clarissa will come clear as the search continues.

Issue of Samuel and Clarissa Hill

Name	born	married	died
George Littlewood	1/12/1798	Louisa Hickman 10/20/1822	11/30/1887
Henry	_____	_____	1852
William	5/1/1808	Amanda Walker 12/17/1834	2/10/1864
Ann Fisher	_____	Owen Sharp	_____
Nancy	_____	Samuel Pickett	_____

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 Will of Clarissa Hill  
 Louisa Hill's Journal re: John Holloway  
 Letters on research going on in Virginia by Mr. Thomas

GEORGE LITTLEWOOD HILL

b. 12 January 1798

married. 20 October 1822

d. 30 November 1887

LOUISA VENONA HICKMAN

b. 14 December 1802

d. 2 September 1886

It is only with this generation of great-grandparents that we have pictures and physical descriptions to help make our ancestors more than mere names. There really are exceptions for there is a description of David Lewis, a picture of Lewis Hickman, of Lucretia Hart Clay and of Susannah Hart Shelby.

Although one is an earlier picture of her, it is easy to see in these undated photographs of Louisa and George Hill that they are of their later years. She had dark hair, erect posture, sharp features, thin face, bright eyes and was tall rather than short. He was described as very tall, a strong and powerful man. His son, Rodney, was much like him in build with twinkling eyes, a most jovial man. Perhaps in earlier years George was like that.

Not aware that there was any Journal or papers personal to George it was a surprise to receive copies of some 50 pages he had written with dates of 1818, 1820, 1822 and 1823. It cast a completely different light on this man, showed a logical and artistic side never before revealed to me. In his beautiful large writing is one page with his birthdate, when he married Louisa Venoni (sic) and her birthdate. Birthdates of their 3 oldest children followed.

There were 5 pages of what might be termed as practice writing with other names and dates and, while his penmanship was large, there was one short sentence in tiny but perfect writing, "Lord have mercy upon a siner"(sic). There were 44 pages of Mathematics; rules, explanations and problems. These last dealt with commodities, labor rates, monies such as Federal, different States and foreign, income, time, weights and measures of all kinds and what he would need to use.

His spelling was correct, his lines were drawn exactly, his penmanship was even and beautiful showing a decided artistic bent. His "d's" especially were distinctive and artistic.

This book or parts thereof is held by a great-great grandson, Myron Pennington. None of us know whether George had a special love of mathematics, doing this for his own personal pleasure or whether he later used it to teach or help his own and other children in their school studies.

As my father taught mathematics when he took over classes it is easy to believe that at least some of his skill and love of the subject had been fostered by this grandfather. The young boy had lived in the same home from infancy until his marriage and start of his own years as an Educator.

Goose quill pens were used then and George kept them sharpened using them skillfully for his large beautiful shaded letters.

Louisa had energy, ability, firm opinions and great pride. Her caps, which married women wore, were made of linen, "fine laces and ribbons sent her by her Kentucky relatives and were the envy of women thereabouts". George was a man of drive, ability and stubbornness and, as we see from the pages described above, a keen mind. He and Louisa were interesting people or Abraham Lincoln would not have been such a frequent visitor. It is true that he would come for a meal, often staying overnight going to the upper loft to sleep with the boys of the family and was a close friend. He was a rising young lawyer and could choose whom he liked for companions. It is evident he enjoyed their friendship and the atmosphere of the home and family. At that time no one ever dreamed of him becoming President. Their daughter, Emily, has written that just before his first campaign for the Presidency he came to the house "kissed Mother and me goodbye and we never saw him again".

There is this story of Lincoln and George. The Illinois Central Railroad was extending the right-of-way for their tracks. George said he would never let them have one foot of his land. The tracks were due to run through his property between the 160 acre "home" place and the 160 acres on up the hill where Rodney later lived. My great-grandfather sat on a stump at the edge of his farm with a shotgun across his knees threatening to shoot the first man to set foot on his land. The railroad men could not persuade him to let them through to survey. Finally, after long talks, Mr. Lincoln told George, "don't be a fool", the railroad would go through anyway as they had a legal right to do and George could not stop them. Because of his stubbornness in fighting the Illinois Central, the

right-of-way on both sides of the track took twice as much land as on other farms through which the tracks were laid. My sister and I seemed to be the only ones who remembered hearing about this. It was with a great deal of satisfaction that this was shown to Ruth in the summer of 1977. Pictures taken from where George had sat plainly show the extra land taken on what had been his property. Lincoln, George's friend, was the one who made this stubborn man see that he could not fight progress.

Louisa Venona was born 14 December, 1802 in Madison County, Kentucky, to Sarah Thompson and Wm Lewis Hickman (always known by name of Lewis). Sarah was said to have been born in the "Stockade at Boonesborough". It was 5 months after her grandfather Hart had been ambushed and murdered by Indians and only 2 years until her grandmother, Sarah Hart, died leaving several small children. Sarah knew what it was to live in perilous pioneer times despite her families having been accustomed to money, land and social life. Even in Kentucky Nathaniel Hart was a well-to-do man owning vast acreage. Through her mother Sarah was cousin to Lucretia Hart Clay and niece to Susannah Hart Shelby whose husband, Isaac Shelby, was Kentucky's first Governor.

Lewis Hickman was son of Henry Hickman, a Baptist minister, grandson and nephew of Revolutionary War Patriots, one being General Richard Hickman. For many years Richard served in Kentucky Legislature and was Lt. Governor during Shelby's 2nd term. When the Governor went to war, 1812-13, Richard then was acting Governor. Lewis was related to Meriwether Lewis and Fielding Lewis who married a cousin and then a sister to George Washington. It is not surprising that Louisa felt pride of family for her children.

George Hill was born in Caroline County, Virginia near Fredericksburg on 12 January 1798 to Samuel and Clarissa Holloway Hill, a first generation in America. In 1809, when George was 12, his father died. There is no family record of Samuel Hill's birth other than that he was born in England.

When George was 18 years old (1815) his mother took her sons and daughters to Kentucky to live where she had relatives. Even before this George had helped manage his mother's affairs and look after his brothers and sisters and was her main-stay in settling his father's estate. The family settled first in Bourbon County, then in Henry County where they knew and were neighbors to Henry Clay.

As Louisa was a cousin to Lucretia and the Clay children it is interesting to speculate how George came to know Louisa and, finally, to rent a farm belonging to her father in Fayette County. However the courtship came about, Louisa and George were married 20 October 1822. She was the oldest of 18 children; he of 5. They started housekeeping in a spartan way living in a small house on her father's farm. Having no furniture their bedstead was built into the side of the house, their first meal was prepared with the most meager of utensils and was eaten from George's clapboard. Her hope chest may have contained household linens and clothing. She had won 2 silver cups from Kentucky State Fairs for her weaving, had had charge of an uncle's weaving room, operating one loom and overseeing 5 others. It is hard to picture them without articles of their own making. With the comparatively comfortable background of their families it is surprising that they had so little in the beginning but as with newly-weds it was probably of no importance and simply being married and in their own home brought them all the joy they wanted.

By 1828 George, Louisa and 3 children left Fayette County and moved near Smithfield in Henry County. George had purchased 104½ acres of rough timber land with no improvements except a one room cabin. George improved and cleared the farm and raised cotton. Louisa spun for a neighbor and in payment received 2 ewes, both bearing twin lambs the next spring. Her uncle, upon hearing what the young family had done, sent 6 pure Merino sheep, the start of their wool crop and of their fine flock.

Before her marriage when she had worked for her uncle he said to her and to his daughters, "Well, girls, I have just driven in 60 milk cows to the pail; now if any of you have any claim on me I want you to make it known". No one spoke but Louisa who said, "Uncle, I don't know as I have any claim on you, but when I am married you may give me a cow". And so, this uncle brought to the Hill family

in Henry County, a "fine blooded cow and calf" and from these they built up a herd numbering 30 head.

Eight children were born to George and Louisa with Benjamin Thomas in 1836 the youngest and my grandfather.

In that same year Louisa's parents, Lewis and Sarah Hickman, with other family members moved to DeWitt County settling west of the town of Clinton, Illinois. The change may have been for better land or possibly because of the slavery question. Certainly Louisa was outspoken in her statements that slavery was wrong, that she had been taught this from infancy for her father would never own slaves. She is quoted as saying, "I feel like Lot in Sodom and Gomorrah" and his warning appeared to apply to her, "Up, get you out of this place for the Lord will destroy this city." Before the troubles preceding the Civil War, George's sympathies were with the south but after the firing on Ft. Sumpter he became a Republican.

With her parents gone it was not surprising that Louisa and George planned to leave Kentucky. He looked at land in Missouri, he had a brother there, instead bought or contracted to buy a section (640 ac.) of rich prairie Illinois land from his father-in-law. The price was \$5.00 an acre, sometimes mistakenly shown as \$25.00 an acre.

One may wonder what wealth Lewis had; father of 18 children how did he acquire a section of land in Illinois to sell for he must have kept some on which to live. In fact, Emily Hill Weld spoke of going to her grandfather's farm. The place where Lewis and Sarah lived was known later as the Hickman-Mills place. Their daughter, Emily, had married Paschal Mills and they may have bought the farm after Lewis died.

Having contracted to buy this 640 acres, the Hill family set out for the new home and state on 2 October 1837. Perhaps it was on that day that Louisa vowed, "If the Lord would let me live to reach a free State never will I make a track on slavery's soil." She remained true to that vow.

It took 17 days. Seventeen days with Louisa riding horseback carrying her 16 month old Benjamin, George dividing his time between all duties including driving the Pennsylvania scow-boat wagon, Egbert, at 13 the oldest child, responsible for driving the 30 cows and 50 sheep and the other 6 children doing what they could to help.

The wagon contained household goods, cotton and woollen cloth of her manufacture, 13 bushels of peaches and 6 bushels of apples Louisa had dried in preparation of this trip.

My father and grandmother told of the special species of peach and apple twigs brought to plant in the new land. Some lived and he remembered the fruit as being delicious. They lived to be old trees which bore well and were great favorites during his young years.

The family had to stop traveling to prepare meals, to sleep, to wash clothes but they made it. On 19 October 1837 they reached her parent's home where they stayed for a few days. Emily Weld spoke of her grandmother running out to meet them and of their joy at seeing their grandfather. What were their feelings on seeing this fertile flat prairie land with the very small log house of only one room? (Excerpts of recollections by a Hill daughter is attached because it shows a picture of pioneer life now gone forever) The immediately went to work to enlarge and improve it to make a home again for themselves as a family. Louisa had brought flower seeds from Kentucky; we are told that her flower garden became the envy of neighbors and friends. They had vision and drive for, because of a principle, they had left familiar surroundings and relatives for a new land in which to rear their children.

Fortunately Emily vividly remembered those days which she wrote of and which were beautifully transcribed and typed by her daughter-in-law, Gertrude Earle Weld. These recollections are from one who never left there for when Emily married Edwin Weld she moved only  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from the original farm home.

In the next 13 years, George made 12 trips back to Kentucky on horseback to settle his and his mother's affairs, leaving Louisa to manage the farm and she did! She did spinning and weaving, cooking, sewing, gardening and wrote in her Journal and, when there was time, she read. Her Journal is a priceless possession now held by Edna Earle Weld, a great-granddaughter.

George and Louisa, being Baptists in Kentucky, felt the need of a Baptist Church near them in Illinois. On 1 February 1839 a group of invited neighbors and friends met in the Hill home and organized the first Baptist Church in Clinton. These were people of a religious background and the Church became a great factor in the lives of themselves and their families. George was elected Clerk, a position he held for many years. Later he was a Deacon of the Church for 22 years.

In a large record book of the Church there are stories of great interest about people in these early years. This church book tells how people, including George and Louisa, were "read out of church" for quarelling with neighbors, dancing and other such acts, then they were back in grace again.

After three more years it was decided to build a church in town. George furnished the black walnut lumber from his farm which he took to the mill, then helped build the church, all at his own expense. A few years later he gave 20 acres to a favorite minister for a home. For years he furnished the wood for fuel to heat the church, cutting, hauling and donating it. Possibly no others did more for that early church than George and Louisa, all because of their deep faith in their religion.

The Grace he said before meals has been passed down to us. "Good Lord be pleased to grant us a blessing for which we are about to receive. Pardon our sins we humbly ask for Christ's sake. Amen". I grew up with this or a very similar one and I feel sure George's words were those used by my grandfather Hill.

With the children's help and whatever hired help they may have had, Louisa kept up the farm when George went on selling trips as far as St. Louis and Chicago with his grain and livestock. He brought back necessities for the farm and home, sometimes luxuries for the household. These were gruelling trips, 150 miles or more to Chicago on horseback, herds of livestock to drive, wagons to drive loaded with grains and produce and other smaller livestock. He did well for it was but a few years before the house contained 6 rooms with a loft above. This loft is where Emily said Abraham Lincoln would "go up to sleep with the boys."

There were large trees and a fruit orchard, a big asparagus bed under a huge oak and, later, marks where the old house had stood which I remember. In 1855 George evidently paid the last \$100.00 and was given a Deed to the property. The Deed was signed by Wm. and Elvira Hickman for by this time Lewis had been dead 13 years and his son, William, had inherited. This Deed may give description of the entire 640 acres, it very easily could be for the final portion of land that had not been fully paid for until then. Over the years George gave 160 acres each to daughters, Emily and Phoebe, 160 acres to Rodney and the home place of 160 acres to Benjamin. George may or may not have given anything to the other 2 surviving children; Egbert was a successful lawyer in Missouri, Lewis farming in Minnesota, Sarah and John Hart were dead.

In my childhood I never heard that rent or payments were made to George and Louisa from these gifts of land, but it is very possible that they did receive some recompense during their lifetimes for it may have been the full extent of their wealth. The home farm, given to Benjamin, was also to be the home of the older couple for the rest of their lives.

In June of 1860 Benjamin, 24, married Diana Reese, 23, and that began the double household, quite a task for this young couple. By 1875, 6 children had been born and many times it was not easy for any of them.

Ever mindful of the best interests of children, George gave a small piece of land for a schoolhouse, known as the Hill School. He also gave land next to the school for a small cemetery. It is still known as the Hill cemetery and is well administered for by the County. The small well-kept cemetery was seen by me in the summer of 1977. No Hills are known to be buried there and no markers were found for any Hill when Edna Earle searched. As 2 of Benjamin and Diana's children died as infants, 1872 and 1868, these babies surely were buried there with time and elements destroying or obliterating all markings of their graves.

There is no record of how active a part the older Hills played in the housekeeping and farm management, but it had to have some impact on the lives of Benjamin, Diana and their children. My father

remembered his grandfather showing him deer that came out of the woods at evening and listening to the cry of wolves out on the prairie.

About 1870 the new house was built in front of and a little to the side of the old home. It was in that house that the 3 younger children were born. My father, then about 6 years old, could remember living in the log house, which in no sense was a log cabin. The new house was 2 stories, 4 rooms down and 4 or 5 rooms up with a small room containing a large enclosed tin bathtub. There was a large cellar underneath part of it. It really wasn't a pretty house but very comfortable with windows opening onto porches. The front stairway went up out of the hall from the front door, the back stairs up out of the dining room to bedrooms. Downstairs was the parlor with sliding double doors into the large sitting room, the dining room where we always ate except for cold morning breakfasts served in the big, bright, sunny kitchen.

There was a huge rock out in front of the house. I remember this stone because as children Pearl and I would climb on it and sing or recite a simple little rhyme about "here I stand..." At the end of the long lane to the road was a grove of old beautiful trees. At the Baptist Church in town is another huge rock from Salt Creek. It was given and hauled there by my great-grandfather and used as a stepping stone into buggies.

Life must have been comfortable for Louisa and George for Diana and Benjamin were loving, tender-hearted people and the older couple had other children and relatives close by to see and visit. It was no uncommon sight to see Louisa walking down the long lane to Emily's home busily knitting something for one of her numerous family as she went along. Near the end of her life Louisa wrote her last in her Journal. This time she disposed of her possessions and wrote of the loving care she and George had had through the years.

She died 2 September 1886 and is buried in the old portion of the cemetery in Clinton along with her son, John Hart Hill, and her daughter, Sarah Hickman Blackie. George lived until 30 November 1887. He is buried beside her.

The high hopes and ideals of these pioneer great-grandparents

appear to have been fulfilled but sadly the name has died out unless there are male descendants of Edbert or Lewis Hill. Rodney and Benjamin had no grandsons to carry on the name.

Of the Hill children, Egbert graduated from Harvard and practiced law in St. Joseph, Mo. He married twice, had 3 children. When the Civil War began he was commissioned Captain in Company F, 31st Missouri Infantry. He was in several battles and was wounded at the Battle of Vicksburg. Sometime after the war he bought a ranch in the Ozark Mountains and retired to live the life of a recluse. His family remained in St. Joseph. He died in his little house in the mountains, is said to be buried in Eau de Vie, Missouri but exact site is unknown. Legend has it that he said he wished to be buried at the bottom of a certain deep well. He did not lose all track of his family for there is a letter written in 1903 to his daughter, Julia Rhea, and this letter helps to verify other information we have.

Sarah, the 2nd daughter, married twice, died at age of 41 and is buried by her parents.

Son, Lewis, was also a soldier in the Civil War in the 4th Regiment of the Illinois Volunteers and was also wounded at Vicksburg. He left Illinois for Alexandria, Minnesota, then to Puyallup, Washington where he died in 1910. He had a family of 7 children, those I knew were: Alice, wife of Robert McNeil and mother of Walter, DDS in Minneapolis, Edwin, Brigadier General, United States Army and buried at West Point and Carrie and Lulu.

John Hart Hill, undoubtedly named for a favorite uncle of Louisa's, died at 21.

Emily Hill Weld, with a remarkable memory and ability much like her mother's, has given us priceless recollections. I cannot remember when I didn't know 2 of Emily's grandchildren, George and Helen Hartsock. Another granddaughter, Edna Earle Weld, has contributed so much of this family story that it could not have been written without the endless research she has done. Edna Earle has a sister, Alice. My memories of Emily are very clear, the family dinners there, the flower garden, the talk and the deep feeling of family.

Rodney married Ellen Reese, older sister to my grandmother, Diana Hill, and lived up the hill from my grandparents. Ellen died in 1889 but she is remembered very well as it was natural for us to see more of them because of the double relationship. Rodney, tall and powerful, was a most jovial man. Emily too speaks of this and of his twinkling eyes. His oldest son, Joe, died a young man leaving a baby daughter, Nelly. Son William was a farmer in Nebraska and Illinois and left 2 daughters. Fred, the last son, was the one whom we knew the best. After his years as a lawyer and County Judge of DeWitt County he was called to Chicago to hold court. This lasted about 10 years. He stayed close by and would stop at our home frequently and with my father reminisce so that many of the events told were firmly fixed in my mind. Fred's only child did not marry, as her Aunt Etta, Rodney's daughter, did not, both dying as younger women. After his Chicago Court years Fred became a well known and successful Christian Science Lecturer. I heard him in Los Angeles, an excellent speaker, very handsome man with heavy silvery hair, a fine speaking voice and great poise. He was glad to see me but schedules were such that he left shortly after the lecture and I never heard him again.

Phoebe, the oldest girl in George and Louisa's family, was small, sharp of feature, in looks much like her mother. I now am the oldest living great-grandchild of George and Louisa but Phoebe's granddaughter, Hallie, lived in Clinton to age 95, dying in 1979. Hallie's 2 daughters tenderly cared for her. Her picture shows she was still a beautiful active woman at 90.

The story of Benjamin Thomas Hill, the youngest son and my grandfather, is found in another Chapter.

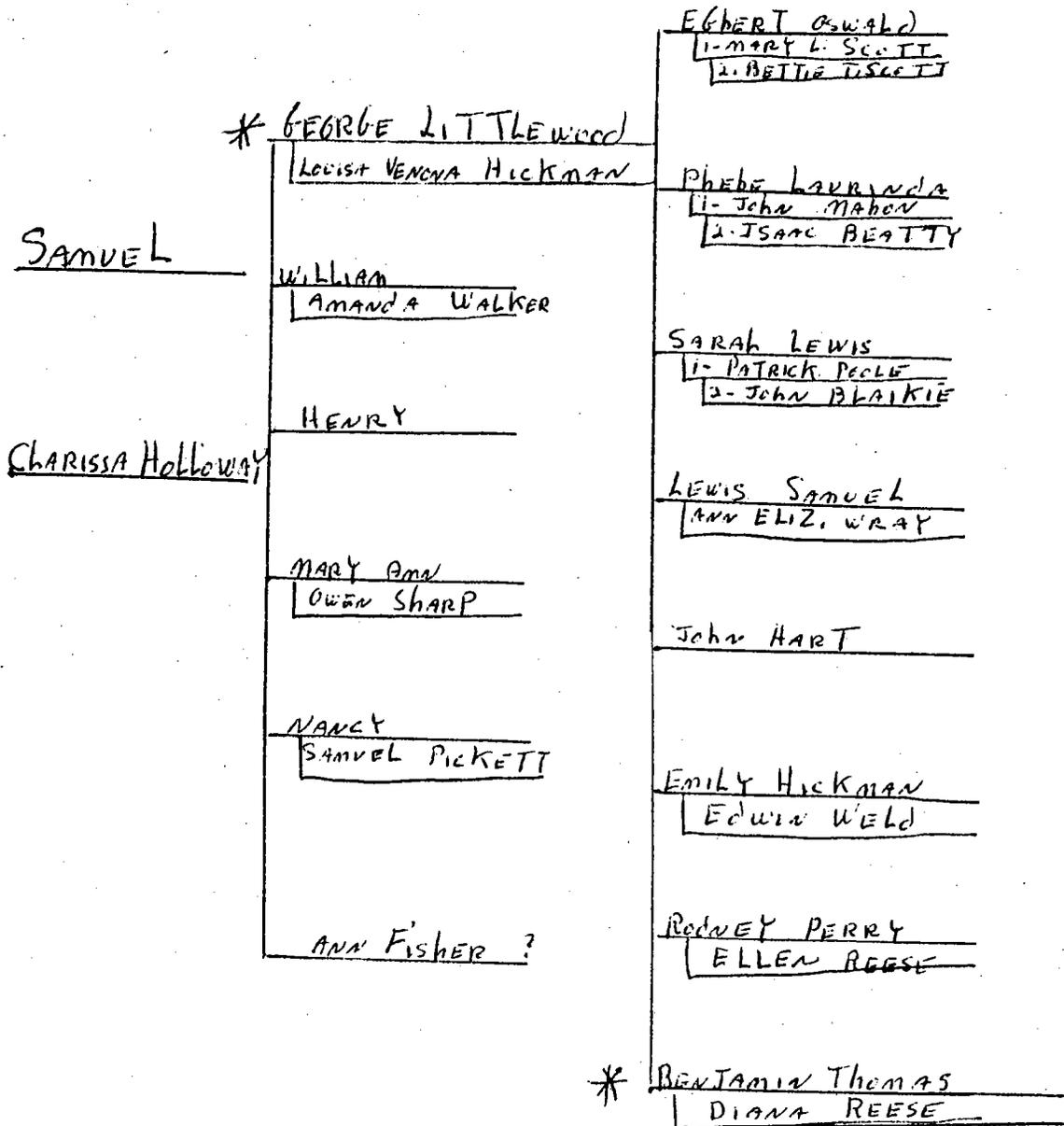
Marriage contract between Lewis Hickman and George L. Hill  
proclaiming intention of George to marry Louisa V. Hickman.

Know all men by these presents that we, <sup>Seal</sup> George Hill  
and Lewis Hickman, are held and firmly  
bound unto the Commonwealth of Kentucky in the  
sum of Fifty pounds, current money of Kentucky  
to the payment of which well and truly to be made  
and bind ourselves firmly by these presents, sealed and  
dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1822.

The condition of the above obligation is such that  
Whereas there is a marriage shortly intended to be  
solemnized between the above bound George Hill and  
Louisa V. and Hickman of the County of  
Taylors. Now if it shall always hereafter appear  
that there is no legal objection towards marriage there  
the above obligation to be void and to remain in full force  
and value

George Hill (Seal)  
Lewis Hickman (Seal)

# HILL - CHART # I



EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF CLINTON  
AN EARLY MANNER OF LIVING IN DEWILL COUNTY  
BY MRS. ENILY HILL WELD

My first, or early recollections, will be of a two-fold nature, those of Clinton and my home.

We arrived in Clinton October 17, 1837 having left Henry County, Kentucky on October 2nd. We brought our household goods in a large prairie schooner drawn by oxen; the stock was driven by my brothers on horseback. My Mother rode the entire distance on horseback, carrying my youngest brother, Ben 18 months old, in her lap.

There were then in Clinton two log houses and a log stable.

On February 1, 1839 a Baptist Church was organized in my father's house and in 1842 a church building was erected. The trees for the lumber were cut from my father's farm by my father and brothers and by them hauled to the Smallwood Mill on Salt Creek and sawed into boards. The large stone now lying on the Fuller lawn was on the farm, father dragged it there with chains and ten yoke of oxen. At that time the stone stood much higher out of the ground and was used for a stile block on which the women stood to mount their horses. (1975 the stone now stands on the grounds of the new Baptist church)

After father saw the Church completed his next care was to provide a minister. He and Mother often went on Saturday to the north fork of Salt Creek to attend church there, returning on Monday. There he became acquainted with William McPherson. He liked him and asked him to come as pastor of the new church, saying he would give him a home. Mr. McPherson consented to come and father set off 20 acres of land and built a log house for him. He then went up there and moved the family down. They stayed with us for a few days while the household goods were arranged, then moved home taking with them the horse, cow and pigs and poultry which father had given them.

(Emily then told of her arrival on the farm outside Clinton, Illinois and of her life there.)

On a glorious October afternoon, as the sinking sun sent its level rays among the great trees, we reached my Grandfather's house west of town, later the Paschal Mills place. I can in fancy see my dear Grandmother run to meet us. We stayed with them 3 days, while our house was being cleaned. Our house, hewn logs, had but one room with a lean to shed on the south. This large room had a wide fireplace, which with the chimney, was made of sticks and mud. The floor was made of puncheons which were thick boards split from logs and smoothed a little with an adze. The rounded bark side was placed below and where they rested on the sills they were adzed off and fastened down with wooded pegs, with now and then a great spike. The bottom and wide hearth of this old fire-place was about 20 inches below the floor level, the puncheons were cut off thus bringing the hearth to the edge of and lower than the floor. One end of the hearth sloped up to the floor level. This floor edge served as a bench upon which my small brothers and myself sat with feet hanging to the fire, and Mother passed down and up to do her cooking on the hearth; from the inside of the chimney hung a chain with a ring at the lower end. There were S shaped pieces of iron to hook into the ring and on these hung the pots and kettles for boiling. Baking was done in the Dutch oven; this was large, round and about 7 inches deep, standing upon legs, with heavy iron cover; bread and etc. was placed in this oven, the cover heated until it would scorch flour and placed over with coals on top and under the over. There were skillets with legs for the frying and great boilers also fitted with legs. I can well remember how sweet and delicious the ham, game etc. was broiled in this manner as well as the peach cobblers baked in the Dutch oven. The coffee pot had a trivet, a 3 legged affair, to stand on. This primitive fireplace did not suit my father, used to the conveniences of an older country, and as soon as he could do so, he took the prairie schooner in which we moved here, and the oxen, and went to Waynesville for brick to build a new fireplace.

In preparation for this my Mother baked, boiled and stewed food to last for days, a great log fire was built in the yard. We small children were sent to bed to keep warm, and the old stick chimney was torn down. Father was assisted in the building by my eldest brother and

2 of my Mother's brothers. When we children could no longer lie in bed we were allowed to run about a bit and warm at this big fire. 3 or 4 days saw it completed and were we proud of our fine new fireplace.

Our food was plain and wholesome, consisting of meat of various kinds, vegetables and cornbread prepared in different ways, but all coarse, as we had no fine bolted meal such as we had been used to in Kentucky. On Sunday morning we always had a treat for breakfast. It was biscuit made with white flour. Our vegetables, and later apples, were buried in shallow straw lined pits; the potatoes etc heaped up, covered with straw and earth. These pits kept the contents well, and surely never were fruits and vegetables so sweet. We were fond of pumpkin, and used it various ways, seived and eaten as a vegetable, in pies and mixed with cornmeal with shortening and a little sugar as pumpkin bread. We used the fresh ones as long as they lasted and were good and then depended on that which had been dried in the fall.

Mother brought a barrel of dried apples and of peaches from Kentucky. We missed the fruit we had been accustomed to but we had come of our own choice and did not repine. We make lye hominy by the kettle full and used it fried and ate it with milk. We also had a squash called Kershaw; it had a long, large neck, and in the evening we cut this neck off, placed it upon the hearth, covered it with hot ashes and coals. In the morning it was done and inside its thick hull was dry and as sweet as a sweet potato.

When we had company and Mother wanted fine corn meal for pudding she resorted to this original method to obtain bolted meal. I was sent to shake a clean coarse piece of linen about in the meal barrel until it was coated with meal, I would then hold it up by one end when the coarse particles would fall off, then shake the cloth over the mixing tray, and there was our fine meal. Slow you say? Yes, but the world was not run by electricity then and we had time to think and love.

At one time there was high water and bad roads, our Salt Creek Mill was swept away and for 6 weeks we had no bread stuff in the house and were compelled to pound corn for all our bread. To pound the corn we used a hominy block, which was about a four foot length cut from a good sized tree, and a bowl shaped hollow scooped from the end. In this

bowl the corn was placed, some boiling water poured over to loosen the husk. It was then pounded with a hominy beater or pestle (a long stick with an iron knob on the end). The finer meal was sifted out for bread and the coarser boiled and eaten as hominy. When the waters had subsided Father and Uncle Henry Brown loaded our prairie schooner with wheat and corn and sent to Mechanicsburg, a town near Springfield, to have it ground.

I think there never was such delicious meat as we had in those days cooked over the fire. A frame of wood was leaned against the fireplace and nails were driven in the top piece upon which was hung our meat by strings; pork, turkey etc. with all kinds of game, was cooked in this manner, pans were placed beneath in which was melted butter, water and salt with which the meat was frequently basted.

Neighbors were neighbors in those days and a warm, kind sympathy prevailed among them. All lived about the same and in sickness or health stood ready to help each other. Ten miles was not considered far to a neighbor if it meant a good time or chance to help in sickness. We even borrowed fire from our nearest neighbors, and I have often gone to a neighbor for a fire chunck when our fire had gone out and the tinder box was empty. A journey to Decatur was a matter of importance and when anyone was going every neighbor for miles was notified of the event, and commissions undertaken for the purchase of needles, pins, thread, medicines etc. Letters to absent friends were hastily written and the return would be anxiously looked for as he might bring letters from distant friends that had lain there for months. It cost 25¢ to send a letter to Kentucky.

Before there were carding mills at Decatur and Bloomington, Mother carded the wool by hand to make rolls, afterwards spun into yard to make the woolen clothes and stockings for the entire family, 8 children and my parents.

I learned to ~~knit~~ on broom straws, greased and toasted to toughen them; then Grandfather made me a set of needles from a piece of hickory nicely smoothed, oiled and toasted too. I made garters and suspenders, called galluses. I was next taught to sew, and when I was 10 years old I had, in addition to piecing a quilt, made an entire suit

for myself from the skin out. Then came learning to spin yarn and flax and twisting yarn, flax and cotton for knitting and sewing and for weaving cloth. I was so small that I was obliged to stand on a chair to bank the wheel. About this time I also dropped corn. I had a bag about my neck that held enough corn to plant one row and back. It was then covered by the men with a plow. My oldest brother was the sheep shearer, and I had to help him by holding the sheep down. He taught me to shear, beginning on the small ones and tying their heads down. I became quite expert and was able to shear 3 and 4 a day. To clean the wool we took it to Coon Creek, with lye, soap, kettle, tubs and baskets. A fire was built, the water heated with lye and soap, the wool put in the tubs and the scalding water poured in, the wool was pounded with a beater and the water changed until it was clear; it was then put in the baskets and sunk in the creek to rinse it. We took our dinner, and if there was a large amount of wool to wash took supper too. It was taken home and hung on the fence to dry.

After the wool was washed and dried came the picking, and that was an event looked forward to with pleasure, for these hardy people found means of getting pleasure from their work. The neighbors for miles around were invited. The wool was first beaten to separate it, then plucked clean by hand. These frolicks were continued from house to house until the wool was all picked. Mother did her own coloring too. Next came the spinning, the quill filling and putting in the web, then we were ready to weave.

After there were carding mills at Bloomington our wool was sent there to be made into rolls and it was often 3 weeks before we got it back, as each must take his turn, so during the delay we hurried into our summer sewing. Spinning lasted from the time we got the rolls from the mill, about June, until shearing time again. Work was the gospel of the pioneers, and there was no idle time and so even our frolicks were work made lighter by company and good cheer.

Flax raising and dressing was important to our farm life for from that we procured our bed and table linen and at first all thread and underclothing. The flax was sowed broadcast, and in August was ready to harvest. This was done by my older brother and myself, first pulling the flax up by the roots, then it was carted in and spread on the

grass where the sun, rain and dew rotted it. It was then put through a crude homemade machine called a brake which broke and took out the woody fibre; after this it was scurched, which removed any remaining fibre. Next came the coarse hatchel which was my work. The tow from this first hatcheling was spun to make straw ticks, the next hatcheling was fine and was done by my Mother, the tow remaining from this was used to make cloth for dish towels, towels for the men etc., also to supply the tinder box. There then remained the fine flax thread to be woven into beautiful and durable linen cloth.

Ropes were necessary on the farm and these were made from hemp planted and treated much the same as flax. Father made a machine to spin the hemp into coarse strands. These were then twisted into 3 and 4 ply ropes. The boys turned a crank on this machine and Father kept the threads separated by sticks, and these primitive ropes were made even and strong.

This kind of life went on until I was 18 years old (1850) when Father sold the sheep and spinning and weaving cloth was over as there were stores where we could buy our clothing. But the linsey woolsey which had been woven lasted for many years and was even worn by one of the grandchildren.

We had candles and grease lamps, the candles were of 2 kinds, those made in molds of tallow and those with beeswax added and made by dipping -- these were for summer use. The grease lamps were bowl shaped iron vessels, wicks were made by rolling cloth and filling the bowl half full of cornmeal around the wick to hold it up, the grease was heated and poured in. You can imagine how brilliant they were, and the odor.

The saleable produce of the farm was wheat, corn, pork and lard. Father took the grain to Pekin and Chicago but the pork and lard went to St. Louis. We always had more sausage than we could use, and that was shaped into rolls, put in corn husks and given a little smoke; it went to market with the pork and found ready sale at a good price. I do not remember how many hogs were killed at a time but there must have been a great number because the neighbors came to help and the killing, scalding etc. went on all day. Father brought back from these trips salt, sugar,

tea, coffee, raisins, spices etc. as well as such drygoods and notions as were needed through the year. To prepare such a list required much thought and was a work of art. On one trip he brought a bureau and a set of fine French china dishes. Mother's fine laces and ribbons for her caps were sent by the relatives in Kentucky.

Many of the winters were very cold and game grew bold with hunger. I have often seen as many as 15 deer feeding among our cattle at the evening feed; during the day they sheltered in the blue stem prairie grass that was taller than a man on horseback. Wild turkeys came to feed and were easily secured. The wolves came snarling at our dogs and drove them to the very door and when Father would suddenly open the door to frighten them we could see their fierce eyes blazing in a circle about us.

Among the hardships of my Mother's life at this time were those incidents upon my Father's trips to Kentucky. He made 13 trips on 12 years to settle up his business, and of course Mother had all the care of the family and farm, in addition to her household duties. On his return trips he often brought us small gifts from our relatives.

Father made our shoes and of course the older ones, who did real work, were shod first, then we three younger ones were attended to. Often I have held a light until 10 o'clock for my Father to work upon my shoes and considered myself fortunate if I had mine by Christmas time. Then, as early in the spring as we little ones could possibly go barefooted, our shoes were cleaned, greased and hung away for Sunday.

I have in my possession a cotton counterpane made from cotton for which Mother planted the seed, raised and picked the cotton, spun the thread and wove the cloth. She also spun fine thread and braided a cord to embroider it with; and hired a cousin to do this work and one may find upon it couching, outlining and other stitches used by us at the present day. The pattern covers the entire quilt and was quite original. It was laid off with a pewter plate, and Mother wove a heavy fringe to border it.

In these early days came word that Father's brother William was coming to visit us, and mother's Kentucky pride rebelled at the puncheon floor, but she was resourceful and every member of the family was put to cutting and sewing rags while mother spun the warp from flax tow, and woe to the unfortunate rag that came in her sight. Perseverance was

rewarded, the carpet was finished and on the floor before our visitor arrived. What comfort Mother took in it and the pride of our childish hearts in having the only carpet in the country. In that day it was the custom in Kentucky and older states for the women to wear caps at and after their marriage and as many as possible were made for the bride's trousseau. Of course Mother wore them and girls came for miles to obtain the pattern of her caps. She showed them and often made them herself. Some of them were made of queer materials, and because her's were made of fine white lace and dainty ribbons some thought her, as they said, "stuck up", but when she and Father rode for miles and carried dainties to the sick and their kind hands ministered to them they no longer thought her "stuck up".

Wild cats and catamounts were numerous, the former ate our chickens but the latter devoured our sheep, and the farmers were obliged to build strong covered rail pens in which to house them at night. They came out at night screaming in a fearful manner and even the men did not venture out to face their music in the dark. They became so bold and troublesome that the people banded together on a big hunt and practically exterminated them.

As a method of obtaining fresh food for the cattle the farmers had what they called "late burns". They set a day, and working together burned the dry grass from large tracts; following the first rain the fresh grass would spring up for the cattle. These fires were watched and did no harm, but not so with the fires set by careless hunters. These fires would get into the fences and out buildings and do much damage. It was a yearly occurrence in the fall, and once we had a hard fight to save the buildings. All the men and boys, Mother and the girls, worked and still the fire gained. When coming to a big slough Mother shed her heavy linsey petticoat and dipping it in the water fought on. When  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile from home she found the fire had gotten behind us and was near the barn. Calling all to follow, she ran, whipped out the horses from the barn, and here we made another fight. Father and the boys saw the danger and came to our assistance. At last the fire was out, leaving us tire and scorched. This was our worst fire.

The daily hunt for the cows was my greatest hardship, owing to my fear of wolves, wildcats etc. My brother John, next older, and myself had each a horse for this purpose. We often rode for miles before we found them as there were no fences then as there are now. When at last we heard the welcome bell and located the herd it did not take us long to head them for home and they often got hurried up by whips and digs.

About this time there passed the house one day 12 Indian Chiefs in blankets and feathers, and walking in single file. We were frightened but they said not a word. People believed they had been down to the mounds near Salt Creek to obtain the treasure said to be buried there. It is certain that they had opened them.

This County held its first Court in October, 1839, and in that year Abraham Lincoln was admitted to the bar to practice law. From that time until he quit the law my recollections of him were pleasant. During court he would often take a walk at noon and eat dinner at our house, and again he would come in the evening and sleep there. His yarns kept us laughing until a late hour, when he climbed the ladder (our only means of reaching the rooms above) and slept with the boys. I was a prime favorite with him and as a little child never failed of being noticed and petted. The last time I saw Mr. Lincoln was just before his presidential campaign.

As I sit in my comfortable steam heated, gas lighted home, with the interurban at my door, it is hard to realize that but a really short span of years separates me from those times. But they are gone, far gone, and the very face of the country is so changed that one would scarcely know it for the same. And we who are left and who then were rollicking children, with all of life before us, have now rounded the hilltop and are looking toward the sunset. And it seems fitting that we should at this time take up these threads of memory and weave them into a fabric to be left for our children.

Emily Hill Weld  
born Nov. 29, 1832  
died April 17, 1911

Sunday Asa B. Rogers was born March 30 1834.

Thursday Martha Jane was born September 24 1835

Crovet B Rogers was born May 27 1838

\* Laurence Thompson died the 20 of April 1835

aged 83 years. —

\* Reziah Thompson died the 13 Feb 1837 aged 77 years

Lewis Hickman departed this life Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> day of  
May 1842 Aged sixty six (66) years two months and  
Nineteen days.

~~Bartholomew~~ Sarah Catharine Mills was born ~~1838~~  
~~1839~~ Paschal. Hickman Mills was born <sup>the</sup> March 24 1840  
Lucy Ann Mills was born December 9<sup>th</sup> 1842  
and died the 25<sup>th</sup> of the same month.

James Wickman 3 March 1724

Hannah Lewis 6 October 1722

was married 14 March — 1744

Henry Wickman 1 May — 1753

and died the 24<sup>th</sup> October — 1801 —

In Memory of John Holloray, who was  
born on the 25th day of May, 1761;  
and who departed this life on the 15th day  
of April, 1823, in the 62<sup>nd</sup> year of his age.  
Years. M<sup>o</sup>. 10. 20

This and following 3 pages are reductions of writings by George L. Hill. Most are pages of mathematic problems - a few are of family names and dates - most appear to be practice in penmanship and calculation.

# Reduction. September 11 1818--

Reduction is a rule to change money, weights, and measures, in one denomination to another, retaining the same value.

**Rule.** When great names are to be brought into small, as pounds in shillings, days into hours, &c. multiply by as many of the less, as make one of the greater denomination.

When small names are to be brought into great, as shillings into pounds, hours into days, &c. then divide by as many of the less, as make one of the greater denomination.

Remainders are of the same name with their own division.

When great names are to be brought into small, it is called reduction descending, and when small are to be brought to great, reduction ascending.

Reduction descending and ascending mutually prove each other.

3. Reduce 32 L. 14 S. 3 D. into things.

	L	S	D
	32	14	3
		20	
	64	34	
		12	
	77	11	
		4	
	308	84	4

Answer

4. In 38942 pence, how many pounds?

4)	38942
12)	9735 1/2
20)	811 3/4
	40 11 3/4

5. Reduce 102 L. 19 S. 7 D into half pence.

	L	S	D
	102	19	7
		20	
	205	9	
		12	
	24	15	
		7	
	129	31	

Answer

6. In 1650 D. how many shillings and pence?

12)	1650	Shilling
20)	140	
	7	£

(Circled numbers: 12, 20, 7, 140, 1650)

Note. General rule, to change Federal money to shillings and to the currency of each state.

Multiply the given sum in cents, by the number of cents in a dollar shillings; or by the number of pence in a dollar as it passes in each state, and cut off two figures to the right of the product; the left will be the answer in pence either in shilling or currency; one of the figures thus separated be multiplied by 4, and two figures again cut off as before, the left will be the farthings.

41. Change 1411 dollars, 96 cts. to New-England or Virginia Currency.

	Doll.	Cts.
	1411	96
		72
	3743	92
	138037	2
12)	141981	12
20)	11831	9
7)	59111	97

42. Change 874 dollars, 56 cts. to South Carolina Currency.

	D.	Cts.
	874	56
		56
	874	1175
		56
	5748	50
	43737	5
12)	4898	40
29)	4082	2
	20412	2

Note. When the given sum is Dollars multiply by the number of Shillings in a Dollar thus.

43. Change 721 dollars, to New-England or Virginia Currency.

	D.
	721
29)	4326
	2163
	58
	11
	11
	11
	11
	George George Shill

44. Change 573 dollars, to New-England or Virginia Currency.

	D.
	573
	8
29)	45814
	22914
	22914
	22914

3  
Clary Hill was Born April 18<sup>th</sup> 1763

William Hill was Born May 1<sup>st</sup> 1803

Ann Fisher Hill was Born April 25<sup>th</sup> 1801.

and was March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1821.

and died January 12<sup>th</sup> 1872

Lewis Hickman was Born March 8<sup>th</sup> 1776

Sarah Finney Thompson his wife was Born  
December 5<sup>th</sup> 1782

George Hill was <sup>born</sup> January 12<sup>th</sup> 1798 and <sup>was</sup>  
married October 20<sup>th</sup> 1822

Louisa Tenoni Hickman, his wife was born  
December 14<sup>th</sup> 1802.

Robert Oswald Hill

the son of George and Louisa  
Hills was Born July 19<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday 9 o'clock P.M. after  
noon 1823

Phoebe Laurinda Hill  
The Daughter of George and  
Louisa Hill was Born  
October 16<sup>th</sup> 1824 Saturday  
11 o'clock P.M.

Sarah Louis Hill  
The Daughter of George &  
Louisa Hill's was Born  
December 5<sup>th</sup> 1826 Tuesday  
7 o'clock

Abner Jane the daughter of  
John Sharp was Born July  
12<sup>th</sup> 1823

Owen Sharp the son of  
John Sharp was Born  
June 25<sup>th</sup> 1825

Geo Hick's Book  
211

Lord have mercy upon  
us

January 4 1823

January the 6 1829  
January the 10 th  
January the 11 th

Mrs S Susa B Hart

Miss Emily J. Hickman  
George Hill

Mary B. Hill

Book  
Book

Book  
George  
Mrs Susa B Hart  
E.T.H.  
W.E.H.

George Hill's Book

GEORGE AND LOUISA HILL

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Louisa Hickman Hill

George L. Hill

M.L. Gaffney

Edna Earle Weld

DIANA REESE AND BENJAMIN THOMAS HILL

b. Sept. 12, 1837

m. Benj. T. Hill

June 24, 1880

Fairmount, Ill.

d. July 1, 1921

My grandmother, Diana Reese, was born in Newtown, Wales and was the youngest of the 15 children born to Morgan and Esther Reese. She was not quite 3 years old when with her parents and 11 of her brothers and sisters she came to America settling near Whitesboro, Oneida County New York.

It is evident that when old enough she with her sisters worked in the textile Mills altho she had never told me that. Her father was a Weaver in the Mills, she told me, and as soon as possible he brought a farm and soon after devoted his time and efforts to that.

Diana was small in size and had red hair which was described to me by my mother as light red, not auburn. I have a charming dauggereotype of Diana at 18, Maria at 20 and brother Joseph at 22 which clearly shows Diana was fair while the other two appear to be dark haired and eyed.

She went to school in Whitesboro but did not, like one of her brothers and some of her sisters, join the Baptist Church there.

Diana could not remember Sarah whom they had left in Wales. Her oldest sister, Ann, whose oldest son was but 6 months younger than Diana was close to her heart for Ann had been so kind and good to Diana's son when he went to college in Granville, Ohio where Ann and family lived. One sister, Mary, had died while Diana was quite young, Jane was one I never was quite sure about. Seemingly she did not have a long life for if she had surely Diana would have talked

of her as she did about the others. One sister, Esther, remained unmarried and at home with the parents. Elizabeth for some years during Diana's married life lived quite close, Maria always kept in close touch thru letters and visits back and forth when possible. Ellen lived on the next farm and there was a special relationship between these two for sisters Diana and Ellen married brothers.

It seemed that her 5 brothers were great favorites with Diana and it was a blow to her when Joseph died so young. I speak of these relationships for she talked of her family yet, she did not describe her parents to me, probably because I did not ask her in detail. There never was any hint of it not being a close caring family.

For some reason not known now, after the brothers went out in the world, Ellen came to Clinton, Ill. in 1855 to visit her brother, Thomas, minister of the Baptist Church and while there met Rodney Hill. Ellen and Rodney married early in March of 1858. A year or so later Diana too arrived in Clinton and there she met and was courted by Benjamin Thomas Hill, Rodney's younger brother.

In 1860 Diana and Benjamin went to Fairmount, Ill. where Thomas was preaching and on the 24th of June he married them, this slight girl of 22 and tall dark Benjamin, a few days past 23. I like to think they had a short honeymoon for they then returned to the Hill home farm to live in the same house and look after his elderly parents. Benjamin was their youngest child and this farm of 160 acres, part of the section his father had contracted to buy in 1836, was given to him. It is possible that Benjamin bought this acreage, my impression is that it was given to him.

The house was a log house, large and quite comfortable. The older Hills were people of decided opinions, highly thought of in the community and deeply interested in the Baptist Church, started in this same home in Feb. 1839.

Ellen and Rodney lived on an adjoining 160 acres, other Hill relatives were close by. In a way it was a family community and "Di" as Diana was often called became a part of it.

On May 1, 1862 her first child was born, a little girl who lived but 18 hours. When she spoke of this to my sister and me she said little more, it was evident how deeply she and Benjamin had mourned this loss. We never knew where this tiny baby was buried.

Life went on and on 4 March 1864 a son, Benjamin Franklin, was born there in the log house. He was blond and a little curl of his is still preserved. Pictures of him as a baby show him to be sturdy, in fact, he grew to be 6 feet tall. He was a joy to these young parents. His grandparents took a deep interest in him and he learned to know cousins, aunts, uncles at an early age.

Benjamin and Diana were busy for as was the custom butter was made to sell and Diana's was known for its excellent quality, chickens kept with eggs to sell. He often had to go to Chicago and other cities with livestock to sell; together they ran the farm successfully.

On July 7th, 1867 another son was born, Frederick Lincoln Hill. There is no doubt that the Hill grandparents had some influence naming him for the "Lincoln" was given because of the great friendship Abraham Lincoln had with the Hills long before Diana entered the family.

This little boy was always spoken of as Freddy, as Benjamin F. was known in the family as Frank to distinguish him from his father. (Diana spoke of her husband as Benny, more often "my Benny") The new baby was a great joy, he was a big happy healthy child. But in June of 1878 Freddy became ill with "summer complaint", a common illness of babies of that age, and died. The parents never fully recovered from that blow. No record or marker for Freddy has been found but it is thought he is in the small Hill graveyard, now a county cemetery.

Speaking of the death of another small child in a letter in 1893, Diana wrote "God knows best". There is no doubt but that this was told these grieving parents as they tried to reconcile themselves to the loss of their two infants. Frank became even more precious.

November 1870 saw Ralph Emerson born and in February 1872 Herbert Wellington, yet another boy. They were inseparable as they grew old enough to play and the tales of their pranks and the mischief they got into were told over and over. Ralph was a handsome little boy, there is no picture of Herb at that age. He used to say he looked more like and was more like his mother in disposition than any of the others. His picture at over 80 shows a fine looking man and perhaps somewhat like her. He did not quite reach 6 feet while Ralph grew to 6"3" in height.

Frank was the studious one, the one his mother hoped would be a minister. In May of 1870 Diana had been baptised in the Baptist Church in Clinton, a long time after her marriage into this devout Hill family. Both Benjamin and his father were active in that church, Deacons for many years, Diana a faithful attendant.

Finally in October of 1875 the longed for daughter, Lillie May, was born and the family was complete.

In time the aged Hill parents had died, Louisa in 1885 and George in 1887. A copy of pages from Louisa's Diary lists her bequests to various members of the family. On one page headed Jan. 27, 1879 she wrote..."my spice mortar to Benjamine and my irons to Die as they had the care of me....it is but little I have to give for all the attention I have received from dear ones....". On another page she wrote..... "Benjemine to have my chair and Die my knife box...my log cabin quilt to Benjemine...Die to have my Burure...my foot stool for Lilly May."

In 1893 Lillie was in Normal School. She was a tall slender girl, a great help to her father and mother. She did not teach but returned home. A few of Diana's letters remain and it is evident that Lillie was home-sick for her mother wrote to her regularly with family news and good advice. It is through these few letters that we get a picture of Diana's life on the farm.

Frank had married a young dark eyed and dark haired girl on May 1, 1887. The young couple spent that summer on the farm and it is from Effie's recollection that we know the hue of Diana's red hair.

In September Frank and Effie moved to Rantoul and it was there in March of 1889 that the first Hill grandchild, Pearl, was born. It is evident from the letters and my personal knowledge that she was a great favorite with her grandparents, her young aunt and two uncles. In 1889 Frank was offered the principalship of a school in Chicago which he accepted. While this took him farther from home, vacations

were spent in Clinton on the farm. A new house near the original farm home had been built early in the 1870's so there was ample room for all. The old house was torn down and Diana enjoyed her new one although it was more to care for. When I was born April 1892 it was good to have more room for the two little girls often were there.

Pearl did not write down her memories but we talked about our grandparents and agreed that there was deep love for us. We remember our grandfather taking us out on the farm with him, our grandmother and Lillie caring for us in the house. We were happy children in their home and in the family gatherings at the different near-by homes.

We knew Ellen Reese Hill almost as well as our grandmother. They seemed much alike in build and disposition, gentle in speech and manner. A group picture in which they both are shows a strong resemblance.

Life was about as usual on the farm. Diana and Benjamin went to Chicago to the Worlds Columbian Exposition in 1893. Diana speaks of it and of the many Clinton kin going and all seemed to have visited Frank and family. One friend said how nicely he was situated and Diana writes with pardonable pride that probably his family were fixed better than "they expected".

Diana, Benjamin too, was most fastidious about her person and clothes, and she seemed to love having her picture taken for there are several. She had her dresses and bonnets made and the decision about a new bonnet was a major issue. In December of 1897 the dressmaker was at the house when tragedy struck.

Ralph was in a bed brought down from upstairs to a sunny sitting room and was recovering from a hernia operation. I was with my grandmother and Lillie in the kitchen, the dressmaker at the sewing machine in front of a window when Benjamin came thru carrying out something from Ralph's room. The kitchen door closed and in a few minutes Diana, compelled by something she never could explain, looked out and saw him lying on the ice and snow that covered the path. He had fallen and had died instantly from a blow to his head and neck. Lillie ran down the long lane to the next farm for help and for some one to go for the Doctor. Help came, he was carried into the house and then taken away for he was dead. A five year old child, I was bewildered and I finally sat by Ralph's bedside doing some childish thing. That night Lillie put me to bed as usual. I can't remember what explanation was given me nor whether I was told that my loving and beloved grandfather had died.

It was December 20, 1897, only 37 years after Diana had married "my Benny". I believe their marriage was a true love match and only that could have eased them over many difficulties, loss of two small children, illness at times and for her, his sudden death.

In the morning I wakened to find Pearl in bed with me in one of the "spare" rooms. A telegram had reached my parents in time for them to get a night train from Chicago. I remember how quiet the house was that day.

My grandfather was brought home and his casket placed in the sitting room. Ralph was up and the bed returned to an upper bedroom.

There was a private service at the house for the family and close relatives. The three women, Diana, Lillie and my mother, were in black with long black veils. My father held me on his lap, mother had Pearl. I saw and felt the tears on my father's face and when the short service was ended he held me up so I could see my peaceful looking grandfather once more. Pearl and I did not go to the church service, so many came the church could not hold everyone. Benjamin was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Clinton on the 23rd of December.

Now there were plans to be made for under the terms of his Will the farm was to be sold and Diana was to receive the proceeds. From one letter I have I conclude the farm was let out to a tenant for neither Ralph nor Herb could stay to take over.

The farm was sold and Diana came to our home in Chicago. Lillie went to Business School and became a secretary. After she established herself in Waukegan Diana lived with her. Lillie's health broke in about 1912 and from then on she and Diana or Diana alone lived in our home where she was welcomed and had every comfort.

As far as I know, after Benjamin's death Diana never went to church, she lived a quiet life seemingly quite content to knit the lace she did so skillfully. She was a great reader of the newspaper and kept up with current affairs and in 1920 voted along with other women who were voting in Illinois for the first time.

With Frank she made a trip to Ohio to see her first great-grandchild. There is a tiny picture of Diana holding Phyllis whose life had been despaired of for several months but who now was beginning to gain. How Diana loved her and those weeks were such happy ones.

She also knew her two first great-grandsons, Pearl's sons.

In May of 1921 Phyllis and I were in Chicago. By then Diana was not as strong as before but we had many talks and she was surrounded by love. One morning she had a slight stroke and lived about two more weeks. Her death occurred at 6AM on 1 July 1921. Peacefully and quietly she breathed her last and, we hope, was reunited with her beloved husband and two babies. She is buried in Clinton beside him.

BENJAMIN T. HILL

b. 16 June 1836

m. 24 June 1860 Fairmount, Illinois

d. 17 Dec. 1897

DIANA REESE

b. 12 Sept. 1837

d. 1 July 1921

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CHILDREN

May

b. 1 May 1862 Clinton, Illinois

d. 2 May 1862

bur. Clinton, Illinois

Benjamin Franklin

b. 4 March 1864 Clinton

m. 1 May 1887 Clinton Effie V. Ketcham

d. 11 Oct. 1932

bur. 14 Oct. 1932 Clinton

Fredrick Lincoln

b. 7 July 1867 Clinton

d. June 1868 Clinton

bur. Clinton

Ralph Emerson

b. 8 Nov. 1870 Clinton

d. March 1928 Chicago

bur. Clinton

Herbert Wellington

b. 20 Feb. 1872 Clinton

m. date unknown Marie \_\_\_\_\_ (no children)

d. 1961 Clinton

bur. Clinton

Lillie May

b. 21 Oct. 1875 Clinton

d. 1958 Rochester, Minn.

bur. Clinton

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Children of Benjamin F. Hill and Effie V. Ketcham Hill

Erva Pearl

b. 12 March 1889 Rantoul, Illinois

m. 20 Feb. 1917 (Dr.) Raymond Ellis

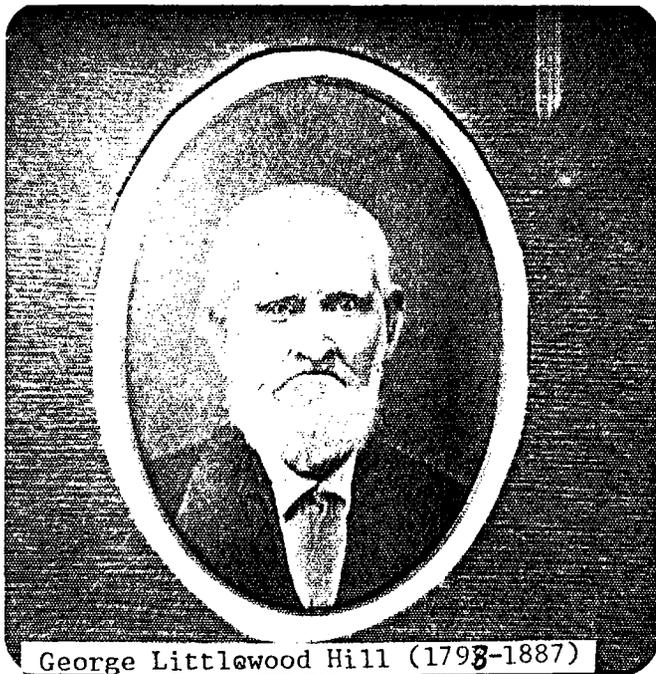
d. 2 Nov. 1975

bur. Salem S. Dak.

Mabel Louise

b. 9 April 1892 Chicago

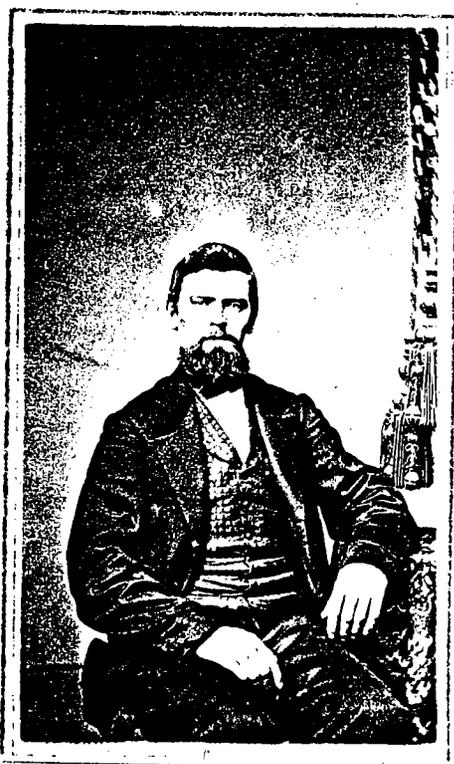
m. 26 Dec. 1914 Daniel M. Collette  
div. 1937



George Littlewood Hill (1798-1887)



Louisa Venoni Hickman Hill (1802-1886)



Benjamin Thomas Hill  
ca. 1870



Diana Reese Hill  
ca. 1870

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HILL

b. March 4, 1864  
m. May 1, 1887  
Effie Ketcham  
Clinton, Ill.  
d. Oct. 11, 1932  
Ashland, Wisc.  
bur. Clinton, Ill

The first son of Diana and Benjamin T. Hill was named Benjamin Franklin, called Frank in the family, as an adult was Ben to his Chicago friends. His little blonde curl has been kept, his baby pictures show a strong healthy child. He was more studious, serious boy than his two younger brothers, and more of a companion to his parents and the elderly Hill grandparents. There is a picture of him on graduation at 17 and his High School commencement program shows the title of his "oration" as "Character".

He learned of early family from his grandparents and from other paternal relatives living nearby. In later years I learned much from his telling me (I suppose I was an inquisitive child) and from conversations he had with my grandmother and other relatives who visited us in Chicago. These stories are retold in other portions of this family history.

After finishing High School in Clinton, Illinois Frank went to Shepardson College in Granville, Ohio and decided to become a teacher. These were the years when he came to know his Aunt Ann Reese Davies and her family who were very good to this young man. He ever expressed deep affection for them. When I was a small girl I would curl up in a big chair with him, usually late Sunday afternoons, and he would tell many stories about his life and the families from whom he came. It now seems strange that these never went back beyond his grandparents lives.

If his grandparents, Reese, ever saw him I do not know when. It is possible that when he was a small child his mother took him to New York or they made a trip to Clinton. This I doubt for I'm sure he would have told me.

Near the end of his college years his father became very ill and he had to return home to see to running the farm and help his mother with the younger children. He never returned to College.

In the winter of 1886-87 he was able to begin his teaching career going to a country school at DeWitt, Illinois, either driving a buggy or riding horseback on his trips home. During that winter he met a new resident of Clinton, Effie Ketcham, a petite pretty dark-eyed, dark-haired girl of nineteen. It didn't take Frank long to make up his mind and they were married in the Baptist church on Sunday, May 1, 1887.

That summer was spent on the farm with his parents and aged grandfather Hill but by September they were in Rantoul, Illinois where for two years Frank was Superintendent of the school. Effie attended High School classes with her hair in a long braid and none of the other students knew she was the wife of their Superintendent.

As a picture exists of him and 3 of his teachers we know how he looked at age 23-24. He was 6 feet tall, slender, dark hair and grey eyes. He always wore a closely clipped moustache which was decidedly red in color. He said that once he wore a beard for a short time and that it also was red. It was while in the early years of 1883-83 when he "stumped" for James G. Blaine during his campaign for President

that his beard appeared. The family had been Republicans since Abraham Lincoln as I suppose most have been since. Herb in his arguments on politics did not always adhere to that philosophy.

On March 12, 1889 Pearl was born in Rantoul and when five months old the family moved to Chicago for Frank has accepted an offer of Principalship of an elementary school in that city. His salary was \$2000.00 a year.

The first home was a flat in "The Porches" on Cottage Grove Avenue on the South side, a building that remained standing long in the 1900's. The school was Oakland #2, later named Melville West Fuller. When he taught classes it was 8th grade mathematics and algebra.

He joined the Masonic order and thru-out his life his Masonic affiliations became great sources of pleasure to him.

Before I was born, April 9, 1892, the family moved to 31st and South Park Avenues, an area that no longer exists as it is now part of the great South-Parkway in Chicago. When I was an infant he was also Principal of Walsh night school which was not in a good neighborhood. The police were aware and advised him to carry something with which he could defend himself. He carried a cane with a gold knob which apparently became a symbol of authority for he was never attacked by gangs that roamed the lonely streets. I do not know what became of that cane which I remember so well but I do remember the stories he told of that tough night school neighborhood located on or near Halsted St.

I was still very young when he studied law, reading and studying with Mr. Franke, an attorney, who often came to our house for lessons and discussions. The Blackstone and several other books on Law were among our own story books, they have all disappeared.

During those early years my parents attended Oakwood Baptist Church on Oakwood Blvd. and he taught a young peoples Sunday school class which became very popular. A new minister came and the church became more "social". Frank feeling that everyone should be as welcome as another and finding some members of his class were not deemed as desirable as others, gave up the class and left the church. He never returned but as we reached a suitable age Pearl and I attended there. We made many friends, took part in the activities and, in fact, as I became proficient I was violin solist at several Sunday services.

Pearl went thru 8 grades, I for 7, in the Fuller School with our Father as principal. He was then asked to go to a poorly-run school, the Wm Henry Seward, located "back of the stockyards". The area was largely foreign and poor. He did a tremendous job in that neighborhood working closely with Miss Mary McDowell of the Un. of Chicago settlement. He had ever been a stern disciplinarian, pupils respected him and many teachers became our warm personal friends.

My father had an excellent mind, was an inveterate reader, a forceful and excellent speaker and to me, handsome as well.

During those years in Chicago he had been interested and involved in the Grain Market, Board of Trade. After retiring with 27 years of teaching credit he and a friend opened a small commission firm on the Open Board.

In disposition he was on the tense side, had moody spells, and suffered with ulcers off and on for years. Twice he was near to death because of them. He kept his slim figure by taking long brisk walks daily and generally had good health.

In 1922 he fully retired and as Pearl and I both were in the midwest he and mother rented a home in Northfield, Minnesota where my family was. He enjoyed friendships especially a few College professors and he loved being near his two granddaughters. Part of the time he and mother would go to Salem, So. Dak. where Pearl, husband and four small sons lived. As he had enjoyed fishing and hunting he now enjoyed pheasant and grouse hunting and fly fishing for trout when the opportunity arose. In earlier Chicago days he went deer hunting in Oklahoma and other types of the sport in and around the Chicaco area.

In an emergency he once filled the place of principal of the High School in Salem serving for a semester. Later, a pupil told me she "learned more in 6 weeks under Mr. Hill than in her whole years before". He knew how to inspire students to want to know, to learn - he led them in discussions, he taught mathematics, he had wide knowledge of history, events local and worldwide, and with it all, that discipline was still present. He had only to look at one, to raise a finger, to nod his head toward a door! I know this personally from watching two very bad boys in my room in the Fuller School. My girls knew when to stop what they might be doing, when they had gone far enough, so did my 4 nephews, as had Pearl and I when we were small. Never spanked - a word was sufficient.

My parents bought a small home in Cable, Wisconsin with plans to use it as a summer home catching trout in the nearby stream. It was wild country but very beautiful; the house comfortable and warm and he loved the fishing. A few years later they planned a winter there so he once more could do some hunting. This was threatened when on a trip to Minnesota he contracted pleurisy, pneumonia and empyema set in. After he recovered from surgery for empyema they did go to Cable and had 2 summers and 1 winter there but he was never able to hunt again. This was before the days of antibiotics and despite the wonderful care Mother gave him, 18 months after his initial illness he died in a hospital in Ashland, Wisconsin. The date was 11 October 1932, he was 68 years old.

I like to remember their years in that little town which they grew to love, where they went to church, had friends and went out in the car for drives nearly to the last. It was a sad and hopeless illness. He and Mother, who lived 18 more years to 1 February 1950, are buried on the Hill plot in Clinton, Ill. On that lot are his parents, his sister, a brother, another brother and wife.

Pearl died 2 November 1975, I, with a few of my generation of the Reese-Hill families, carry on our search for more knowledge of our forebearers. I think we are proud and rightly so to know we come of these sturdy people who must have valued family and education highly or there would not be this spirit and all those who entered teaching and other professions.



Effie  
Ketcham  
Hill  
ca. 1910



Benj. Franklin Hill  
ca. 1910



Pearl and Mabel Hill  
1895

No. 1837

# Marriage License.

ADULT.

*R. J. Hill*

AND  
*J. A. Whitman*

Issued April 26 1887

Henry May 1887

By

Deputy.

## ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

Return of a Marriage to County Clerk.

- 1 Full name of GROOM, *Benjamin H. Hill*
- 2 Place of residence, *Clinton*
- 3 Occupation, *Farmer*
- 4 Age next birthday, *24* years. Color, *W*. Race, *American*.
- 5 Place of birth, *Clinton*
- 6 Father's name, *B. H. Hill*
- 7 Mother's maiden name, *Reed*
- 8 Number of groom's marriage, *1st*
- 9 Full name of BRIDE, *Eppie V. Melanina*
- 10 Maiden name, *Beardsley*
- 11 Place of birth, *Clinton Ill.*
- 12 Age next birthday, *22* years. Color, *W*. Race, *American*
- 13 Place of birth, *Clinton*
- 14 Father's name, *Alonzo V. Melanina*
- 15 Mother's maiden name, *Beardsley*
- 16 Number of bride's marriage, *1st*
- 17 Place of marriage, *Clinton* in the County of *Clinton* and State of *Illinois* on the *26th* day of *April* 1887
- 18 Names of witnesses, *Henry Brown*  
*James Brown*

Not to be used for any purpose other than that for which it is issued. It is not valid if altered, and it is not valid if the names of the witnesses are not written thereon.

18

We hereby certify that the information above given is correct, to the best of our knowledge and belief.

*B. H. Hill* (Groom)  
*Eppie V. Melanina* (Bride)

I hereby certify that the above is a correct return of a Marriage solemnized by me.

*P. Keyrrolde*  
*Pastor Baptist Church*

Dated at *Clinton Ill* this *1st* day of *May* 1887

State of Illinois  
County of DeWitt

James E. Ely, County Clerk of DeWitt, do hereby certify the attached is a true copy of the instrument filed in my office

given under my hand and seal this *22* day of *May* 19*26*

*James E. Ely*  
County Clerk of DeWitt

681

This Return is to be carefully filled out and returned with the Marriage License. This return does not take the place of the certificate which comes attached to the License, but is by ANTHONY FRICKER, C.

**MARRIAGE CONTRACT**
  
 THE PEOPLE
   
 OF THE
   
 STATE OF ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF DECATUR
   
 County person legally authorized to solemnize Marriage Contracting.

MARRIAGE may be celebrated

Between Mr. B. F. Rice of Decatur
  
 in the County of De Witt and that of De Witt
  
 of the age of 23 years and E. A. & F. Johnson
  
 of Farmers in the County of De Witt and that of
   
De Witt of the age of \_\_\_\_\_ years

in Illinois - Decatur County, Ill. and the seat of said County
   
 at that place in De Witt County, Ill. on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 1887
   
 between W. C. Carter County Clerk
   
 Deputy County Clerk

State of Illinois) 1 2. It is our duty as Ministers of the Gospel
   
 of De Witt COUNTY, ss. lawfully that Mr. B. Frank Hill and
   
W. C. P. Wetchem were united in Marriage by me at De Witt
  
 in the County of De Witt and that of Illinois on the 1st day of May A.D. 1887
   
W. C. P. Wetchem Pastor
   
De Witt
  
De Witt

RALPH EMERSON HILL

b. Nov. 4, 1870  
m. date and spouse unknown  
d. March 1929 Chicago  
bur. Clinton, Ill.

The 4th child and 3rd son of Diana and Benjamin Hill grew to be a very tall strong man much like his uncle, Rodney Hill. Early pictures show Ralph as a handsome small boy, his hair was dark and curly. None of these Hill children had the Reese red hair. Ralph was a great favorite of mine and he cared deeply for Pearl and me and our collective 6 children. As a child I remember his teasing ways and how he called me "Mischief".

He became an engineer on fast trains on the Illinois Central Railroad running out of Chicago and Clinton. After his marriage he lived in Clinton. One foggy night on a fast run he, while looking out the cab window, was struck on the head by a broken semaphore and was severely injured. During a long period of convalescence his marriage came to an end. After his recovery he finally worked for the government in the Chicago Post Office.

Vacations often found him driving to see either Pearl or me, still a handsome erect tall man.

In March 1929 he fell to the floor in the Post Office dying instantly with a massive heart attack. He is buried in Clinton next to his father. Ralph was the most tender one of the children of Diana and Benjamin and would have been a wonderful father to any children he might have had.

HERBERT WELLINGTON HILL

b. February 20, 1872

m. ca. 1895

Marie \_\_\_\_\_

d. June 1961

Clinton, Ill.

bur. Clinton, Ill

When Ralph was less than 2 years old another son was born to Diana and Benjamin. From then on, so we were told, these two were inseparable and into every bit of mischief they could devise. When roused Ralph had a fiery temper but Herb claimed that he, at least, was more like his mother in disposition and in looks than the other children. He was just under 6 feet in height and with good regular features. In his youth Herb had dark hair, his eyes were a most unusual yellow-grey; at 80 his picture shows a good-looking white haired man.

After attending Normal School he taught school for sometime. It appears from letters that he found it not to his liking as a profession. He helped his mother after his father died, staying thru the months during the process of selling the farm (terms of his father's Will).

Herb then took the examination for government service and went into Railway Mail Service. He married and he and Marie then lived in St. Louis for many years. He joined the Masons and enjoyed his membership in that organization.

Herb loved to talk, he had a good mind and many were the arguments and discussions he and my father had at our home in Chicago during their visits to us. Herb grew very set in his beliefs against the Catholic religion (I remember him talking about it) Finally he and Marie allied themselves with a sect know as "Russellites" even to the point of laying in supplies for the coming of the end of the world except for a chosen few wh<sup>o</sup> would be saved. My father would ask how an intelligent man

could believe such, but Herb could and would quote book and verse and so it went on and on. With his good mind and being a good talker he set forth quite an argument. He never gave up those convictions although he softened considerably in later years.

He and Marie moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana because of schedule changes and lived there for several years. After retirement they moved to Clinton. In 1939 Marie died so he lived on there alone. He felt at home in the town of his birth among a few relatives and friends he made. Like Ralph, he cared for Pearl and me and our children and frequently came in his car to make short visits to us which we all enjoyed. The last two years of his life were spent in a nursing home in Clinton, a cousin Nellie Pennington looking after his affairs. When he died in June of 1961 she was administratrix of his estate in which he left a modest amount to Pearl and me. Both he and Marie are buried in the Hill Lot in Clinton.

LILLIE MAY HILL

b. October 21, 1875  
m. unmarried  
d. 1958 Rochester, Minn  
bur. Clinton, Ill

At last a daughter was born to Diana and Benjamin. Lillie grew to be a tall slender woman with light brown hair and grey eyes.

She too went to Normal school for there are letters from her mother to her there. It is evident she was homesick, nothing tells whether she stayed her two years or not. I know little of her early life except she did not marry but was at home with her parents at age 22 when her father died.

She enjoyed her life on the farm and was glad to have Pearl and me come to the homeplace to visit even without our parents. I remember going out to the large asparagus bed under the huge old oak tree and watching her cut the tender shoots for a meal. She was the one who put me to bed at night and once in the daytime because I had been naughty. I do not know what I had done but that was dire punishment.

Lillie had great energy, was strong in body and strong in her affection for her mother and father, my mother, Pearl and me, her 3 brothers, of course, and later her small grand nephews and nieces.

When the farm was sold she and Diana came to us in Chicago while Lillie attended Business College for a year. She secured a good position in an Abstract office in Waukegan (the town made famous by Jack Benny) and she with her mother lived there for about 12 years. Nearly every two weeks they would come to us on Friday evening staying until about 5 o'clock on Sunday. It was fun, we went window and other shopping, made home-made ice cream in summer, popping corn in winter, patronized a particular store where the owner made delicious candies. Our visits to Waukegan were along the same lines of activity.

When her health broke down a change was necessary. From time to time she was with our families but she and her mother never kept a separate home again. A few years after her mother died her health worsened but she lived until 1958 when she died in Rochester, Minn. Her grave is next to her mother's in the Clinton Cemetery.



Brent

CLINT

SHANE

Robert

SHERI

b. S.D.  
M. Rodney PETERSON

Robert

b. 8 MAY 1918 S.D.  
M. Lois Lubell  
Div.  
M. Shirley Vickland

Cynthia

b. S.D.  
M. LARRY Toft

CHAD Michael

CAMI Michelle

E. PEARL Hill

b. 12 MAR 1884  
ILL.

d. 20 Feb. 1917

d. 2 Nov 1975

bur. Salem S.D.

ARTHUR E.

b. 8 Nov. 1919 SD  
M. Ruth Finch (elec.)

BARBARA

b. 12 MAR — CAL  
M. Dennis WEST

Raymond ELLIS

RICHARD K

b. 24 April 1921 S.D  
M. Virginia Pelly  
4 Dec. 1942

JOAN MARIE

b. 20 Oct 1944 N. Mex.  
M. Summer (Bob) PETERS  
17 June 1979

RICHARD CRAIG

b. 26 Mar. 1944 CAL  
M. Rhodine — 6 MAR. 1971  
(b. 14 JAN 1951)

DONALD W.

b. 29 JAN. 1923 S.D.

DANIEL G. JESSER  
b. 23 MAR. 1952  
CAL

COREY DAVID  
b. 14 Aug 1957  
CAL

Adopted

Kimberly  
b. 30 Nov. 1957  
CAL

Phyllis Louise  
b. 11 Dec 1917 Ohio  
M. 6 MAR. 1943  
DIV 1975

Kelly CAROLYN  
b. 18 Apr. 1963  
CAL  
d. 24 MAR. 1979  
bur. Cour d'Alene, Id.

Mabel Hill  
b. 9 Apr. 1892 Ill  
M. 26 Dec 1914  
div. 1937

Albert JESSER  
b. 5 Apr. 1915  
Penn.

Jennifer Ann  
b. 6 Oct. 1966

Daniel M Collette  
b. 5 MAR. 1891  
d. 10 Aug 1975

Jo Ellen  
b. 28 July 1944 CAL  
M. 9 Oct. 1965 - LAVON WARREN

ELAINE MARIE  
b. 26 May 1968

San Christian  
b. 1 Aug 1946 Ohio

Pasha Collette  
b. 28 Sept 1976

Ruth  
b. 20 Nov 1921 Minn  
M. 8 Sept 1943

SUSAN Adelaide  
b. 10 May 1950 WASH  
M. 2 July 1972 DUANE Green

Mathew Jordan  
b. 18 MAY 1979

Harold S. Anderson  
b. 2 Aug 1921 Ohio

HAROLD S.  
b. 12 Aug 1964 WASH

Chart for Ancestors of F. W. Hill

(PATERAL)

SAMUEL HILL  
d. 1809

GEORGE LITTLEWOOD HILL  
1788 - 1887

CLARISSA HOLLOWAY  
1762 - 1841

BENJAMIN THOMAS HILL  
1836 - 1897

W. LEWIS HICKMAN  
1776 - 1842

LOUISA VENICE A. HICKMAN  
1802 - 1885

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HILL  
1864 - 1932

DIANA REESE

(REV.) HENRY HICKMAN  
1753 - 1801  
*Clarissa*

PHOEBE EASTMAN

LAURENCE THOMPSON  
1755 - 1835

REBECCA HART  
1762 - 1837  
son of  
Clarissa

SR. SARAH FRANKLIN THOMPSON  
1782 - 1848

CLINTON A. STORR B.F. HULL

MARK II

MARK I

REZIEB HART

CATHARINE HART  
1734-1782

SARAH SIMPSON  
1744-1784

LAWRENCE THOMPSON

THOMAS HART

THOMAS HART

—

THOMAS RICE

SUSAN RICE

MARGARET HOUSE

RICHARD SIMPSON

RICHARD SIMPSON, JR.

Sarah —

John Kinschloe

MARY Kinschloe

ELIZABETH CARTERBURY

CORNELIUS Kinschloe

John CARTERBURY  
Ruth WILLIAMS  
CHART II

Chart III

Chart IV

B. F. Hill

Thomas Hickman

MARY PASCAL

Edwin Hickman

Thomas Thacker  
Chart VIII

MARtha Thacker

JAMES Hickman

HENRY WEBBER

ELLINOR WEBBER

JANE

(REV) HENRY Hickman

(SIS) EDWIN LEWIS

Jeba LEWIS  
b. ca 1640

DAVID LEWIS

HARRAH LEWIS

PhEBE EASTMAN

ROBERT TERREL

WILLIAM TERREL

ANN TERRELL

SUSANNAH WATERS

TABLE FOR STUDENT WORKS 10, 7, 17, 14, 4


ROGER WILLIAMS

RUTH WILLIAMS

JOHN DANIEL FRITH

JANE FRITH

JOHN CANTERBURY

SARAH





CHART OF INVESTORS OF FULLER CHARTER SCHOOL

THOMAS TERRELL

CHARTER

CHARTER V

CHARTER

CHARTER

CHARTER

CHARTER

CHARTER

HUMPHREY TERRELL  
d. Jan. 15, 1548

GEORGE TERRELL  
d. May 16, 1571

JANE TABLETON

WILLIAM TERRELL

SIR EDWARD MONTAGUE

ELEANOR MONTAGUE

ROBERT TERRELL

WILLIAM RICHMOND

MARGARET RICHMOND

MARJORY CHUTE

ELIZABETH Le Bruya

CHRISTOPHER'S BEST COPY OF THE WILL OF SIR JOHN VI

SIR HUGH TYRELL

JEANNE FLAMBERT

(SIR) WILLIAM HERON

(SIR) JAMES TYRELL

MARGARET HERON

(SIR) WILLIAM SWYNEFORD

(SIR) WALTER TYRELL

ANN SWYNEFORD

(SIR) JOHN TYRELL

MARGARET (ALICE) JOGGESSALL  
d. 1537

THOMAS TYRELL

(SIR) WILLIAM MAREY

(SIR) JOHN MAREY  
d. 1476

ANNE MAREY

ALIZABETH SERGEAUX

(SIR) RICHARD SERGEAUX

AGNES THRECKMORTON

RICHARD FITZALAN

PHILLIPA FITZALAN

ISABELLE DESPENSER  
CHARTE

Sh. IF. An. Tol. R. F. Hill. C. B. Chastell. 44

HUGH DESPENSER  
1262 - 1326

ISABELLE DESPENSER

GILBERT DE CLARE  
1243 - 1295

ELEANOR DE CLARE  
d. 6-30-1337

\* JOAN INDIRECT  
DESCENT FROM  
ALFRED THE GREAT  
d-904

\* JOAN PLANTAGENET  
1272 - 1307

LAST OF THE PLANTAGENETS

CHARTER HOUSE

BRATTLE

CLARK I, II, III

HERRY THACKER

THOMAS THACKER

ELTCHHEAD CONWAY

(SIR) EDWIN CONWAY  
b. 1610

MARtha ELTCHHEAD

EDWARD CONWAY

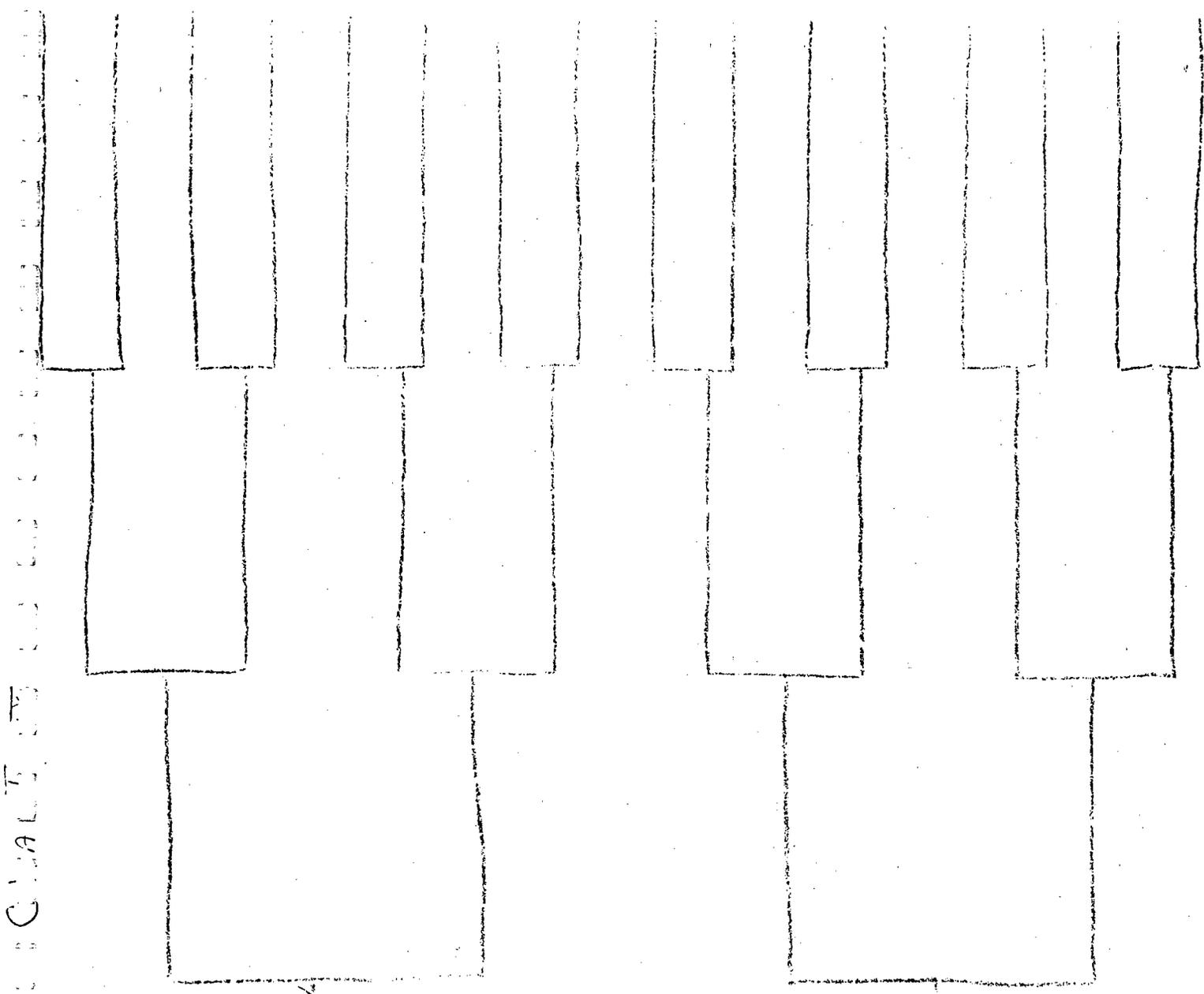
FRANCES Popham

(SIR) EDWARD CONWAY

FRANCES BURGETTE

(SIR) FRANCIS Popham

CHART FOR ANCESTORS B. F. HILL



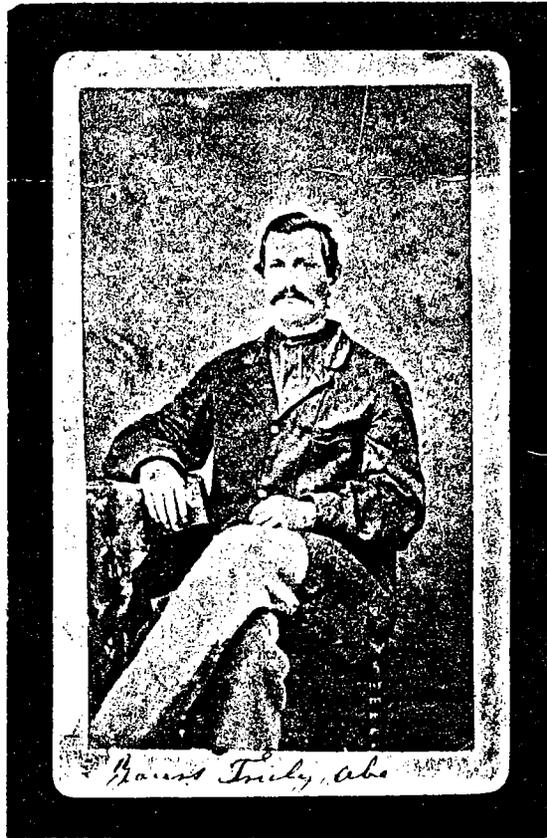
NATHANIEL HICKMAN

THOMAS HICKMAN

AVIS

MARY PASCAL

KETCHAM



Abram Jay Ketcham

picture taken during service in  
Union Army, Civil War, 1861-1865

"Gem Photograph Gallery"  
Henry Slatler, proprietor  
Markham Street

Opposite Head-quarters

Little Rock, Arkansas

## KETCHAM

According to Melchard Helmer Kutch author of "The Ketcham and Kutch Families", published in 1938 in Pasadena, California (now out of print but found in some libraries) the earliest known man with the name of Ketcham was Sir Rowland Ketcham, Knight of Wales in the 16th century. We claim no family tie to this Knight but isn't it fun to speculate.

The Edward Ketcham who came to America in 1635 is said to be the common ancestor of Ketchams in this country. He came to Ipswich, Massachusetts and became a Freeman on 9 March 1637. By the early 1700's many Ketchams had settled in New York State, Orange and Dutchess counties among others; some of the families had gone to New Jersey.

The Federal census-1840- for Springfield Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania is the earliest record found of our direct Ketcham ancestors. Although the Head of Household is the only member listed by name in this population count, we have placed names to those listed. Search of all available records and family stories give credence to our decisions in this matter.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>BIRTHPLACE</u>
Samuel	50	N.Y. OR N.J. (unable to read)
Sarah	42	Pa.
Mary	22	Pa.
Ellen	20	Pa.
Hiram	17	Pa.
Rhoda	10	Pa.
Marvin	9	Pa.
Martha	3	Pa.
Abram Jay	2	Pa.
unknown male	50-60	Pa.
unknown female	80-90	Pa.

Emanuel, another son of Samuel and Sarah, was also found on this 1840 census and from the number on census report he and his family were living close to his Ketcham parents.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>BIRTHPLACE</u>
Emanuel	22	Pa.
Jane Sherman	22	unable to read
George	infant	Pa.

Although the 1840 census could indicate that Abram was a son of Samuel and Sarah, he was actually the son of Mary. Certainly Abram's children knew Mary Ketcham, later Mrs. Henry Sargeant, as their grandmother. Effie, Abram's oldest child, when questioned a few months before her death, said and insisted that her grandmother's maiden name was Ketcham. Although this could be true there are some indications that Effie was confused. If Mary had been a child of Samuel and Sarah, she and Emanuel would have been twins. There was never any mention of such a possibility though twins in other branches of the family were discussed. Mary could have been a Ketcham cousin. There were other Ketcham families living near-by. We do know that Mary was an important part of the Ketcham family. Sarah, mother or mother-in-law, lived in Mary's home during her last years after Samuel had died and the family had moved to Illinois. Since Abram, Hiram, Mary and John Gladding (Rhoda's husband) died soon after the Civil War leaving young wives and children in dire circumstances the name of Abram's father and any particulars of his life have been lost.

Two weddings took place in 1841. On January 7th Mary and William Henry Sargeant were married and later that year Ellen Ketcham married John Sargeant. William, called Henry by family and in future census reports, and John were brothers, sons of William and Huldah Sargeant. John and Ellen were not found in the 1850 census for Bradford County.

Mary and Henry Sargeant testified many years later that they had been present at the wedding of Rhoda Ketcham and John Gladding held in Bradford County on October 19, 1849. The ceremony was performed by a C. Wilder, Justice of the Peace of that County.

State of Illinois's  
County of LaSalle

On this 24 day of March 1865 personally came before me, Henry Sargeant and Mary C. Sargeant, who being duly sworn deposed and said that they were present at Springfield, Bradford Co. Pennsylvania on the 19th day of October 1849 and saw John C. Gladding married to Rhoda C. Ketcham by Chas. Wilder, a Justice of the Peace, that they are not interested in Pension Claim of Rhoda C. Gladding

Henry Sargeant  
Mary C. Sargeant

The constant use of census records must be accepted by the reader as the best and often the only available source of information of the events in the lives of our Ketchams in Pennsylvania.

The 1850 schedule lists three of our Ketcham families living on adjoining properties. John Gladding, wife Rhoda and their year old son, Hiram, were on one side of Samuel and Sarah, Henry Sargeant, wife Mary with children Clinton, Alice and Zachary Taylor on the other side of the Ketcham parents.

Marvin and Martha were not found after the 1850 census schedule and we have no knowledge of their lives after this date. Although others of the family were talked about by Effie no mention of these two were ever made.

Emanuel and family appeared to have left Bradford County by 1850 but they will show again in later years as living close to brothers and sisters in Illinois.

The assumption that Samuel died in the early 1850's is reflected in the 1860 census report. By that year the Ketcham families (not found are Marvin and Martha) had left Bradford County and gathered in Winfield Township, Dupage County, Illinois. Hiram (not found in 1850 census) and mother Sarah were living with Henry and Mary Ketcham Sargeant in their home in the town of Turner.

As in many families in the United States, 1861 brought changes for our Ketcham family that had results not imagined in those early days of the Civil War. John Gladding, Hiram and Abram enlisted in the Union Army, all 3 men serving in Company "K", 13th Illinois Regiment. John, 30 years old, served as Captain, Hiram was mustered in as 3rd Sergeant and Abram entered the service with the rank of Corporal.

John Gladding was the first to return. He had become ill while in the service, had been returned home and died December 30, 1862. and is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in West Chicago. His widow, Rhoda, and son, Hiram, were then living in Naperville, Ill. In 1870 20 year old Hiram Gladding was a blacksmith apprentice and lived in the home of a William Sweet and, according to the census number, next door to Abram and his family. In 1875 Hiram married Annie Ward and they with Rhoda moved to Ellisville, Ill. In 1878 Rhoda married a James F. White and after his death lived with Hiram until she died in 1891.

Hiram, the second of our Ketcham Civil War soldiers, returned to Turner in 1865. He then married Lucinda, niece of Emanuel's wife, and according to the 1870 census the couple had real estate valued at \$2,000 and personal worth of \$500. In 1873 there was an accident on a bridge and Hiram died of injuries resulting from this mishap leaving Lucinda, 40, and children, Fred Ray 8 and Anna M just 5 years old.

It was finding that Hiram's Will was witnessed by "brother Emanuel" and had named "nephew Abram Jay Ketcham as Executor" that gave us the first breakthrough in piecing together the early life and family relationships of Abram. Alice Dieter, Hiram's great-granddaughter, has a copy of this Will and shared the information with us.

Abram, third member of the Ketcham family to enlist into the Union Army, was born on 6 October 1838 in Springfield Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania. As written earlier in this paper, it seems certain that he was reared in his Ketcham grandparents' home which, from the 1850 census number, was next door to the Henry Sargeant house and therefore; next door to his mother after she remarried.

Although it is not known when Abram went to Depage County, Ill. it was presemably about 1854 with the other Ketcham and Sargeant relatives.

He enlisted in the Union Army in September, 1861 from Wayne, Dupage County and was inducted in October, 1861 in Aurora, Ill. His papers show that he had dark hair, eyes and complexion and was 5 feet 10 inches tall. Abram served in 3 Ill. regiments; the 36th Regiment Ill. Volunteers, 13th Regiment Ill. Volunteers and Company 1, 56th Regiment Ill. Infrantry. His official military record shows that in the fall of 1861 he was "acting Lt" in Fortifications at Rolla, Missouri. He re-enlisted and his subsequent service rank was Sargant. At one time during his last year of service Abram acted as "Nurse". He told his oldest daughter Effie of being taken prisoner and of being at Andersonville. Although his papers do not reflect this, many soldiers were captured and escaped very quickly and no record was made. Since all other stories that were told thru out the years have been proven to be true, we see no reason to doubt this one.

Abram was mustered out of the army at Little Rock, Arkanas in 1865 returning to Turner, Ill. where he became a Stone Mason. On the 18th of April, 1866 he and Emily A. Beardsley were married. Emily's parents, Price and Hannah, sister and 3 brothers also lived in Dupage County.

Abram and Emily had 4 daughters and 1 son

Effie Viola	6 July 1867
Nellie May	11 July 1869
Mary Edna	16 May 1871
Clinton Howard	30 August 1874
Cora Elizabeth	14 January 1877

Illness had plagued Abram during his service in the army and increasingly bad health became a serious problem in the 10 years following his discharge. He had to give up his craft, worked for a short while as a town constable and finally applied for a War disability pension in 1876. This pension was approved. His pension application states that he had suffered "inflammatory rheumatism which caused a disease of the heart" while in service in the south. He further stated that he had been treated for these in his Company's camps and in an ambulance while with General Sherman in Georgia. Although no further effort has been made to find all the places or battles Abram was in, Effie talked of Missionary Ridge, Knoxville, Chattenooga, Lookout Mountain and, at least, a portion of Sherman's March to the Sea. Abram's service papers from the National Archives in Washinton D.C. indicate that Effie was correct in repeating stories her father had told her.

In September of 1877, shortly before his 39th birthday, Abram Jay Ketcham died. He was buried in the old cemetery in West Chicago but in 1905 his remains were removed to the cemetery lot of his son, Clinton, in the Oakwood Cemetery in West Chicago. Abram's name and "Co. K, 13th Regiment I-V Inf." are inscribed on one side of the Ketcham monument. The date of death, September 18, 1877, is correct but the birthdate should read October 6, 1838.

Abram was a great admiror of General U.S. Grant. When Effie was very young her father took her to Chicago to see the General when he was in a parade thru the "loop". She remembered how her father, anxious for her to see and remember the great man, put her up on his shoulders so she could see over the crowd.

His children carried loving memories of their father and talked to their children and grandchildren about him. There were 10 grandchildren, 3 are still living and I (MLG) am now the oldest.

With Abram's death a sad situation faced his widow, Emily. There was little money and when a friend told her that he was going to his home via Washington C.C. she entrusted Abram's discharge papers to him for filing for a widow's pension. No one knows what happened for no claim was filed nor was he ever heard from again. (When I was at the National Archives in Washington D.S. in 1950 I saw Abram's Military records. I asked to see any widow's claim and was satisfied that none had been made on Emily's or any other one's behalf.) (MLG)

No doubt the related families rallied around Abram's family but a few months after his death Emily placed the 3 older girls in the Soldiers and Sailors home in Normal, Illinois. Effie was 10 years old, Nell was 8 and Mary (called Mame by her family) was 7. Effie stayed for 4 years, Nell and Mame for 6-7 years or until they were 14 when they could no longer be cared for in the Home. Efforts to find Home records of them have been unsuccessful but the 1880 Federal census schedule shows the 3 Ketcham girls as living there.

State Illinois County McLean 1880 census

Street name & House number	Dwelling number	Family number	3 Name of each person living in this household 1 June 1880	4 Color	5 Sex	6 Age last birthday prior to 1880	7 If born within census year give month	8 Relationship to head of family
	1	2	Soldiers and Sailors Orphan Home, Normal, Illinois					
			Ch. Virginia C. Superintendent under Inmates					
			Ketcham, Effie V		W F	12		
			Nellie W		F	10		
			Mary		F	9		

A letter written by Nellie, 2 months before her death in May of 1950, tells of her father's concern and love, saying, "he knew he was going to die and worried about what was to become to his little girls..." This is a typed copy of her letter.

#### A BIOGRAPHY OF YOUR MOTHER'S YOUNG LIFE

Dear Mabel:

Pearl was asking me a little about your mother's young life and I thought perhaps you might want to know too as Pearl said she never told you much. Well our father died in 1877 leaving 5 small children. Your mother ten years old was the oldest. We had a christian father, a great worker in the Methodist church. He had been sick for several years and of course knew he was going to die. and said to Grandma, "I don't know what is going to become of my little girls". He believed in prayer and always taught us to pray and we were always taught to attend Sunday school.

But after his death our mother did not know which way to turn and to make it worse our Grandmother, 59 years old, died the same year. (Our father's mother, Mary Sargeant) and we were left with only a step-grandfather who was very good to us. But of course did not have the same interest in us that our Grandmother had.

So your Mother, Aunt Mame and Myself were placed in the Soldier's Orphans Home at Normal, Illinois. Your mother was there for four years. Aunt Mame and I were there for five years. Then at 14 years of age your mother could not stay at the orphanage so she came back to West Chicago (then Turner) and went to school there for awhile. Then one of our father's aunts took her to live with them and sent her to school in Ellisville, Ill.

At the age of 16 or 17 she came back and helped in the Post Office and also there was a coal and lumber office in the same building and when she wasn't in the Post Office she took care of the coal office. Then she got a chance to go to Downers Grove, Ill. to work and learn to sew with a Mrs. Persons who was a widow with one son

and later on they moved to Clinton, Ill. and there was where she met your father.

I have said so many times that our father's prayers were answered. No one could say a thing against us. They could have said we were poor which was true. As our mother use to say, "I have 5 Ketchams and not a bad one among them".

Your mother was always a perfect lady in her young days and always she traveled with the best in town, was always more reserved than Aunt Mame and myself. We would run a race, climb trees and so forth, but not your mother, she would sit and read books and always so quiet.

Pearl asked me my father's name. It was Abram Jay Ketcham, died at the age of 38 years or would have been the 6th of October. He died in September 1877.

---

In 1878 Emily Ketcham married William E. Gloss, a divorced man with a son Ed who lived with Emily and Mr. Gloss and a daughter Gertie who stayed with her natural mother. Mr. Gloss was a Civil War veteran and in his first marriage had lived near to members of the Beardsley family.

A Mr. and Mrs. Clark who, I believe, may have had some distant family connection had wanted to adopt the baby Cora. She and her brother Clint were inseparable and it wasn't until she was 3 years old that Emily agreed to the adoption. Aunt Cora told Phyllis, Ruth and me of her memories of being taken from her beloved brother, both children protesting and weeping bitterly. As far as we know, the adoption took place in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.

The Clarks went to North Dakota to live taking their own son Walter, about 10 years old, and their new little daughter. Fortunately, Walter was very fond of Cora and was very good to her and she, in turn, always felt close to him. It is a fact, though sad, that Cora never fully forgave her mother for giving her up. No matter how reconciled on the surface she said, "still underneath was that hurt".

Within a few years, the Clarks returned to Chicago where Cora went to school but had no contact with her real family.

It became evident that Mr. Gloss did not want to be burdened with the 3 older Ketcham girls and a good relationship between them was never established. He and Emily had a daughter, Jessie, and a son, Frank.

Effie left school in Normal at age 14, spent a year with a great-aunt (Rhoda Ketcham Gladding White) in Ellisville, Illinois, returned to West Chicago where she continued in school and worked in the Post Office and in a Coal Yard Office. At age 17 she went to Downers Grove to learn dress making under the tutelage of a Mrs. Persons. In 1886 Mrs. Persons took Effie to Clinton, Illinois where she met Frank Hill, the man she was to marry in 1887.

Nellie and Mame remained in the Normal School for Soldier and Sailor Orphans until they were 14 years old. They then, I believe, returned to their mother's home and were looked after in the Gloss home. (I know that all 3 older girls felt uncomfortable about their stepfather and he was always spoken to and about as "Mr. Gloss". MLG)

Mame married young, Nell worked and married later in life. Clint became a conductor on the Northwestern Road passenger trains. I rode with him many times and remember the twinkle in his eyes as he came through the cars. He married Myrthe Lee and they had two sons, Raymond and Joseph.

The children of Abram and Emily had a mutual trait, the ability to see the humor in life, to laugh, enjoy and love each other. Emily had a happy-go-lucky disposition. I like to think the children had those traits from both parents.

All but Mame had dark brown eyes like their father's. Mame had clear, bright blue eyes much like her mother's eyes were.

(If I write in a sentimental way about my grandfather whom I never knew I should be forgiven. How could I not feel this way for that is how his children thought of him, loving and loved and talked so of him always. MLG)

In 1887 Effie in Clinton met a young man, Frank Hill, 3 years older than she. They were married on May 1, 1887 in the Baptist Church in that town. He had attended Shepardson College, Granville, Ohio and in 1887 was teaching in a country school near Clinton. (Shepardson College later was absorbed into Denison, a Baptist University still in existence. Note for Jesser and Anderson children: your great-grandfather Collette and his brothers and sisters also attended Shepardson College.)

Frank and Effie spent the next two years in Rantoul, Illinois where he was Superintendent. Effie attended High School for a short time, her hair in a plait and fellow students not aware that she was the new wife of their superintendent. In 1889 Pearl was born and the young family went to Chicago to live where Frank became Principal of an elementary school, Oakland #2.

I cannot tell how close contact Effie had with her family although I remember her taking us as very young children to see her mother in West Chicago, to Batavia where Nell lived with her husband Tom McBreen, to Geneva to Beardsley cousins and to Warrenville where Mame and husband Jack Wallace had a flour mill.

Mr. Gloss was "just that" to Pearl and to me but we loved our grandmother. Occassionally she came to Chicago to visit us. When I was about 10 Mr. Gloss was killed by a train or switch engine as he crossed the Northwestern Railroad tracks at night and Emily was left alone with her son Frank and daughter Jessie. She kept house, cared for her many flowers and whistled or sang as she went about her work. She was given a Civil War widow's pension through Mr. Gloss' army service. To my regret we did not ask her about our grandfather Abram. I do remember her mentioning "your father" to Effie but she never talked to Pearl and me of him. Emily died on the 20th of October 1937 at 93 years old.

In 1905 Myrtle Lee Ketcham died of a heart condition and Clint bought a cemetery lot in West Chicago. As mentioned, he had the remains of Abram re-interred there, a great source of satisfaction to the entire family. Finally Clint took his 2 small sons and went to

live with Emily, his mother, who raised them to young manhood.

I, the 2nd daughter of Effie and Frank, was born in Chicago in 1892. When I was 4-5 years old a charming young woman and her friend came to my father's office at school. She told him she was Cora Ketcham, Effie's youngest sister. As soon as she had come of age she had tried to find her sisters, a task made most difficult as Mrs. Clark was unhappy over any mention of Cora's family. While the Clarks were acceptable parents, Cora had never forgotten her Ketcham family. Mrs. Clark's feeling were understandable but Cora, in secret, kept up her plan to find them. Thru some source she heard that Effie had married a school principal in Chicago whose name was Hill. She found the school and simply went to see him/ As this was before telephones were prevalent it was his custom to send either Pearl or me home early enough to warn Mother that guests would be arriving for lunch. As I was too young for school on this great day it would have been Pearl. Mother went to open the door and the two sisters saw each other for the first time in about 20 years. I am not sure just what happened but it was a dramatic and heartwarming reunion. I can see in my imagination my father standing there without a word watching this thrilling meeting.

It was some years before Cora was entirely reunited and reconcilled with her family, especially her mother. Cora had a brief marriage that ended in divorce and then married Albert Frick, enjoying a beautiful marriage for he was a man of charm and fitted in with the Ketchams and their families. So it was that the 5 children of Abram Ketcham were together again and I can truthfully say that I never saw any happier people than they.

I never knew my father to go to West Chicago with us while Mr. Gloss lived. After the night when about midnight a loud ringing of our doorbell and rapping on the door awakened the family to give us a telegram announcing his death, a slow change came. Frank went with Effie to the funeral though Pearl and I were not taken with them. From then on he joined in the family in get-togethers usally held

## KETCHAM

at the home of Nell and Tom McBreen. The laughter, the talk and the fun that warm group of loving Ketcham relatives had has never been equalled in my life.

After Jack Wallace, Mame's husband, became an innocent victim and was killed in Chicago by a stray bullet fired from a passing car in what apparently was a "gang-war", Mame lived for her children. Lee, the oldest, was then about 14 years old. Roy, the next son, had rheumatic heart disease and died at forty leaving two young sons. Lee had two sons, Leslie had two sons and one daughter and Nellie, the only daughter of Mame and Jack died tragically before she was 30 from a malignant brain tumor leaving a young son and daughter.

Nell and Cora had no children.

Clint married his second wife, Mame Jordan, from which marriage two children were born, Cora and Tom.

Clint's daughter, Cora, recently found gravestones in the Oakwood Cemetery, W. Chicago, Illinois, for Mary and Henry Sargeant and on the same lot stones for Samuel and Sarah Ketcham. The year of death for Samuel was shown as 1856, and finding this gravestone shows we were wrong in our assumption that he did not move to Illinois with the rest of the Ketcham family. The marker that is probably for Sarah is in extremely poor condition and could not be read. Henry Sargeant's stone shows 1888 as the year of his death at the age of 62 years, 3 months and 11 days. This age for Henry would be at variance with the census data we have for him. The stone for Abram's mother is marked, "Mary C. Sargeant, wife of Wm. H. Sargeant, died 1881, aged 56 years, 6 months and 1 day."

The information on Mary's stone adds more confusion as to her age when Abram was born, and certainly does nothing to clear up the mystery of Abram's father. If the marker is correct, and surely Henry must have known his wife's age, then Mary was born in 1825 and would have been just 13 or 14 years old when Abram was born.

K. FCHAM

The story of my grandfather is precious to me. Four years of war with its terrible hardships and the illness that followed him through the last ten years of his life could not have been easy. He left nothing but beautiful memories for his children.

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.

STATE OF  
*Alabama*



TOWN OF  
*Woodville*

I, *Abram Ketchum* born in *Springfield*  
in the State of *Pennsylvania* aged *thirtyfour* years,  
and by occupation a *Soldier* Do HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have  
volunteered this *first* day of *January* 1864;  
to serve as a *Soldier* in the *Army* of the *United States of America*, for the  
period of *THREE YEARS*, unless sooner discharged by proper authority: Do also  
agree to accept such bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, estab-  
lished by law for volunteers. And I, *Abram Ketchum* do  
solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the *United States*  
*of America*, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all  
their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the  
orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers  
appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles of War:

Sworn and subscribed to, at

this *first* day of *January* 1864

BEFORE

*Abram Ketchum*  
*Recruiting Officer 13<sup>th</sup> Regt Inf*

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above-named Volunteer, agreeably  
to the General Regulations of the Army, and that in my opinion he is free from all bodily defects and  
mental infirmity, which would, in any way disqualify him from performing the duties of a soldier.

*C. A. Thompson*  
*1<sup>st</sup> Lt Surge*

EXAMINING SURGEON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Volunteer,  
previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my  
judgment and belief, he is of lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duly qualified to perform the duties  
of an able-bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the Regulations which govern the recruiting service.  
This soldier has *Dark* eyes, *Dark* hair, *Dark* complexion, is *Five* feet *Seven* inches  
high.

*W. S. ... Capt*  
*13<sup>th</sup> Regt of ... Volunteers,*  
RECRUITING OFFICER.

(A. G. O. No. 74.)

*Enlisted into the service of the United States in Company "K" 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment  
of Alabama Volunteers on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 1864 at Woodville Ala  
W. S. ... Capt  
and Company ...  
1st-13<sup>th</sup> Regt of A.R.*

# WEDDING CARDS



THE PEOPLE OF  
THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

De Witt Page County

To any person legally authorized to solemnize Marriage, GREETING:

(You are hereby authorized) To join in the Holy Bonds of matrimony, and to solemnize within this County, the rites and ceremonies of Marriage, between Mr. Walter Stetson and Miss Caroline A. Beardsley new both of said De Witt Page County according to the usual customs laws of this State of Illinois and you are required to return this License to me within thirty days from the date hereof such Marriage with a copy hereof of the same appended thereto, and signed by you under the Penalty of One hundred Dollars.

(In Witness Whereof) I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of said County this fourteenth day of March A.D. 1866

Wm. J. Fisher  
County Clerk

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
COUNTY ) SS

Stamp

I J. H. Brown a Minister of the Gospel hereby certify that on the 14th day of April 1866 I joined in Marriage Mr. & Mrs. Wm. J. Stetson with Caroline A. Beardsley according to the authority given in the above License under my hand issued this 14th day of April A.D. 1866

J. H. Brown  
Minister of the Gospel

Petition of Emma A. Glop in the matter of the Estate of Abraham J. Kelcham deceased, for letters of Guardianship.

To the Hon. R. N. Murray Judge of the County Court of Deu. Page County.

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully represents that Effie J. Kelcham is a minor aged 13 years on the 6 day of July A. D. 1882; that Kelley M. Kelcham is a minor aged 13 years on the 11 day of July A. D. 1882; that Mary C. Kelcham is a minor aged 12 years on the 16 day of March A. D. 1883; that Orville H. Kelcham is a minor aged 7 years on the 30 day of August A. D. 1882; that Anna J. Kelcham is a minor aged 6 years on the 14 day of January A. D. 1883; that \_\_\_\_\_ is a minor aged \_\_\_\_\_ years on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D. 18 \_\_\_\_\_; that \_\_\_\_\_ is a minor aged \_\_\_\_\_ years on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D. 18 \_\_\_\_\_; that \_\_\_\_\_ is a minor aged \_\_\_\_\_ years on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D. 18 \_\_\_\_\_; that \_\_\_\_\_ is a minor aged \_\_\_\_\_ years on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D. 18 \_\_\_\_\_; that \_\_\_\_\_ is a minor, born on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. D. 18 \_\_\_\_\_;

that said minors are residents of this County; that I have no father living, or other legal guardian residing in this State; that said minors are entitled to a pension amounting to about \$1000 dollars.

and that your petitioner is the Mother of and desires to be appointed guardian of said minor.

May 10 1882 Mrs. Emma A. Glop

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }  
Deu. Page COUNTY, } ss.

being duly sworn, deposes and says that the facts averred in the above petition are true according to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Sworn to and subscribed before me M. S. Ellsworth Clerk of the County Court of Deu. Page County, this 15 day of May A. D. 1882 M. S. Ellsworth Clerk.

53

No.

Deu. Page COUNTY COURT.

ESTATE OF Abraham Kelcham Deceased.

PETITION OF Emma A. Glop FOR GUARDIANSHIP.

Filed May 15 1882 M. S. Ellsworth Clerk.

*Prayer of Petitioner granted & amount paid Appointed guardian by me May 15 1882 R. N. Murray Co Judge*

# LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }  
Du Page COUNTY, } ss.

In the County Court, May Term, A. D. 1882

The People of the State of Illinois to Emma A. Glass  
of said County, Greeting:

WHEREAS, at the May Term of the County Court of  
said County, A. D. 1882, holden at Wheaton you were, by  
order of said Court, duly entered of record on the 15<sup>th</sup> day  
of said month, duly appointed Guardian for Effie V. Ketchum,  
Nellie M. Ketchum, Mary E. Ketchum,  
Clinton H. Ketchum - Cora E. Ketchum.

Trusting in your fidelity, therefore, the said Court does by these presents constitute  
and appoint you to be Guardian unto said minors, and authorize and empower you  
to take and have the care of their persons and the custody and management  
of their property, and frugally, without waste or destruction, to improve and  
account for the same in all things according to law.

WITNESS, W. S. Ellsworth Clerk of  
the County Court of Du Page County,  
and the Seal of said Court, this 15<sup>th</sup>  
day of May A. D. 1882

W. S. Ellsworth  
Clerk of the County Court.

Du Page County Court.

ESTATE OF

Abraham Ketchum  
Deceased.

LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP  
TO

Emma A. Glass

Book .....

Order No. ....

Page .....

Filed May 15<sup>th</sup> 1882

Recorded in Book 5 Page 42

Attest:

W. S. Ellsworth  
Clerk.

# GUARDIAN'S BOND.

Know all Men by these Presents, That we, Emma A. Gless  
Joseph W. Smith John Clark

of the County of DuPage and State of Illinois, are held and firmly bound unto the People of the State of Illinois, for the use of Effie W. Ketchum  
Nellie M. Ketchum, Mary E. Ketchum, Clinton H. Ketchum, & Bora L. Ketchum in the penal sum of Twenty one hundred Dollars, current money of the United States, which payment, well and truly to be made and performed, we, and each of us, do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators and assigns, jointly, severally and firmly by these presents.

Witness our hands and seals this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May A. D. 1882

The Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the above bounden Emma A. Gless who has been appointed to the Guardianship of the estate of Effie W. Ketchum, Nellie M. Ketchum, Mary E. Ketchum, Clinton H. Ketchum, and Bora L. Ketchum

shall faithfully discharge the office and trust of such Guardian according to law, and shall make a true inventory of all the real and personal estate of the wards that shall come to her possession or knowledge, and return the same unto the County Court of DuPage County, at the time required by law, and manage and dispose of all such estate, according to law, and for the best interest of said wards and faithfully discharge her trust in relation thereto, and render an account, on oath, of the property in her hands, and of the management and disposition of all such estate within one year after her appointment, and at such other time as shall be required by law, or directed by the Court; and upon removal from office, or at the expiration of her trust, settle her accounts in said Court, or with the wards or her legal representatives, and pay over and deliver all the estate, title papers and effects remaining in her hands, or due from her on such settlement, to the person or persons lawfully entitled thereto, then this obligation shall be void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.



Scaled and Delivered in Presence of  
Mrs. Emma A. Gless SEAL  
Joseph W. Smith SEAL  
John Clark SEAL  
Clerk of the County Court.

53  
DuPage County Court.  
ESTATE OF  
Abraham Ketchum  
DECEASED.  
GUARDIAN'S BOND.  
(ESTATE ONLY.)  
Book Page Order No.

FILED AND APPROVED by the Court this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 1882 and recorded in Book 131  
M. S. Ellsworth  
COUNTY CLERK.

Approved May 15<sup>th</sup> 1882  
Richard W. Smith  
County Judge.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, } ss. W. J. Spence  
County of DuPage, }  
Emma A. Gless and Joseph W. Smith  
John Clark in and for said County and State, do hereby certify that

who are each personally known to me to be the same persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered said instrument as their free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes as therein set forth.

Given under my hand and seal, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May A. D. 1882



W. J. Spence  
Notary Public

# Application of Guardian of Minor Children IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ARMY PENSION, Act July 14, 1862.

This Declaration must be made before a Judge or Clerk of Court of Record, or some officer having custody of its seal.

State of Illinois }  
County of Deu Page } ss.

ON THIS 15<sup>th</sup> day of May A. D. one thousand eight hundred

and Eighty two, personally appeared before the Clerk of the Circuit Court of

the Deu Page County Illinois, Emma A. Glass

a resident of Warrenville in the County of Deu Page and

State of Illinois aged 38 years who, being duly sworn

according to law, doth on oath make the following Declaration as Guardian of the minor children

of Abram J. Ketchum

deceased, in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the Act of Congress approved July 14, 1862,

granting Pensions to minor children, under sixteen years of age, of deceased Officers and Soldiers; that he is the

guardian of Effie V. Nellie M. Mary E. Clinton H. & Cora S. Ketchum

whose father was a Lieut in Company I, commanded by Captain Mark

M. Evans in the 56<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Illinois Veteran

Infantry, commanded by Colonel Hall

in the war of 1861; and that the said Abram J. Ketchum died

at Warrenville Ill. on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September

in the year A. D. 1877; that his death was caused by Rheumatism contracted

while in the military service; that the mother of the child was married

on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October A. D. 1878, and that the date of birth of his said ward

is as follows: Effie V. July 6<sup>th</sup> 1867, Nellie M. July 11<sup>th</sup> 1869

Mary E. March 15<sup>th</sup> 1871, Clinton H. Aug 30<sup>th</sup> 1874, Cora S. Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 1877

of Warrenville

He further declares that the parents of his said wards were married at Warrenville

Ill. on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year eighteen hundred and Eighty

Dis. by J. H. Brown a Minister of the Gospel

She also declares that she or his wards have not in any manner been engaged in, or aided or abetted the rebel-

lion in the United States, but have always been true and loyal to the Government of the United States; and she hereby

authorizes and empowers Stockard Ho of Washington D.C. to prosecute this claim, and to receive and receipt for any certificate or draft that may be

Signature of Claimant: Mrs Emma A. Glass

**AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESSES.**

Also personally appeared Joseph W. Smith and John  
W. Sargent, residents of Deu Page County  
of Illinois, State of Illinois, persons

whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who being by me duly sworn, say that were present

and saw Emma A. Glass sign her name to the foregoing declaration;

that they are well acquainted with the applicant, and the child Abram J. Ketchum of the said Warrenville

and know them to be the identical persons represented, and that they have no interest

in the prosecution of this claim; that the name & age of the child son of Abram J. Ketchum

under sixteen years of age at his decease his follows:

Effie V. Nellie M. Mary E. Clinton H. and  
Cora S. Ketchum

That the mother of the said child was deceased on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May

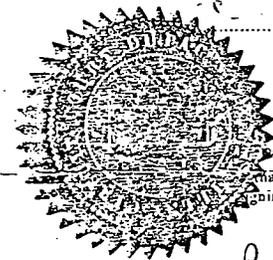
A. D. 1882; that the parents of said child was were married at Warrenville

on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April A. D. 1866; that said

guardian and child was have not in any way been engaged in, or aided or abetted the rebellion, but have always

been true and loyal to the Government of the United States. That they are able to state the foregoing facts from

the following circumstances:



Signature of Witnesses: Joseph W. Smith  
John W. Sargent

described before me, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May A. D. 1882

that I read the foregoing declaration to claimant and witnesses and acquainted them with

going, and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim

Signature of officer: Thomas M. Hill  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Deu Page County Ill.

State of Illinois }  
County of Deu Page } ss.

Stockard Ho  
Washington D.C.  
OFFICE  
ARMY 25. 1882 S  
WASHINGTON

See Ord. No. 223.037

St. R. J. Ketchum  
9-56-Deu Page Ill.

DECLARATION FOR  
MINOR CHILDREN,  
IN  
ORDER TO OBTAIN ARMY PENSION.

This form of fee contract is prescribed by the Commissioner of Pensions and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, July 8, 1884, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved July 1, 1884.

TO BE EXECUTED IN DUPLICATE WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COST TO CLAIMANT.

# ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS I, Emma A. Glass guardian  
children of A. J. Kitchum, late a private in Company  
J., of the 56 Regiment of Ill. vet. Inf. Volunteers, war of 1861  
having made application for pension under the laws of the United States —

NOW THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH: That for and in consideration of services done and to be done in the premises, I hereby agree to allow my agents, STODDART & CO., of Washington, D. C., the fee of TWENTY-FIVE dollars, which shall include all amounts to be paid for any services in the furtherance of said claim; and said fee shall not be demanded by or payable to my said agents, in whole or in part, except in case of the granting of my pension by the Commissioner of Pensions; and that the same shall be paid to them in accordance with the provisions of sections 4768 and 4769 of the Revised Statutes, U. S.

James H. Casaleg  
A. W. Morgan  
(Signatures of two Witnesses)

Emma A. Glass  
(Signature of Claimant)  
Lawrence Illinois  
(Post-office Address)

State of Illinois, County of De Page, ss:

BE IT KNOWN, that on this the 17th day of August, A. D. 1885, personally appeared Emma A. Glass the above named, who, after having had read over to her in the hearing and presence of the two attesting witnesses the contents of the foregoing articles of agreement, voluntarily signed and acknowledged the same to be her free act and deed.

[L. S.]

Dr. J. Wilson  
(Official Signature) Notary Public

And now, to wit, this 17 day of August, A. D. 1885, we accept the provisions contained in the foregoing articles of agreement, and will, to the best of our ability, endeavor faithfully to represent the interest of the claimant in the premises, and we hereby certify that we have received from the claimant above named the sum of two dollars, and no more; two dollars being for fee, and the sum of no dollars being for postage and other expenses. And that these agreements have been executed in duplicate without additional cost to the claimant, as required by law, in excess of the fee above named the said agents making no charge therefor.

Stoddart & Co.  
Armat Stoddart  
(Signature of Agent)

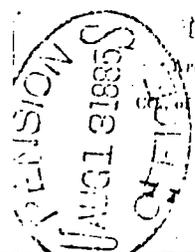
Witness our hand the day and year first above written.  
District of Columbia, County of Washington, ss:

Personally came ARMAT STODDART, whom I know as a member of the firm of STODDART & CO., and who, having signed the above acceptance of agreement, acknowledged the same to be his free act and deed.

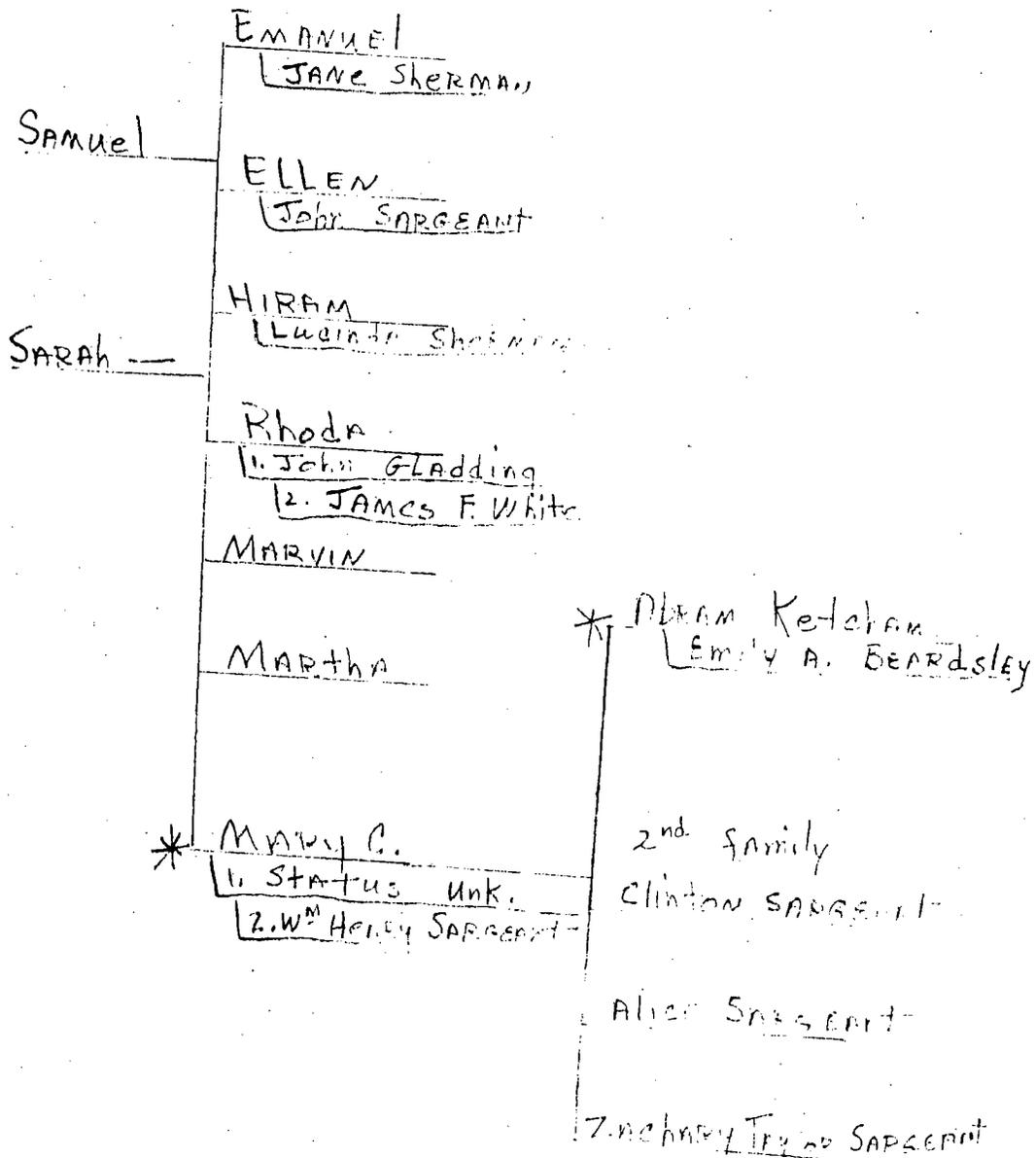
W. M. Deague  
(Official Signature)

APPROVED FOR ..... dollars and paid to STODDART & CO., of Washington, D. C., the recognized attorneys.

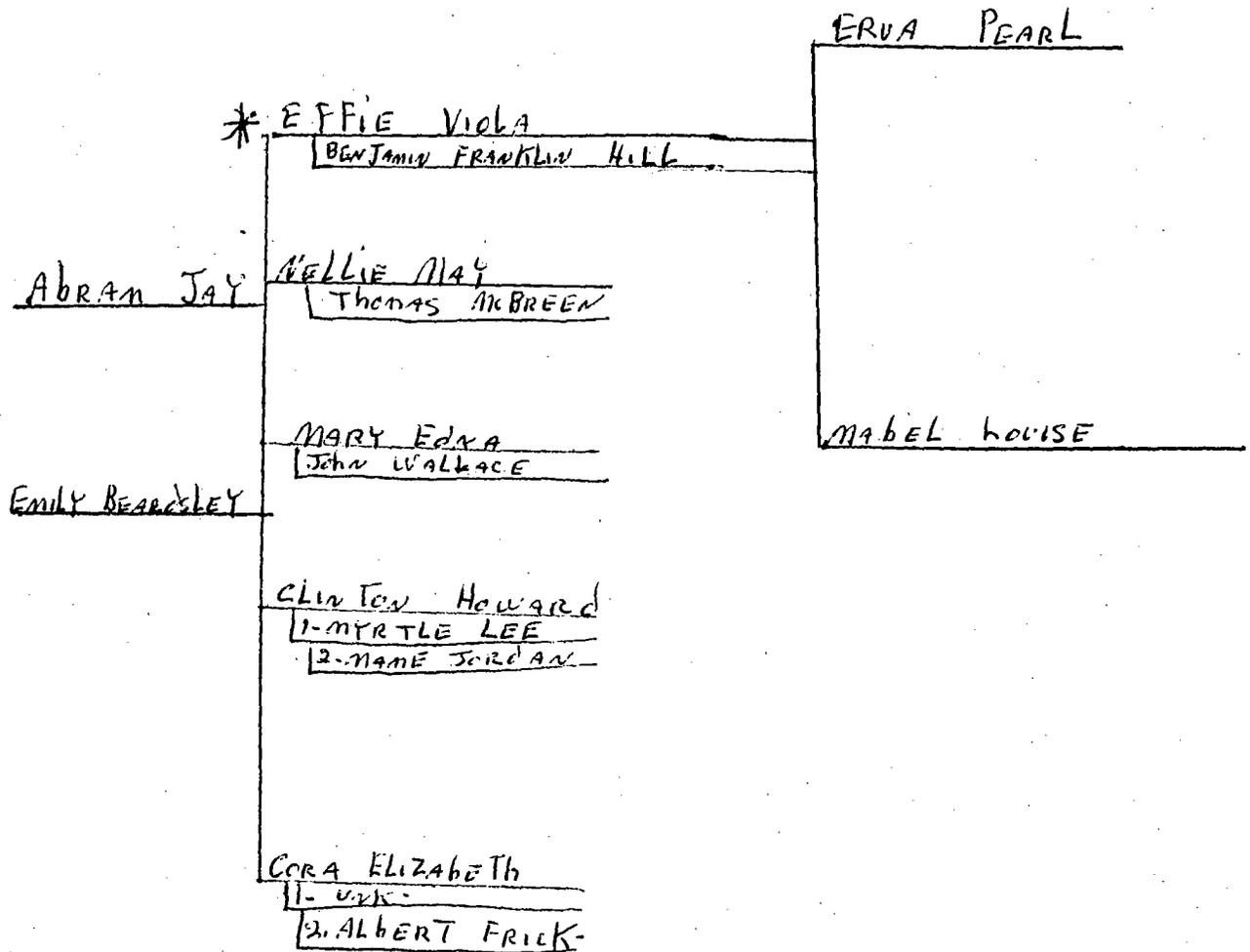
Commissioner of Pensions.



# KETCHAM-CHART # I



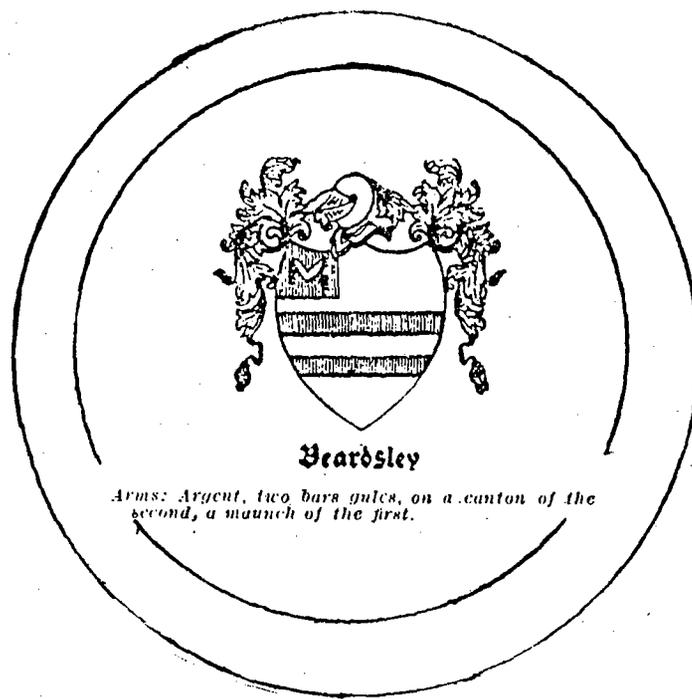
# RETCHEAM-CHART # II



KETCHAM

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Application Civil War Pension: Abram Ketcham	National Archives
Wedding Certificate: Emily Beardsley and Abram Ketcham 1866	
Guardianship papers for minor children:	Dupage County, Illinois
Copy of Will of Hiram Ketcham	
Newspaper articles	Mr. Scobey
Letters	Nellie McBreen
Letters	Mr. Frank Scobey
Letters	Alice Dieter
Ketcham, Kutch Families	Kutch
Genealogy Guide to Early Settlers	Whittemore
Divorce papers re: Edward Gloss	Dupage County, Illinois



BEARDSLEY, BARDSLEY (English)  
One who came from Bardsley  
(Beornred's Wood) in Lancashire

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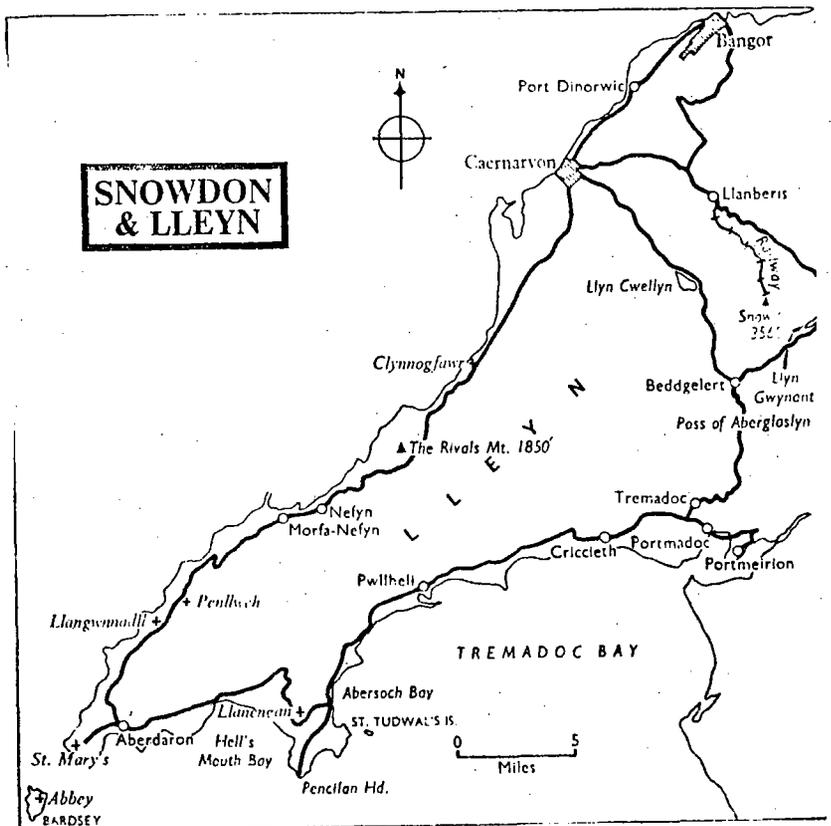
page 27 from the New Dictionary of  
American family names.

Ebedon C. Smith: published 1973

## BEARDSLEY

The origin of the name "Beardsley" can be traced with slight variations to a chief of William the First (William the Conqueror-1027-1087). He became owner of, or Lord of, Bardslia, the Island of the Welch Bards. Nothing has been found that tells of the kind of ownership exerted by the new Lord but ancient history of the island is known.

The island lies out in the Irish Sea off the windy Lleyn (pronounced Thleen) peninsular of Caernarvonshire and is called the Isle of a Thousand Saints, Bardsey. An Abbey was founded there ca. 516 as a "refuge dedicated to St. Mary". Little remains of the Abbey but legend says it to be a burial place of "twenty-thousand saints, confessors and holy men". Across the tide-water on the point of the peninsula was the church of St. Mary said to be the last resting place for many Bardsey pilgrims. Holy men were ferried from the base of the cliffs to the island in the skin boats of the monks of Bardsey. During the Reformation (16th century) the Silver Bell of Bardsey was removed and now is in a church by the road to Llanegan along with other fine holy vessels and fittings, all reported to be from the Abbey. The translation of the Welsh name of Bardsey, Ynys Enlle, is "Island of the Tide" and those who wish to visit the site of the Abbey ruins must choose a calm day for crossing in the small boats provided. The Bardsey Bird and Field Observatory is now on the island.



Bardsea was adopted as a surname in about 1211 and from that date the orthography changed to Bardsay, Bardsley and Beardsley. William, the first Beardsley immigrant to America, signed his name "Beardsley.

This William, the progenitor of the Beardsley family in America, was born in England in 1605. He probably was the son of Hugh who was the son of Thomas and Jane (Upton) Beardsley. Thomas and Jane were married in 1581 in St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.

It is also probable that St. Albans was William's last residence in England for he took "A certificate from the minister there and attestations from the Justice of the Peace to London, according to the Lord's order..." from which place William and his family sailed on the ship "Planter" for the New England coast.

The ship with Captain Travice commanding carried 37 emigrants. Nineteen were over 21 years of age and 18 of the passengers were under 21. Our direct ancestor, Joseph, was at 6 months the youngest on board. All passengers were listed on the ship's log under the same heading indicating there all were from St. Albans and, perhaps, had contracted to sail and to settle as a group. The log read in part...

"2 Aprilis, 1635.--Theis vnder written names are to be transported to New England imbarqued in the Planter Nic<sup>o</sup>: Trarice Mr bound thither the p'ties have brought Certificate from the Minister of St. Albans in Hertfordshire, and Attestason from the Justices of peace according to the Lords Order,"

Wm Beardsley	A Mascn	30
Marie Beardsley		26
Marie Beardsley		4
John Beardsley		2
Joseph Beardsley		6 months

The Beardsley family and other emigrants landed in Massachusetts about the first of June of 1635.

William took the oath 7 December 1636 and was admitted a Freeman of Massachusetts in 1638; hence he must have been a landholder. It is highly probable he was then living in Watertown, 8 miles west of Boston.

In 1637 the Watertown people including the Beardsley family moved and settled at Wethersfield, Connecticut. But again William Beardsley and 17 others moved on leaving Wethersfield and Hartford sailing by boat to an area of cleared land on Long Island Sound. When they arrived on 3 October 1639 the place to stay had been found.

The General Court in Hartford on 10 October 1639 called this settlement on Long Island Sound "Piquanocke", in June of 1640 the same court called it "Cupheay" (the Indian name) but in 1643 it was officially designated as "Stratford", the name this locality has been known as to this day. It is claimed and has been accepted as indisputable that William Beardsley named the town of Stratford, Connecticut

Early Colonial documents speak of our William as "Goodman Beardsley" and records of that time say that he was elected as deputy of the General Court at Hartford for eight sessions in 13 years. (1645 to 1661). This court was the same as our Legislature of the present day and held sessions twice a year.

He was one of the founders of the First Congregational Church of Stratford and was spoken of as "a leading spirit in all public affairs". His involvement in the Community and Colony activities show he was an educated man of some influence and worth.

William died in 1661 at 56 years old at Stratford and is buried in Union Cemetery in that city. His Will, dated 28 September 1660 names wife Marie and sons Daniel, John, Joseph (my direct ancestor) and Samuel as heirs.

Little is known of the next generations except most names and dates until Price and Hannah Beardsley and children moved from Twinsburg, Ohio to Michigan and then to Warrenville, Dupage County, Illinois before the 1860 Federal census. Two of their 8 children had died in infancy and are buried in the Warrenville Cemetery.

Emma Beardsley Ellis has written that Price was, at one time, a teacher. He worked in Fruit Orchards in Michigan and there is indication that he was an agriculturist and teacher of fruit tree grafting. The move to Illinois was made for the "health of the children" (E.B.E.). Only conjecture that delicate health of Mary and Pliny and nearness of medical help in Warrenville can be made at this late date.

Price purchased and ran a Tin Shop in Warrenville and listed his occupation as Tinsmith in the 1860 census but by 1870 census he, Hannah and sons, Herbert and Franklin, had moved to Naperville, Illinois where Price was again listed as a Fruit Grafter.

The 1880 census film is not available (distroyed in a fire in a storage building in St. Louis). Family stories tell of Price and Hannah remaining in Naperville until their deaths. (Hannah in 1887, Price in 1889)

There are large pictures of Price and Hannah Beardsley in possession of their granddaughter, Emma Beardsley Ellis of Geneva Illinois. He was tall and in looks would have been taken for a brother of Abraham Lincoln. She was short and inclined to be plump. Their daughter Emily, my grandmother, and sons Frank and "Bert" had blue eyes, her's especially a clear bright blue. Her hair was heavy and long, coarse in texture. Frank's was beautifully gray and curly. The three were considered to be "good-looking".

Effie, my mother, talked of her Beardsley grandparents, knew them longer and better than her paternal grandmother, Mary Ketcham Sargeant. Price and Hannah died before she was 20 years old and as she was away from the area for many of those years her real contacts were made as a young child. (See Ketcham family history)

#### CHILDREN OF PRICE AND HANNAH WHO LIVED TO ADULTHOOD:

Emily (see Ketcham family history)

Franklin married Ella \_\_\_\_\_, had 3 daughters and 1 son

Herbert (Bert) died while yet a young man

Charlotte (Lottie) Miller

son Donald no children

daughter Charlotte married an Episcopal clergyman

has 1 daughter living in New York

daughter Alberta married name unknown is now dead

2 daughters in California (Fremont and Chula Vista)

Florence Bolger no children

Emma Ellis no children (at 98 still living and very active  
in Geneva, Ill. 1980)

## CHILDREN OF PRICE AND HANNAH CONTINUED

Herbert (Uncle Bert) had several children, one son named Herbert  
 Members of this branch of the family still live in and  
 around West Chicago

Rosetta (Aunt Rose) Rogers had 1 son

Pliny married (unknown name) Phiny died many years ago.  
 1 daughter living in Michigan name unknown

I know no more of the younger generation of this Beardsley  
 family.

I well remember picnics with the Beardsley family and vacation  
 days spent in Geneva at Uncle Frank's home: the laughter, the fun  
 and the happy family gatherings. As I look back, there was a strong  
 loving strain in all the Beardsleys I have known who were part of  
 the wonderful Ketcham-Beardsley group.

## BEARDSLEY

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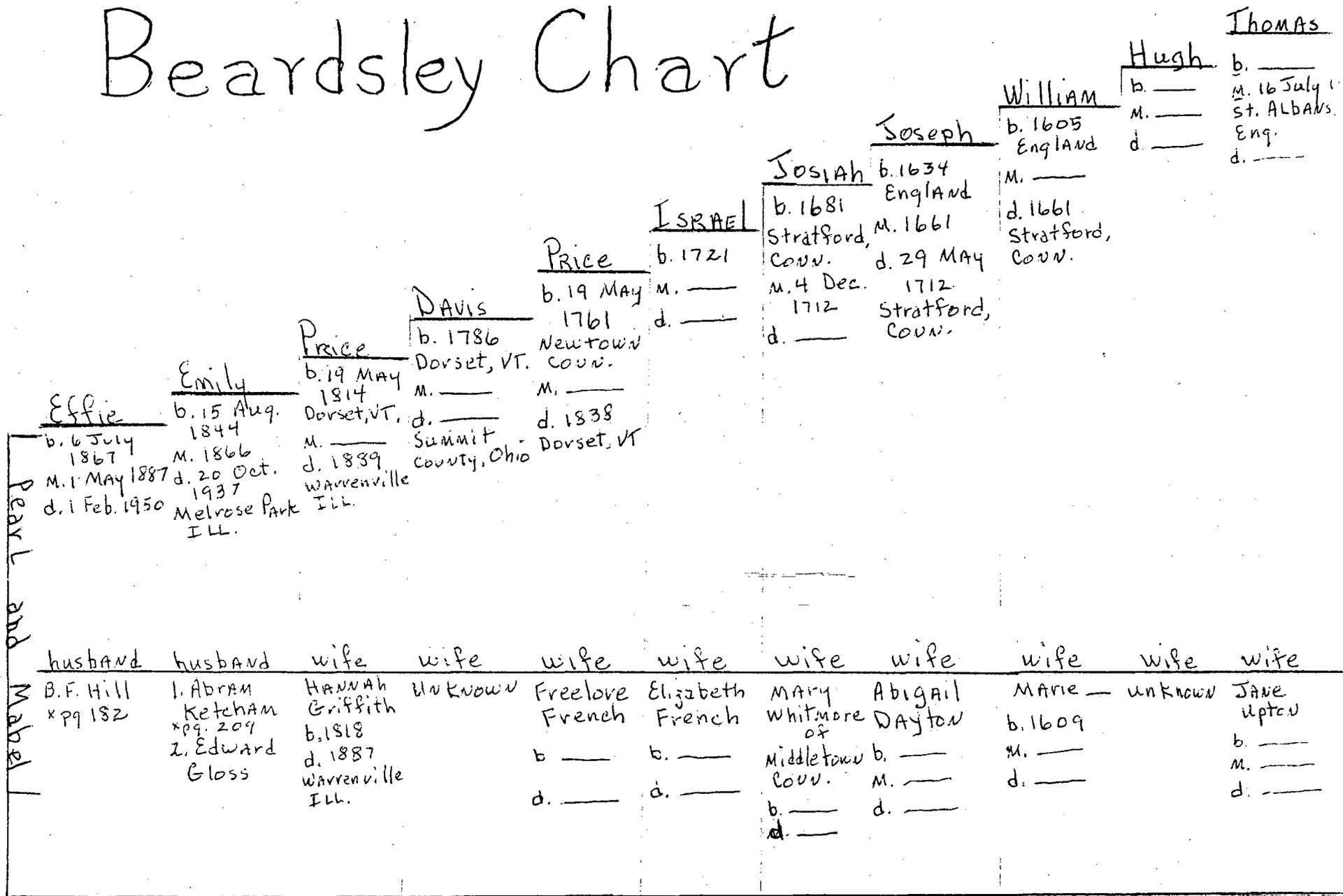
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 the Joiner of Stratford, Connecticut.

Published 1940 by author

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# Beardsley Chart



Additional Notes

Additional Notes