

## SIXTH GENERATION (3RD GREAT-GRANDPARENTS)

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>William Thomas Griffin, Jr. Parents</u> William Thomas Griffin, Sr. Mary Booker Barnett</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Elizabeth Margaret Atkins Parents</u> Joseph Atkins Margaret Adams</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Andrew Jackson Stratton Parents</u> Richard Stratton Lydia Taylor</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Eliza Russell Parents</u> William Russell Barsheba Carter</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Henry C. Belcher Parents</u> Joseph N. Belcher Martha Louisa Hancock</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Nancy C. Milner Parents</u> Joshua A. Milner Mary Ann Alls</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Daniel Wesley Carringer Parents</u> Rev. Isaac Carringer Elizabeth Crisp</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Avarilla Williams Parents</u> William M. "Billy" Williams Trepheha Millsaps</p>

**WILLIAM THOMAS GRIFFIN, Sr.**  
**MARY BOOKER BARNETT**

**William Thomas GRIFFIN, Sr.**, son of **Esq. John Thomas GRIFFIN, Sr.** and **Mary Ann ANDREWS**, was born on 15 Aug 1785 in Powhatan County, VA and died before 1870 in Henry County, GA.

1792 - 7 year old William came with his father from Virginia to Greene County according to the Andrews/Barnett/Griffin family Bible

**Mary Booker BARNETT**, daughter of **John Franklin Byrd BARNETT, Sr.** and **Caroline Fleming TINDALL**, was born on 14 Jan 1795 in Wilkes County (the part that is now Clarke County), Georgia and died between 1870 and 1880 in Henry County, GA.

Some internet sources show Mary's birth place of Henry County in 1795, but Henry County was not formed until 1821.

1810 - William left the farm of his father according to the personal journal of Thomas Griffin, William's brother

1810 - **William Thomas GRIFFIN, Sr.** married **Mary Booker BARNETT** in 1810 in GA according to most internet sources but I can find no record of a marriage. This is not uncommon since GA did not start requiring marriage licenses to be recorded until 1808 and for years afterwards, the law was ignored. Marriage Notes: Most sources show a marriage date of 1810 and another source shows a date of 1815. If the date is actually 1810, then Mary would have been 15 years old when she married William and just 16 when John was born. This would not have been too uncommon in the early 1800's. If the date of marriage was actually 1815, then it is possible that William had a previous marriage but I can find no record of it. I tend to think they married when she was 15 and this marriage coincides with William leaving the farm of his father in 1810 as recorded by his brother Thomas in his journal.

1812 -- The United States declared War on Great Britain on June 12, 1812. The war was declared as a result of long simmering disputes with Great Britain. The central dispute surrounded the impressments of American soldiers by the British. The British had previously attacked the USS Chesapeake and nearly caused a war two year earlier. In addition, disputes continued with Great Britain over the Northwest Territories and the border with Canada. And finally, the attempts of Great Britain to impose a blockade on France during the Napoleonic Wars were a constant source of conflict with the United States.

The War of 1812 is one of the forgotten wars of the United States. The war lasted for over two years, and

while it ended much like it started; in stalemate; it was in fact a war that once and for all confirmed American Independence. The offensive actions of the United States failed in every attempt to capture Canada. On the other hand, the British army was successfully stopped when it attempted to capture Baltimore and New Orleans. There were a number of American naval victories in which American vessels proved themselves superior to similarly sized British vessels. These victories coming after victories in the Quasi War (an even more forgotten war) launched American naval traditions.

- 1813 – January - Battle of Frenchtown. British and Indian allies repel Kentucky troops in bloody fighting. The American survivors are killed in the Raisin River Massacre.
- 1814 – March 27 - Battle of Horseshoe Bend (Mississippi Territory). Andrew Jackson defeats the Creek Indians.
- 1814 – August 24 and 25 - The British burn Washington, D.C. and Madison flees the White House.
- 1815 – January - Battle of New Orleans. Andrew Jackson scores a huge victory and paves the way to the White House. 700 British are killed, 1400 are wounded. The US only loses 8 soldiers.

**1813** – May 15 – A daughter, **Caroline W. GRIFFIN**, was born to William and Mary in GA. This daughter too, has been hard to reconcile because census records are silent. The 1830 census does show William with one female, 15-20, and Caroline fits within this category and I can find no other to replace her.

**1814** – January 31 – William's mother **Mary Ann Andrews GRIFFIN** died at home on the John Thomas Griffin original homestead in what was then Oglethorpe County, GA. Mary was buried in a family cemetery plot on this original homestead.

**1813 – 1817** – Sometime between the birth of Caroline in 1813 and Mary Ann in 1817, William moved his family to Alabama. Alabama was still a territory at this time, just separated from Mississippi in 1811 and land was probably being offered to those that would settle the territory. Land was also being offered to those who fought in the Indian campaigns across the southeast during the War of 1812. I do not know that William was a participant of either of these types of grants but I can find no other explanation for William's move. Others of his family had moved to Alabama, not to the same area but still into the territory and this too, may have been an enticement.

Whatever lured William from GA to AL, it was still a risky move, perilous at best, as most of the movement in the southeastern states was at that time. These were all new frontiers in the early 1800s and the Indians were still fighting tooth and nail to hold on to their homelands that were being invaded and overrun by the white men. William lost two brothers, Jesse and David, twins, on the same day in 1811 in what is now Clarke County, AL, in the Bashi Indian skirmish. I plan to do more on this story in the next generation so I will not overstate it here.

**1814** – March 10 – **John Franklin BARNETT**, father of Mary, died in Barnett's Shoal, Clarke County, GA

**1817** – January 14 – A child, **Mary Ann GRIFFIN** was born in this new country of Alabama to William and Mary.

**1818** – September 27 – **Francis T. GRIFFIN** was born to William and Mary. Life was to be short for this infant and on 26 August 1820, Francis died and was probably buried somewhere in Alabama territory.

**1819** – February – William's father, **John Thomas GRIFFIN** died in Oglethorpe County, GA and was buried on the original homestead he laid claim to in 1792. He was laid to rest beside his faithful wife, Mary Ann Andrews Griffin.

**1819** – According to some sources, William and Mary had a child **William GRIFFIN, Jr.** born to them at this time. I am really having a hard time accepting this because William Thomas Griffin, Jr. is born a few short years later in 1827.

I am not sure if there really is a William Jr. at this time and if there is, then sometime between 1819 and 1827 he must have been killed or died and in remembrance, the family named another son William Thomas Griffin, Jr.

**1820** – August 26 – Death knocks close to home in the Griffin family with the death of their two year old

son, **Francis T. GRIFFIN**

**1820** – Three days after the death of their young son, a daughter, **Martha Barnett GRIFFIN**, was born. Most of the internet sources show Martha born in Hancock County, GA but according to the census records, she is shown: (1850 – MS) (1860 – AL) (1870 – AL) (1880 – AL). This fits with the time frame for William to have been residing in Alabama.

**1821** - Henry County was created from ceded Indian land along with some of Walton County's territory.

**1823** – April 23 – Prior to moving back to GA, William and Mary had another child, **John Chatham GRIFFIN** while still in Alabama

**1823** – November 26 - William and Mary Griffin were in Alabama in the early 1820's. A transcript of the Little Family Bible can be found in the Griffin folder in the Georgia Archives. It states:

"William Griffin started with his family from Madison Co., State of Alabama on the 6th of November 1823 and landed in Henry County, State of Georgia the 26th of the same instant. State of Georgia, Oglethorpe Co., William Griffin moved from the county and state." (No date was given for the removal from Oglethorpe Co.) --- NOTE: Madison County is located on the northern border with Tennessee. Huntsville is the county seat.

**1823** - William was an early settler in Henry County, GA -- from Clarke and Greene Counties, GA. He moved to Henry County, GA circa 1823. He's in Henry County census of 1830, 1840, 1850, and 1860

SOURCE: Abstracts From Books Concerning Henry County

Among the early settlers of this county were, William Hardin, Jesse Johnson, James Sellers, H. J. Williams, Wm. Pate, D. Johnson, W.H. Turner, M. Brooks, S. Weems, Woodson Herbert, James Armstrong, Robert Beard, James Patillo, Josiah McCully, Roland Brown, R. M. Sims, Wm. Crawford, E. Moseley, John Brooks, who built the first mill, Reuben Dearing, Jacob Hinton, E. Brooks, John Calloway, B. Jenks, Wm. Jenks, Col. S. Strickland, Parker Eason, Joseph Kirk, **Wm. and John Griffin**, Daniel Smith, H. Longino, Wm. Tuggle, John Lovejoy.

The following are excerpts from the book "Henry County Georgia – The Mother of All Counties".

Another immigrant family group into Henry County from Oglethorpe County consisted of the Johnson, Griffin, Barnett, Andrews, Bar-field, and Fears and settled in the Third Districts around old Bear Creek and Pleasant Grove, which was near the present towns of Griffin and Hampton.

#### *Historical Background*

The early settlers of Henry County, Georgia had a historical American background. Their forefathers had come to the colonies and played their part in the making of history. Historical and genealogical researches reveal facts on certified records which show that the forefathers of the early settlers of Henry County were on records of service among the most famous Americans.

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#### A SKETCH OF BEAR CREEK STATION BEFORE THE WAR

By Joseph H. Moore

After the Macon and Western Railroad was built through western Henry County in 1845, the surrounding countryside changed drastically, and soon the rough-hewn vestiges of pioneer days began to disappear. New settlers arrived, and the development of transportation was primarily responsible for the shift in agricultural economy from grains and tobacco to cotton. Prior to the railroad, it was difficult to bring gins into the county, though there were a few, and difficult to transport the cotton to market in Macon, which was the nearest river port.

According to Miss Emily Griffin, one of the first local historians, Bear Creek Station got its start in 1848, when the first buildings were erected near the stream from which the village took its name. Three years later, in 1851, these buildings were taken down and moved approximately half a mile to the present location along the railroad.

Little is known of the physical appearance of Bear Creek Station prior to the War Between

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the States. Records indicate that all the store buildings were destroyed during the war and that only some of the private houses survived. The community was a very small one, containing a few houses and stores located along the country roads which converged at the railroad crossing. Miss Griffin states that the first railroad station was located at what is now the crossing in the center of the business district, and gives William Adair as the first railroad agent. The first store buildings appear to have been on East Main Street, which was then known as the White Hall Road, between the original railroad station and the present depot. In the vicinity of the present depot was a two-story grain house, the upper floor of which was used as a meeting room for the Pine Grove Masonic Lodge. Nearby was the office of Dr. A. G. Couch, and the mercantile establishment of Hightower & Black, this last being one of the community's largest business houses before the war. It was formed in 1854, by Simeon G. Hightower and Caswell M. Black, and was operated until their deaths several years later.

Aside from Hightower & Black, ante-bellum Bear Creek Station contained several other mercantile and general stores, among them one owned by G. R. Thompson. Miss Griffin lists Thomas G. (GRIFFIN) Barnett as an early merchant, and a Mr. Lowery, who was the first postmaster. She gives Gray Hughes as the shoemaker. Census records indicate that Richard A. Henderson owned a factory in which carriages were assembled. G. T. Powell and Thomas McMahan were associated with Mr. Henderson in this enterprise, and it is likely that the community blacksmith and iron shop were a part of the concern. In 1860, James Kitchens was an apprentice blacksmith in the community. Nelson Gray was a house carpenter, and F. M. Sheets a house painter. Frances Crawford served the community as a seamstress. Other early residents of the village included Andrew Derrick, Pittman Wesley, Peter Knight, Lemuel Roan, and Benjamin Roan.

Ante-bellum Bear Creek Station was served by the churches of four denominations. Lebanon Baptist Church was organized in 1824, and was the first church located in the western part of Henry County. Originally a Missionary Baptist Church, it became Primitive Baptist in 1836, under the leadership of the Reverend William Moseley. The Mount Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church was located west of Bear Creek. The exact date of its organization is not known, however, it was in existence prior to 1860. Liberty Hill Baptist Church was organized several miles north of Bear Creek in 1845. The Berea Christian Church was organized in Bear Creek in 1854.

The first homesteads in this part of Henry County appear to have been along the Towaliga River, east and southwest of Bear Creek Station.

Thomas G. Barnett came as a child with his widowed mother from Greene County in 1824. Also from Greene County came William Fears and his brother, Augustus B. Fears. William and John Griffin came about the same time. Joseph Atkins and John Adams came from the Edge-field and Abbeville Districts of South Carolina in 1826. They were successful planters and prosperous men. Jacob Barnhard, another planter, settled near the Weems. Robert Walker also located in that vicinity. These families settled in the region from the Locust Grove Road southward to the Spalding County line.

when a daughter, **Frances S. E. GRIFFIN**, was born

**1827** - A William Griffin is shown as a recipient of the 1827 Georgia Land Lottery, for a section of land in Lee County. [1 20 249] I can find no record that this is my William Thomas Griffin but one of the Griffin girls did marry a man from Lee County and move to Albany, Ga.

**1827** – April 16 – **William Thomas GRIFFIN, Jr.** is born in Henry County, GA, probably on the family plantation

**1829** – May 16 – A daughter, **Antoinette Washington GRIFFIN**, is born in Henry County, GA

**1830** - William is listed as the HOH on the Henry County Federal Census, Book 4 Page 236, next door to his brother John (Jack). William is listed with family as follows:

1 M	Under 5	William Thomas Jr.	(3 – 1827)
1 M	5 to 10	John Chatham	(7 – 1823)
1 M	20 to 30	John W.	(19 – 1811) ??
1 M	40 to 50	William Sr.	(45 – 1785)
2 F	Under 5	Antoinette W.	(1 – 1829)
		Frances S. E.	(5 – 1825)
2 F	10 to 15	Mary Ann	(13 – 1817)
		Martha Booker	(10 – 1820)
1 F	15 to 20	Caroline	(17 – 1813)
1 F	30 to 40	Mary Booker Barnett	(35 – 1795)

**1833** – November 3 – If you play with fire long enough you are bound to get scorched and it finally caught up with William and Mary – in the form of twin girls **Almeda Malvina GRIFFIN** and **Almira Amanda GRIFFIN**, born in Henry County.

**1840** - William is listed as the HOH on the Henry County Federal Census, District 641 Page 359, as follows:

1 male	10-15	William, Jr.
1 male	15-20	John C.
1 male	40-50	William, Sr.
2 females	5-10	A.E.
		A.N.
1 female	10-15	Antoinette W.
1 female	15-20	Martha
1 female	20-30	Mary
1 female	40-50	Mary Booker Barnett

**1842** – August – Mary’s mother, **Caroline Fleming TINDALL**, died in Barnett’s Shoal, Clarke County, GA

**1850** - 65 year old William is listed on the Henry County census, 42<sup>nd</sup> District, Page 213, with 55 year old wife, M.B., and children – W T, A W, A E, A N, and also 19 year old W E Baker (relationship unknown).

**1850** - According to the 1850 Slave owners Census for Henry County, GA, William Griffin owned 25 slaves.

**1860** - 74 year old William is shown on the Federal census for Henry County, Georgia, Bear Creek Post Office, with wife Mary, 65. His residence # 599 and lands are valued - 8000 - 15000. He is shown as being born in Virginia, a farmer, and a Methodist preacher. Mary is shown as Methodist, and born in

Georgia. There are no children listed at home, but in their household was Elijah C. Akins, 21 years old, with occupation listed as Farm Manager.

**1865** - February - 24, William wrote a letter to his daughter, Mrs. Sol N. Sneed, Monticello, Pike County, Al. The letter was found in 1962 by a grand-daughter, Miss Ruth Sneed, Women's College, Milledgeville, GA who is related to Mrs. Norris, the contributor.

#### ANDREWS-GRIFFIN-BARNETT-TINDALL FAMILIES

Contributed by Mrs. Julia Bradshaw Norris

The following is copied from a Xerox copy of a letter dated February 24, 1865, from William Griffin to his daughter. The envelope is postmarked Bear Creek, GA Feb. 25 and addressed to Mrs. Sol N. Sneed, Monticello, Pike County, Ala. The letter was found in 1962 by a grand-daughter, Miss Ruth Sneed, Women's College, Milledgeville, GA who is related to Mrs. Norris, the contributor.

Henry Co. Feby 24, 1865

My dear Daughter - This will inform you that yours of the 7 of January was recd & we were much gratified to here all was well. This will inform you all is well with us. I know proceed to answer your request so fair as I have a record testimony to aid me. First your Great Grand Father Andrews Family  
Date of Marriage unknown

Mark Andrews was born		2 July 1724	
Ave Garnett, wife of Mark A.,	B	9 July 1731	
Elizabeth Andrews Daughter	B	7 August	1748
John Andrews	B	27 January	1749/50
Jesse Andrews	B	18 March	1752
Mary Andrews	B	14 February	1754
Hannah Andrews	B	9 December	1755
William Andrews	B	23 February	1758
Susanna Andrews	B	24 April	1760
Thomas Andrews	B	12 December	1761
Garnett Andrews	B	11 June	1764
?_____ Andrews	B	29 August	1766
Ann Andrews	B	23 August	1768

Ave Garnett was the maiden name of the wife of Mark Andrews.  
Departed this Life the 29 October year 1768.  
Mark Andrews departed 20 January 1775.

Second, your Great Grand Father Griffin was born in Virginia the date unknown -- his name was David.  
David Griffin Married Mary Dearrin by her had the following Children whose names only can give -

John Griffin my father was born Sept. 3 1740

Susannah Griffin	age and birth	unknown
Leanna Griffin	A & B	unknown
Sally Griffin	A & B	unknown
David Griffin	A & B	unknown
Jesse Griffin	A & B	unknown
William Griffin	A & B	unknown
Edmond Griffin	A & B	unknown

3. (Third) your Grand Father Griffin's Family -

John Griffin your Grand Father Married Mary Andrews November 19th in the year 1772 and by her had the following Children and Departed this Life 31 January 1819

Susanah Griffin was Born	Sept 1	1773
Ave G Griffin was	B 20 June	1776
David & Jesse Griffin	B 14 Feby	1778
Mary Griffin	B 10 Sept.	1781
William Griffin	B 15 August	1785
Thomas Griffin	B 24 Sept.	1787
John Griffin	B 21 January	1790

Your Grand Mother Griffin Died in November 1814.

Your Great Grand Father Nathan Barnett Married Lucy Webb and by her had the Following Children but we have no date. We record from Tradition.

John Barnett Born July 1762  
Miles Barnett)  
Lenord Barnett)  
William Barnett) ages unknown  
Claborn Barnett)  
Nathan Barnett)

Your Grand Father John Barnett, the first child of Nathan & Lucy Barnett Born as above 1762 Married Caroline Tindale in the year 1782 and by her had the following children

Nathan B. Barnett	Born December	1783
William B. Barnett	Born July	1788
Lucy G. Barnett	Born December	1791
John F. Barnett	Born 14 February	1793
Mary B. Barnett	Born 14 January	1795
Sally C. Barnett	Born 5 May	1797

Your Grand Father John Barnett Departed this Life 10 (16?) March 1814  
Caroline Barnett his wife died in August 1842

Your Father's Family William Griffin -  
William Griffin Seigr was Born 15 Agt 1785  
Mary B. Griffin his wife was Born 14 January 1795  
and was Married 21st January 1816  
Unto them Was Born the following Children -

Caroline M. Griffin	Born	15 May	1813
Mary Ann Griffin	B	14 January	1817
Martha B. Griffin	B	29 August	1820
John C. Griffin	B	23 April	1823
Frances S. Griffin	B	3 November	1825
William F. Griffin	B	16 April	1827
Antionette W. Griffin	B	7 May	1829
Almiry A. & Almeda M. Griffin	B	3 November	1833 (?)

I have finished my task as fair as I had means of information, thus (?) I close. I have gone back over one hundred years & brought up the names of the dead if anything

should present itself to your mind that would give further satisfaction let me know it and I will try to give any satisfaction in my Power, Your Mother sends her love to you & children

I remain as ever your Loving Father

Live for GOD

May the Lord bless you all

Fare well  
William Griffin

Your Great Grand Father Wm. Tindall

Married Elizabeth Ann Bryan and by her had the following children

John Tindall  
Caroline Tindall            born    Sept.  1762  
Booker(?)Tindall  
Sally Ann Tindall  
William Tindall) ages & deaths unknown  
Pleasant Tindall)  
Johnathan Tinda)ll  
Elizabeth Tindall)

William Griffin

**1870** - Death seems to have called William. He is not listed on the census for 1870 and 75 year old Mary is shown alone in the household but her son William and his family is almost next door. Mary is listed on the Henry County Georgia census, 763 Militia District, Bear Creek Post Office

NOTE: I can find no records to indicate he did or did not live through the destruction caused by the Civil War and the subsequent carpetbagger years. It is probable that William was financially ruined by the devastation left when Sherman marched through this area on his way to Savannah. It is very possible that William was killed in actions related to the war or the years immediately following.

NOTE: The Griffin Bible indicates that William Griffin Senior died in 1817(?). I wonder if this could be a faded 1867. There are no other mid or late 1800 entries in the Bible.

**1880** – Death has called Mary to be with William it seems. She no longer appears on any census records, either alone or living with one of her children.

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Children from this marriage were:

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- **Caroline W. GRIFFIN** was born on 15 May 1813. Caroline married **John C. WIMBUSH** on 10 Oct 1835.
- **Mary Ann GRIFFIN** was born on 14 Jan 1817 the Mississippi Territory that is part of Alabama today. She died on 20 Feb 1889 in Henry County, GA at age 72 and was buried in the Red Oak Cemetery there. Mary married **[Buck] Augustus Browder FEARS** on 29 Dec 1835 in Henry County, GA.
- **Francis T GRIFFIN** was born on 27 Sep 1818 and died on 26 Aug 1820 at age 1.
- **William Griffin Jr.** was born in 1819 [No other information is known about this William Jr.]

- **Martha Barnett GRIFFIN** was born on 29 Aug 1820 in Alabama and died in 1885 in Hillsborough County, FL. at age 65. She was buried in Samford Cemetery, Hillsborough County, Florida. Martha married **Beverly B. RANSOM** on 3 Aug 1848 in Henry County, GA.
  - **John Chatham GRIFFIN** was born on 23 Apr 1823 in AL. John married **Mary BALLARD-OR-BULLARD**.
  - **Frances S. E. GRIFFIN** was born on 3 Nov 1825. Francis married **Dr. George HARLAND** on 22 Nov 1848 in Henry County, GA.
  - **Rev. William Thomas GRIFFIN, Jr.** [See Generation Five] William married **UNKNOWN**. William next married "**Lizzie**" **Elizabeth Margaret ATKINS** on 17 Sep 1857 in Henry County, GA.
  - **Antoinette Washington GRIFFIN** was born on 16 May 1829 in Henry County, GA 14 and died on 16 Nov 1912 at age 83. Antoinette married **John McDANIEL** on 10 Oct 1850.
  - **Almeda Malvina GRIFFIN, [Twin]** was born on 3 Nov 1833 in Henry County, GA. Almeda married **Perry COCKE** about 1848 in GA. Almeda next married **Alexander Means SAMFORD** between 1864 and 1867.
  - **Almira Amanda GRIFFIN, [Twin]** was born on 3 Nov 1833 in Henry County, GA, and died on 5 Mar 1905 in Pike County, AL at age 71. She was buried in Brundige City Cemetery, Pike County, Alabama. Another name for Almira was A.E. Almira married **Solomon Newton SNEED** on 11 May 1853 in GA.
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**JOSEPH ATKINS**  
**MARGARET ADAMS**

**Joseph ATKINS**, son of **Robert Yeldell ATKINS** and **Jane BARNETT**, was born on 19 Aug 1804 in Edgefield District, SC, and died on 10 Nov 1866 in Henry County, GA at his Oaklawn Plantation, at age 62. He was buried in Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery which at that time was part of the plantation.

**Margaret ADAMS**, daughter of **David ADAMS** and **Phoebe YELDELL**, was born on 19 Jun 1805 in Abbeville County, SC, and died on 26 May 1880 at age 74 in Henry County, GA at the Oak Lawn Plantation she and Joseph had established so many years before. She was buried in Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery located at that time on the plantation.

1816 – May 8 – **Robert Yeldell ATKINS**, the father of Joseph died in Smithville Township, SC

1824 – January 1 - Joseph and Margaret were wed in Edgefield County, SC.

1824 – November 12 – Joseph and Margaret became parents to their first child, a daughter, **Eliza Jane ATKINS** in Edgefield, SC.

1826 – February – Joseph moved his family from Edgefield, SC to Henry County, GA. A full story follows.

1826 – From the book “Henry County Georgia – Mother of All Counties” comes this information:

Among other early settlers in this vicinity were: Joseph Atkins born 1804 in Edgefield Dist., S. C. and settled on a farm in Henry County, Georgia in 1826. This farm is below Luella, on the county line of Spalding Co., in the Third District. Mrs. Atkins was an Adams, also from South Carolina and her family came here to settle. This place was last occupied by members of the Adams family and was known as the Adam's place until 1910. The family burial ground is on this place and much history of these two families is inscribed on their tombs.

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I found the following story on the internet while researching Joseph and Margaret. I wish to thank those that took the time to rewrite and share this family information. I use it here for information and sharing with the family only, not for any type of gain.

**Atkins - Luckie Family Tree**

Name: **Joseph ATKINS**

Sex: M

Birth: 19 AUG 1804 in Edgefield Dist., SC

Death: 10 NOV 1866 in Henry Co., GA

Burial: Oak Lawn, Land Lot No.246, 3rd District of Henry Co., GA

Occupation: Planter

***Note:** Joseph Atkins of Oak Lawn, Henry County, Georgia, the seventh child of Robert and Jane (Barnett) Atkins, was born August 19, 1804, Edgefield District, South Carolina, during the first presidential term of Thomas Jefferson, was married January 1, 1824, at the age of 19 years, 4 months, and 12 days to Margaret Adams, the fifth and youngest child of David and Phoebe (Yeldell) Adams, who were residing in Abbeville District, South Carolina, but subsequently removed to Henry County, Georgia, where they both died and are buried in the family burying ground at Oak Lawn; died during the disturbing period when Andrew Johnson was filling out the second presidential term of Abraham Lincoln, at his residence, Oak Lawn, early in the morning of November 10, 1866, of an acute attack of Jaundice, which although preying upon him for several weeks, did not become alarming until a few days before it terminated in death.*

*Up to the time of his fatal illness, he appeared to be still sustaining the full prime of his vigorous manhood; for not until that time had there been signs perceptible to the ordinary observer of the abatement of the natural force of his remarkably strong, sound bodily constitution. Indeed his health had been exceptionally good throughout his whole life; his only sickness worth of mention having been two or three short spells of fever that were incident to his exposure in a country, Henry County, Georgia; then new and abounding with wet swamps that reeked with malaria from their large canebrakes and other vegetable accumulations; passing into decay.*

*When he was but four years of age, his parents removed from Edgefield, his native District, to Abbeville District, South Carolina, where he grew to manhood. He, with his brothers and sisters, was left by his father's death, which occurred on May 8, 1816, when he was only eleven years, 8 months, and 19 days old, in the care of his mother, whose energies and heavily taxed material resources were inadequate to the task of adding to him scholastic education in addition to the other things which necessity required at her hands for him and for each of her numerous off-springs, then still dependent on her. Indeed, his time, like that of his brothers, was wholly occupied in unremitting toil. He, like the others, had to plow, clear land, build fences, and cultivate the annual crops, notwithstanding the fact that his mother owned a number of slaves. The clearing of the new land occupied the time between "laying-by" of the crops and "pulling fodder." Nevertheless he took his turn, with the rest of the boys, during that interval, in the summer of some eight years from 1816 to 1824, in attending such schools as were then taught in the rural sections of that most rural of states.*

*However, at the tender age at which he was left fatherless, surrounded as he was by so many robust brothers, freed from restraint in the absence of their father's strong hand, and therefore certain to be ever up to all that is wild and enterprising, he, is will be readily understood, had very little to advance in his early ambition for study, but on the contrary a great deal to direct and stimulate his thoughts and energies in almost any direction sooner than towards the mastery of books.*

*Besides, before his mind, unaided as it was, had time to become sufficiently mature and acquire, by means of its own reflections a fair realization of the advantages to be derived from an education, he married, at a little rise of nineteen, being a mere boy, and took upon himself the responsibilities and cares of a family, a fast growing one at that.*

*Notwithstanding these and other adverse circumstances he somehow or other acquired a taste of reading. He read, when a boy, such tales of adventure as that of Captain James Riley, a captive among the roving Arabs on the desert of Sahara; such books as Weems' life of Francis Marion and his life of Washington; and later such histories of the Revolutionary War as he could buy or borrow; and still later the history of England, the history of Greece, Rome, and other Ancient countries and people. Nor did his marriage, his consequent cares and labor, or his unmistakable ambitions for the acquisitions of property, interfere with his reading so as to entirely destroy his taste in that direction. On the contrary, even in middle life, he read and studied books and natural philosophy, chemistry, geography, rhetoric, political economy, theology, as well as many other subjects not omitting the newspaper and such works as those of Dickens. For one so absorbed in the business of planting and so personally confined thereto, his studies and researches were truly remarkable. His love for knowledge would not permit him to be content with superficial views, but induced him to investigate thoroughly for himself.*

*His wife, Margaret, being sister to John Adams, whose wife was his [Joseph's] sister Mahaleth, he, with his own wife and their only child, Eliza Jane and with said John [and] Mahaleth (Atkins) Adams, in February 1826, migrated from Abbeville District, South Carolina, where he had spent about 18 of the twenty-one and one half years which he had then lived in the world, and immediately settled in the place since known as Oak Lawn, which was ever afterwards his home, and which is situated about half a mile from Tawaglia Creek, the dwelling house now standing partly on lot no. 235 and partly on lot no. 246, in the third district of Henry County,*

*Georgia, the dividing line running north and south and midway through the house lengthwise; the distance of the place being ten miles from Griffin, the capitol of Spalding County; eight miles from McDonough, the capitol of Henry County; seven miles from Hampton; and about two-thirds of the length of the two above mentioned coextensive square land lots, each 201½ acres, from the East and West line dividing Henry County and Spalding County from each other. He with his family, and John Adams, with his family, resided for two years (1826-1827) on the same yard, at Oak Lawn, one family in one house, the other in another house, until Adams and his family removed thence forward four miles; and the same two houses in the present year of 1885, after the lapse of 59 years still stands in one and the same yard, although neither house now stands in the same place in which it then stood, one being now in use as the kitchen to the establishment, the other as the "gear house."*

*The subject of the present sketch prospered as a farmer, from the time of his arrival at Oak Lawn until he became owner of about 1500 or 2000 acres of good land, much of it very rich, and fifty slaves besides quite a village of houses, dwellings, kitchen, "loom house," gin house, shops, cribs, stables, carriage house, "gear house," negro houses, and other plantation houses. He at one time had in full bearing on his place sixty acres in peach trees, from the fruit of which he had large quantities of brandies distilled annually; from his place, he at all times, tanned all the leather he required for shoes, harness, etc., did all the blacksmithing called for on the place, manufactured all the shoes worn by his negroes, ginned all his cotton, and of late years performed all the carpentering he needed.*

*He even took the deepest interest in politics and kept himself well informed in regard to National issues and interests of all sorts. He voted for the Whig ticket uniformly until 1855, when his aversion to know nothingism, which he impotently denounced as unpatriotic, at its very first appearance, influenced him to vote the Democratic ticket, as the only means he had of opposing what he regarded as a deadly heresy against free institutions. Though often solicited, he never could be induced to allow himself to be voted for as a candidate for office. He however, prized the privilege of voting [and had the] profoundest contempt for the arts of the politicians that are designed as means to influence votes at elections, otherwise than for enlightening honest minded patriots. He scorned the very thought of practicing such arts himself, and as all who knew him well indeed would unquestionably have rendered memorable well the day on which any one should have tried on him the experiment of practicing such means of influence.*

*He seemed instinctively to foresee the ruin to the old south that was involved in the uses that were made in politics of the question and fact of slavery and latterly for years, he never ceased to deprecate the haste which his fellow citizens strove to make up the great issue for the final trial of the case involving the existence of "the peculiar institution." However, raised as he was, like his parents and grand-parents in the heart of a slave holding community; accustomed as he was, like every home-reared native of the South, to regard property in slaves as being, beyond doubt, as well based property in land-houses, stocks, bonds, factories, horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, and the like upon natural, revealed, moral and constitutional law, as well also as upon right and justice; and devoted as he undeniably was, until he was fifty-seven years old, to the one general aim, common to all successful Southern men of his day, of increasing his capital in the only, yet well understood, easily managed and watched productive, safe, and altogether convenient investment -- thus circumstanced he undoubtedly never submitted to question in his own mind the matter of right of human slavery. It may seem strange to many, that one with an intelligent, even searchingly inquiring mind as his was, should be in familiar contact for a life-time with a matter so great and important as Southern slavery was, questioned and discussed too, as it was in his time, yet should never once seriously inquire of himself whether that matter was truly grounded or right; or that, making the inquiry in the case of slavery, should fail to receive from his own conscience a prompt answer in the negative; to understand how indeed such a thing can be, is perhaps impossible.*

*To be assured however, that such a thing has often been with the very best of mankind, one has but to read the history of the innumerable host of the grand and true and good of earth as they have lived in all the ages and countries of slavery, from the present back to the remotest past. Therefore slavery in particular, but to*

*politics in general, were the result of his looking at these matters, not from a moral but from a patriotic point of view, for no one loved his country more sincerely than he, was more national in feelings, had more distinguished motives.*

*He was, in all respects, not only with others, but what is by no means very common among men, with himself also, as truly honest as a man in this world can be. Accordingly he was fully trusted by all of every class and condition as one who was implicitly believed never of others to take an unconscious advantage of any kind by his enlightened neighbors of wealth and social position, whose sense of honor was in most cases their just pride and almost all cases their frequent boast; and by the ignorant slaves, whose suspicions of white people in general were and still only equaled by their serene faith in the few whom experience had or has taught them to trust only as they can.*

*Nor could any one be well more faithful in his self examinations, his self estimates, and his self adjustments; he never supposed himself, in fact, nor did he ever pretence to know what he knew not, or to be ignorant of what he really knew; to be what he was not; to believe what he believed not; to enjoy what he enjoyed not, to sustain relations he did not sustain; or to win what was not his. He made neither mountains of molehills nor molehills of mountains. His sense of justice was one of his marked characteristics. He became well known as accustomed in all his transactions to deal out even handed justice among his neighbors, children, and slaves; he was the recognized friend irrepressible and unailing to fair dealings in all matters, great and small, of his own or of the community, and likewise, the uncompromising for to what he considered wrong.*

*He was an indefatigable reader of the Bible for many years, and eager student of its pages. He wrote, while reading it, pages upon pages of notes upon it, and he carefully compared parts with parts, its teachings with its teachings, as he devotedly studied to analyze it and thereby come to a satisfactory understanding of the whole subject. He never failed to speak with profound respect of the teachings it contained, as well as of people he considered sincerely religious, nor conduct himself with reverential deference when he was in the presence of worshipping assemblies. The depth and earnestness of his nature would not admit of hasty conclusions, nor of inconsiderate declarations thereof on his part, in reference to a subject which he well knew had controlled the belief of thousands of the most studious, the most profound in thought, the most honest and upright; the good and true for nearly two thousand years.*

*Consequently, he never made any confession of his faith in Christ, and on the contrary he never declared his rejections of the teachings of the Bible. He was incapable of hypocrisy, and he could not fully believe. Such is the simple truth, told of an honest man. God for Christ's sake be merciful to all such. From what has been said of the character of his mind and his course and conduct in respect to religion, it can be readily understood how, in fact, he was regularly free from superstition in all its forms. He could not well believe in manifestations of the supernatural in attestation of the divine origin of the Bible and the mission and character of Christ, could not be expected to manifest credulity, to say the least, in respect to the assumed miraculous interpositions in the every day affairs of the common people, when the occasion of such interventions, compared with admittedly grand occasions on which the provisions are professed in the Bible to have been interposed for the salvation of the whole human race, could not but be recognized as incomparable, inadequate when considered by the mind constituted as his was. Accordingly, regarded to the popular tendencies to believe in ghosts, in witches, in alleged spiritualistic manifestations, and in other alleged post-scriptural revelations, none of which were uncommon in his time, nor in any time perhaps, as mere human weaknesses incident to minds under improper influences.*

*Few, indeed are so imbued as he was with tender unostentatious love and consideration for his wife and children, or with fondness for other near and approved relatives and friends. Indeed, for his wife and children he lived and toiled and denied himself for their honor, comfort, success and social position; he studied, meditated, and contrived without ceasing, in season and out of season; being always ready to work that they might rest, to walk that they might ride, to save that they might spend, to cloth himself in scant mean attire*

*that they might dress well, to live in obscurity that they might be illustrious; but never indulging them in the thought that they might live idly, aimlessly, unworthily, or below the very high standard of honor and usefulness that he himself constantly bore aloft before them and for them.*

*It was his custom through life to make in a book careful notes of important facts and circumstances bearing upon which concerned him. All his methods tended to something scientific accuracy, and denoted inductive processes of thought. For instance of what he noted, records that in Henry County, Georgia, all the crops were full and satisfactory for all the years except 1845, (which is memorable for its drought and consequent short crops) from 1838 to 1850, inclusive, that they were extra short for 1851, good average for 1852, extra short for 1853 and 1854 and very good in 1855; that they were satisfactory up to the tenth day of June in 1856, when they encountered a drought; which commencing from that day and being only slightly mitigated by rainfall on July 25, not one-half of what was then needed, continued otherwise uninterrupted until August 31st; on which day a hard rain and gale prevailed all day and nearly all the ensuing night -- a drought which, supplemented as it was, by the work of army worms that destroyed all the grass which the late hard rains had forced up, and by a frost on the night of September 23 (the earliest he had ever seen) that killed pea vines, crab grass, and cotton leaves on lowlands, rendered the yield of crops that year (1856) very short indeed.*

*As to his person, he was compactly built, measuring five feet ten inches high, and he weighed from 180 to 190 pounds at his best; his naturally fair complexion was rendered by constant exercise and exposure in the open air, red and fresh; his eyes were expressive and deep blue color; his hair was thick and somewhat coarse, and in his prime dark, shading into an iron gray as age came on; the pose of his head was excellent, as were his general carriage and bearing, his countenance, emphasized as it was by his well betokening nose and by eyebrows overhanging his large luminous eyes, and by his firmly compressed lips, was one not easily forgotten.*

**NOTE:** *"From him attention will be turned to his wife, her name was originally Margaret Adams; she was the fifth child of David and Phoebe (Yeldell) Adams, and the granddaughter on her father's side of David and Nellie Adams, and on her mother's side of Robert and Phoebe Yeldell; she was born July 19, 1805; married as already stated above, on January 1, 1824, age 18 years, 6 months, and 12 days, and died at 12:20 o'clock on the night May 25, 1880, of atrophy of the liver. Her death, being after midnight, be it remembered, was properly speaking in the very first hours of May 26, not on the 25th, her age then being 74 years, 11 months, and 7 days.*

*She was well-suited to be wife of him to whom she married. She was as devoted and deferential to him as he was considerate and tender of her. She was in all the affairs of the household fully equal to him in the management of the plantation and other matters properly falling within his sphere. She was frugal and economical in the administration of her domesticities, yet she spared neither exertions nor pains in order to render perfect and acceptable what fell to her lot to supply or prepare.*

*She has as high standard of right and duty as the most exacting could require. She never allowed her servants to forget that she was mistress, nor yet was she ever unmindful that the blackest of her slaves was a human being with feelings much like her own, and with claims on her, which she felt bound, under her deep sense of accountability to God, to respect, and allow to all reasonable extent.*

*She made no parade of her pride of race or family, or of her feelings of exclusiveness in any respect whatever; but neither would she allow her children to associate freely with colored children or with children with low instincts and coarse manners, nor to forget that 'blood will tell,' as she was accustomed in her earnest yet quiet way to express it on appropriate occasions.*

*Neither did any one, better than she in her own person exemplify the influence of good sense and high principles to refine and elevate the tastes, and likewise to polish the manners. With no experience in conventionalities of polite society in cities, her own manners were nevertheless gentle, dignified, impressive,*

*and even courtly; they were free from constraint and affectation. She was indeed by nature a gentle woman. She was naturally of a religious cast of mind, yet she well advanced in life before she formally made a declaration of her faith in Christ as her Saviour. She did, however, make her confession joining the Christian church and at last died in the full assurance of her salvation through faith.*

*"She was tall and full-fleshed but not corpulent; her hair and eyes were dark, her skin white and soft."*

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*Sources:*

*Type: Book*

*Title: Yeldell and Hartsfield Families of Colonial Philadelphia, the Carolinas, and Alabama, and the Weaver Family of Butler and Wilcox Counties, Alabama*

*Author: Oliver C. Weaver, Jr.*

*Date: 1993*

*Text: p64*

*Type: Book*

*Title: The Genealogical Record and History of the Descendants of Francis Atkins*

*Author: Mrs. George S. Buchanan*

*Date: ca 1941*

*Text: p12-15*

*Type: Book*

*Title: The Genealogical Record and History of the Descendants of Francis Atkins*

*Author: Mrs. George S. Buchanan*

*Date: ca 1941*

*Text: p12*

*Type: Book*

*Title: Yeldell and Hartsfield Families of Colonial Philadelphia, the Carolinas, and Alabama, and the Weaver Family of Butler and Wilcox Counties, Alabama*

*Author: Oliver C. Weaver, Jr.*

*Date: 1993*

*Type: Book*

*Title: The Genealogical Record and History of the Descendants of Francis Atkins*

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*Date: ca 1941*

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## **ANTE-BELLUM ARCHITECTURE**

The economic structure of Clayton County and her neighbors appears to have nearly reached its full development, under the old regime, by 1861, but the social and cultural structure of the area had not attained full maturity within that forty year period between the removal of the Indians in 1821 and the outbreak of war in 1861. It is said in South Carolina that three generations are required to produce a gentleman or an oak tree. In Henry, Fayette and Clayton Counties, the first generation were the pioneers. The second generation, reared in the expectation of enjoying the fruits of their parent's labors, became soldiers fighting to defend the world they knew and had been led to expect would become theirs. The third generation, children of the war and the bitter years of so-called reconstruction which followed it, made remarkable accomplishments toward the cultural and social growth of the region. That they succeeded in any degree at all is remarkable under the circumstances which prevailed. The ante-bellum plantation economy which came to an end in 1865 left a long-lasting state of almost suspended cultural progress in much of Georgia. Where plantation society did not have time enough to reach its full flowering before the war, there lingered, among the populace, more of the frontier than of the plantation.

Revealing, in a large measure, the level of social and cultural development in this region up to 1861, are the old houses which survive in the villages and across the countryside of Fayette, Henry and Clayton Counties. One of the significant facts shown by these houses is that the larger planters did not necessarily own the finest or the biggest of them, nor the most architecturally correct or sophisticated of them. There appears to have been little, if any competition among the planters in terms of the houses they lived in. Each family lived according to its own taste and comfort, and everyone else quietly accepted things as they were.

An interesting example of an early Henry County planter's house is that of **Joseph Atkins** at Oak Lawn plantation near the present community of Luella. Mr. Atkins was considered a well-to-do man in his day. (A son, Dr. Thomas Washington Atkins, graduated from the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1861, only to fall mortally wounded as a captain in the 53rd Georgia Regiment at the Battle of Gettysburg.) The monuments in the Adams-Atkins graveyard, across from the house at Oak Lawn are tall structures of Italian marble. But the ante-bellum house consisted chiefly, as well as can now be determined, of two rooms and a central hall, with an unfinished sleeping-loft reached by a narrow enclosed winding stair. The principal room, in which the family sat, received guests, and took all meals, contained paneled doors and a fine mantel with sunbursts suggesting the Adam influence in architecture. From this room, a door opened into the kitchen yard on the south side of the house, and the old kitchen was apparently not connected to the main house in any way, but stood as an entirely separate building. (This, of course, meant that the Atkins' servants had to carry platters of food through whatever weather prevailed in order to serve meals in what was, in the most literal way, the "family room.") The room opposite that just described, across the center hall, presumably the master's bedroom, and presumably, the children slept upstairs in the loft. (Sometimes the sons of a family had entirely separate sleeping quarters in a separate building.)

Such was the main house at Oak Lawn plantation, the residence of a prosperous and prominent family. (In 1860 Joseph Atkins was the possessor of a substantial body of land and 28 slaves.)

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Article taken from the book:

History of Clayton County, Georgia  
1821-1983

Article written by: Joseph Henry Hightower  
Moore

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1826 – August – A second daughter, **Adeline Matilda ATKINS** is born in Henry County, GA.

1828 – November 26 – A son, **Robert ATKINS** is born in Henry County, GA.

1830 – March – With the death of **R. ATKINS**, [tombstone inscription] a family cemetery is established on the plantation. This may be the Robert born in 1828 but I have nothing to prove that. I have no other information on Robert.

This cemetery would be the final resting place for many of the Atkins - Adams family over the years. With the first in 1830, the final one on record is one of Joseph and Margaret's later daughters, Frances in 1921.

The following is a complete story and listing of those graves, now overrun and wooded, but once precious in the eyes of the loved ones.

<b>Adams - Atkins Cemetery Inscriptions Henry County, GA</b>
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<a href="http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/henry/cemeteries/cemetery1/a3520003.txt">http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/henry/cemeteries/cemetery1/a3520003.txt</a> ADAMS-ATKINS FAMILY CEMETERY INDEX, Henry County, GA
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Submitted: 02/13/1999

GPS Location:

N33°20.451W084°12.384

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<http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/copyright.htm>

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Compiled by:

Linda S. Sanders

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#### Introduction:

This cemetery is located in Land Lot 246 of the 3rd District, Henry County, GA. I75-S to exit 212, right to Luella/Nutt Rd. fork. Follow Luella Rd. to Hunter Rd., take a left. At the intersection of Nutt and Hunter Rd., there is a logging road which consists of private property of ~ 368 acres (the original Adams place composed of 1,600 acres), currently owned by a German investor. It is no longer in the family's possession.

Raymond & Melanie Chandler, who live on Nutt Road (her father is Neal Evans), took us into the woods to experience this marvel. They currently lease the land from the investor to hunt on, and knew exactly where to find this cemetery.

We traveled through the above-referenced land for at least 1 mile and came abruptly to a path into the woods. Another 1/4 - 1/2 mile through the path, we located the cemetery. It was definitely abandoned. According to Ray Chandler, some of the graves had been dug up and robbed in the past by unknown individuals. On two, the ground had sunk as evidence of this. This would not be an easy cemetery to locate without some assistance. The cemetery was originally known as Oaklawn.

#### History:

Joseph Atkins came from the Edgefield district of S.C. along with John Adams in 1826. Both families were of the same Adams family in S.C. before coming to Henry Co., GA and became successful, prosperous planters. They settled in the region from Hampton Locust Grove Rd. (originally known as Burnt Mill Rd.), south to the Spalding County line. John Adams had a large plantation. Records show that Jesse Johnson (great grandfather of Lyndon Baines Johnson), owned land lots on the line of the 3rd & 6th districts near John Adams, among others. In fact, John Adams purchased the land his home sat on from Jesse Johnson when he moved.

Joseph Atkins married Margaret Adams (daughter of David Adams and Phoebe Yeldell, sister of John Adams). Children were Eliza J. Atkins (1824-1894, who married Robert M. Walker), Adeline Matilda Atkins (1826-1901, who married Gideon G. Minter), Robert Atkins (11/26/1828), John Atkins (03/19/1830), James Atkins, attorney-at-law (12/13/1833-1870), Dr. Thomas Washington Atkins (11/06/1835-07/04/1863), Elizabeth Margaret Atkins (04/26/1838, who married William Thomas Griffin (son of John William Griffin)), Mary Mahaleth Atkins (1840-1915, never married), Martha Atkins (1842-1909, married Nehemiah G. Andrews who died in the Civil War; then marrying James Lewis Adams), Frances Atkins (1845, never married), Phoebe C. Atkins (1850, married ? Baird)

John Adams married Mahaleath Atkins and their children were: Thomas A. Adams (1818, who married Annie B. Moseley, daughter of Rev. William Mosely); James Lewis Adams (who married Martha Atkins); Sarah Adams (07/11/1819, who married Thomas Griffin Barnett); Franklin L. Adams (Co. A, 53 GA Inf., CSA); Jane Adams (who married William Warren Jackson, son of John and Mary Jackson); Robert A. Adams (1828-1886).

This compiler noted that the stones in this cemetery were meant to tell a story. As such, the full inscriptions are noted below.

#### Alphabetical Index

Name

Birth Date

Death Date

Notes

Adams, D.	No Date	11/1833
Adams, Little Donnie	10/30/1870	08/14/1871
i/o J.L. & Martha Adams		
Adams, James Lewis	04/01/1843	11/04/1887
"James Lewis Adams, who was born in Henry Co., Ga., Apr. 1, 1843. Served in the 7th and 53rd. Regiments Ga. Volunteer Confederate Army 1861 to 1865. Afterwards, was Minister of the Christian Church until his death which occurred November 4, 1887."		
Adams, John	No date	
Adams, Little Lewie	12/28/1868	02/22/1870
i/o J.L. & Martha Adams"		
Adams, M.	No date	
Adams, Martha Atkins	12/08/1842	06/08/1909
Adams, P.	No date	10/1835
Adams, Robert H.	09/06/1898	08/03/1914
Atkins, Frances	02/04/1845	02/21/1921
Atkins, J.	No date	09/09/1833
Atkins, Joseph	08/19/1804	11/10/1866
"Joseph Atkins, who was born in Edgefield District, S.C. August 19, 1804. He removed from Abbeville District in the same state where he was raised from early boyhood and located on this farm in Henry County, Georgia, in the month February 1826, where he continued to reside until his death which occurred on the 10th day of November 1866, aged 62 years, 2 months and 20 days."		
Atkins, Mahalaeth	03/10/1799	02/08/1853
w/o John Adams		
"In Memoriam of Mahalaeth Atkins, wife of John Adams, was born in Edgefield District, S.C. March 10, 1799 and died February 8th, 1853, aged 53 years, 11 mos. And 28 days. A good wife, a good neighbor and affectionate Mother and beloved by all who knew her. Peace to her ashes."		
Atkins, Margaret Adams	06/19/1805	05/26/1880
w/o Joseph Atkins		
"Sacred to the Memory of Margaret Adams Atkins, Beloved wife of Joseph Atkins, Born in South Carolina June 19th, 1805, Died in Henry County, GA May 26, 1880."		
Atkins, Mary Mahaleth	03/16/1840	03/03/1915
Atkins, R.	No date	03/??/1830
Atkins, Dr. Thomas Washington	11/06/1835	07/04/1863
"Sacred to the Memory of Dr. Thomas Washington Atkins, son of Joseph Atkins and Margaret Adams, who was born Nov. 6, 1835, and graduated as Doctor of Medicine in the year 1861 at Jefferson College in the City of Philadelphia. He held a commission as Captain of Co. A, 53 GA, Vol., where he fell mortally wounded while discharging the duties of Major of Regt. at the Battle of Gettysburg Pa. He died July 4th, 1863, aged 27 years, 7 months & 28 days."		
Minter, Adeline Matilda	08/18/1826	11/09/1901
Minter, Gideon G.	04/24/1818	11/25/1872
Minter, William Joseph	08/27/1847	10/13/1862
s/o G.G. & A.M. Minter		
Walker, Eliza J.	11/12/1824	09/16/1894
w/o Robert M. Walker		
Walker, Robert M.	03/29/1822	12/07/1892
Walker, J.W.	No notation	

1830 – March 19 – A son, **John ATKINS** is born in Henry County, GA.

1830 – Henry County Federal Census – Head of house, **Joseph ATKINS** is listed with wife and three children.

1833 – September 9 – There is a **J. ATKINS** in the Atkins – Adams family cemetery with a death date of 09/09/1833. I wonder if it is their child John who died at an early age of 3 years?

1833 – November – **David ADAMS**, father of Margaret Adams Atkins, died in Henry County, GA.

1833 – December 13 – Another son, **James ATKINS**, who would become a prominent attorney in Savannah, was born in Henry County, GA.

1835 – October – **Phoebe Yeldell ADAMS**, Margaret's mother died in Henry County, GA.

1835 – November 6 – Another son, **Thomas Washington ATKINS** was born in Henry County, GA. Thomas became a Doctor and his story is listed in the cemetery story above.

1838 – April 26 – A daughter, **Elizabeth Margaret ATKINS**, is born in Henry County, GA. [See Generation Five]

1840 – March 16 – Another daughter, **Mary Mahaletch ATKINS**, is born in Henry County, GA.

1840 – Henry County Federal Census – Head of house **Joseph ATKINS** is listed with wife and 9 children in District 641.

1842 – December 8 – Their ninth child, a daughter, **Martha ATKINS**, is born to Joseph and Margaret in Henry County, GA.

1845 – February 4 – A daughter, **Frances ATKINS**, their tenth child is born in Henry County, GA.

1850 – Henry County Federal Census - **J.A. Adkins**, 45 years old, is listed with wife M. Adkins and 6 children. Joseph has real estate property valued at \$4840.00

1850 – Henry County Slave-owners Census - **Joseph Adkins** (Atkins) is shown owning 19 slaves.

1850 – December 6 – Now 45 years old, Margaret gives birth to their eleventh and last child, a daughter **Phoebe Cornelia ATKINS** in Henry County, GA.

1853 – December 12 – **Jane Barnett ATKINS**, Joseph's mother passed away in Abbeville County, SC.

1860 – Henry County Federal Census - **Joseph Alkins**, 55, is listed with wife Margaret and 4 children. Joseph is listed as a farmer with real estate valued at \$8,564.00 and personal property valued at \$22,000.00 in the McDonough Post Office area.

1860 – Henry County Slave-owners Census - **Joseph Atkins** appears as the owner of twenty eight total slaves ranging in ages from 54 years to 1 year old.

1863 – July 4 – If the above mentioned R. Atkins and J. Atkins are in fact Robert, and John, their children, then Joseph and Margaret are faced with the loss of a third son, **Thomas Washington ATKINS** [See story in cemetery inscriptions above]. It is sad enough to lose a child for any reason but for the cause of war, the Civil War, would seem to make it even harder to understand.

1866 – November 10 – At age 62, Joseph ATKINS breathes his last breath of the Oaklawn Plantation air due to an acute attack of Jaundice. He is laid to rest in the Atkins – Adams cemetery on his beloved Oaklawn.

1870 – Henry County Federal Census - 65 year old **Margaret ATKINS** is listed as HOH in the 723rd

Militia District, Bear Creek Post Office. She is listed as a farmer with real estate property valued at \$1495.00 and personal property valued at \$1662.00. In her house also are Mary Atkins (30), Frances Atkins (25) and Cornelia Atkins (19).

1880 – May 26 – At 74 years of age, **Margaret Adams ATKINS** succumbs to death as we all must sooner or later. She was laid to rest beside her faithful husband Joseph in the Atkins – Adams cemetery on the Oaklawn Plantation.

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Eleven children were born of this marriage:

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- **Eliza J. ATKINS** was born on 12 Nov 1824 in Edgefield District, SC, and died on 16 Sep 1894 in Henry County, GA at age 69. She was buried in the Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery. Eliza married **Robert M. WALKER**.
  - **Adeline Matilda ATKINS** was born on 18 Aug 1826 in Henry County, GA, and died on 9 Nov 1901 in Henry County, GA at age 75. She was buried in Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery. Adeline married **Gideon G. MINTER**.
  - **Robert ATKINS** was born on 26 Nov 1828.
  - **John ATKINS** was born on 19 Mar 1830.
  - **Attorney James ATKINS** was born on 13 Dec 1833 and died in 1870 at age 37.
  - **Dr. Thomas Washington ATKINS** was born on 6 Nov 1835 and on 4 Jul 1863 at age 27. He is either buried or has a memorial stone in the Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery.
  - **"Lizzie" Elizabeth Margaret ATKINS**. Elizabeth married **Rev. William Thomas GRIFFIN, Jr.** on 17 Sep 1857 in Henry County, GA.
  - **Mary Mahaleth ATKINS** was born on 16 Mar 1840 and died on 3 Mar 1915 at age 74. She was buried in Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery.
  - **Martha ATKINS** was born on 8 Dec 1842 and died on 8 Jun 1909 at age 66. She was buried in the Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery. Martha married **Nehemiah G. ANDREWS**. Martha next married **James Lewis ADAMS**
  - **Frances ATKINS** was born on 4 Feb 1845 in GA and died on 21 Feb 1921 at age 76. She was buried in Adams-Atkins Family Cemetery.
  - **Phoebe C. ATKINS** was born in 1850. Phoebe married **Mr. BAIRD**.
-

**REV. JOSEPH NEWTON BELCHER**  
**MARTHA LOUISA HANCOCK**

**Joseph Newton BELCHER**, son of **William BELCHER** and **Jemima SMITH**, was born on 26 Aug 1819 in GA, and died on 27 Feb 1907 in Henry County, GA at age 87. Joseph was buried in County Line Cemetery, Clayton County, GA

**Martha Louisa HANCOCK** was born in 1820 in AL and died on 3 Nov 1893 in GA at age 73. Martha was buried in County Line Cemetery, Clayton County, GA.

**1840** – Joseph is evidently still living at home according to the census for Jasper County, GA for his father William. There is one male aged 20-30 which fits Joseph.

**1840** – Sometime after the above census, it looks like Joseph left home and traveled over to the state of Alabama where he met and married a local girl, **Martha Louisa HANCOCK**. I deduce this because Martha was born in AL and their first child is born in AL in 1842.

That Martha's maiden name was Hancock was secured from the death certificates of two of her sons, William and Samuel, both in 1920 in Georgia. Henry's death certificate, by his son William, lists Henry's mother as Mary Hancock. Samuel's death certificate, by his wife Martha, lists Samuel's mother as Eliza Hancock.

I can find nothing to indicate where in Alabama Joseph and Martha set up house or why he went to Alabama. There were relatives in some parts of Alabama that could have enticed him to visit or it may have just been the call of the wild.

**1842** – While living in Alabama, child number one is born to Joseph and Louisa, a daughter **Elizabeth BELCHER**.

**1842 – 1843** – Joseph and Louisa moved from Alabama to Henry County, GA between the birth of Elizabeth and their second child.

**1843** – July – Child # 2, a son, **Henry C. BELCHER**, is born in Henry County, GA. Henry married **Nancy C. MILNER** on 27 Nov 1866. [SEE GENERATION FIVE]

**1845** – Child # 3, a second daughter, **Cornelia Vandelia BELCHER**, is born in GA. Cornelia is buried in Crawford County, GA. Cornelia married **Mabe JONES**.

[The following info was furnished by Jennie Zuccarini, a Belcher descendant and researcher] Mabe was murdered in 1866 when he was called to the door in the middle of the night and shot through the shutter. Their daughter Mary Thomas was seventeen days old at the time. The Griffen Newspaper on file at Athens, GA has the story.

Cornelia next married **Mr. PARKER**.

**1846** – Child # 4, a son, **Archy S. BELCHER** was born in 1846 in GA. Archy served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

**1850** – Joseph and Martha appeared on the Federal census for 1850 in Fayette County, GA. 31 year old J. N is listed in District 29 as a farmer with property valued at \$450. The census shows his birthplace as GA. 30 year old Louisa is also listed. The census shows her birthplace as Alabama.

**1852** – **Jemima SMITH**, the mother of Joseph died.

**1852** – About – Child # 5, a daughter, **Louisa S. BELCHER**, is born in GA.

**1853** – February – Child number 6, a daughter, **Mary Emma BELCHER**, is born. Mary married **Quincy Lafayette NASH**.

**1855** – Child number 7, another daughter, **Margaret M. BELCHER** is born in GA.

**1858** – **About** - Another son, child number 8, **Joseph W. BELCHER** is born in GA.

**1858** – Part of Fayette County was pulled aside to form a new county, Clayton. Joseph now resided in this new county and did not even have to pack a box.

**1860** – June 30 - Clayton County, Federal Census -- 41 year old J. N. is listed in the Northern District with wife M. L. and 9 children. J. N. is a farmer with assets of property valued at \$1000 and personal property valued at \$1000.

**1860** – September – Child number 9, a girl, **Fenton King BELCHER**, is born. This child has been a booger bear to reconcile. In 1860, there is a 2 month old N. K. on the census but shown as 'male'. In 1870, there is a 10 year old Benton P., also shown as male, farm laborer. In 1880, this male child suddenly becomes 20 year old Fenton K., a female, and listed as 'daughter'. With her subsequent marriage to a male, Perry Babb, I tend to roll with the Fenton King as daughter and female. Census records can be very misleading sometimes since the census taker wrote things exactly like they heard them and sometimes the information giver was children or neighbors or anyone the taker could run down to tell them about that family. Fenton married **Perry Laurence BABB**.

**1863** – About - at 43 years of age, Louisa bears a tenth child, **Samuel Ervin BELCHER**. Samuel married **Martha Thomas BABB**.

**1870** – Clayton County, Federal Census - 51 year old Joseph is shown as a farmer and is listed with his wife Martha L. and children Louisa, Margaret M., Joseph W., Benton P., and Samuel E. Also in his household are 16 year old daughter Mary E. and her new husband, Quincy Nash.

**1880** – June 7 – 538<sup>th</sup> District, Clayton County, Federal Census – 59 year old Joseph is shown as a farmer, listed with his wife, 58 year old Martha L., and three children – Joseph W., Fenton K., and Samuel E. Their daughter Mary and her husband Quincy Nash have moved out and into a residence next door.

**1893** – November 3 – **Martha Louisa HANCOCK BELCHER** gave up this life for the next one. She is buried in County Line Cemetery, Clayton County, GA

**1896** – Clayton County – Rev. J. N. Belcher signed the marriage certificate for his granddaughter's wedding: **Miss Maud M. BELCHER** to **Albert T. GRIFFIN**.

**1900** – Clayton County, Federal Census – 80 year old Joseph is listed in the Panhandle District living with his daughter Mary and her husband, Quincy Nash.

**1907** – February 27 – Death visits this couple again and this time it is Joseph he seeks. **Joseph** was laid to rest beside **Martha Louisa** in the County Line Cemetery in Clayton County, GA

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**JOSHUA A. MILNER**  
**MARY ANN ALLS**

**Joshua A. MILNER**, son of **John MILNER** and **Susannah McNEES**, was born on 23 Nov 1815 in SC and died between 1863 and 1870 about age 48.

**Mary Ann ALLS**, daughter of **William ALLS** and **Roseanna ["Rosie"] KUNKLE**, was born in 1827 in SC and died on 9 Mar 1919 in Henry County, GA at age 92.

I do not have a lot of information on this couple so most of what I have is information derived from census records for the period.

Sometime between his birth in 1815 and the time he married Mary in 1844 Joshua left his home, probably in the Lexington County area of SC, and moved to Henry County, GA. It appears that Mary's family also made this move. Why the families moved is unknown. If they knew each other in SC, no records indicate it.

1844 - August 4 - **Joshua MILNER** married **Mary Ann ALLS** in Henry County, GA.

1845 – About - A daughter, **M. A. Milner**, is born to this couple according to the census records of 1850.

1847 – About – A son, **W. M. Milner**, is born according to the 1850 census records.

1848 - May – A daughter, **Nancy A. C. Milner (See Generation Five)** is born in Henry County, GA.

1848-1850 – Joshua is listed on the will of his father John as follows:

7th I give and bequeath to my **son Joshua Milner** two hundred, two and a half acres of land in DeKalb County near Decatur and adjoining James Kirkpatrick and two negroes one a boy by the name Jim, the other a girl by the name of Eliza, all now in his possession.

1850 – October 17 – Henry County Federal Census - 36 year old J. A. Milner is listed in the 42nd District with 23 year old wife M.A. and three children: M.A., W.E., and M.A.C. He has real estate valued at \$900.00

1850 – Henry County, GA Slave-owners census- Joshua (J. A.) is listed as owning 6 slaves. [NOTE: The eastern part of Clayton County was still part of Henry County In 1850.

1850 – About November of 1850, Joshua's father, **John MILNER** died either in Fayette County, GA or Tallapoosa County, AL. The will info I have is not specific. It was written in Fayette County, GA in 1848 and filed in November of 1850 but does not say where. I found the copy of the will in Tallapoosa County, AL.

1851 – A son, **George A. Milner** is born in Henry County, GA according to the 1860 census.

1851 – Joshua's mother, **Susannah McNEES** dies in Tallapoosa County, AL. She is shown living next door to her son Robert in 1850 on the Tallapoosa County census. Living in the house with her is her oldest son William, who is listed as insane.

1854 – A daughter, **Susan R. Milner** is born in Henry County, GA.

1855 – About – A son, **S. T. Milner** is born in Henry County, GA according to the 1860 census.

1857 – About – A son, **S. R. Milner** is born in GA according to the 1860 census.

1858 – Clayton County, a new county is formed from part of Henry County. The Milners now lived in that part of Clayton County.

1860 Apr – A son, child number 8, **James F. Milner** is born in this new Clayton County GA.

1860 – June 10 – Clayton County, GA Federal Census - 44 year old J. A. Milner is listed in the Northern District with 33 year old wife M. A. and 8 children. Since only initials are used, it is almost impossible to tell exactly who these children are. There is a 5 year old and a three year old between 6 year old Susan and 2 month old James F.

Joshua is listed as a farmer and he has real estate property valued at \$4850.00 and personal property valued at \$6500.00.

1863 – Child number 9, a daughter, **Queen V. Milner** is born in Clayton County GA.

1864 – Child number 10, a daughter, **Mary E. Milner** is born in Clayton County, GA.

1864 -- 1870 – Sometime in this span of years, **Joshua A. Milner** either died or was killed. I can find no record of Joshua being involved in the Civil War but he may have been a casualty. Joshua is not on the 1870 census with Mary and the children.

1870 – July 29 – Clayton County, GA Federal Census – 41 year old Mary is listed alone with 5 of the children (George to Mary) in the Jonesboro Post Office. She has real estate property valued at \$1233.00 and personal property valued at \$425.00. Mary is listed as "Keeping house" while 19 year old George is listed as "Farm Laborer". It appears Mary was approximately 34 or 35 when Joshua died or was killed.

1880 – June 15 – Clayton County, GA Federal Census - 52 year old widow, Mary A. is listed in the 548th Georgia Militia District, page 28 with occupation listed as Keeping House. 21 year old James F, 17 year old Queen V., and 16 year old Mary E. are also in the house. James is shown as "farmer".

1881 - December 17 – Mary's father, **William Alls** dies and is buried in Lovejoy, Henry County, GA.

1887 - January 3 – Mary's mother, **Roseanna ["Rosie"] KUNKLE** dies and is buried in Lovejoy, Henry County, GA.

1897 – With husband, father, and mother all deceased, Mary is left alone to face the first death of one of her children, **Susan R. Milner**.

1910 – 1920 – Again, Mary outlives a child. **Nancy A. C. Milner**, who died between these two census years in Clayton County, GA.

1919 Mar 9 – **Mary Ann Alls MILNER** joins others in her family in death. According to Sally Alls, a descendant who contributed information for the Alls family, **Mary** is buried at Pleasant Grove Methodist Church, Clayton County, GA.

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Children from this marriage were:

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- **M. A. MILNER** was born about 1845 in GA.
- **W. M. MILNER** was born about 1847 in GA.
- **Nancy C. MILNER**. Nancy married **Henry C. BELCHER** on 27 Nov 1866. [See Generation Five]
- **George A. MILNER** was born in 1851 in GA.
- **Susan R. MILNER** was born in 1854 in GA. Susan married **Richard Aaron HOWSE**. Susan died in 1897 and is buried in Riverdale Methodist Church Cemetery, Clayton County, GA.
- **S. T. MILNER** was born about 1855 in GA.
- **S. R. MILNER** was born about 1857 in GA.
- **James F. MILNER** was born in 1860 in GA.
- **Queen V. MILNER** was born in 1863 in GA.

- **Mary E. MILNER** was born in 1864 in GA.
-

**Richard Stratton**  
**Lydia Taylor**

**Richard STRATTON** was born in 1809 in Burke County, NC to **Absalom B. STRUTTON, Sr.** (1772-1852) and **Darcus SHEARMAN** (1775-Bef 1840). Richard died in 1874 in Calderwood, Blount County, TN. I have no information about his final resting place.

**Lydia TAYLOR** was born in 1810 in North Carolina and died sometime after the census was taken in 1880. I have no information on the parents of Lydia Taylor other than the note below.

**[SOURCE] - Email from Charles Swainson 06-07-2007**

Name on marriage license was LYDA Taylor not LYDIA but you know how spelling went in those times. My father reported her mothers name was WATERS.

**Richard** and **Lydia** were married on July 7, 1830 in Wilkes County, NC.

General Notes: [SOURCE] -- Graham County NC Heritage Book

Article on the Jack Dillard Stratton family states:

"Dillard Stratton was the great, great grandson of Absalom Stratton, who came from Wilkes Co., NC via Buncombe County and settled in Stratton Shoals, now known as Calderwood, TN, in 1802. He had two sons: John (b. 1799) married Alydia Clark and Richard (b. 1810) married Sue Phillips.

Richard (called Old Dick) and Sue had two sons and two daughters, one being Jack (b. 1835) who married Eliza Russell. They had five children, one being [James] Robert (b. 1855) who married Kandis Carringer.

**NOTE:** Absalom did have sons John and Richard by two different wives. That information will be in the next generation with Absalom.

**NOTE:** The information on Richard here is in error. This Richard did not marry Susan Phillips. It was this Richard's son that married Susan Phillips. Richard, son of Absalom married Lydia Taylor.

**1830 - Burke County, NC Federal Census**

Richard Stratton (20-30) is listed with 1 female (20-30) in the household

**1830-1832** - Sometime between 1830 and 1832, Richard moved his family to Blount County, TN. Richard's half brother John had moved into this area, Stratton Meadows, and Richard followed. It appears Richard remained in Blount County because all of his children are shown as having been born there. I can not find him on any census between 1830 and 1860.

**1832 Oct** – Their first child, a son, Andrew Jackson (Jack) Stratton is born in Blount County, TN. Jack died in 1902 in Robbinsville, Graham County, NC.

**1839 Mar** – A daughter, Darcas Jane Stratton is born in Blount County, TN. Darcas died after 1874.

**Before 1840** – Richard's mother, Darcus Shearman died, probably in Burke County, NC. I have no information but she is probably buried there.

**1840 Apr 9** – A second son, Richard R. Stratton is born in Blount County, TN. Richard died on 15 Oct 1915 in Macon County, TN.

**1840** - I can not find Richard and Lydia on any census in Tennessee or North Carolina

**1845** – A fourth child, a daughter, Evaline Stratton is born in Blount County, TN. Evaline died after 1880.

**1850** - I can not find Richard and Lydia on any census in Tennessee or North Carolina

**1852 Aug 8** – Richard's father, Absalom B. Stratton, Sr., (1772-1852) died while visiting his son John in Stratton Meadows, TN. Absalom was buried in Stratton Meadows instead of being returned to Burke County to be laid to rest beside his wife Darcas.

**1860** - Cherokee County, NC, Federal Census, August 2 - Cheoah District, M653 892 Pg 229 5  
51 year old Richard is listed with 49 year old wife Lydia and 19 year old son, Richard.

**1870** - Blount County, TN, Federal Census, June 28 - District 17, M593 1515 Pg 258  
Richard [60] is shown with wife Lydda J. [60]. They are living next door to their daughter Avaline Nichols and three of her children. Next door to Avaline is Richard Jr. with wife Susan and children Richard and Mary.

**1874** – Richard STRUTTON dies as the result of a fight in Calderwood, Blount County, TN.  
Medical Notes: Death: ABT 1873 in Calderwood (Blount Co), TN  
Note: **Richard (Old Dick) Stratton** was killed in a gun-knife fight with Jack Cochran at Calderwood, Tennessee.

**1880 - June 12 - Federal Census of Monroe county, TN, Enumeration District No. 212, Mulberry 17th Civil District**

L. Stratton is listed alone in house # 87 as 65 years old, keeping house, could read and write, and was born in NC with both parents born in NC

Next door to Lydia in house #86 is E. Nichols, Lydia's daughter and her son R, 13 years old.

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Children of this marriage are:

1. Andrew Jackson Stratton was born Oct. 1832 in Blount County, TN. He married Elizabeth "Eliza" Russell . **[SEE GENERATION FIVE]**
2. Darcus Jane Stratton was born 1836 in TN. She married John Q. Wright on 2 March 1856.
3. Richard R. Stratton was born 9 April 1842 in TN and died 15 OCT, 1915. He married Susan Phillips 3 June 1864 in Yellow Creek, Cherokee, Graham County, NC.
4. Evaline Stratton was born 1845. She married George Nichols [1] and M. Dills [2].

There may have been other children but no census records can be found to establish them.

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**William Russell**  
**Barsheba Carter**

**William Woodward "Woody" RUSSELL** was born in 1801 in GA. Woody died in 1870 in TN.

Family tradition says the Russell's came to America from Ireland

**Barsheba CARTER** was born in 1802 in NC. She was a Native American according to researchers on the internet but there appears to be some question since she was listed on the rejection list later. Barsheba died about 1881 in TN. She was the daughter of William CARTER (1768-1855) and Rebecca HORNBUCKLE (Bet 1770-1845)

**[SOURCE] - Descendants of William Woodie Russell by Georgann Hunter**

Barsheba came over the Trail of Tears by wagon train to the Indian Territory in 1834 when their son, William Jr. was 10 years old. When they arrived in Ft. Smith, AR, there were only 3 log homes there. After becoming dissatisfied with the area, they left and went back to Haywood County, NC. Barsheba was a full blooded Cherokee Indian.

**[SOURCE] - Ancestry WTP DavidsonsFrees Contact Barbara Norkus**

Barbara lists her as Barsheba Carter **SAUEJOHN**

**William RUSSELL** and **Barsheba CARTER** were married about 1824 in Haywood County, NC.

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**Children of this marriage were:**

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- 1 M William Woodward RUSSELL, Jr.  
Born: 1825 - Haywood County, NC  
Died: 1893 - Sallisaw, Sequoyah County, OK  
Spouse: Frances "Fannie" Elizabeth COX (Abt 1831-1875)  
Marr. Date: 1846 - TN  
Spouse: Margaret WILLIAMS (1847-1899)  
Marr. Date: 20 Sep 1877 - Fayetteville, Lincoln County, TN

=====  
General Notes for Child William Woodward RUSSELL, Jr.  
=====

**[SOURCE] - Descendants of William Woodie Russell by Georgann Hunter**

William was said to have been a problem child, so much so his family was glad to be rid of him when he left home. His father married a full blood Cherokee Indian girl against her parents will and they disowned her because he was a worthless man.

He traveled over the "Trail of Tears" to the Indian Territory (as a 10 year old with his parents). He arrived at Ft. Smith when there were only 3 log homes built there. He later moved to Webber Falls and received his allotment of Indian land.

He became dissatisfied and moved back to TN settling in either Marshall or Lincoln County. This is where he married Elizabeth Cox and started his family.

William Jr. served in the Southern Army during the Civil War with his brother, John. William ran away from the War.

I found a NRFF file under the Cherokee Nation files under William W. RUSSELL. I did not order it, so have not seen it with my own eyes, but here is what it states:

Family tradition says that William was actually "Chief Whitewater" and that he had to change his name before moving to Salisaw as he had killed a black man with an ax for raping a Squaw and he had to take his family and leave the place they had lived. This was quoted by Maggie Bell Cooper RUSSELL, daughter-in-law to William Woodward Russell and wife to Albert.

Maggie also told a story about William's first wife who was Indian coming to her house and wanting them (the children) to go "somewhere" with her! She said that Grandma Maggie threw a fit and said her kids weren't going with anyone anywhere! Grandma Maggie could never understand why no one could find a roll number for William because she said he got food from what she called a "Molly Truck" in Salisaw. In those days a wagon would bring food to the Indians that were on the roll.

Frances was of German Descent. It was said by Cora Carpenter that her family disowned her. The story goes that Woody was a known drunk. At one point, he got a marriage license and rode to Frances' home. She jumped on Woody's horse and they eloped. Her parents objected to the marriage because they knew Woody was a drunk and would not work. As a result, they disowned Fannie. Woody would get drunk and beat Fannie, pulling her hair. Because Fannie married against her parent's will, she thought she had to stay with Woody and accept the abuse. They had 12 children! Fannie also kept a jar full of her hair Woody had pulled from her head. After Fannie died, Woody married Margaret Williams and had 5 more children. In all William "Woody" Russell, Jr., had 17 children.

[SOURCE] - Ancestry WTP Thomas J. Hill contact Georgann Hunter  
[SOURCE] - Ancestry WTP DavidsonsFreed's Contact Barbara Norkus  
[SOURCE] - Ancestry WTP Descendants of Leonhart Cagle contact Ronald Cagle  
Birth: 1825 in Haywood County  
[SOURCE] - Ancestry.com - One World Tree - Woody Russell  
[SOURCE] - FamilySearch for William Russell  
[SOURCE] - Ancestry.com WTP: MO, TX, NM, Drinkards contact: Otis Drinkard  
[SOURCE] - Email from Georgann Hunter to George Russell 08/25/2002  
Subj: Re: WOODIE RUSSELL (ca.1799-1 870) Roll #198.  
O f Haywood Co., N.C.

Date: 8 / 25/02 2:10:37 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
From: whunter@omniglobal.net  
To: Gerussell2@aol.com  
Sent from the Internet (Details)  
George,

It seems someone told me that this family was living in Haywood CO, NC in 1850, but by 1851 had moved to TN. I found this in my notes; Russel Woody Haywood CO, N.C. Page or Family # -209 1850 .

Also; 1851 Siler roll: Accepted & Rejected, fam# 10 under Barsheba RUSSELL.

Control Number - NRFF -75-53A-16553  
Record Group - 75  
Series - 53A  
Item-16553  
Title - Enrollment for William W. RUSSELL  
Dates ca. 1898-ca 1914  
Creating Org. Bureau of Indian Affairs.  
Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes.  
Scope & Content: Tribe - Cherokee  
Type: Parent  
Sex: Male  
Census Card Number: M1163

Personal Ref. - William W. Russell  
Access - Unrestricted.  
Use Restrictions - None  
Items -1 item

I also found on the web a Cherokee Listing under the names of RUSSELL. It list 27 RUSSELLS and 12 of the 14 family members of William Woody RUSSELL {Jr.} (including him) are there. Maybe 13 depending if Philip Jasper went by Jasper and not Philip. It's at; -- <http://members.aol.com/rarebk/names7.html>

Family # 136	Barshabea	Henry
Russell	Callie	Hescue
Andrew	Cister	Jasper
Arzelia	Ficelia	Joseph

Payton  
Perry G.  
Robert  
Texa

William  
Not listed: Sarah, Eliza  
Jane, Cute, Nora  
Not listed: wife Margaret

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2 M Son 2 Unknown RUSSELL  
Born: Between 1825 and 1830

=====  
General Notes for Child Son 2 Unknown RUSSELL  
=====

1840 Haywood County census  
William Russel family

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3 M Son 3 Unknown RUSSELL  
Born: Between 1825 and 1830

=====  
General Notes for Child Son 3Unknown RUSSELL  
=====

1840 Haywood County census  
William Russel family

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4 F Daughter 1 Unknown RUSSELL  
Born: Between 1825 and 1830

=====  
General Notes for Child Daughter 1 Unknown RUSSELL  
=====

1840 Haywood County census  
William Russel family

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5 M Son 4 Unknown RUSSELL  
Born: Between 1830 and 1835

=====  
General Notes for Child Son 4Unknown RUSSELL  
=====

1840 Haywood County census  
William Russel family

---

6 M Son 5 Unknown RUSSELL  
Born: Between 1830 and 1835

=====  
General Notes for Child Son 5 Unknown RUSSELL  
=====

1840 Haywood County census  
William Russel family

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7 F Nancy RUSSELL

Born: 1831

Spouse: Mr. GIBSON (Abt 1831- )

=====  
General Notes for Child Nancy RUSSELL  
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1840 Haywood County census  
William Russel family, female makeup of household

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8 M Robert RUSSELL

Born: Abt 1833 - Haywood County, NC

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9 F Elizabeth "Eliza" RUSSELL

Born: 1835 - NC

Died: Bef 1900

Buried: - Lone Oak Church Cemetery, Robbinsville, Graham County, NC

Spouse: Andrew Jackson (Jack) STRATTON (1832-1902)

Marr. Date: Abt 1853 - TN

=====  
Research Notes for Child Elizabeth "Eliza" RUSSELL  
=====

[SOURCE] -- Graham County NC Heritage Book

Article on the Jack Dillard Stratton family states:

"Dillard Stratton was the great, great grandson of Absolum Stratton, who came from Wilkes Co., NC via Buncombe County and settled in Stratton Shoals, now known as Calderwood, TN, in 1802. He had two sons: John (b. 1799) married Alydia Clark; Richard (b. 1810) married Sue Phillips

Richard (called Old Dick) and Sue had two sons and two daughters, one being Jack (b. 1835) who married Eliza Russell. They had five children, one being [James]Robert (b. 1855) who married Kandis Carringer.

1860 - Federal Census - Monroe County, TN

23 year old Eliza is listed with husband and children

**[SEE GENERATION FIVE]**

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10 F Avaline RUSSELL

Born: 1837 - NC

=====  
General Notes for Child Avaline RUSSELL  
=====

1850 - NC - Haywood County census October 14

Avaline - 12

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11 M John RUSSELL

Born: Est 1839 - Haywood County, NC

Spouse: Sarah [UNKNOWN] (Abt 1841- )

=====  
General Notes for Child John RUSSELL  
=====

1860-TN-Polk County census June 5th Benton Post Office

W. W. Russell - 58 - Farmer - b. GA

Bartha - 58 - NC

John Russell - 21 - Farmer - NC

Sarah - 19 - GA

Mary J. - 3 months - TN

1870 - TN - Smith County census August 8th Dixon Springs, Civil District 4

Russell, John - 29 - Farming - \$300 - TN could R/R

Sarah - 28 - Keeping house - TN

Mary J. - 10 - At home - TN

John - 9 - TN

William - 4 - Tn

Pokahantas - 2 - F - W - TN

Ellen - 1 - F - W - TN

It appears John has a relative with her young child living with him at this time

---

12 M Hiram RUSSELL

Born: Abt 1841 - Haywood County, NC

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**1830** – I can find no census records for Woody and Barsheba. This time period is one of upheaval for the Native American Cherokee tribe. Talk is in progress about moving these same warriors that had befriended Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812. Jackson had promised them they would be able to stay on their lands but politics being what politics are, he succumbed to the pressure to have them driven out. Only those that were willing to run and hide in the mountains of NC and TN were able to escape the net of capture and the long "Trail of Tears."

**1840 - NC - Haywood County census pg 113**

William Russel 133001 ---- 211001

1 male under 5..... [John b. 1839]

3 males of 5 and under 10..... [Robert b. 1833 -- Unknown 1 -- Unknown 2]

3 males of 10 under 15..... [William Jr. b. 1824 -- Unknown 1 -- Unknown 2]

1 male of 30 under 40..... [William "Woody" - 39 y/o]

2 females under 5..... [Elizabeth "Eliza" b. 1837 -- Avaline b. 1838]

1 female of 5 under 10..... [Unknown]

1 female of 10 under 15..... [Unknown]

1 female of 30 under 40..... [Barsheba - 38 y/o]

**1842 - [SOURCE] - George Russell documentation of William Russell**

<GeorgeERussell@msn.com>

"Owned no land, but was on 1842 personal property mortgage record.

**1843 - [SOURCE] - Email from Richard Russell to George Russell in 1989**

"Need information on Hiram Russell who appears on 1843 land record in Haywood Co., NC, but not on Census. Nelson Curtis, of Gilmer Co., NC [GA], sold Hiram Russell of Haywood Co., NC, 70 acres in 1843. As Woody Russell was "Jurat" on this record, and named a son Hiram, there is an "indicated" relationship."

**1850 - NC - Haywood County census October 14**

Woody Russell - 47 - Farmer - \$150

B Russell - 47

Robert - 17

Eliza - 14

Avaline - 12

John - 11 - NC

Hiram - 9 - NC

**1851 - Siler roll: Accepted & Rejected, fam# 10 under Barsheba Russell**

Subj: Re: WOODIE RUSSELL (ca.1799-1 870) -209 1850 .

O f Haywood Co., N.C.

Date: 8 / 25/02

Time: 2:10:37 PM Pacific Daylight

From: whunter@omniglobal.net

To: Gerussell2@aol.com

Sent from the Internet (Details)

George,

It seems someone told me that this family was living in Haywood CO, NC in

1850, but by 1851 had moved to TN.

I found this in my notes; Russel Woody

Haywood CO, N.C. Page or Family #

Also; 1851 Siler roll: Accepted & Rejected, fam# 10 under B arsheba RUSSELL.

Roll #198.

Control Number - NRFF -75-53A-16553

Record Group - 75

Series - 53A

Item-16553

Title - Enrollment for William W. RUSSELL

Dates ca. 1898-ca 1914

Creating Org. Bureau of Indian Affairs.  
Commissioner to the Five Civilized  
Tribes.

Scope & Content: Tribe - Cherokee  
Type: Parent  
Sex: Male  
Census Card Number: M1163

Personal Ref. - William W. Russell  
Access - Unrestricted.  
Use Restrictions - None  
Items -1 item

I also found on the web a Cherokee Listing  
under the names of RUSSELL. It list  
27 RUSSELLS and 12 of the 14 family members  
of William Woody RUSSELL []  
(including him) are there. Maybe 13 depending if  
Philip Jasper went by Jasper  
and not Philip. It's at;

<http://members.aol.com/rarebk/names7.html>

GA

### **1851 Census of Cherokee's east of the Mississippi**

[SOURCE] - Genforum.genealogy.com  
<<http://genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-bin/print.cgi?carter::9855.html>>  
REJECTED

The foregoing persons descendants of William CARTER claim to have

Cherokee Blood from his wife Rebecca. I learned from a good source that Rebecca CARTER never  
claimed that she was any part Indian but that she was in her lifetime in the habit of denying it. She was  
said to be part Catawba so that

None of the ancestors were ever recognized as Cherokee, what I can learn. But in some way Woody  
Russell's family immigrated to Arkansas as Cherokees. They returned to Haywood County, North  
Carolina where they now reside. In inquired of a large company of old Cherokee men who have know Mr.  
Russell family. It seems to be their opinion decidedly that they are not Cherokees. This seems to be the  
prevailing opinion with person whose opportunities for knowing the facts best. The affidavits of the  
Cherokee Indians were forwarded to me after I left Haywood which declare was a Cherokee. See paper  
marked Russell and CARTER, I have no confidence in the declaration of a Cherokee made without  
proper examination and though an interpreter interested in the statements. The Children of these families  
were reported to me by the heads of the families.

NO.10

Woody Russell	50	
Barsheba Russell	49	wife (She is the daughter of William CARTER)
Robert Russell	18	s
Eveline Russell	14	d
John Russell	12	s

### **1860 - TN - Polk County census June 5th Benton Post Office**

W. W. Russell - 58 - Farmer - b. GA  
Bartha - 58 - NC  
John Russell - 21 - Farmer - NC  
Sarah - 19 - GA  
Mary J. - 3 months - TN

=====  
Source Citations  
=====

1. Internet Search ABBR Internet Searches, Message Board.

[SOURCE] - Descendants of William Woodie Russell - by Georgann Hunter

[SOURCE] - Descendants of Andrew Jackson "Jack" Stratton - Received 2-16-2007 from Cory Mills

[SOURCE] - Ancestry WTP Descendants of Leonhart Cagle contact Ronald Cagle - Birth: 1801

[SOURCE] - Ancestry WTP From Adam to Me contact Linda Buchholz - William Woody Russell  
[SOURCE] - Ancestry.com - One World Tree - Woody Russell

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**Rev. Isaac Carringer  
Elizabeth Crisp**

**Rev. Isaac CARRINGER** was born in 1809 in Buncombe County, NC to parents Daniel CARRINGER and Nancy FUNKHOUSER. Isaac died on 11 March 1896 and was buried at Odom Chapel, Graham County, NC.

[SOURCE] - Graham County Heritage

Story on Daniel Carringer/Nancy Funkhouser

Daniel and Nancy Carrinder had three children –

Isaac Carringer born in Caldwell County North Carolina - CA 1810

Nancy Carringer born in Cocke County, Tennessee married William Crisp on August 24, 1837

Rachel Carringer who married Joshaway Gibson on March 21, 1830

Isaac Carringer married Elizabeth Crisp and they had twelve children. Isaac is listed as a Baptist Minister in John Preston Arthur's book, "Western North Carolina History". Quote from page 212, "Rev. Isaac Carringer came from the eastern part of the state and lived on Santeetlah. He was a Baptist minister and died about 1897, highly respected". Our family records show he died March 11, 1896.

**NOTE:** Buncombe County was formed in 1791. In 1833 parts of Burke County and Buncombe County were combined to form Yancey County. In 1841 parts of Burke County and Wilkes County were combined to form Caldwell County. Since Isaac was born in 1809, he could have been born possibly in that part of Buncombe County that later became Caldwell County in 1841.

**Nancy Elizabeth "Betsy" CRISP** was born in 1813 in Buncombe County, NC to parents Isaac CRISP and Rachel HOUSER. Elizabeth died on 23 September 1886 and was buried at Odom Chapel, Graham County, NC.

**NOTE:** ==> After searching every record I can find, I can find no positive proof to link Elizabeth to either Isaac or William Bray Crisp. These two are brothers and both sets of descendants claim their Elizabeth married Isaac Carringer.

There is just enough circumstantial evidence to link this Nancy Elizabeth Crisp to Isaac and Rachel.

Until I find conclusive evidence to repute it, I believe Nancy is the daughter of Isaac and Rachel and will post accordingly. If proof positive appears later, I will be more than happy to change the relationship.

[SOURCE] - Ancestry.com - You searched for Isaac Carringer

Name: Nancy Elizabeth Crisp /// Spouse: Isaac Carringer

Parents: Isaac Crisp , Rachel Houser //// Birth Place: Buncombe, NC /// Birth Date: 1813

Marriage Date: 1830 /// Death Place: Graham, NC //// Death Date: 23 Sep 1886

[SOURCE] - FamilySearch Ancestral File v4.19

[http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/search/frameset\\_search.asp?PAGE=ancestorsearchresults.asp](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/search/frameset_search.asp?PAGE=ancestorsearchresults.asp)

Husband's Name

Isaac CRISP

Born: Abt 1788 Place: Of, Burke County, North Carolina

Died: Bef 1 1824 Dec Place: Of, Haywood County, North Carolina

Father: Bray CRISP

Mother: Mrs. Bray CRISP

Wife's Name

Rachel HOUSER

Born: Abt 1790 Place: <Buncombe County, North Carolina>

Children

1. F Rachel Born: Abt 1810 Place: <Buncombe County, North Carolina>

2. F Elizabeth "Betsey" CRISP Born: Abt 1812 Place: <Buncombe County, North Carolina>  
+ others

[SOURCE] - <http://genforum.genealogy.com/crisp/messages/231.html>

Re: NANCY ELIZABETH CRISP b 1813 Buncomb NC

Posted by: wanda crisp Date: September 23, 1999 at 11:23:54

In Reply to: NANCY ELIZABETH CRISP b 1813 Buncomb NC by BILL BEASLEY 231of 1443

I have connection will you please correspond with me by mail! P.O. Box 254, Whitmire, S.C. 29178. We have kin to let you know how much I know Isaac Crisp was born in 1796 married Rachel Hauser and a child of their was Nancy Elizabeth Crisp born in 1813 died in 9-23-1886 married Isaac Carringer. The first Isaac was a son of William Bray Crisp.

[SOURCE] - <http://genforum.genealogy.com/crisp/messages/127.html>

NANCY ELIZABETH CRISP b 1813 Buncomb NC

Posted by: BILL BEASLEY Date: February 19, 1999 at 03:17:52 -- 127 of 1443

NANCY ELIZABETH CRISP, dau. of ISAAC CRISP and RACHEL HAUSER, was born in 1813 in Buncomb co. NC. She married ISAAC CARRINGER abt 1830, and died in Graham Co NC on 23 Sept 1886. Her children were John Brownlow and William H. (others not known). Any info appreciated, especially on her parents.

**Isaac CARRINGER and Elizabeth CRISP** was married in 1830 but it must have been after the census was taken. Isaac is not listed on the 1830 census.

#### 1840 - Macon County, NC census

Isaac Carringer is listed as follows:

Males: 12001 [William, John, Wesley and Isaac]

Females 20001 [Cynthia, Avaline and Elizabeth]

Isaac did not own any slaves

#### 1850 - June 1st - Federal Census - Cherokee County, NC

Isaac and Elizabeth with 10 children: William [19], John [18], Wesley [16], Avaline [16], Eliza [12], Marion [10], Andrew [4], Elvira [3], Amanda [2], George [1]

#### 1860 - Census - Cherokee County, NC - Cheoah Township, Fort Montgomery Post Office

Isaac - 50 Farmer Born in Buncombe County, NC

Elizabeth - 47 Born in Buncombe County, NC

Avaline - 22 Born in Macon County, NC

Andrew - 16 Born in Cherokee County, NC

Elvira - 13 Born in Cherokee County, NC

George W. - 9 Born in Cherokee County, NC

Samuel H. - 8 Born in Cherokee County, NC

Elsbury T. - 5 Born in Cherokee County, NC

\*\*\*\*\*Frances - 1 Born in Cherokee County, NC \*\*\*\*\* While not impossible for Elizabeth to give birth to a child at 46 years of age, I feel this is a granddaughter living with them at this time. Hopefully continued research will provide an answer.

#### 1870 - Census - Cherokee County, NC - Cheoah Township, Valley Town Post Office

Isaac Caringer - 60 - m - w - Farmer - NC

Elizabeth - 57 - f - w - Keeping House - NC

Avaline - 31 - f - w - At Home - NC

Elvira - 23 - f - w - At Home - NC

George W. - 19 - m - w - Farm Labor - NC

Samuel - 17 - m - w - Farm Labor - NC

Elsbury - 15 - m - w - Farm Labor - NC

\*\*\*\*\* Jasper - 1 - m - w - At Home - NC

\*\*\*\*\* Melvin - 7/12 - m - w - NC

\*\*\*\*\* Who are Jasper and Melvin. I feel they are grandchildren but from who? Possibly Elvira?

The census indicates their last names are Carringer so it may be one of their boys has left their children there temporarily. They are both gone with the 1880 census. One of these could belong to Avaline since she is shown as HOH in 1880 with an 11 year old son.

#### 1880 - Federal Census - Graham County, NC

Isaac - 70 Farmer

Elizabeth - 64 Keeping House

No children or grandchildren

[SOURCE] - Email from Iris West <Hezzie01@aol.com> 07-09-2007

Thanks for the quick response. I was doing so research on Genforum yesterday and did run across the discrepancy you are talking about. I also went through the cemetery listing in the Graham Co. Heritage book for their grave listing. The headstones only say **Isaac Carringer** and **Betsy Carringer**. I doubt seriously that there is a death certificate in the courthouse.

#### The Children of Isaac and Elizabeth:

##### 1 M William H. CARRINGER

Born: 1830 - UKC, Haywood County, NC

Died: 17 Sep 1901 - UKC, Graham County, NC (1)

Spouse: Eliza ADAMS (Abt 1838- )

Research Notes for Child William H. CARRINGER

If I were a betting man, I would bet the H. stands for Houser but I can not find proof of this.

---

##### 2 M John Brownlow CARRINGER, Sr.

Born: 4 Sep 1832 - Haywood County, NC

Died: 26 Sep 1914 - Yellow Creek, Graham County, NC

Buried: - Lower Yellow Creek Cemetery, Graham County, NC

Spouse: Sarah WILLIAMS (1832- )

General Notes for Child John Brownlow CARRINGER, Sr.

John was born in Haywood County, NC according to the 1860 census

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##### 3 M Daniel Nathan Wesley CARRINGER

Born: 2 Mar 1834 - Macon County, NC

Died: 18 Apr 1874 - Robbinsville, Graham County, NC

Buried: - Old Mother Church Cemetery, Graham County, NC

Spouse: Avarilla WILLIAMS (1838-1913)

Marriage Date: 2 Mar 1851

General Notes for Child Daniel Nathan Wesley CARRINGER

[SOURCE] Graham County Heritage Book Page 67

Story on CARRINGER, John Brownlow III

"Daniel Nathan Carringer born 1834 married Avarilla Williams on March 2, 1851. He never filed claim for pension but was a private in Company G Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry, 100 days' union army volunteers, 1864. Died on April 18, 1874 in Robbinsville, Graham County North Carolina and buried in the Old Mother Cemetery.

According to Bob Barker from Andrews, North Carolina, now deceased, he was known as Daniel Nathan Carringer, Wesley Carringer, West Carringer, G. Westley, Daniel W. Carringer. His name appears on the muster in roll of Company G Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry as Wesley Carringer and on the muster out roll as Daniel W. Carringer.

A. J. Carringer, age 76, Post Office Millsaps, Graham County North Carolina, said in an affidavit on November 7, 1921 that he served in the Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry in 1864 and Wesley Carringer was captured by the Kirkland Bushwhackers at the Tallassee Ford in 1863. The tombstone in the Old Mother Cemetery reads "Wesley Carringer 1837 - 1874"

[SOURCE]: Graham County Centennial Book

#### OLD MOTHER CHURCH AND CEMETERY

The Old Mother Church was originally called the Cheoah Baptist Church and is said to have been formerly organized on July 18, 1848, by Elders Baily Bruce and James Kimsey, traveling missionaries under the auspices of the Baptist Stale Conventions, The church had eighteen members. The name "Cheoah Baptist Church" was used until the church voted in 1924 to use the name, "Robbinsville Baptist Church of Robbinsville, NC."

The property for the Old Mother Church and the large cemetery which surrounds it was given by the patriarch of the Methodist clan, Abraham Wiggins, with the stipulation that it be used for worship purposes

The exact beginning date for the cemetery is not known but it is thought to be around 1840. The present cemetery covers the hill and extends to another hill behind the church with earliest gravestone marked Amanda Harwood, 1856.

On Decoration Day, everyone packed picnic baskets, loaded the family into wagons or walked to the church decorating graves, singing and preaching. This all day affair was the high-light of the year.

On March 2, 1972 at 3 A.M. Charlie Buchanan felt a calling to take care of the Old Mother Church which was in a rundown condition. The roof was leaking, the windows were out, and dust was six or eight inches deep. With donations from interested people Charlie has restored the church and surroundings to a landmark to be proud of.

Submitted by: Charles Buchanan, Robbinsville, NC

Source: Graham County Centennial Book

<This article was published in the "Graham County Heritage Book" on page 22.>

#### [SEE GENERATION FIVE]

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#### 4 F Cynthia Louise CARRINGER (1)

Born: 1837 - UKC, Macon County, NC

Died: Between 1840 and 1850

General Notes for Child Cynthia Louise CARRINGER

13 year old Cynthia is not on the 1850 census by name with her parents.

---

#### 5 F Avaline CARRINGER

Born: 1838 - UKC, Macon County, NC

Died: After 1880 (1)

General Notes for Child Avaline CARRINGER

Avaline is listed on the 1850 census as 14 years old living in her father's house

Avaline is listed on the 1860 census as 22 years old living in her father's house

Avaline is listed on the 1870 census as 31 years old living in her father's house

Avaline is listed on the 1880 census as HOH 41 years old with an 11 year old son and a 5 year old daughter

---

#### 6 M Andrew Jackson CARRINGER

Born: 1843 - Cherokee County, NC

Died: 2 Oct 1923 - UKC, Graham County, NC (1)

Spouse: Lizzie PHILLIPS (       -       )

General Notes for Child Andrew Jackson CARRINGER

16 year old Andrew is listed with parents and siblings on the census

---

7 M Francis Marion CARRINGER  
Born: 1840 - Cherokee County, NC  
Died: 27 Dec 1904 (1)  
Spouse: Feeney MILLSAPS (       -       )  
General Notes for Child Francis Marion CARRINGER  
Listed as Marion on the 1850 census -- 10 years old

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8 F Elvira CARRINGER  
Born: 1847 - Cherokee County, NC  
General Notes for Child Elvira CARRINGER  
Listed on the 1850 census  
Listed on the 1860 census

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9 F Amanda Margaret CARRINGER  
Born: 1848 (1)  
Died: Between 1850 and 1860  
General Notes for Child Amanda Margaret CARRINGER  
2 year old Amanda is listed on the 1850 census with parents and siblings  
12 year old Amanda is not listed on the 1860 census with parents and siblings.

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10 M George W. CARRINGER  
Born: 1851 - Cherokee County, NC  
Spouse: Nancy C. FARR (       -       )  
General Notes for Child George W. CARRINGER  
1850 - 1 year old George is listed with parents and siblings  
1860 - 9 year old George is listed with parents and siblings  
1870 - 19 year old George is listed in Isaac's household

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11 M Samuel Harvey CARRINGER  
Born: 1853 - Cherokee County, NC  
Died: 1928 - Tellico Plains, Monroe County, TN  
Spouse: "Tenny" Tennessee N. FARR (Cir 1858-Bef 1928)  
General Notes for Child Samuel Harvey CARRINGER  
1860 - 8 year old Samuel H. is listed with parents and siblings  
1870 - Census 17 years old in Isaac's household  
[SOURCE] - Charles Swainson - Descendants of Isaac Carringer  
Samuel lived in Robbinsville, NC

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12 M Elsbury Taylor CARRINGER  
Born: Sep 1855 - Cherokee County, NC  
Died: 10 Jul 1928 - UKC, Graham County, NC  
Spouse: ALLEN (       -       )  
General Notes for Child Elsbury Taylor CARRINGER  
1860 - 5 year old Elsbury T. is listed with parents and siblings  
1870 Census Listed as 15 years old in Isaac's household

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13 F Frances CARRINGER  
Born: Abt 1859 - Cherokee County, NC  
General Notes for Child Frances CARRINGER  
1 year old Frances appears on the 1860 census with Isaac and Elizabeth. While not impossible at age 46 to give birth to a new daughter, this may be a granddaughter. Maybe further research will reveal the truth.

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### **Source Citations**

1. Internet Search ABBR Internet Searches, Ancestry.com.
  2. Federal Census, 1870 Cherokee Co., NC, Cheoah - Valley Town - 108/108.
  3. Charles N. Swainson, Descendants of Isaac Carringer. Death Information.
-

**William M. "Billy" Williams**  
**TREPHENA MILLSAPS**

Family Group Record for William M. ["Billy"] WILLIAMS and Trephena MILLSAPS

**Husband: William M. ["Billy"] WILLIAMS**

Born: 5 Jun 1804 - UKC, Surry County, NC  
Died: Between 1856 and 1860 - Tapoco, Graham County, NC  
Cause of Death: Killed by a mare  
Buried: - Lower Yellow Creek Cemetery, Graham County, NC  
Father: Thomas WILLIAMS (1753-1831) (1)  
Mother: Sarah "Sally" KABED (1755- )

**Marriage:** 18 May 1824 Place: UKC, Blount County, TN

[SOURCE] - Marriage License 15 May 1824 in Blount county, TN  
Submitted by Joy Locke  
State of Tennessee, Blount County  
To any regular minister of the Gospel having the care of souls, or any justice of the peace for said county, greeting.  
I, Jacob F. Foute, clerk of the Court and Quarter sessions of the county of Blount aforesaid, by virtue of the power in me vested by law, do license you, or either of you, to celebrate the rites of matrimony between William Williams and Triphina Millsapps by uniting them together as husband and wife. Given at office, in Maryville the 15th day of May Anno Domini, 1824, and of American Independence the 48th.  
Jacob F. Foute clk  
by his deb. Dav. D. Foute  
  
May the 18th 1824 this day I do certify that I solemnized the right of matrimony between the within persons.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Billue, mg.

**Wife: Trephena MILLSAPS**

Born: 15 Jul 1805 - UKC, Carter County, TN  
Died: After 1860  
Buried: - Lower Yellow Creek Cemetery, Graham County, NC (1)  
Father: Jesse W. MILLSAPS (1768-1845)  
Mother: Mary [Polly] Elizabeth HYDER (1770-1860) (1)

---

**Events And Notes For William And Trephena**

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**1830** - William and Trephenia appear on the 1830 Monroe County, TN census with three children.

**1840** - William and Trephenia appear on the 1840 Monroe County census with 8 children.

**1850** - William and Trephena appeared on the Federal census on 2 Nov 1850 in 17th Civil District, Monroe County, TN.

46 year old William Williams, farmer, born in NC is listed with wife Trephena and children: Jesse, Sarah, George, William, Avarilla, Carson, Bartlett, Marion, Alzena, Candis.

The 1850 census shows William born in NC and Trephena in TN  
According to the census, William could not read or write.  
According to the census, Trephena could not read or write.

**1860** - Trephena appeared on the Federal census on 28 Jul 1860 in Cheoah District - Fort Montgomery, Cherokee County, NC.

57 year old Trephena is listed as HOH, Widow, \$2500, \$350, Carter Co., TN  
Bartlett, Marion, Alzena, Candis, and Martha A. are listed in the house.

[SOURCE] - GOODSPEED'S HISTORY OF MONROE COUNTY, TN

Published 1887 --- Goodspeed pages created by Joy Locke, Co - Host, Monroe County TnGenWeb Page

MONROE COUNTY lies partly in the Tennessee Valley and partly in the Unaka Mountains. Like other counties of this region, it is rich in minerals, especially iron and marble, neither of which have yet been extensively developed. The western portion of the county is traversed by four parallel valleys, through which run Sweetwater, Pond, Fork and Bat Creeks. The largest stream within the county is Lillico Run (Tellico Run?), which rises, in the mountains, and flowing north unites with the Little Tennessee, which forms the dividing line between Monroe and Blount Counties. Both of these streams are navigable a portion of the year. The greater part of the county was originally included in the Hiwassee District, and at one time contained several Indian towns, among which were Tellico, Chota, Citico, Toqua and Tennessee. It also contains the ruins of the first structure erected in Tennessee by Anglo-Americans. It is known as old Fort Loudon, and was built in 1756 by order of the Earl of Loudon, then governor of Virginia. It was garrisoned by a force of 200 men under Capts. Demere and Stuart. Its armament consisted of twelve cannon brought across the mountains on pack horses. In 1760 the Cherokee Indians, instigated by the French, captured the fort, and afterward killed the greater part of the garrison. It was never reoccupied. After the purchase of the Hiwassee District the county was rapidly settled.

Among the first settlers in the vicinity of Tellico Plains were Thomas, John and Andrew L. Henderson, Austin and Alexander Rider, Samuel McSpadden, James and Michael Ghormley, Isaac, David and William Stephens, John, Jacob and Joseph Smith, William and Benjamin Reagan, **William Williams**, William Ainesworth, Michael Carroll and William Bradley. The last two named in 1821 erected a small iron furnace, which was continued in operation until some time in the forties, when more extensive works were established. The western part of the county was settled by William Patten, T. C. and Hugh Goddard, James Axely (the renowned pioneer preacher), William Neal, John Lotspeich, Daniel Heiskell, John Fine, Charles Owen, Jonas Derrick, Rev. Robert Sneed, Stephen McCaslin and brothers, Eli and Pressly Cleveland, Hugh H. Gregory and Alexander Biggs. In the central and northern portions of the county were the Johnsons, Montgomerys, McCrays, McCroskeys, Kelsos, Tiptons, McGhees, Blackburns, HARRISES, Calloways, Bicknells and Hickses.

[SOURCE] - "Our Hill Country Heritage" Volume I Williams and related families by Paul J. Long:

There is a grave in the lower Yellow Creek Cemetery that is said by descendants to be the worldly resting place of William Williams I. There are two headstones to this grave, the original slate stone with no inscription, and a newer Marble stone with this inscription " Bill Williams I, killed by mare. The following story is told by Gilburn Williams, son of William Williams II and Lila Kirkland Williams, as how William Williams I was killed by the mare.

William Williams I was going to the home of William Williams II near Deels Gap. (probably at the toll gate) when near the top of the mountain the mare was frightened by some knives, spoons and forks that William Williams I was carrying. The faster the mare ran the more the silver rattled. The mare passed under a low limb of a tree, such that William's head struck the branch and he was killed. The black hat that he was wearing was kept for a long while by his son William II

Of the above children, at least five were in the Civil war. Jesse was killed on Dec 4 1864, George, Bertly and Jefferson Deaver were killed together on Jan 10, 1865. Their bodies are now resting in the National Cemetery in Knoxville, TN. Marion died in 1873 as a result of his wounds & William Williams II also.

## THE CIVIL WAR AND THE WILLIAMS FAMILIES

writer: Unknown - found in "The Nora William Family Tree" of Lamarr McCulloch

The American Civil War period was a very trying and difficult time for most Tennesseans. The people of Tennessee had divided feelings about the War. Many residents would have preferred to remain neutral and have nothing to do with it, but social and political pressures forced them to choose sides. In many instances the choice was made in our effort to preserve their families.

For some it was a problem of staying alive. People who were friends before the War were destined to become mortal enemies. Even to this day there are ill feelings between some families due to the role their ancestors played in the War. These feelings are most evident in rural sections where there has not been an influx or exchange of people from other sections of the country.

Time alone will erase these feelings.

Before the War was over in East Tennessee many soldiers, both Union and Confederate, were having to live off of the land by taking or stealing whatever they needed. War became a way of life for some. A number of groups of soldiers became guerrillas or bushwhackers, most were probably those who had Confederate leanings, but some also supported the Union. Once these men had chosen the role of bushwhacker, for whatever reason, there was no turning back.

For fear of their lives many young men were forced into joining sides in the War that they were opposed to. This situation happened to members of the Williams and Kirkland Families. In some instances, as soon as opportunities presented themselves, these people hid out in the mountains, and later joined the opposing side. This act put some of their lives in jeopardy.

Some of them were killed by people they had known all of their life. Such was the awful War in the mountains of East Tennessee.

We, today, cannot pass judgment on the actions of men, who lived during one of America's greatest conflicts because we cannot know the heartaches and pressures that helped shape their lives. We can, however, work to preserve the country that survived those troubled days, and pray that never again will its citizens ever have to face a similar situation.

### The Williams' Boys During The Civil War by Bill Baker

Furnished to Bill Griffin by Lamarr McCulloch 8-31-2004

#### AFFAIR AT TOQUA

The William's Boys During

The Civil War

In Memory of

George - Bartley - Jesse and Marion Williams, of Company H

By Bill Baker

In June of 1861, George, Bart, Marion and William Williams, the sons of Bill and Triphena Williams of Cherokee County, North Carolina, enlisted in the Twenty-Ninth North Carolina Infantry, C.S.A. Although their enlistment pre-dated the Confederate Conscription Act, they may have been forced to join the Rebel army. By late 1864, George, Bart, Jesse and Marion were in the Union army, enlisted on the rolls of Company H, Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry, One Hundred Days Union Volunteers. They were under the command of Lt. Col. Joseph Devine. Captain Joseph Gray was their company commander. George, Bart and Jesse were all killed during the war. Marion died in 1873, finally succumbing to a bullet that struck him in 1864. Of the five Williams brothers, only my great-great-great-grandfather, William Williams, would survive the war.

Note: Some of the following information was excerpted from the Robert B. Barker Papers, of the McClung Historical Collection, with the typing and spelling left in Mr. Barker's original note form ... other information was compiled and arranged by William D. Baker.

## ABBOTT'S RAID - AFFAIR AT LITTLE TOQUA

### DEATH ON THE TURNPIKE

When General John Crawford Vaughn of the Confederate Army, arrived in Monroe County from Carter's Depot in Carter County, upper East Tennessee, in November 1864, complaint was made to General Vaughn by citizens, regarding the raids of Bushwhackers and robbers from Ball Play in the ridges, on farmers and others near Madisonville and Sweetwater. General Vaughn had been Sheriff of Monroe County for several years, resigning to go into the Confederate Army, and he had taken the 1860 Federal Census himself on horseback and knew the Ball Play section well. General Vaughn had, with 100 Calvary, completely dispersed and routed Captain Goldman Bryson's Company at Beaver Dam, Cherokee County, N.C., October 27, 1863 and he knew exactly how to handle these Bushwhackers. He gave the officer, formerly in charge of his personal bodyguard, Captain W. R. Abbott, sixty to eighty men and ordered them to go to Ball Play and clean out the nest of Bushwhackers and robbers. Captain Abbott and his men, all well mounted and heavily armed, started out about December 3, 1864. The Kirkland Bushwhackers were either at their hide-out at the Kirkland Springs just below the mouth of Little Santeetlah Creek and near the present Joyce Kilmer National Memorial Forrest, in present Graham County, North Carolina, or they spotted the Confederate Calvary and fled because no Kirkland Bushwhacker was caught in the dragnet, according to available records. Apparently Captain Abbott never divided his command but swept through the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 20th Civil Districts of Monroe County, from December 4th to December 7th 1864.

Captain Abbott picked up several deserters from the Confederate Army and several from the Union Army too. Their names and that of their regiments in the Union Army, show up on the Register at Asheville, NC Jail or at the Confederate Military Prison at Flat Rock in Henderson County, North Carolina. On December 4th, Captain Abbott and his men appear to have been at the Tallassee Ford (Calderwood) on the Little Tennessee River in Blount County, Tennessee, near the Monroe County line, and killed Jesse Williams (brother of George and Bart Williams) (four Williams brothers, Bartlett, George, Jesse, and Marion, are listed as privates on the rolls of Company H, 3rd Tennessee Mounted Infantry) and at the same time, captured David Ohr (Dave Orr) and Miles Gray.

(also of Company H) On the Muster Out Roll of Company H, Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry, 100 Days Union Volunteers, it is noted of Pvt. Jesse Williams, who was around 35 years old at the time ... "Killed by Guerillas in Chilhowee Valley, Dec. 4, 1864." Of his brother, Pvt. Marion M. Williams, who was about 19 years old, this comment is found on the Muster Out Roll ... "Wounded in skirmish in N. C. on Dec. 4, 1864, and cannot be moved."

Returning to Captain Abbott and his detachment of Scouts in Monroe County on December 7, 1864, it appears that he captured two deserters from Company D, 100 day's Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry of the Union Army, John Cottrell and his brother-in-law, Thomas R. Arp, they being in the road in a drunken condition. Cottrell tried to escape and was shot dead and Arp died later of smallpox in the Confederate Prison at Salisbury, N. C., on February 4, 1865. On the same day, December 7, 1864, Captain Abbott and his men, shot and killed Benjamin C. Mull of Captain Timothy Lyons' Company C, Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry, but no details have been found regarding the circumstances of Mull's death.

Also, after the war, Wesley McCann, a former private of Company E, Seventh Tennessee Mounted Infantry, 12 Months Union Volunteers, testified that he and Private Edward Forrester, of the same unit, were captured on Ball Play on December 7, 1864.

About noon on December 7th, Captain Abbott and his Scouts, unexpectedly ran into a gang of thieves and robbers on their way to rob a Tan Yard which was located on Tan Yard Branch near the grist mill and general store of Squire S. S. Glen and now defined as being near Little George Sloan's store in the Tariffville Community. (In the mountains, anybody on the other side was considered a bushwhacker during this period of the Civil War) The Confederates apparently met the gang before they reached their objective, somewhere in the road near the house of John Skidmore on Little Toqua Creek. The Confederates charged immediately and opened fire, killing Richardson Mills, the leader, instantly and shooting John Brown from Stecoah Township, Cherokee, now Graham County, N. C., three times and leaving him for dead. The remainder of the gang escaped or were captured and among those captured were Bas Shaw and his son, Joe Berry Shaw, a mere boy.

From the pension claims, affidavits and testimonies of those who were witnesses as recorded in Mr. Barker's research, it is possible to piece together the following account of the affair at Little Toqua.

The Union "gang" was taken by surprise; there is no doubt about that. They were badly outnumbered... 60 to 80 men, against 12, and one of them a "mere boy". Of the twelve, three were on the rolls of Company H, 3rd Tennessee: Richardson Mills, Bart Williams, and George Williams. The Rebels later turned Joe Berry Shaw loose because he was so young, only 17. Richardson Mills was killed immediately. In an affidavit years later, Squire Randolph Laney, who was wounded, but escaped, testified that he was in the fight with the Rebels and that "Lieutenant" Mills was killed; that "Captain" Shaw was taken prisoner, and John Brown was shot off of his horse. John Brown was hit three times by the volley that raked the little Union command. He was left for dead, bleeding profusely, with wounds that appeared to be mortal. But miraculously, he somehow survived, and years later, in 1882, he testified under oath that he was shot three times on December 7, 1864 ... once in the left thigh, once in the hip, and once through the back of his neck, with the rifle ball coming out under his jaw. He also testified that he crawled 200 yards, crossing over a fence, while calling for help. Four women came out of the house of John Skidmore and carried him back to the house in a quilt. Their names were: Jennie and Margaret Skidmore, Fannie Jenkins, and Nancy Thompson. During the same testimony he also stated that he had served 12 months in the 39th North Carolina Infantry, C.S.A., but had deserted and joined the Union Army.

George William's wife, Elizabeth Kirkland Williams, testified to a pension examiner in 1885 that she heard the shooting at John Skidmore's place. She said her husband's mule came back to the gate, (of the William's home) and that some Rebels came by and took it. She and some other women went to see what had happened, and she found that her husband, his brother, Bartley, and Jeff Deaver had been captured, and that John Brown and the Laney boy had been wounded. She also testified that John Cottrell and Richardson Mills had been killed.

The brother-in-law of George and Bart Williams, Lieutenant Charles Anthony of Company C, Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry, stationed at Loudon, upon hearing of the fight at Little Toqua, sent a detachment of twenty men to bury the dead. Corporal John Adams and Private J.B. Crisp, who were members of the burial party, testified years later that they went to Little Toqua with the intentions of burying John Brown, but found him to still be alive. Although there is no official mention of the burial of Richardson Mills, if the local citizens had not already done so, then most likely, he was interred by the men of Company C. After leaving Little Toqua the burial party went on to Knoxville, where they were mustered out of service.

The Little Toqua Cemetery lies at a crossroads, at the point where the old Unicoi Turnpike running from the Little Tennessee River to Tellico, is bisected by the road running from Chilhowee and Citico Creek to the Vonore area. Richardson Mill's gravestone is the oldest dated stone in the cemetery although, there are several stones of plain slate that bear no inscriptions. Some members of the Skidmore family are also buried nearby. The engagement was reported to have happened on Little Toqua Creek, which is only about an arrow's shot distance from the cemetery. So, it undoubtedly took place near the old crossroads, with Richardson Mills being buried within sight of where he fell. From two survivors of this engagement, if it can be called that, on December 7, 1864, the following tally has been made from their testimony, years later:

(Age could be plus or minus ( $\pm$ ) one year)

Richardson Mills (36 ) - Killed

John Brown (42  $\pm$ ) - Wounded (left for dead)

George Williams (29  $\pm$ ) - Captured

Bart William's (22) - Captured

Jeff Deavers (39) - Father-in-law of Marion William's) - Captured

Bas Shaw (50) - Captured & Killed

Joe Berry Shaw (17) - son of Bas Shaw) -Captured

Thomas Mills (Nephew of R. Mills) -Escaped

Squire Randolph Laney (nephew of R. Mills) -Wounded-Escaped

Tom Skidmore -Escaped

John Skidmore -Escaped

Dave Jones -Captured

## BAS SHAW

Enroute to Asheville, NC Jail from the Hardin Farm now known as Calderwood, Tennessee, next day, December 8, 1864, Bas Shaw was shot dead by his captors and left in a low gap on the Old Tennessee River Turnpike, Maryville to Franklin, N. C., the place since being known as Shaw Grave Gap at the Big Poplar Turn on present U. S. Highway 129. Bas Shaw's grave has been marked where he was killed, some six and one half miles from Deal's Gap on the Tennessee side of the Smoky Mountains.

Bas Shaw was the uncle of John Jackson "Bushwhack" Kirkland by marriage. Bass's wife and John's mother were sisters. John Kirkland, who had been a second lieutenant in the Confederate Third Tennessee, is undoubtedly the most notorious figure to emerge from the bloody guerrilla actions fought in the mountains surrounding the Little Tennessee River. According to family tradition, after Union men burned his family's gristmill on Turkey Creek above Tellico Plains, John swore an oath against the Union. Apparently, he was not with the Third Tennessee when they were captured at Vicksburg, although, his brothers were. During the last years of the war Lt. Kirkland took to the mountains and headed a band of outliers with ostensible Confederate leanings. They ruled the mountains between Robbinsville, NC and Madisonville, TN. Ball Play and Citico Creek were their Tennessee hideouts. In fact, part of the population of that area migrated to Sweetwater and camped along the railroad tracks, for it was too dangerous to stay at home. The Kirkland Raiders bushwhacked Captain Joe Gray of Company H, Third Tennessee, at his home. That night the raiders had a drunken frolic at their hideout on the Little Tennessee River, where their women took turns dancing around the fire in Captain Gray's cavalry boots. Bas Shaw's sons, Jim and Jeff, of the 11th Tennessee Cavalry, Union Volunteers, were also killed by the Kirkland Raiders. They were John Kirkland's 1st cousins.

After his sons were killed, Bas Shaw took part in Captain Timothy Lyon's raid on Robbinsville NC, in which Jesse Kirkland (John Kirkland's brother, who was also the Confederate provost marshal of Graham County) was killed. Bas apparently joined the expedition as a scout, but not under military command. One source says he went along as a "freebooter", to get what plunder he might be able to lay his hands upon during the raid. Jesse Kirkland was of course, Bas Shaw's nephew. Lt. Colonel Joe Divine wrote a letter about the raid from his post in Madisonville, which was published in the Knoxville Whig and Rebel Ventilator, the newspaper of the radical, Rebel hating editor, Parson Brownlow. Using Devine's letter, Brownlow informed his readers of the death of Jesse Kirkland and some Rebel Indians. The Ventilator described Jesse as being a notorious bushwhacker of course, and went on to say, that his death made life considerably safer for the good and loyal, God-fearing Union citizens of Graham County and the surrounding mountain settlements.

Squire Randolph Laney was listed as wounded but escaped, during the Little Toqua affair. But from testimony years later, it was found that he was captured and taken to the Hardin Farm, where the old Tallassee Ford crossed the Little Tennessee River. Because he was wounded, he was left t in the care of his aunt at the Hardin Farm, and had actually made his escape from there. Squire Randolph Laney was the son of Randolph Laney, who headed up the Laney Gang, a band of outlaws, who were the Union counterpart of the Kirkland Raiders. With his brother-in-law, James Elliot, Randolph Laney and his gang preyed upon the property owning citizens of Ball Play and Monroe County, taking whatever they pleased, then retreating to their hideout in the mountains. A descendant of John Kirkland told the story of the demise of the Laney Gang, as passed down from the ex-lieutenant himself, a few generations later ... At the fording place where Buck Highway, running from Ball Play, comes down off of Kitchen Mountain and crosses Citico Creek, the Kirkland Raiders laid an ambush for the Laney Gang. Seven of the Kirkland outfit lay in wait with their rifles at ready. From the other side, the unsuspecting Laney Gang appeared and started across Citico Creek on their horses... eight mounted men. When they were in the middle of the creek, the Kirkland Raiders opened fire. Seven men were shot from the saddle... with only one escaping. Randolph Laney and James Elliot were both killed. In a pension testimony years later, a local citizen said that when word got back to Ball Play, there was great rejoicing by all, upon hearing that "Ol' Man Laney was dead".

## JOHN JACKSON "BUSHWHACK" KIRKLAND

After the war was over there were indictments returned by the Circuit Court at Madisonville against John Kirkland and some members of his gang, charging them with robbery and murder. But, the former lieutenant of the Confederate Army was never arrested or served papers on, because even the bravest law man knew, that to have gone into the mountains to arrest John Kirkland would have been the equal of suicide. He moved to Polk County to live out his last years, mostly because, he had too many enemies in Monroe County. He died there in 1902. When George William's wife applied for a pension on the basis of her husband's military service, there was a government inquiry into the circumstances surrounding his death. The following excerpt from the Barker Papers of that inquiry describes the tragic fate of George William's, Bart William's, and Jeff Deavers.

Former Confederate Captain Dewitt Clinton Ghormley on November 16, 1885, gave a sworn statement to Special Agent A. B. Casselman of the Pension Bureau at Robbinsville, in the George William's case, stating that he had known William's since his childhood. Ghormley went on to testify that during the war, he was in charge of a Confederate outpost on the Little Tennessee River in North Carolina, as a Captain in Colonel Thomas' Confederate Legion. That sometime in the winter of 1863 or 1864, a Captain Patterson of the Rebel Third Tennessee Calvary, passed through his post with a detachment of seventy or eighty men and fifteen or twenty prisoners, enroute to Asheville, NC Jail. That George William's was one of the prisoners and he was informed that he had been captured, with others, in a fight in Monroe County, Tennessee. That among the other prisoners, were Bartley William's and Jefferson Deavers. That four or six weeks later, these three prisoners, who had escaped from Jail, were killed under the following circumstances: Ghormley said that he had gone to Qualla Town (known today as Cherokee, North Carolina) and on returning, had stopped to spend the night with William Coleman. That about 10 or 11 o'clock that night, he discovered that his horse and the horse of Andrew Vaught, a Rebel Scout and a third horse, belonging to a Confederate soldier; had been stolen out of William Coleman's barn. That himself, Dallas DeHart, Cleveland Stephens and two others, whose names he could not recall, gave pursuit, over-taking the horse thieves about 1 or 2 o'clock the next morning, about fifteen miles from William Coleman's house and not far from the house of A. B. Welch on the (Little) Tennessee River. That he was behind when Cleveland Stephens and the other two men with Stephens, came back and said they had killed all three. That he did not know, at the time, who these three men were, but DeHart, Welch and himself viewed the bodies and identified them as George William's, Bart William's and Jeff Deavers, the same three prisoners who had passed through his post some four or six weeks before. The bodies of George William's, Bart William's and Jeff Deavers were buried in the side of the Old State Road, where they were killed, January 10, 1865. (The Old State Road was formerly known as the Little Tennessee River Turnpike, the same road which Bas Shaw was killed upon ... Today's Highway 129, which crosses the mountains from Blount County, Tennessee into North Carolina, winds back and forth across much of the old turnpike, which can still be seen in many places.

In 1892 the Quartermaster General, U.S. Army had these bodies removed to the National Military Cemetery at 939 Tyson Street in Knoxville. George William's is buried in Grave 3167, Row C. Bart William's in Grave 3166, Row B, and Jefferson Deavers in Grave 3165. When exhumed, the middleman, in the three graves, had the longest bones ever seen in the country, being 7 1/2 to 8 1/2 feet tall. (An account given by one of the persons who helped exhume the bodies stated that an axe handle was lain end to end 3 times alongside the skeleton, which was supposedly that of Bart William's.)

One account in the Barker Papers says that Marion William's was shot in the thigh, with the bullet breaking the bone. He suffered on as a practical invalid until 1873, when his Civil War wound finally claimed his life. He is buried in the Lower Yellow Creek Cemetery, in Yellow Creek, North Carolina. Sadly, Marion's wife lost both her father and her husband to the war.

William William's apparently never served in the Union Army. Several years after the war he married John "Bushwhack" Kirkland's daughter. Had he ever been a Union man, that probably would have never happened, as old grudges over the war lived long and died hard. He lived to be 91 years old, and fathered 17 children.

The situation in which the people of the southern Appalachians found themselves during the last few years of the Civil War could best be described by the old saying, "between a rock and a hard place". It was practically impossible to be neutral. The mountain people, civilian and soldier alike, suffered greatly, and yet, they actually had little to gain from their participation, in what really was, a rich man's war ... a poor man's fight". The tragic deaths of the four William's brothers must have been an unendurable loss to their families and loved ones ... may their memory be preserved.

[SOURCE] - Civil War Records Reveal Family's Struggle by Marshall McClung  
Graham County North Carolina

#### CIVIL WAR RECORDS REVEAL FAMILY'S STRUGGLE

By Marshall McClung

Contributing Writer to the Graham Star Copyright April 18, 2002

An earlier story published in the *Graham Star*, *Civil War Tragic for Williams Family*, covered the effect the Civil War had on that family. A closer look at war records reveals even more details of that trying time. A relative of this family, James Burchfield, helped supply additional information. As mentioned earlier, these men were the sons of William Williams and Triphena Millsaps Williams.

Jesse Williams, 21, was a private in the Union Army in Company H, Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry, 100 Days Volunteers in 1864. He is listed as being killed by Confederate Guerrillas in Chilhowee Valley, Tennessee, December 4, 1864. John Burns is said to be the Confederate that shot and killed him near Tallesee Ford. George Williams enlisted in the Confederate Army; Company A, 29th North Carolina Infantry either on January or June 17, 1861 at age 27. His brothers, Bartley, Marion, and William also joined the same Company on June 17, 1861. It is thought that they may have been forced to join the Confederate Army in Cherokee County, North Carolina. George later joined the Union Army on January 28, 1864. While living near Deals Gap, he enlisted as a Private in Company H, Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry, 100 Days Volunteers. George Williams was taken prisoner in a fight with Captain Patterson's Company of Confederates near Madisonville, Tennessee on December 7, 1864. He was taken to jail in Asheville, North Carolina, and broke out about six weeks later along with his brother Bartley Williams and Jeff Deaver. They were killed on January 10, 1865 near the Tennessee state line while trying to get back to Monroe County.

Captain Dewitt C. Ghormley of Colonel Thomas' Confederate Legion gave an account of their death. Ghormley was in charge of a post on the Tennessee River. He recalled seeing George Williams, Bartley Williams, Jefferson Deaver, and some twenty other prisoners pass through on their way to Asheville. The prisoners were under the guard of Captain Patterson and about eighty Confederate soldiers of the Third Tennessee Cavalry. Ghormley said that about a month or so later, someone stole his horse and two others out of the barn. Ghormley, Dallas Dehart, and Cleveland Stephens took after the men who had taken the horses. Sometime after midnight, they caught up with the men. Ghormley was some distance behind Dehart and Stephens. Stephens rode back to him and told Ghormley they had killed the three men who had stolen the horses at the home of A.B. "Bert" Welch near the Tennessee River. The bodies of the dead men were apparently left lying in the road where they had been killed. Nearby residents buried them in the side of the road.

In 1892, their bodies were exhumed and reburied in Knoxville, Tennessee. William Williams was a private in Company A, 29th North Carolina Infantry, having enlisted on June 17, 1861. With his brothers in Cherokee County, NC. After April 30, 1863, no other military record is found. It is said that he eluded Confederate and Union forces by staying in the mountainous area of Citico in Monroe County, Tennessee. Some of his relatives later said that he operated the toll gate on the turnpike at Deals Gap and married Amanda Johnson. They said he never ventured further than four miles from there for the remainder of his life. Marion Williams enlisted in Company C, Third Tennessee Mounted Infantry in July, 1864 at Madisonville, Tennessee. He was wounded in a battle in North Carolina on December 4, 1864. A rifle ball shattered a bone in his leg, a wound which would eventually claim his life in 1873.

The Civil War created many divisions in this area. Many wished to stay out of the war, but were pressured into choosing sides. Friends became enemies for life. So did relatives. Many took to living off the land by bushwhacking, ambushing unsuspecting travelers, and raiding defenseless homesteads. Many did not fight until the Union Army "invaded" the South. One exchange between North Carolina Confederate prisoners and their Union captors tells of the Union soldiers asking them why they kept slaves. They replied, "We don't have any slaves, we are sharecroppers, we are just a notch above being slaves ourselves." To this, the Union soldiers asked, "Then why are you fighting us?" The reply, "Because you are here."

**1870 - census**

Can not find Triphena listed on any census  
 [SOURCE] - Graham County Heritage Book  
 Trephena Millsaps Williams has a rock marker in the Lower Yellow Creek Cemetery.  
 Noted on the rock (wife of William Williams)

**Children**

1 M James WILLIAMS  
 Born: 1826 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Died: 1915 - UKC, McMinn County, TN  
 Spouse: Susanna BLAIR (1830- )  
 Marr. Date: 12 Nov 1846 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN

2 M Jesse WILLIAMS  
 Born: 1829 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Died: 4 Dec 1864 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Cause of Death: Jesse was killed during the Civil War  
 Spouse: Minerva JOHNSON (Abt 1834- )

3 F Mary Elizabeth "Polly" WILLIAMS  
 Born: 1829 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Spouse: Perry JOHNSON (Abt 1825- )  
 Marr. Date: 28 Feb 1845 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN

4 F Sarah WILLIAMS  
 Born: 1832 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Spouse: John Brownlow CARRINGER, Sr. (1832-1914)

5 M George WILLIAMS  
 Born: 1833  
 Died: 10 Jan 1865  
 Cause of Death: George was killed during the Civil War  
 Spouse: Elizabeth KIRKLAND ( - )

6 F Rebecca WILLIAMS  
 Born: 12 Oct 1830 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Died: 16 Apr 1900 - UKC, Graham County, NC  
 Buried: - Shuler Cemetery - Yellow Creek, Graham County, NC  
 Spouse: Andrew MILLSAPS, Jr. (Cir 1830- )  
 Marr. Date: 8 Aug 1849 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Spouse: John Brownlow CARRINGER, Sr. (1832-1914)

7 M William M. WILLIAMS, II  
 Born: 27 Oct 1835 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Died: 23 Feb 1925 - Ball Play, Monroe County, TN  
 Spouse: Amanda JOHNSON (1841- )  
 Marr. Date: 1858 (1)  
 Spouse: Deliah "Lila" KIRKLAND (1858-  
 Marr. Date: 1876 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN (1)

8 F Avarilla WILLIAMS  
 Born: 16 Feb 1838 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
 Died: 24 Dec 1913 - Bryson City, NC  
 Spouse: Daniel Nathan Wesley CARRINGER (1834-1874)  
 Marr. Date: 2 Mar 1851  
 Spouse: Jackson Lafayette WILSON (1828-1913)  
 Marr. Date: 20 Aug 1875

**[SEE GENERATION 5]**

9 M Carson WILLIAMS  
 Born: 1840 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN

10 M Bartlett Modena WILLIAMS  
Born: 2 Apr 1842 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
Died: 10 Jan 1865  
Cause of Death: Bartley was killed during the  
Civil War

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11 M Marion M. WILLIAMS  
Born: 1845 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
Died: 1873 - UKC, Towns County, GA  
Cause of Death: Marion died as a result of  
wounds received during the Civil War  
Buried: - Lower Yellow Creek Cemetery,  
Graham County, NC  
Spouse: Nancy Malinda DEAVERS (1847-1926)  
Marr. Date: Between 1862 and 1863 –  
Cherokee, County, NC  
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12 F Alzena WILLIAMS  
Born: 1848 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
Spouse: Dave ORR ( - )  
Spouse: Steve SMITH ( - )

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13 F Candice Hix WILLIAMS  
Born: 30 Dec 1849 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
Died: 10 Jun 1927 - Barnsdall, OK  
Spouse: Charles William ANTHONY (1836- )

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14 F Martha Ann WILLIAMS  
Born: 3 Nov 1851 - Ukc, Monroe County, TN  
Died: 5 Dec 1947 - Anadarko, Caddo County,  
OK  
Spouse: Alfred Henry HARRISON ( - )  
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#### Source Citations

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1. Internet Search ABBR Internet Searches, Ancestry.com.
2. Ibid, Tennessee Marriages to 1825. Milsaps, Trephena -- Williams William --  
15 May 1824  
Database online - Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, 1997.
3. Federal Census, 1870 Cherokee Co., NC, Cheoah - Valley Town - 108/108.