

The Amis, Brewer, Pettey, Langford and Wilson Families of
Newton County, Mississippi

by

A. B. Amis, Sr., (1936)

*Revised and Updated by
Lucius F. Wright, M. D.¹*

¹ Updated 30 April 2012.

Introduction

In 1936 my great-grandfather, Alphonso Bobbett Amis, wrote a memoir of his family and had seven copies typed—one for each child and one that was placed in the archives at Mississippi State University.² Recently, one copy, probably that of Frances Amis Floyd, has been placed online by the Lauderdale Co., MS, Archives.³ His work was extended by Alice Amis Hodges, my mother's first cousin, particularly working on the Pettey family from Madison Co., Alabama.⁴ Her work has been widely distributed by online sources, but she did not provide references for her data. Data on the Langford and Wilson family was accumulated by Dan Langford, who was my grandmother's first cousin, and generously shared with me and others about ten years ago.

I became interested in reviewing these works and was able to confirm the sources for much of Alice Hodges' work. However, it became clear that new data refuted the "traditional" view of the Pettey ancestry, so I have incorporated the new research. It has also become clear that the earliest origins of the Amis family in North America cannot be discerned given the paucity of surviving records. I have tried to reflect the issues on these reports.

I have personally worked on the Brewer line and have uncovered some new information that actually obscures the origins of Wyche Brewer, but found work by another researcher who was able to link Flora McPherson to the Cape Fear (NC) Scots. Finally, I was able to determine the ancestry of A. B. Amis' grandmother, Martha Wadkins, through a fortuitous series of events, and carry it back a couple of additional generations.

If not otherwise marked, the information shown here was recorded by A. B. Amis, who mostly wrote about people he knew. I have made minor grammatical corrections as one of the benefits of electronic word processing is the ease with which errors can be fixed without retyping the whole page and the six carbons as my great aunt did with the original. The other change is that I have presented the data in Register format, as it is a widely recognized way of organizing the data, but differs slightly from that used by Judge Amis. It has been 75 years since the first edition, and genealogical resources are much more available than they were then, but hopefully I have retained the spirit that motivated his work.⁵

² Amis, A. B., Sr. The Amis, Brewer, Pettey, Langford and Wilson Families of Newton Co., Mississippi. (Meridian, MS, mss, 1 August 1936.)

³ <http://www.kithandkinofthesouth.org/a.html>. Accessed 24 September 2011.

⁴ Hodges, A. A. The Ancestry and Descendants of John Woodson Amis of Granville Co., N. C., and Scott Co., Miss. (Pendleton, S. C., n. p. d., 1978.) Hodges, Alice A. Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala. (Pendleton, S. C.: n. p. d., 1978.)

⁵ Judge Amis included some lists of descendants of the cousins that he knew best. Anyone with enate connections is encouraged to consult his original work.

Foreword

For several years past I have had in mind the collection of the necessary data for a biographical sketch of all members of the Amis, Pettey, Langford, and Wilson families; but first one thing and then another has prevented the prosecution of this purpose as seriously as I would have liked. However, I have gathered some data and inasmuch as my time and attention are now devoted to other matters I think it best to make a record of the facts which I have learned from others, as well as those of which I have personal knowledge; so that if someone else shall, at a future date, desire to continue or extend the investigation the work will be, to some extent, facilitated. My data are not complete, and for that reason the sketches are necessarily incomplete; but I believe it is reasonably accurate as far as it goes. Some of the personal sketches are fuller than others for the reason that I knew more about some of them than I did of others.

I have also included a short sketch of the Amis family, in general, and have attempted to trace the genealogy of John Woodson Amis back to the progenitors of the family in America. This attempt is, of course, a mere inference from the data before me, though it seems to be reasonably certain. There may be some errors in names or dates, because I found it a hard matter to keep them straight. Of course, I correct all errors that come to my attention, but there may be some I did not notice. However, I can make the same plea the old fiddler did, who put up a sign in the ballroom: "Don't shoot the fiddler, he's doing his best." And so if any one finds that I have traded off some of his or her children for those of some one else, or have unduly accelerated the birth rate, I hope it will not be thought that it was done intentionally.

Most of the sketches were written and the biographical data was collected and arranged several years ago. The publication was delayed because it seemed that I could not well spare the money to have it done. So I kept waiting until I felt I could spare it, but financial matters do not get any better. So I am making a number of typewritten copies of it for those who may be interested.

I have written these sketches for the information and entertainment of my kindred, as a labor of love for all of them; and I trust they will look with a lenient eye on all imperfections therein contained. But if anyone does not like them, I feel just the same as John Farmer, the hotel keeper at Forest, did about the hound dog. Once when I was there he came out on the front porch and began to ring the bell for dinner, when an old hound, out in the street, threw up his head and began to yowl. John stopped, stared at him for a few seconds and blurted out: "Shut up, sir. You don't have to eat it if you don't want it."

A. B. Amis, Sr. (s)
Meridian, Mississippi
August 1, 1936.

I. Two Branches of the Family

In my investigations, covering several years, I have found that there are two main branches of the family claiming a common origin and tracing their descent back to old Virginia ancestors. One branch spells the name "Amis" and the other spells it "Amis."

The "Amis" branch does not seem to be quite so numerous nor so widely dispersed as the "Amis" branch. I have located various members of that family in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Dothan, Alabama, and Luray, Virginia; and the records of the Universities of Virginia and North Carolina show that various members of it have been students in those institutions at various times during the past hundred years. There is a town, or village, in Rappahannock County, Virginia, named "Amisville," but whether any of either branch of the family reside there now I do not know. One member of the family, who lives at Baton Rouge, has accumulated considerable data in reference to the family, and is of the opinion that both families had a common ancestry in Virginia, some two hundred years ago, and that the original spelling of the name was "Amis."

The "Amis" branch of the family seems to be more numerous and more widely scattered over the country. I have located various members of it in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Missouri, and New Mexico; and have had a very pleasant correspondence with some of them. Some of the family in various parts of the country have been prominent people, notably Capt. Rufus Amis, of Virginilina, Virginia, Col. James S. Amis, of Oxford, North Carolina, Judge Amis of Arkansas, and his brother, the famous Baptist preacher, who waged such a long and strenuous fight against gambling houses and race track gamblers at Hot Springs, some twenty years ago, or more.

The records of the Universities of Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas, Alabama, and Mississippi, show that a number of the family have been college students, at various times as far back as 1801, when Thomas Gayle Amis, graduated as a member of the first class of the University of North Carolina. Doubtless the records of many of the other older colleges would show that other members of the family attended as students from time to time; but I have not made any inquiry except as above indicated. Some members of the family have been lawyers, some have been preachers, some doctors, and some merchants; but so far as I have been able to learn, the great majority of them have been, and still are, farmers by occupation. In their religious convictions, most of them are Baptists or Presbyterians, though there are a few Methodists among them, and at least one Methodist preacher, Rev. Lewis Amis, of Columbia, Tennessee.

II. Origins of the family

While it seems to be quite definitely settled that the founder of the American branch of the family settled in America more than two hundred years

ago, yet it is not clear to my mind as to what country he came from nor what his original nationality was. Mrs. Margaret Campbell Pilcher (a daughter of Governor Campbell of Tennessee) in her book entitled “*Historical Sketeches of the Campbell, Pilcher and Kindred Families,*” in her sketch of the Amis family says:

There was a settlement of Huguenots on the James River in Virginia, called Manakin Town. It was settled some time in the earlier part of the eighteenth century, and among them was the family Amis. It is supposed that this family left France at the time there was such a great exodus of the best citizens of that country, just after revocation of the Edict of Nantes (1685); but some years previous to this there was a family of Amis in South Carolina. Mrs. William Layman of St. Helena, California, says that her father, Thomas Amis of North Carolina, told her the the family were Huguenots, who left France after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, going first to the French West Indies, then to Virginia, and that the name was “Amie,” not Amis, as it was afterwards spelled in America. Another member of this family says that the family tradition has always been that upon leaving France, just after the Edict of Nantes, the family sailed for Barbadoes, but remained there only a short time, then went to the Colony of Virginia, and settled in Rappahannock County, establishing themselves in a home and called the settlement Amisville.

On the other hand, Edward McCready, in his book entitled “South Carolina Under Proprietary Government,” says that Thomas Amis, or Amys, was a Cacique in the colony of South Carolina in the year 1683 and was a Landgrave in the Colony in 1697.⁶ This seems to show that at least one member of the family was in America prior to the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and that he was a member of the Colonial nobility, which further indicates that he was a British subject; while the spelling of the name “Amys” corresponds quite closely to the Old English spelling of similar words and names.

Some years ago I met a gentleman, who was a native of Scotland, who told me that the name, Amis, was quite common in his native country. That reminds me that there is quite a large family in northeast Mississippi by the name of McAmis, who claim a Scotch ancestry, and say that the name clearly shows it. Some years ago I met a member of this family at Corinth, Mississippi, and he contended that the Amis family were of Scotch descent too, but that they have been away from the old Highlands so long that they have just lost the Mc. But no matter what country they were from, it seems to be reasonably certain, that the ancestor, or what seems more likely, the ancestors, of the family settled in

⁶ The plan of the government of South Carolina, drawn up by the philosopher, John Locke, provided for Colonial nobility, the lower order being called “Caiques” and the higher order being called “Landgraves.”

Virginia, sometime prior to the year 1700, whence they spread south and west, with the general tide of immigration which subsequently populated this country.

III. Ancestry of John Woodson Amis

The ancestor of the oldest Mississippi branch of the family was John Woodson Amis, who was born in North Carolina, September 22nd, 1795, and died in Scott County, Mississippi, February 4th, 1849. My effort for several years has been to trace his ancestry back to the original progenitor of the family in America. There is no family record to which I have access, which shows definitively who his ancestors were, not even the name or place of residence of his father.

His only child now living, is Mrs. Frances Amis Moore, who resides with her son, C. A. Moore, in Navarro, Texas. She says that her grandfather's name was William; that he lived in Wilmington, North Carolina, and that he married a Miss Woodson. About forty five years ago, Haywood Amis, one of the old Negro slaves of John Woodson Amis, told me that he was born in North Carolina and lived there until he was about fifteen years old; that his "old marster" was named William Amis, who was the father of John Woodson Amis; that his "old marster's" wife was a Woodson; and that they lived near Pittsboro, Chatham Co., North Carolina. He further said that shortly after his "old marster" died, John Woodson Amis, who was then living in Wilkinson County, Mississippi, went back to Pittsboro to get his share of his father's estate; that on a division of the estate, he, Haywood, a woman, and two small children, all slaves, were allotted to John Woodson Amis, who loaded them all into a two horse wagon and brought them back with him to his home in Wilkinson County, Mississippi.

It seems reasonably certain therefore, that the father of John Woodson Amis was William Amis, that he married a Miss Woodson, and that he lived and died in North Carolina. I am inclined to think old Haywood was right as to where he lived and died, because he spoke from his own memory. And that was the part of the state in which other members of the family lived, as shown by sundry records which I have investigated.⁷

Mrs. Pilcher, in her sketch of the Amis family....⁸ So everything considered, I am persuaded that John Woodson Amis was the son of William Amis and Mirnia Woodson; that William Amis was the son of Thomas Amis and Alice

⁷ It is important to remember that A. B. Amis was trained as a lawyer and was therefore accustomed to evaluating oral testimony. Note that his conclusions are not quite as specific as the various recollections he cited. Pittsboro, though is southwest of Durham, whereas Oxford, Granville County, is almost equidistant to the northeast of Durham. It also seems likely that the "old marster" was William² Amis, rather than William³ Amis. This suggests that John W. Amis moved to Wilkinson County, Mississippi, rather earlier than his marriage. He was likely 21 when he received his "share" of the estate, which would have been 1816. This suggests that William Amis, Sr., did die within a couple of years of the last recorded deed in 1813.

⁸ A. B. Amis summarizes the information contained in Pilcher. Complete reference cited earlier. Interestingly, there are no Y-DNA studies ongoing as of 1 December 2011 to see if the Northampton Co., N. C., and Granville Co., N. C., Amis families are related, and if so, how closely.

Gayle, and Thomas Amis was the son of John Amis and Mary Dillard, who must have been at least fifty years old at the time of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

This conclusion is strengthened by the family records in possession of Mr. W. D. Amis, who now lives at Virgilina, Virginia, near the line of North Carolina, and who is now about sixty five years old. His father, Capt. Rufus Amis, was born in 1835, and was a student at the University of North Carolina in 1853 and 1854.⁹ The father of Rufus Amis was William Amis, whose father, William, lived in Southampton County, Virginia. William Amis, father of Rufus, moved from Southampton County, Virginia, and settled near Oxford, in Granville County, North Carolina. This was about fifty miles northeast of Chatham County, and about fifty miles west of Halifax County, where Thomas Amis lived when he was elected a delegate to the North Carolina Constitutional Convention in 1775. Mr. W. D. Amis says that his father was the youngest of 13 children, all of whom were born and reared in Granville County, North Carolina. Now since Rufus Amis was born in 1835, it seems clear that his father William did not move to North Carolina until after the year 1800, or more than twenty-five years after Thomas Amis and William Amis, sons of John Amis and Mary Dillard moved there.

It is undoubtedly true that there were other branches of the family residing in Virginia at the time of the Revolutionary War, in Southampton County, Rappahannock County, and perhaps elsewhere in the State; but none of them except the two sons of John Amis and Mary Dillard, seems to have moved to North Carolina until afterward. I am therefore convinced that the ancestry of John Woodson Amis is as above stated. How many brothers or sisters he may have had, what their names were, or where they lived I have no information, except one sister named Mirnia Woodson Amis. But who she married, or where she lived, I have never heard.¹⁰

⁹ Rufus⁶ (William⁵, Lewis⁴, William³, Joseph²) Amis was actually a second cousin of John Woodson Amis.

¹⁰ Mirnia Woodson Amis is surely Missniah⁵ (William⁴⁻³, Joseph²) Amis, who never married and died in Maury County, Tennessee, where she had gone to live with some of John Woodson Amis' brothers and sisters.

ON EARLY VIRGINIA ORIGINS OF THE AMIS FAMILY

As transcribed in the previous paragraphs, Judge Amis made some attempt to trace his family, and on the basis of the available data concluded they had come from North Carolina and that his great-grandfather was named William. However, he was not able to reach a positive determination with the limited records available to him. Genealogical research in the past 75 years has not uncovered very many certain items of information about early Amis families, yet the information recorded by Judge Amis seems to be widely cited on Internet websites, without any supplemental information.

About 30 years ago, a granddaughter of Judge Amis, Alice Amis Hodges extended his work and was able to show on the basis of an extant will that John Woodson Amis was the son of William Amis of Granville Co., N. C., who died before 10 June 1857.¹¹ She identified him as a son of William Amis and a grandson of Joseph Amis of Essex Co., Va. She further stated that he moved to Culpeper Co., Virginia, and was father to sons Thomas, Phillip, Gabriel, and William.

The best summary of the available data I know was published by Laura Collison Ray.¹² She was able to identify that Thomas Amis received a patent on 295 acres of land in Gloucester Co., Va., in 1678. In 1690 John Amis received a patent for 470 acres on the south side of the Rappahannock River at John Meadows' creek, and in 1693 he received a patent for 500 acres on Cockleshell Creek in Middlesex County, Va. She also asserts that Louis Amis was one of the original settlers of Manakintown in 1699/1700.

In addition to the patent records cited above, Thomas Amis was listed as headright of Thomas Symms, Upper Norfolk Co., in 1638.¹³ The Quit Rent Rolls of 1704 showed Joseph "Ames" in Accomack Co., Va., James Amis in Petsworth Parish, Gloucester Co., Va., Frances "Amos" and "Nocho Amos" in Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul.¹⁴ Richard Amis witnessed the will of Major Benjamin Berryman in Westmoreland Co., Va., 13 May 1729.¹⁵

¹¹ Hodges, A. A. *The Ancestry and Descendants of John Woodson Amis of Granville Co., N. C., and Scott Co., Miss.* (Pendleton, S. C., n. p. d., 1978.) Hodges, Alice A. *Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala.* (Pendleton, S. C.: n. p. d., 1978.) Both of these works appear to have been sold to Family Tree Maker and have been widely copied.

¹² Ray, Laura Collison. *The Amiss Family of Amissville, Rappahannock and Culpeper County, Virginia.* (Originally published 1952.) Copy located at http://nicbriz.home.mindspring.com/Brisbois/gen_Amiss_Family_by_Ray.html. Accessed 5 October 2011.

¹³ Greer, George C. *Early Virginia Immigrants, 1623-1666.* (repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1978; orig. publ. Richmond, Va., 1912,) p. 10.

¹⁴ 1704 Quit Rent Rolls. Located at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/va/misc/1704va.txt>. Accessed 6 October 2011.

¹⁵ Westmoreland Co., Va., Will Book 81:366. [28 August 1729]. Copy accessed 6 October 2001 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/va/westmoreland/wills/b6550001.txt>.

As noted, Judge Amis' line can be firmly established as descended from 1857 (year of death) William Amis of Granville Co., N. C., (place of death).¹⁶ An indirect proof is required to show that he was a son of 1816 (year of death) William Amis of Granville Co., N. C., (place of death), since this man left no will and was quite elderly at the time of his death.

William Amis was named as the wife of Hannah in Daniel Daly's will written 17 September 1754 in Essex Co., Va. The parish register of South Farnham Parish is lost so no firm marriage dates for anyone in Essex Co., Va., at this time exist.¹⁷

William Amis signed an agreement with the Essex Co., Court to take Joseph Evans, orphan of Thomas Evans, as an apprentice to learn the trade of shoemaker 20 August 1751.¹⁸ This deed indicates that he was of age and established in his trade as a shoemaker by this date. From this I infer a birth year that was certainly before 1730, and more likely about 1725. This would also be consistent with having married by 1754 at which time he would be about 30, a common age for me to marry in this era. It would also mean that he was well past 80 at the time of his death.

William Amis appears on a notice presented to the Essex Co., Va., court 18 Jul 1758, of intent to engage in Presbyterian worship on the land of Mr. Thomas Miller in the Parish of South Farnham.¹⁹

William Amis bought a tract of land from Samuel Smith adjoining John Daly for £35 20 September 1756.²⁰ The land had been purchased from Thomas Pain(e). Both Smith and Daly made a £50 bond that Thomas Pain would be able to remain on the land for the rest of his life, but could not sell the timber. William Amis and his wife, Hannah, sold this 150 acre tract of land, formerly the property of Thomas Pain, dec., to William Brooke 23 July 1768 for £100.²¹

On 2 July 1768 William Cragg (Craig)²² and his wife, Christian, of Granville Co., N. C., sold for £37.10 Virginia money to William Amis of Essex County, Virginia, a 100 acre tract of land described as adjacent to Bond and an

¹⁶ My thanks to Robert N. Grant for introducing this nomenclature as a way to sort out persons of similar name where the generational relationship is uncertain.

¹⁷ Personal study of the Pitts family of Essex Co., Va., has given me insight into the records issue. The other problem is that there were problems with the early surveys of Old Rappahannock and early Essex Co., Va., and as a result there are many land deed cases extant. None of these have been researched looking for Amis connections.

¹⁸ Essex Co., Va., Deed Book 25:___; 20 August 1751.

¹⁹ William and Mary Quarterly 26 (ser. 1):65, 1917. The same group certified their presence in a petition to the county court dated 18 July 1758. Hopewell, John S. Presbyterians Certify Their Presence in Essex County, Virginia, 1858. Va. Genealogist 42:146-147, 1998.

²⁰ Essex Co., Va., Deed Book 27:220-223.

²¹ Essex Co., Va., Deed Book 30:193.

²² William Craig sold to James Hunt for £265 Virginia money an 1144 acre tract of land that appears to be located south and east of the tract that he sold to William Amis. [Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book K:167-168, 24 November 1773]

unnamed branch.²³ The deed was witnessed by Samuel Smith, Mary Smith, and Richard Bush, and was proved by Samuel Smith in the August 1768 Court.

The land can be located more specifically in a deed 20 August 1771 when Edward Bond and his wife, Judy, sold for £125 Virginia money to William Webb of Essex County, Virginia, a 225 acre tract on the east side of Grassy Creek, then east on Smith's land, thence north on William Amis' land, then west to Grassy Creek then south on the meanders of the creek to the beginning.²⁴ This deed was witnessed by Samuel Smith.

Another early deed of interest dated 4 April 1778 shows that James Hunt sold 200 acres of the tract he bought from William Craig to James Raven "for natural love and affection." The land was adjacent that of William Amis on Grassy Creek, so it is not surprising that an Amis girl married John Raven, probably a son of James Raven, and perhaps a grandson of William Craig.

William Amis bought a 640 acre tract of land in Granville County from the State of North Carolina on Beaver Dam Creek adjacent Samuel Smith for 50 shillings in September 1779.²⁵

William Amis, Joseph Amis, and Lewis Amis appear among those who took the oath of allegiance to North Carolina in 1778.²⁶

On 1 December 1784 he bought from Samuel Smith a 225 acre tract called the Glebe land, previously occupied by the Rev. Patillo, adjacent land of Amis and Smith. The land was bought in their capacity as trustees of the Grassy Creek and Nutbush Presbytery.²⁷

On 2 February 1799, William Amis sold to Lewis Amis a 190 acre tract of land on Grassy creek adjacent William Knight's line and James Smith's lines.²⁸

William Amis, Sr., of Granville Co., for love and affection transferred title on a Negro boy named Bill to his grandson William Amis, son of John Amis on 13 September 1811.²⁹ On 8 September 1813, he gave to his son John slaves Ann and "her future increase" and two children Ben and Lilly.³⁰ The files of his grandson, 1848 William Amis of Granville Co., N. C., son of 1825 Lewis Amis of Granville Co., N. C., who was an attorney, show tax receipts were paid, apparently by him, for his grandfather, William Amis, Sr., in several years, the last being 1814 and 1815.³¹ This implies that William Amis, Sr., died after 8

²³ Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book H:451-452.

²⁴ Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book IJ:385-387. Proved August 1771.

²⁵ Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book N:37.

²⁶ Ardrey, Connie. List of Inhabitants of Granville County who took the oath of allegiance 22 May 1778-2 August 1778. Colonial Records of North Carolina 22:168-179. Located 7 October 2011 online at <http://files.usgarchives.net/nc/granville/court/allegian966w1.txt>.

²⁷ Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book O:361.

²⁸ Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book Q:229.

²⁹ Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book V:268.

³⁰ Granville Co., N. C., Deed Book W:158.

³¹ Amis-Clark-Puryear Papers, 1760-1849. File #424, box #1, located at Joyner Library Special Collections, East Carolina University, Greenville, N. C. Accessed 25 February 2012. These papers are further described online at <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0474/>

September 1813 and certainly before the end of the 1816 tax year. Since he would have been quite elderly, he may very well have used his grandson as his attorney to avoid having to come into the court house to pay the taxes in person.

William Amis was taxed on 325 acres of land in the Abraham's Plain district and five slaves in 1788.³² William Amis is the only man of this surname in Granville Co., N. C., in the 1790 Census.³³ In 1800 William Amis and spouse, both over age 45, are living without any children, but with eight adult slaves.³⁴ Lewis Amis, aged 26-45 and his wife of similar age, have one boy under 10, two 10-16, and two 16-26, along with three girls under 10. There are also seven adult slaves. The previously cited deed seems to establish Lewis Amis as a son of William Amis. The marriage records of Granville Co., N. C., show many marriages in the appropriate time frame to be children of William Amis and Hannah Daly, although direct proof is lacking. Taken as a whole, it seems clear that William Amis was the father to all the persons of that name living in Granville Co., N. C., in the last part of the eighteenth century.

Review of early Essex County records shows that on 10 March 1702/03 John Amis of Gloucester County purchased 375 acres of land in Essex County for £55 sterling from Henry "Boughan." The tract was described as adjacent Major George Morris, James Boughan, Thomas Gaines, and Hoskins' Creek.³⁵ The same tract of land was sold by Silvester Amis, or Ware Parish, Gloucester Co., Va., to Peter Kemp of Petsworth Parish, Gloucester Co., Va., on 15 December 1732 for £51.13, which appears to have been a slight loss over the intervening 30 years.³⁶

John Amis had appeared earlier in Essex Co., Va., records, when the Court ordered him to pay costs to Thomas Short and Abigail Blackburn as the result of him abandoning his suit against them.³⁷ The basis of the suit was not stated, but Christopher Blackburn had died a short time previously, leaving a wife, Abigail, and children Elias and Mary.³⁸

Joseph Amis of Ware Parish, Gloucester Co., Va., bought a tract of land from Gabriel Jones³⁹ and Mary, his wife, for £96 Virginia money 100 acres from

³² Guthrie, Rosie H. 1788 Tax List Granville Co., N. C. Located 7 October 2011 at <http://files.usgwararchives.net/nc/granville/court/tax1788txt>.

³³ 1790 Census Granville Co., N. C., Abraham Plains Twp., p. 9.

³⁴ 1800 Census Granville Co., N. C., p. 550. (He is recorded two down from Samuel Smith, presumably the son of his cousin Samuel, who died in 1800.

³⁵ Essex Co., Va., Deeds & Wills 1701-1703:136. Cited by Ruth and Sam Sparacio, (McLean, Va.: Antient Press, 1991,) p. 97.

³⁶ Essex Co., Va., Deed 19:362-364. (Sparacio.)

³⁷ Essex Co., Va., Court Orders, 1694-1695:226, 11 February 1694/95. (Sparacio)

³⁸ Essex Co., Va., Deeds & Wills 1693-1694:277-279. (Sparacio)

³⁹ Here is another point of confusion. A man named Gabriel Jones moved from Essex Co., Va., and ended up in Frederick Co., Va., where he became a prominent citizen. However, it seems certain that he was born about 1724, so would only be 16 at the time of this deed. While not impossible, it seems unlikely. It is more likely that he is a son/nephew of this Gabriel Jones. It is certainly possible that 1794 Joseph Amis of Culpeper Co., Va., had a close relationship with

Piscataway Ferry to the Ferry over Hoskins Creek, adjacent Thomas Gaines and Mr. Pettis.⁴⁰ Gabriel Jones had previously purchased this tract from Peter Tribble.

This deed seems to establish that Joseph Amis' land is in the same area as that purchased earlier by John Amis, also of Ware Parish, but sold by Silvester Amis of Ware Parish to Peter Kemp of Petsworth Parish about eight years before this deed. This suggests, but does not prove that Joseph was kin to this John Amis of Gloucester Co., Va.

Gloucester Co., Va., records were destroyed by fires in 1820 and 1865, so proving relationships for early settlers of this county is quite difficult, if not impossible. However, we do have the aforementioned Quit Rent Roll of 1704 that showed James Amis in Petsworth Parish, Gloucester County.

The church records for Ware Parish and the Register for Petsworth Parish are not extant, but the Vestry Book for Petsworth Parish has survived and been published.⁴¹ Mr. John Amis and Mr. Thomas Swepson were ordered to procession the 9th Precinct between Chicksak Mill and Richland Swamp 6 April 1709.⁴² Mr. James Amis and Mr. William Brookings were ordered to do processioning of the land in the 6th precinct "containing all the land on the left hand side of the road leading to Dragon's Bridge" on 14 September 1715.⁴³ Mr. James Amis and Mr. Alexander Roane were ordered to procession the 6th Precinct 3 September 1735⁴⁴ and again 12 October 1739.⁴⁵ Mr. James Amis and William Kenningham (Cunningham?) were ordered to procession the 6th Precinct 5 October 1743⁴⁶ and Mr. John Amis and Mr. John Stubbs, Jr., were ordered to procession the 6th precinct 4 September 1751.⁴⁷ We cannot be certain that the James Amis of the 1704 Quit Rent Roll is the same James Amis doing the processioning in 1715, but assuming that he is the same man, then it appears that he died sometime between 1744 and 1751. For reasons discussed below, this indicates to me that he was an age contemporary of Joseph Amis of Essex Co., Virginia.

Research conducted in the records of Essex Co., Virginia, in 1996 by a grandson of Judge Amis, A. B. Amis, III, proved the following items of

Gabriel Jones the "valley lawyer." I do not think it proves that 1794 Joseph Amis of Culpeper Co., Va., is the same man as after 1747 Joseph Amis of Essex Co., Virginia.

⁴⁰ Essex Co., Va., Deed Book 22:255-259, 6 July 1740/21 July 1741. (Mary released her dower rights on the latter day.)

⁴¹ Chamberlayne, C. G. The Vestry Book of Petsworth Parish, Gloucester County, Virginia, 1677-1793. (Richmond, Va.: Library Board, 1933.) Cited hereafter as Petsworth Vestry Book.

⁴² Petsworth Vestry Book, p. 100. Same data shown again on page 102. Thomas Kemp was listed in the 9th precinct in 1735. (p. 239) It is possible that John Amis moved from Ware to Petsworth Parish between 1702 and 1709, and that this is the same John Amis who purchased land in Essex Co., Va., but this cannot be proved by this record.

⁴³ Petsworth Vestry Book, p. 130.

⁴⁴ Petsworth Vestry Book, p. 239.

⁴⁵ Petsworth Vestry Book, p. 259.

⁴⁶ Petsworth Vestry Book, p. 269.

⁴⁷ Petsworth Vestry Book, p. 290.

information. On 20 October 1747 Joseph Amis and wife Constance sold 100 acres of land for £90 to John Clement, reserving five acres for Constance to live on for life.⁴⁸ The land was purchased from Gabriel Jones, who had purchased the land from Peter Tremble.⁴⁹ Constant Jones made petition for letters of administration on the estate of her husband, John Jones, deceased on 10 June 1706 and returned the inventory on 10 July 1706 in Essex Co., Va.⁵⁰ These data have been interpreted to show that Joseph Amis married Constance Jones, son of John Jones and Constant or Constance, and that she was a brother to Gabriel Jones, and these seem reasonable conclusions.

Daniel Daly wrote his last will and testament in Essex Co., Va., on 17 September 1754 and named his wife Ann, daughters Hannah and Frances, sons John and Isaiah, and his brother-in-law Francis Jones.⁵¹ Hannah was identified as the wife of William Amis and was left first choice of one male slave.

There is minimal information about Lewis Amis, who is said to be associated with the Manakin settlement, but most of this seems based upon the name. I have not been able to find any documentation confirming Lewis Amis as part of the Huguenot immigration of 1700.⁵² It appears that Mrs. Hodges was taking her lead from Mrs. Ray, who asserts that the Culpeper Co. Joseph who died in 1794 is the same as the Essex Co., Joseph.⁵³ Mrs. Ray also makes the same association with Lewis Amis, “founder of Manakintown.” Interestingly, Mrs. Pilcher associates the Culpeper Co., Va., family with Louis Amis, but does not associate them with Joseph Amis.⁵⁴

I also am not convinced the Culpeper Co., Va., Amiss family is the same as the Amis family of Essex Co., Va. The 1783 Personal Property Tax List for Culpeper Co., Va., shows in the list of John Wiginton, Gent., William Amiss,

⁴⁸ John Clement willed “the land I bought of Joseph Amis” to his youngest son, Henry Haggard Clements when he wrote his will 12 November 1766. (Copy located online 9 March 2011 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/va/essex/wills/c4555000.txt>.)

⁴⁹ Essex Co., Va., Deed Book 24:185; 20 October 1747. This is obviously the same tract of land he purchased as recorded in Deed Book 22:255-259, 6 July 1740/21 July 1741.

⁵⁰ Essex Co., Va., Will Book 0:246, 247.

⁵¹ Essex Co., Va., Will Book 10:23.

⁵² This migration has been studied extensively and reported in the genealogical literature. The Amis family has yet to be proved to be Huguenot. The National Huguenot Society: List of Qualified Ancestors. [<http://huguenot.netnation.com/ancestor/AncestorLookup.php>] 1 September 2011, accessed 20 October 2011. On the other hand, The Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakintown in the Colony of Virginia, has accepted six lineages including Louis Amis. Interestingly, none of them seem connected to Joseph Amis of Essex Co., Va. (16 June 2011.) Accessed 20 October 2011 at [<http://manakin.addr.com/manakin/lineages.php>].

⁵³ Ray, Laura Collison. *The Amiss Family of Amissville, Rappahannock and Culpeper County, Virginia*. (1952). Accessed 31 March 2009 at http://nickbriz.home.mindspring.com/Brisbois/gen_Amiss_Family_by_Ray.html.

⁵⁴ Pilcher, Margaret Campbell. *Historical Sketches of the Campbell, Pilcher, and Kindred Families*. (Nashville, TN: Marshall & Bruce Co., 1911,) pp. 337ff. Copy located online at <http://www.archive.org/stream/historicalsketch00byupilc#page/n5/mode/2up>. Accessed 20 October 2011.

Joseph Amis (with 10 adult slaves), and Thomas Amis.⁵⁵ However, William Amis, son of Joseph Amis, moved to Granville Co., N. C., in 1768, so he would not be the same man listed in the 1783 personal property tax roll of far distant Culpeper Co., Virginia. The accidental survival of two tithe lists from ca. 1764-1765 shows William Amis with two tithables, himself and a slave named Jenny, with 75 acres of land, which Samuel Smith was taxed for 7 tithables and 2547 acres of land.⁵⁶ A list of Essex County, Va., voters in 1769 shows no one named Amis, and Samuel Smith is also missing.

I also think the existing chronology has been skewed to try and fit the Culpeper and Essex County families together. The first useful date I have found is 20 August 1751 when William Amis signed an agreement with the Essex Co., Court to take Joseph Evans, orphan of Thomas Evans, as an apprentice to learn the trade of shoemaker.⁵⁷ From this I infer a birth year that was certainly before 1730, and more likely about 1725. This would also be consistent with having married by 1754 at which time he would be about 30, a common age for me to marry in this era. It would also mean that he was 90 or so at the time of his death. Mrs. Ray documented the remarkable longevity of several of the men clearly related to the 1794 Joseph Amis of Culpeper Co., Virginia.

William Amis is the only certain son of Joseph Amis, although I cannot exclude that he had one or more daughters as noted above. If we assume that Joseph Amis was also 25-30 years of age at the time of William's birth, then an estimate for his birth year would be say 1695. This would place him in his early fifties at the time he disappeared from the Essex County records. Joseph Amis might well be kin to the James Amis of Petsworth Parish who died say 1750 and the John Amis of Ware Parish who died say 1730 and the Thomas Amis who patented land 1678 in Gloucester County.

He is generally assumed to be a brother to the Thomas Amis who appears in the records of Middlesex County, Virginia,⁵⁸ and is generally assumed to be a brother to Ann Amis, who supposedly married Samuel Smith. The last relationship is useful for explaining the observed interactions of the Amis and

⁵⁵ <http://files.usgwarchives.net/va/culpeper/census/1783/1783tax01.html>. Accessed 10 October 2011.

⁵⁶ Hopewell, John S. Two Tithable Lists from Essex County, ca. 1764-1765. *Va. Genealogist* 45:163-177, 2001. William Amis is on p. 163 and Samuel Smith is on page 171. There are no other persons named Amis on this list.

⁵⁷ Essex Co., Va., Deed Book 25:___; 20 August 1751.

⁵⁸ Parish Register of Christ Church, Middlesex County, Virginia, 1653 to 1812. (Richmond: NSCDA, 1897.) Copy located 8 March 2012 online at http://www.archive.org/stream/parishregisterof00chri/parishregisterof00chri_djvu.txt. The documented facts are that Thomas Amis married Rachel Daniel on 14 November 1722; John, son of Thomas and Rachel Amis was born 20 August 1724 and baptized 30 August 1724; James Amis married Jane Seager Nichols 17 March 1737/38, and Taylor, son of "Phillis", slave of James Amis was born 28 Mary 1742. While it seems likely that James was a son of Thomas, it is not documented in the parish registry.

Smith families in Granville County, North Carolina. The others may be true, but cannot be proved on the basis of existing information.

Genealogical Summary

1. JOSEPH² AMIS was born say 1695 in Ware Parish, Gloucester Co., Virginia, and died after 20 October 1747 in Essex Co., Virginia. He married CONSTANCE JONES say 1725 in Gloucester Co., Virginia.

I have elected to show Joseph Amis as the second generation as a way of noting that he is not the immigrant ancestor. Perhaps Thomas Amis really is the immigrant, but unless further data are found, this remains speculative, as does the assertion that Thomas was the grandfather, as opposed to the father of Joseph Amis.

Joseph Amis was born in Tidewater Virginia in 1710 and married Constance Jones of Essex Co., Va., about 1730. He died in Culpeper Co., Va., in 1794. The names of his parents are not known, but it is believed that he was the brother of Thomas Amis who married Rachel Daniel in 1722 and of Ann Amis who married 1726 Samuel Smith. Descendants of these two couples state that they were the children of Lewis Amis who was born 1670 and died 1750, the son of Thomas Amis who bought land in Gloucester Co., Va. in 1676. The parentage of Constance Jones is also unknown, but a connection with Gabriel Jones who married Margaret Strother seems likely as they were very close friends. I suspect she was a granddaughter of John Jones of Essex Co., Va., whose estate was administered by Constance Jones in 1706. Joseph Amis moved from Essex Co. to Culpeper Co. about 1766. When or where Constance died is unknown. Joseph's estate was administered by his son Thomas. It is not known whether he had any daughters.⁵⁹

As discussed previously, I have looked at the available data and come to somewhat different conclusions, mainly because I don't see any compelling reason to equate the Joseph Amis of Culpeper Co., Va., with the Joseph Amis of Essex Co., Va., although they may well be cousins.

Children of JOSEPH AMIS and CONSTANCE JONES are:⁶⁰

3. i. WILLIAM³ AMIS, b. Essex Co., Va.; d. after September 1813 Granville Co., N. C.; m. HANNAH DALY, dau. of DANIEL DALY and ANN _____ before 17 September 1754 Essex Co., Va.

⁵⁹ Hodges, A. A. The Ancestry and Descendants of John Woodson Amis of Granville Co., N. C., and Scott Co., Miss. (Pendleton, S. C., n. p. d., 1978,) p. 15.

⁶⁰ Many include Thomas Amis, Philip Amis, and Gabriel Amis as sons of Joseph Amis. So far, I have not seen any documentation for this assertion, which seems to depend upon 1794 Joseph Amis of Culpeper Co., Va., being the man appearing in Essex Co., Va., records.

2. ANN² AMIS died after 17 July 1753 Essex Co., Va. She married SAMUEL SMITH in Essex Co., Va., who died there between 8 October 1734 and 17 May 1737.

Children of ANN AMIS and SAMUEL SMITH are:

- i. JOHN SMITH.
 - ii. SAMUEL SMITH, b.3 December 1729 Essex Co., Va.; d. 6 October 1800 Granville Co., N. C.; m. MARY WEBB May 1761 Essex Co., Va.; b. 1740 Essex Co., Va.; d. 1827 Granville Co., N. C.
 - iii. JANE SMITH.⁶¹
 - iv. MARY SMITH.
 - v. SUSANNAH SMITH.
3. WILLIAM³ (JOSEPH²) AMIS, b. about 1725 Gloucester Co., Va., d. after September 1813 Granville Co., N. C. He married HANNAH DALY, daughter of DANIEL DALY and ANN _____ before 17 September 1754 Essex Co., Va.

William Amis, Sr., was probably born in Essex Co., Va., about 1733. His parentage has not been proved but the evidence is very strong that he was the son of Joseph Amis and Constance Jones of Essex and Culpepper Cos., Va. This Joseph had a son William who had a son William with him when William Amis, Sr., sold land to his son-in-law Martin Fishback in 1788. William Amis, Sr., married 1754 Hannah Daily, daughter of Daniel Daily of East Farnham, Richmond Co., Va. East Farnham, Richmond Co., Va., is just across the river from South Farnham, Essex Co., Va., where we find William Amis seeking permit to build a Presbyterian Church in 1758.⁶² Although he owned land in Culpepper Co., Va., it is not known whether he ever lived there as he referred to himself as of Essex Co., Va., when he purchased land in Granville Co, N. C., in 1768. He and his two eldest sons took the Oath of Allegiance in Granville Co., N. C., 30 May 1778. He first appeared on the "List of Taxables" in Granville Co., in 1778 and last appeared on the tax tables in Culpepper Co. in 1788. The exact date of his move to North Carolina is not known but it was before 1781 when his children were getting married there. The date of his and his wife's death is not known. He was still alive in 1813 when he deeded Negroes to his son John.⁶³

Again, review of the information has led me to conclude that Joseph Amis came from Gloucester Co., Virginia, to Essex Co., Virginia, in 1740, so William would have been born there. I also think he was born earlier than 1733 on the

⁶¹ One of the girls married John Young and had three children

⁶² William Amis appears on a notice presented to the Essex Co., Va., court 18 Jul 1758, of intent to engage in Presbyterian worship on the land of Mr. Thomas Miller in the Parish of South Farnham. William and Mary Quarterly 26 (ser. 1):65, 1917.

⁶³ Hodges, A. A. The Ancestry and Descendants of John Woodson Amis of Granville Co., N. C., and Scott Co., Miss. (Pendleton, S. C., n. p. d., 1978,) p. 12.

basis of being able to contract with the court in 1751 to take on an apprentice. The tax records suggest his death occurred in 1816, which would imply that he was about 90 years old. His advanced age may explain his disappearance from the records as well as the lack of a will.

Children of WILLIAM AMIS and HANNAH DALY are:

- i. JOSEPH⁴ AMIS, b. before 1756 Essex Co., Va.; d. Guilford Co., N. C., March 1781.
Mrs. Hodges states that Joseph Amis died at the battle of Guilford C. H., North Carolina, and also states he was the eldest son. If William and Hannah used traditional naming patterns this would be a reasonable assumption. Given the range of possible birth years, this would suggest he was born about 1750, which would push his father's birth year closer to 1720, but still consistent with the "about 1725" that I have estimated.
4. ii. LEWIS⁴ AMIS, b. before 1756 Essex Co., Va.; d. before August 1825 Granville Co., N. C.; m. ELIZABETH KNIGHT, dau. of JONATHAN KNIGHT and JUDITH WOODSON 25 December 1781 Granville Co., N. C.
Lewis Amis was old enough to sign the oath of allegiance, and was therefore born before 1756. His marriage in 1781 suggests a birth after about 1750. He died testate so the names of his children are assured, although it is not always possible to be sure in the records which children are being identified, given the similarity of names. This reinforces the need for land deed genealogy.
- iii. ELIZABETH⁴ AMIS, b. 24 March 1755 Essex Co., Va.; d. 15 January 1838 Oglesby, Davidson Co., Tenn.; m. HARRIS OGILVIE 26 October 1781 Granville Co., Tenn., son of WILLIAM OGILVIE and MARY HARRIS; b. 21 March 1758 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 11 November 1823 Oglesby, Davidson Co., Tenn.⁶⁴
5. iv. WILLIAM⁴ AMIS, b. 1765 Essex Co., Va.; d. before 10 June 1857 Granville Co., N. C.; m. JUDITH KNIGHT, dau. of JONATHAN KNIGHT and JUDITH WOODSON 21 January 1789 Granville Co., N. C.
6. v. JOHN⁴ AMIS, b. 29 October 1774 Granville Co., N. C., d. 9 September 1852 Culleoka, Maury Co., Tenn.; m. MARY KNIGHT, dau. of JONATHAN KNIGHT and JUDITH WOODSON 2 October 1797 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 24 March 1778 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 21 October 1851 Culleoka, Maury Co., Tenn.
- vi. HANNAH⁴ AMIS, b. 1776 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 1830 College Grove, Williamson Co., Tenn.; m. JOHN OGILVIE 20 January 1792 Granville Co., N. C. son of WILLIAM OGILVIE and MARY HARRIS; b. 23 July 1767 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 12 October 1821 College Grove, Williamson Co., Tenn.
"The gravestone for John Ogilvie states: "In memory of John Ogilvie who was born July the 23 1767 died Oct the 12 1821 Died a Christian". A stone of identical design and apparent age is next to John's. There is no visible inscription on the stone. According to Ogilvie Kith and Kin, Volume 2 Number 4, it is believed to be the stone of John's wife, Hannah. Hannah lived on John's plantation until the time of her death and it is reasonable to assume that she was buried next to her husband. A complete listing persons known to

⁶⁴ Kristina. Schneider, Jeschke, Linde, Ederer. 13 November 2006. Located at [http://http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com, \(db. kriss_je](http://http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com, (db. kriss_je)

be buried at the Ogilvie Cemetery (up to 1973) can be found in "Directory of Williamson County, Tennessee, Burials", Volume 1, pages 228-229. Note: the September 1997 issue of Ogilvie Kith and Kin, page 2, gives another possible location for the burial of Hannah. The Word Cemetery in Pleasant Grove, Bedford County, TN, has gravestones for infant children of Frances Ogilvie Robinson and Amy Ogilvie McClure (Hannah's daughters). There is a marker among those children for "H. Ogilvie, Died 1830". It is very possible that Hannah was buried with her grandchildren in Bedford County rather than with her husband in Williamson County.

The last will and testament of John Ogilvie is recorded in the Williamson County, TN, archives in Book C, pages 291-293. The will states: In the name of God, Amen. I, John Ogilvie, of the County Williamson and State of Tennessee, being in a weak and low (unreadable) of Body but of sound mind and memory do make this my last will and Testament. My soul I commit into the hands of God my creator hoping for mercy thro his Son Jesus Christ my Redeemer and my Body to the Earth in decent Christian Burial at the Burying Ground at Brother Richard Ogilvies and as touching such property as God has been pleased to bless me I give and bequeath in the manner and form following. In the first place my will and desire is that my Family like together in a Family Capacity on the Lands and Plantation whereon I now live and that my negroes remain with them until my daughter Polly arrives at age or marry as the case may be and then my will and Desire is that my wife Hannah Ogilvie have my Negro woman Elisa and her youngest Child at that time and their increase during her life and at her death to be equally divided among my Children and if Circumstances should arise that it would be advisable to make a Division of the Plantation my desire is that my Wife have the dwelling House with half of the improvement adjoining during life and at her death to be buried by my son Lewis Ogilvie. 2nd, I give and bequeath to my son Lewis Ogilvie the other half of my Land when he arives at age and the other half at the death of his mother and the Bay Horse McKinny and a Sorrel Filey now two years old to him and his heirs forever. 3rd, My Will and desire is that the Horse Jack Gin and her colt and the Sorrel Mare with the yoke of oxen remain on the plantation for the use of the Family and that my wife make a choice of twelve head of Cattle, twelve head of Sheep and Hogs sufficient for present support and to raise stock from and the remainder of the Stock of Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Hogs to be sold and the money arisen therefrom after paying my Just Debt to be equally divided among my Children. 4th, I give and bequeath to my daughter Polly when she arrives at age or marries as the case may be a Horse Saddle and Bridle worth ninety five dollars, two beds and Furniture and her choice of a Cow and Calf, one Ewe and Lamb and one Sow and Pigs and Dresser and Kitchen furniture at the discretion of her Mother to be furnished out of the Property on hand in the Family at such time to her and her heirs forever. 5th, My will and desire is that the remainder of Negroes together with their increase when my Daughter Polly arives at age or marry as the case may be should be equally divided among my children to them and their heirs forever. 6th, My Will and desire is that the Crop now on the Plantation together with all the Plantation Tools be disposed of for the benefit of the Family and if it should be necessary that a Division take place in the

Plantation, the Plantation Tools, Household and Kitchen Furniture together with the Stock of Horses Cattle Sheep and Hogs to be equally divided between my Wife and son Lewis and at the Death of my Wife her part of this Division then remaining to be equally divided among my Daughters. 7th, and Lastly I constitute and Appoint my trusty friend Doctor Wm S. Webb and my well beloved Wife Hannah Ogilvie Executors in trust of this my Last Will and Testament revoking all others heretofore by me made in Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed my seal this 5th day of October 1821. (Underlined before signed the words Household and Kitchen Furniture).

An inventory of the estate of John Ogilvie was completed on 12 Feb 1822 by Wm. Webb. The County Commission's Report was dated 19 December 1823. The estate settlement was dated 18 March 1824.

Houston McClure, husband of Amy Ogilvie, petitioned the Williamson County Court on 25 July 1831 to issue subpoenas to Lewis Ogilvie, Wm. Webb, Polly Ogilvie and her husband Thomas Ray, to compel them to provide an accounting of the proceeds of the personal property of John Ogilvie that took place from the time of his death in 1821 until the time of Hannah's death in 1830. The Williamson County Archives has a 103 page record of the case of Houston McClure et al. vs. Lewis Ogilvie et al. McClure admits in his complaint that the personal property and slaves mentioned in the will had been divided equally. His complaint questioned the status of the property that remained with the plantation for its support. He alleged that Lewis Ogilvie had profited from that property (livestock and crops) and had not divided his profits when his mother Hannah died. Lewis countered by saying the property left with the plantation was not sufficient to support the family and everything that he sold was for that purpose and not profit. He said that his mother became insane after the death of John and he had to spend money on her care. He had to purchase additional slaves to maintain the plantation and eventually rented out part of it just to break even. The 103 page case doesn't include a final judgment on who prevailed in the suit.⁶⁵

vii. FRANCES⁴ AMIS, m. JOHN RAVEN 7 November 1797 Granville Co., Tenn.

I have found John Raven, Jr., in Abraham Plains District, Granville Co., N. C., in 1790, as well as a John Raven. John Raven and wife, both over 45, are living in Caswell Co., N. C., in 1800.⁶⁶ John Raven, 26-45, wife of same age, and one girl 10-16, are living in Greenville Co., S. C. in 1820.⁶⁷ I have found John Ravan from NC living in Lumpkin Co., Ga., in 1836 and 1850. His estimated birth year is 1799 and his wife, Sarah, was born in the same year in South Carolina, and their daughter Amarillis 25, was born in S. C., suggesting this may be the same family, although their son William was 23 and born in

⁶⁵ Robinson, Robert. Rob's Family Tree. 19 December 2009. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. :3366378.)

⁶⁶ 1800 Census Caswell Co., N. C., p. 147, [00001-00001]. No other persons named Raven were identified in North Carolina that year.

⁶⁷ 1820 Census Greenville Co., S. C., p. 137. [00010-01010].

Georgia.⁶⁸ Other than these fragments of information, I have not found solid traces of this couple after their marriage.

Fourth Generation

4. LEWIS⁴ (WILLIAM³, JOSEPH²) AMIS was born before 1756 in Essex County, Virginia and died before August 1825 in Granville Co., North Carolina. He married ELIZABETH KNIGHT, daughter of JONATHAN KNIGHT and JUDITH WOODSON, 25 December 1781 Granville Co., N. C. She died before 1820 in Granville Co., N. C.

Lewis Amis was listed in the 1810 Census with one son 10-16 and one son 16-26. He was over age 45. He had four daughters, two under 10, and two 10-16. His wife appears to have died before the 1820 Census, as he then had one son 16-26 still living at home and two daughters 16-26, likely the two youngest from the 1810 Census. His last will and testament was written in Granville Co., N. C., on 16 July 1825 and was proven at the August 1825 Court.⁶⁹
Granville Co., N. C., Will Book 10:56-57

In the name of God Amen. I Lewis Amis of the County of Granville State of North Carolina being weak in body but of sound mind and perfect memory do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following—

1st It is my wish and desire that my son William Amis should have all the property both real and personal which I have heretofore put him in possession of valued by myself to the sum of Twelve hundred dollars all of which I give to my said son William to him and his heirs forever.

2nd It is my wish and desire that my son Thomas Amis should have all the property both real and personal which I have heretofore put him in possession of valued by myself to the sum of Eighteen hundred dollars all of which I give to my said son Thomas to him and his heirs forever.

3rd It is my wish and desire that my son Lewis Amis should have all the property both real and personal which I have heretofore put him in possession of valued by myself to the sum of Eighteen hundred dollars all of which I give to my said son Lewis to him and his heirs forever.

4th It is my wish and desire that my son Joseph Amis should have all the property both real and personal which I have heretofore put him in possession of and valued by myself to the sum of Two thousand dollars all of which I give to my said son Joseph to him and his heirs forever.

5th It is my wish and desire that my daughter Elizabeth Graves should have all the property which I have heretofore put her in possession of valued by myself to

⁶⁸ 1850 Census Lumpkin Co., Ga., Frogtown District, p. 92, #36. There is a James H. Raven, 63, NC living in Sumter Co., Ga., Bottsford Post Office, p. 471, #5/5 and his son, Stewart, p. 472 #10/11. These may be other children of the John Raven who married Frances Amis.

⁶⁹ Granville Co., N. C., Will Book 10:56-57. My transcription from microfilm copy at the Richard Thornton Library, Oxford, N. C.

the sum of Fifteen hundred dollars to my said daughter Elizabeth to her and her heirs forever.

6th It is my wish and desire that my daughter Nancy Graves should have all the property which I have heretofore put her in possession of valued by myself to the sum of fifteen hundred dollars all of which I give to my said daughter Nancy to her and her heirs forever.

7th It is my wish and desire that my said son John Amis should have all the property which I have heretofore put him in possession of both real and personal, valued by myself to the sum of Two thousand dollars all of which I give to my said son John to him and his heirs forever.

8th It is my wish and desire that my daughter Hannah Sanford should have all the property which I have heretofore put her in possession of valued by myself to the sum of Twelve hundred dollars to my said daughter Hannah her and her heirs forever.

9th It is my wish and desire that my daughter Frankey Puryear should have all the property both real and personal which I have heretofore put her in possession of and valued by myself to the sum on Nineteen hundred dollars to her and her heirs forever.

(obscured microfilm copy of will)...two hundred dollars each out of the property not heretofore distributed then if any balance should remain in the hands of my Executor after paying all of my just debts, it is my desire that it should be equally divided between all my children and each child is to share and share alike.

It is also my wish and desire that my Executor should choose 2 or 3 reputable men of the neighborhood for the purpose of valuing the remaining Negroes not heretofore disposed of for the purpose of enabling my Executor to make each child equal portion up to the value of \$2000 by giving property to each at valuation—and it is my wish that each of my grown Negroes which have not heretofore been disposed of should have the privilege of choosing which of my children they wish for their master, and it is my wish that each child should have them provided such child will give or allow the price the Negro or Negroes may be valued by the persons heretofore chosen by my Executor.

Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint all my sons William Amis, Thomas Amis, Lewis Amis, Joseph Amis, and John Amis Executors to this my last will and testament.

Signed, sealed and acknowledged this 16th day of July Eighteen hundred and twenty five in the presence of

LEWIS AMIS (LS)

Alxr Smith

John L. Patillo

State of No. Carolina) August Court A. D. 1825

Granville County)

The execution of the foregoing last will and testament of Lewis Amis, deceased, was duly proven in oath and in open court by Alexander Smith and John L. Patillo the subscribing witnesses thereto and was ordered to be recorded. At the same time came forward William Amis, Joseph Amis, and John Amis named as three of the executors in said will and duly qualified as such. (signed by clerk of court)

On 27 February 1828 in Giles Co., Tenn., William C. Graves and Sterling Graves gave Thomas Neal of Giles Co., a power of attorney to represent them on behalf of their wives, Elizabeth Graves and Nancy Graves, children of Lewis Amis, deceased, and to obtain their share of his estate from the executors William Amis, Joseph Amis, and John Amis.⁷⁰ Some inferences can be drawn from the fact that John³ Amis had moved with his family to Tennessee by 1820 and William³ Amis appears to have had only two sons: Jonathan and John Woodson Amis, who was the grandfather of A. B. Amis. Jonathan does not appear in the record, so it seems probable that all of the other men named Amis up through the 1850's are sons and grandsons of Lewis Amis and Elizabeth Knight. Thomas and William Amis are certainly brothers, as attested by correspondence saved by William Amis that included a letter written 11 October 1826 that mentions, among other things, settlement of the estate, presumably of their father, Lewis Amis.⁷¹

The court documents establish that both Thomas and Lewis Amis were not in Granville County in 1825. From the letter we can confirm that Thomas was in Oglethorpe County, and Lewis Amis was in Person Co., N. C., based upon his marriage certificate.⁷²

Children of LEWIS AMIS and ELIZABETH KNIGHT are:

7. i. WILLIAM⁵ AMIS; b. 11 December 1782 Granville Co., Ga.; d. 28 December 1848 Granville Co., N. C.; m. ELIZABETH PURYEAR 3 December 1804 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 11 February 1788 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 26 April 1859 Granville Co., N. C.
- ii. THOMAS⁵ AMIS, b. 1785 Granville Co. N. C.; d. 1858 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; m. SARAH WYNNE about 1806 Wilkes Co., Ga.⁷³

Thomas Amis was the son of Thomas Amis Sr. and was born in the western part of the county on Big Creek....He was one of twelve children, all of whom lived to the age of maturity and were married. His father came from North Carolina to Georgia about the time of the great influx of population....after the war of the Revolution. His father and grand-father who lived in N.C. were machinists. They all had a genius for machinery and were

⁷⁰ Giles Co., Tenn., Deed Book G:418, 21 April 1828. Accessed online 20 November 2011 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/giles/deeds/deed-1.txt>.

⁷¹ Letter from Thomas Amis to William Amis with the salutation "Dear Brother" and dated in a postscript 11 October 1826. Amis-Clark-Puryear Papers (#474), Special Collections Department, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, USA. Accessed 27 November 2011 at

<http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0474/>.

⁷² He is not listed in the 1820 Census for Person Co., N. C., but the records are incomplete and many counties have been lost. I have not reviewed the county tax records.

⁷³ Craig, W. B. Old Georgia: Amis, Belcher, Hogan & Affiliates. 12 June 2011. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. oldgeorgia.) His documentation seems much more careful than some of the other posters on this family.

successful millmen,.... were all men of great energy, producers, all alike being successful farmers.⁷⁴

Children of THOMAS AMIS and SARAH WYNNE are:

- a. ELIZABETH⁶ AMIS, b. 16 May 1808 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 23 January 1892 Warrior, Blount Co., Ala.; m. ROBERT TRAMMELL 17 May 1826 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.⁷⁵
- b. MARY⁶ AMIS, b. 5 January 1810 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 4 October 1888 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; m. THOMAS PRICE BROOKS 24 January 1826 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; b. 12 March 1803 Buckingham Co., Va.; d. 13 November 1876 Panola Co., Texas.⁷⁶
- c. ANN W.⁶ AMIS, b. 3 March 1811 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 1888 Dade Co., Ga.; m. RICHARD M. AYCOCK 24 January 1828 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.
- d. WILLIAM⁶ AMIS, b. 24 June 1812 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 24 August 1888 Carroll Co., Ga.;⁷⁷ m. JANE ELIZA PINSON 10 December 1833 Clarke Co., Ga.; b. 22 January 1817 Clarke Co., Ga.; d. 10 February 1884 Carroll Co., Ga.⁷⁸
- e. AMANDA⁶ AMIS, b. 8 May 1814 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 8 January 1864 Coweta Co., Ga.; m. ELIJAH MARTIN 1 April 1832 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; b. 2 June 1807 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 20 September 1878 Coweta Co., Ga.;⁷⁹ he m. (2) ELIZABETH HOGAN about 1866 Troup Co., Ga.
- f. JOSEPH⁶ AMIS, b. 1816 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 15 January 1891 Griffin, Ga.; m. ELIZABETH PRICE 13 October 1836 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; b. 1819 Clarke Co., Ga.; d. about 1897 Newnan, Coweta Co., Ga.⁸⁰
- g. JOHN L.⁶ AMIS, b. 1818 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. about 1868 Copiah Co., Miss.; m. LUCY SMITH 24 November 1845 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; b. February 1822 Clarke Co., Ga.; d. about 1905 Forest Hill, Copiah Co., Miss.
- h. LUCY⁶ AMIS, b. 1820 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. before 1899 Coweta Co., Ga.; m. WILLIAM E. SMITH 14 September 1836 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; b. 7 August 1811 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 7 April 1854 Coweta Co., Ga.⁸¹

⁷⁴ From Thomas Amis, Jr.'s obituary January 1900, Lexington, Oglethorpe Co., Ga. Cited by W. B. Craig.

⁷⁵ He reportedly died in 1830 and she remained a widow the rest of her life, raising their four children.

⁷⁶ He and Mary were apparently estranged by 1860 and he lived in Texas with their sons William T., and John R. Brooks. Mary is buried in Temple Methodist Church Cemetery, Oglethorpe Co., Ga., on Brooks land deeded to the church in 1890 by her eldest son W. W. Brooks. He is buried in Sugar Hill Cemetery, Panola Co., Texas.

⁷⁷ He is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Newnan, Coweta Co., Ga. "He prospered as a planter, and in 1855 bought a mill site on Snake Creek at Banning, Carroll County. With the War's onset, he moved to Banning and began making yarn for the C.S.A. cause. After the war, William built 'a fine merchant mill with new machinery' there, processed cotton and wool into cloth, & diversified into grain, lumber, and leather processing. In 1878, at age 66, Mr. Amis sold off his factory." Cited by W. B. Craig, although it appears to be from a nineteenth century county history.

⁷⁸ Also buried Oak Hill Cemetery, Newnan.

⁷⁹ Both are buried in Martin Family Cemetery, Coweta Co., Ga.

⁸⁰ Both are buried in Whitesburg, Carroll Co., Ga.

- i. THOMAS⁶ AMIS, JR., b. 22 September 1822 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 31 December 1899 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.;⁸² m. EVALINE A. MOORE 20 November 1850; b. 27 January 1820 Sampson Co., N. C.; d. 26 May 1895 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.⁸³

Thomas Amis was the son of Thomas Amis Sr. and was born in the western part of the county on Big Creek....He was one of twelve children, all of whom lived to the age of maturity and were married. His father came from North Carolina to Georgia about the time of the great influx of population....after the war of the Revolution. His father and grand-father who lived in N.C. were machinists. They all had a genius for machinery and were successful millmen,.... were all men of great energy, producers, all alike being successful farmers.⁸⁴

- j. SARAH⁶ AMIS, b. 22 September 1822 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. about 1865 Coweta Co., Ga.; m. HARDAWAY SMITH 2 November 1843 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; b. 29 September 1816 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. about 1895 Coweta Co., Ga.⁸⁵
- k. FRANCES⁶ AMIS, b. 18 September 1824 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 31 March 1913 Haynesville, Claiborne Parish, La.; m. BURWELL AYCOCK WATTERS about 1845; b. 1 March 1822 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 24 January 1890 Haynesville, Claiborne Parish, La.⁸⁶
- l. LEWIS⁶ AMIS, b. 16 August 1826 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; d. 3 February 1883 Ozark, Franklin Co., Ark.; m. MARY JANE DEAN 5 February 1846 Clarke Co., Ga.; b. 18 September 1829 Clarke Co., Ga.; d. May 1888 Franklin Co., Ark.⁸⁷

- iii. LEWIS⁵ AMIS, b. 1788 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 22 January 1858 Fayette Co., Tenn.; m. CHARLOTTE PULLIAM 4 September 1811 Person Co., N. C.; b. 27 August 1787 Person Co., N. C.; d. 10 October 1856 Fayette Co., Tenn.

Lewis Amis, 62, and Charlotte, 63, are listed in 1850 with her sister, Jane Pulliam, 56, Elizabeth Amis 33, and Mary A. Amis, 19.⁸⁸ John and Lewis

⁸¹ He is buried in the Smith Family Cemetery; she does not have a marker stone.

⁸² From his obituary in the Lexington, Ga., paper. He was engaged in farming and milling on Big Creek until the fall of 1867, when he moved to the Gresham place on Long Creek, where he successfully engaged more extensively in farming and milling. People came from far and near to the "Amis mill"....The mills were running night and day for months at a time. Sometimes he was misunderstood. His pushing energetic way gave him the appearance of a cold man of the world, yet he was tender hearted.... It was a matter of pride with him in his old age that no one ever went from his home hungry.... His love for his father and mother was beautiful. In his old age he often spoke of them with childlike affection..... Cited by W. B. Craig.

⁸³ Buried in the family plot on Long Creek.

⁸⁴ From Thomas Amis, Jr.'s obituary January 1900, Lexington, Oglethorpe Co., Ga. Cited by W. B. Craig.

⁸⁵ Both plots are unmarked, but are presumed to be in the Smith Family Cemetery, Coweta Co., Ga.

⁸⁶ Both are buried in Friendship Cemetery.

⁸⁷ Both are buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Franklin Co., Ark.

⁸⁸ 1850 Census Fayette Co., Tenn., 8th Civil District, p. 291B, #821/821.

Amis, Jr., 29, and Catherine 32, are nearby,⁸⁹ and Joseph Amis, 35, and Annis, 36, are in the 1st Civil District.⁹⁰ William Amis, 30, and Ellen, 30, are in the 6th Civil District.⁹¹

Children of LEWIS AMIS and CHARLOTTE PULLIAM are:

- a. JOSEPH⁶ AMIS, b. 1813 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 18 February 1876; m. ANNIS SATTERFIELD 9 December 1833 Person Co., N. C., dau. of WILLIAM SATTERFIELD and NAOMI LEE; b. 1814 Caswell Co., N. C.; d. 7 November 1879.⁹²
- b. WILLIAM L.⁶ AMIS, b. 16 October 1832; d. 21 January 1918 Henderson Co., Tenn.⁹³
- c. JOHN⁶ AMIS,
Additional work on marriages will need to be done, but there is a tombstone in Hood Cemetery, Fayette Co., Tenn., for Katie E. Amis, b. 8 March 1870; d. 12 August 1871, daughter of J. S. and E. J. Amis.⁹⁴
- d. JAMES⁶ AMIS,
- e. ELIZABETH⁶ AMIS, m. _____ LOVELADY.
- f. SAMUEL SATTERFIELD⁶ AMIS, b. 10 December 1840; D. 2 February 1897; m. A. A. Amis 5 January 1875.⁹⁵
- g. MARY E.⁶ AMIS., b. 31 January 1852, d. 1874
- iv. JOSEPH⁵ AMIS, b. 1790 Granville Co., N. C.; d. before August 1840 Granville Co., N. C.; m. ELIZABETH DOWNEY 3 March 1818 Granville Co., N. C., dau. of JAMES DOWNEY; d. 1848 Granville Co., N. C.⁹⁶

⁸⁹ 1850 Census Fayette Co., Tenn., 8th Civil District, p. 298B, #911/911. John Amis, 24, is working at the next door neighbors, #910/910.

⁹⁰ 1850 Census Fayette Co., Tenn., 1st Civil District, p. 234A, #41/41.

⁹¹ 1850 Census Fayette Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 278B, #645/645. He is working as an overseer, as he was in the 1860 Census.

⁹² Information obtained from the Bible of their son, Edwin H. Amis. Located 26 November 2011 at <http://www.tngenweb.org/records/henderson/misc/gm/gm4-17.html>. The marriage date if from Fox, John. Fox and Graham Family. 16 December 2010. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. johnfox38.) I have communicated with Mr. Fox about the Mecklenburg Co., Va., Fox family related to my Wright family. Edwin H. Amis (1845-1874) and Adrin A. Amis, (1849-1922) are both listed in Nebo Cemetery, Henderson Co., Tenn., along with others who are likely related to this branch of the family. (Donahue, David. Located 16 December 2011 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/henderson/cemeteries/Nebo.txt>.

⁹³ His death record recorded his parents as Joseph Amis and Annis Satterfield. Accessed 26 November 2011 at <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/NSM9-84Y>. (He was recorded as "Billie." He was 84 years old and single. He is buried in Nebo Cemetery, Henderson Co., Tenn., without dates on the marker. [<http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/henderson/cemeteries/nebo.txt>. Accessed 16 December 2011.]

⁹⁴ Hensley, Cindy. Hood Cemetery, Warren, Fayette Co., Tennessee. Accessed 16 December 2011 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/fayette/cemeteries/Hood.txt>.

⁹⁵ This may well be Adrienne A. Amis, daughter of Joseph Amis and Annis Satterfield, b. 10 June 1849 Fayette Co., Tenn. (Bible of Edwin H. Amis.)

⁹⁶ Joseph Amis served as a militia colonel in the War of 1812, and was a Presbyterian, according to a biography of his son, Lewis Amis, of Princeton, Arkansas. [Biographical and

Joseph Amis died testate, but did not list his minor children. As it happens, his executor and executrix both died before completion of his probate, with the result that there is a suit on file in the Archives where William Amis and Ann S. Amis, guardians for Susanna S. E., Amis, Rosaltha A. Amis, and William J. Amis, minor children of Joseph Amis and Elizabeth Amis petitioned for the sale of slaves that they held as tenants in common with their siblings. The document states that the will appointed Elizabeth Amis, widow of Joseph Amis as executrix, and his son Lewis Amis, and son-in-law Lewis Amis, as executors. His son had not originally qualified, but both Lewis Amis the son-in-law, and Elizabeth Amis were dead by 1846 (when the suit was filed). Named as defendants were Lewis Amis (son) as executor, Joseph N. Barnett and wife Mary, Lewis B. Norwood and his wife Jane, James A. Amis, and Judy F. Amis the latter two also minor children of Joseph Amis, deceased.⁹⁷

Children of JOSEPH AMIS and ELIZABETH DOWNEY are:⁹⁸

- a. ELIZABETH⁶ AMIS, b. 1819 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 1843 Granville Co., N. C.; m. LEWIS AMIS 1836 Granville Co., N. C., son of WILLIAM AMIS and ELIZABETH PURYEAR; b. 1809 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 1843 Granville Co., N. C.
- b. JANE D.⁶ AMIS, m. LEWIS B. NORWOOD 1846 Granville Co., N. C.
- c. LEWIS⁶ AMIS, b. 22 December 1822 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 19 July 1894 Dallas Co., Arkansas; m. (1) MARTHA AMIS October 1848 Granville Co., N. C., dau. of WILLIAM AMIS and ELIZABETH PURYEAR; b. 1825 Granville Co., N. C.; d. May 1850 Granville Co., N. C.;⁹⁹ m. (2) MARTHA DANIEL 1 June 1852 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 16 August 1835 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 10 August 1889 Dallas Co., Ark.

Louis Amis, 27, Judith, 17, Joseph 3, and Martha “1 month” are living in the County Line District of Granville Co., N. C., in 1850. This Judith is almost surely his sister. Although Martha is said to be 1 month old, her mother had died in May, so the date is probably off slightly. At any rate, this establishes the children he had by Martha Amis.

Louis Amis patented land in Dallas County, Arkansas, in section 29, twp. 108, range 12W in October 1860.¹⁰⁰

Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, 1890: Chapter 27:209, Dallas County.] This Lewis Amis' first wife was Martha Amis, daughter of William⁴ Amis.

⁹⁷ Estate File of Joseph Amis. Microfilm copy reviewed at Thornton Library, Oxford, N. C., 27 February 2012.

⁹⁸ Information obtained from biographical sketches of their sons, Lewis and James A. contained in Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, 1890, Chap. 27:709, Dallas County. Copy located at <http://books.google.com>, accessed 18 November 2011. Joseph Amis' will was recorded in Will Book 14:567 and listed “Betsy” Lewis, James, and Joseph. Lewis was identified as the third child in his biographical sketch.

⁹⁹ Her death from “dropsy” at age 25 is recorded in the 1850 Mortality Schedule Granville Co., N. C. I suspect this was pre-eclampsia.

¹⁰⁰ Fisher, Joy. BLM records for Dallas Co., Arkansas. Located online 16 December 2011 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/ark/dallas/land/dallas.txt>.

- d. MARY⁶ AMIS, m. JOSEPH N. BARNETT;
- e. JAMES A.⁶ AMIS, b. 8 May 1829 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 24 March 1904 Dallas Co., Ark.;¹⁰¹ m. ELIZABETH (TAYLOR) PHELPS 2 January 1868 Union Co., Ark.; b. 11 September 1843 Wetumpka, Coosa Co., Ala.; d. 17 July 1930 Fordyce, Dallas Co., Ark.; m. (1) FRANKLIN PHELPS 5 September 1859 Union Co., Ark.¹⁰²
- f. JUDITH F.⁶ AMIS, b. 1833 Granville Co., N. C.;
- g. ANN S.⁶ AMIS, b. 1834 Granville Co., N. C.¹⁰³
- h. SUSANNAH⁶ AMIS, b. 1838 Granville Co., N. C.¹⁰⁴
- i. ROSALTA⁶ AMIS, b. 1839 Granville Co., N. C.¹⁰⁵
- j. WILLIAM J.⁶ AMIS, b. 1840 Granville Co., N. C.
- v. ELIZABETH⁵ AMIS, b. 11 October 1794 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 31 August 1864 Howard Co., Ark.;¹⁰⁶ m. WILLIAM C. GRAVES 10 September 1811 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 25 December 1791; d. 8 November 1874 Howard Co., Ark.
- vi. JOHN⁵ AMIS, b. 1800 Granville Co., N. C.; d. about 1866 Granville Co., N. C.; m. MARY HUNT 21 July 1824 Granville Co., N. C.¹⁰⁷

John Amis was apparently a millwright. He built a mill that still stands on Grassy Creek in Granville Co., N. C.¹⁰⁸ His house was also substantially made, and it too has been photographed.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰¹ Buried Oakland Cemetery, Fordyce, Ark. (W. B. Craig.) He also lists Mary W. Amis, Ann L. Amis, and Judith Frances Amis (m. John Henry Webb 5 June 1855 Granville Co., N. C.) as daughters, presumably based upon their mother's estate records. He had no other information about these persons. Gwynn's abstract of Joseph's estate included another Joseph.

¹⁰² Buried in Oakland Cemetery, Fordyce, Arkansas. Data from Medley, Linda. Warner Brown Family—Virginia to Arkansas. 2 June 2011. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. laaymedley.)

¹⁰³ I believe she is the Ann E. Amis living with John T. and Mary A. A. Blackwell in the Nutbush District in 1850. [1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Nutbush District, p. 210, #50/50.

¹⁰⁴ Living with her uncle, John Amis, along with Rosaltha and William (J.). 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Abraham Plains District, p. 202B, #41/41. She may be the Susan Amis who married Mason Gates Granville Co., N. C., 23 March 1868, but there is also a Susan Amis who married Daniel Cooper Granville Co., N. C., 6 August 1870.

¹⁰⁵ Rosa A. Amis married Lewis E. Amis Granville Co., N. C., 29 October 1859. Since they were living in the household together, this seems possible. On the other hand, L. E. Amis m. Bettie R. Scott Granville Co., N. C., 12 February 1867. While it is possible Rosaltha Amis died, the possibility of a divorce is raised, since Rosa Amis married Addison Cannady Granville Co., N. C., 26 December 1873 and Rosetta Amis married John Satterwhite Granville Co., N. C., 23 November 1870. These relationships have not been pursued to establish a firm connection.

¹⁰⁶ Tombstone for both Elizabeth and William C. Graves, Sr., are in Graves Cemetery, Howard Co., Ark. Accessed at <http://www.genealogysshoppe.com/arhoward/gravecem.htm>, 27 November 2011

¹⁰⁷ John Amis, 50, and Mary Amis, 42, are living with their family in Abraham Plains in 1850 along with Lucy Hunt 66, presumably her mother. 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Abraham's Plains, p. 202B, #41/41.

¹⁰⁸ An architectural history of the county shows a photograph of the mill with the following legend. "Rising three-and-a-half stories, the Amis-Dalton Mill is the county's most imposing non-residential structure. Thought to have been built, during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, by John Amis (b. 1800), the grist mill is one of the oldest and largest in the eastern Piedmont. A prominent northern Granville County resident, Amis owned approximately 400

John Amis and his family are living in the Abraham's Plains District in 1850. He has his brother Joseph's three youngest children living with him.

Children of JOHN AMIS and MARY HUNT are:

- a. JAMES⁶ S. AMIS, b. 1825 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 5 November 1903 Granville Co., N. C.; m. MARY NASH SCOTT about 1849 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 1827; d. February 1908 Granville Co., N. C.

James Amis and Mary Amis, along with daughter Mary, age 8, and John B. Lancaster, age 10, are living in County Line District in 1860.¹¹⁰ By 1870, James S. Amis and Mary N. Amis are living with Ernest B., age 9, J. H. Minor, a 60 year old woman who was teaching; J. E. Lancaster, a 22 year old woman with no occupation, and Mary Amis, 30, teaching school.¹¹¹

Children of JAMES S. AMIS and MARY SCOTT are:

acres of property in addition to his extensive milling operation. He donated, in 1855, the land upon which the eponymous Amis Chapel Baptist Church was raised. In 1900 Amis' nephew, James S. Amis (1826-1903), sold the mill to Arthur S. Carrington and his son, Luther, for \$1650. Luther and Mary Carrington sold it thirteen years later, for \$2800, to John T. and Mary Dalton, in whose family it remains.

The mortised, tenoned, and pegged structure was originally raised on stone piers and sheathed in weatherboards. Though the stones have been supplemented with adjacent concrete piers, and many of the weatherboards have peeled away, the mill and its site probably look much as they did when built...

Numerous millstones are scattered throughout the structure's milling floors, as well as the steep slope to its rear. A variety of chutes, bins, gears, and grinders, and other milling equipment are still in place. Also in place is the mill race, which runs to the east, terminating in a rock and concrete dam that once regulated the flow of the water driven mill's power source, Grassy Creek."

¹⁰⁹ "If only in whispers, the remaining finish of this substantial timber frame house still proclaims the presence of a once fine dwelling. John Amis, (b. 1800), who built the house, probably before the close of the first third of the nineteenth century, was also the builder and owner of the Amis-Dalton Mill to the north. The exceptional size of his mill and the finish of his house, along with his substantial land holdings, indicate that he was one of the wealthier members of the community he served. After Amis, the house's next owner is said to have been Samuel Cash, (1856-1936), whose family it left, only to be reacquired in 1971 by a grandson, also named Samuel Cash.

The unusual number of bays that cross the house's front façade, as well as their placement—four in number, they are asymmetrically aligned—suggest it may originally have a hall parlor, or even a side hall plan. Now divided by a center hallway, the stairs of which climb up to the second floor and down to a brick walled cellar, the house retains some of its Federal style interior finish, including heavily articulated, flush sheathed wainscoting and a reeded mantle. Federal style surrounds also inframe the front block's seven panel entry door and rectangular transom and its 9/9 windows, many of which retain remnants of early or original louvered shutters.

A collapsing one story ell at the house's rear, probably original, is surprisingly well finished. Lit by 9/9 windows set in three part surrounds, it retains part of the paneled underside of a boxed stair and broken stretches of plaster cling to its exposed lath walls."

¹¹⁰ 1860 Census Granville Co., N. C., County Line District, p. 40.

¹¹¹ 1870 Census Granville Co., N. C., Oxford Twp., p. 40, #83/87.

1. MARY⁷ AMIS, b. 19 January 1852 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 11 April 1938 Waynesboro, Virginia; m. JAMES ALBERT FISHBURN 29 August 1882 Granville Co., N. C.¹¹²
2. ERNEST⁷ R. AMIS, b. 1867 Granville Co., N. C.; m. GERTRUDE R. VAUGHN 8 November 1894 Winston Twp., Forsyth Co., N. C.
 - b. LEWIS⁶ E. AMIS, b. 1827 Granville Co., N. C.; m. (1) ROSA E. AMIS 29 October 1859 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 1839 N. C.; d. before 1867;¹¹³ m. (2) BETTIE R. SCOTT 12 February 1867 Granville Co., N. C.
 Lewis Amis is living with Judith Amis, age 17, Joseph 3, and Martha, b. October 1850. He is in County Line District near his brother, James.¹¹⁴ He is living with his parents in 1860, along with William, 18, and Rose 21.¹¹⁵ In 1870 he is head of household and has Mary A. or Mary H., 62, probably his mother, Bettie B. S., 35, and Bettie S., 5, in his household.¹¹⁶
- vii. NANCY⁵ AMIS, b. say 1797 Granville Co., N. C.; m. STERLING GRAVES 26 December 1817 Granville Co., N. C. ; b. 23 April 1793 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 1836 in Tenn.
- viii. HANNAH⁵ AMIS, b. 1802 Granville Co., N. C.; d. before 1880 Holloway Twp., Person Co., N. C.; m. JAMES LANKFORD¹¹⁷ 22 April 1822 Granville Co., N. C.
- ix. FRANCES⁵ AMIS, b. 1804 Granville Co., N. C., d. before 1880 Granville Co., N. C.; m. PEYTON PURYEAR 5 November 1822 Granville Co., N. C.

5. WILLIAM⁴ (WILLIAM³, JOSEPH²) AMIS was born 1765 in Essex Co., Virginia and died before 10 June 1857 in Granville Co., N. C. He married (1) JUDITH KNIGHT, daughter of JONATHAN KNIGHT and JUDITH WOODSON, 21 January 1789 in Granville Co., N. C. He married (2) SARAH (KNIGHT) ROFFE.

William Amis, Jr., was born in 1765 in Virginia, He married first Judith Knight on 21 Jan 1789, in Granville Co., N. C., William Amis, Jr. died 10 June 1857 leaving a will dated 15 June 1842 in which he names his wife as Sarah. As one of the descendants of his daughter, Lucy, who married Thomas Reavis has stated that his wife was a Miss Roffe of Virginia, I believe that he married secondly Sarah Knight Roffe, the widowed sister of his first wife. Both Sarah Roffe and Judith Amis are named as daughters in the will of Jonathan Knight

¹¹² Information from files collected by Francis B. Hays from newspaper clippings and now stored at the Robert Thornton Library, Oxford, N. C. Accessed 27 February 2012.

¹¹³ This is probably Rosaltha Amis, minor child of Joseph⁵ (Lewis⁴, William³, Joseph²) Amis and Elizabeth Downey. However, see note #105 for other possibilities.

¹¹⁴ 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., p. 178, #7/7.

¹¹⁵ 1860 Census Granville Co., N. C., Abram's Plains District, p. 32, #236/232.

¹¹⁶ 1870 Census Granville Co., N. C., Sassafras Fork, p. 24, #149/234. (also called p. 331B.)

¹¹⁷ Name has also been read as Sandford, but cannot find anyone of that surname in the appropriate census lists.

which was filed November 1809 in Granville Co., N. C.¹¹⁸ I have not located any record of his second marriage.¹¹⁹

William Amis obtained his tract of land from his father-in-law, Jonathan Knight, and appears to have stayed there his entire life. He appears to have played a much less prominent role in local affairs than his nephew, William Amis, son of Lewis.

William Amis, 82, is living with Lewis and Rachel Parham in 1850.¹²⁰

William Amis last will and testament was proved at the November 1857 Court of Granville County.¹²¹

I William Amis of the County of Granville and State of North Carolina do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and form following.

Item: I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah the following slaves, to wit, Calann, Granville, and Clarey, the tract of land where I know reside with the exception of the land given to Alfred Knight and sold to John D. Bryant, Jr., during the term of her natural life, and after her death, to return to my estate. I also give to my wife Sarah the sum of six hundred dollars--\$600—to her and her heirs forever. I leave to my wife all my household & kitchen furniture and at her death to return to my estate. It is also my will that my executors allot to my wife, Sarah, () years plentiful support for herself and family from the time of my death.

Item: I give and bequeath to my daughter, Missinia, the following Negro slaves to wit, Anderson and Rachel, to her and her heirs forever, two cows and calves, one bureau and good feather bed and furniture, one saddle & bridle, to her and her heirs forever. My object is to make an equal distribution of my estate amongst all my children and having made advancements to them of various amounts whatever each one may be hereinafter charged with must account for the advance before they can claim any portion of my estate. I have advanced to my son Johnathan Amis the sum of eleven hundred dollars--\$1100—which he is to account for at my death, without interest until my death. I have advanced to Judith W. Parham, wife of Williamson Parham, the sum of six hundred dollars--\$600—in Negro girl Sophia, one horse and saddle, and cash (illegible) my son John W. Amis () in Negroes William and Haywood. I have advanced to Sarah

¹¹⁸ Granville Co., N. C., Will Book 7:80-81. Cited in Gwynn, Zae Hargett. Abstracts of the Wills and Estate Records of Granville County, North Carolina, 1808-1833. (Rocky Mount, NC: Joseph W. Watson, 1976.) p. 12. Jonathan Knight, Sr., willed to his wife Judith all land on the east side of the road, three Negroes, and household furniture. Son John received the land to the left side of the road whereon he was then living, and grandson John, son of John, received land on the east side of Middle Creek. Son Woodson Knight received 250 acres in Mecklenburg Co., Va., and son William received 5 shillings plus what he had already received. The residue of the estate was left to Elizabeth Amis, "Rachal" DeJarnat, "Judath" Amis, Polly Amis, Jonathan and John Knight.

¹¹⁹ Hodges, A. A. The Ancestry and Descendants of John Woodson Amis of Granville Co., N. C., and Scott Co., Miss. (Pendleton, S. C., n. p. d., 1978,) p. 10.

¹²⁰ 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Tabs Creek District, pp. 83A-B, #71/71.

¹²¹ Granville Co., N. C., Will Book 20:340-343. My transcription from the microfilm copy.

Bryant, wife of John W. Bryant, the sum of one thousand dollars....I have advanced to Rachel Parham, wife of Lewis Parham, the sum of five hundred dollars--\$500—in Negro girl Mariah and horse and saddle. I have advanced to Mary Montague, wife of Samuel Montague, the sum of five hundred dollars--\$500—in Negro girl Mary and horse and saddle. I have advanced to Elizabeth Bryant, wife of Edward Bryant, the sum of five hundred dollars in Negro boy Randall horse and saddle, etc. I have advanced to Susan Bryant, wife of Patterson Bryant, the sum of five hundred dollars in Negro girl Emily horse & saddle, etc. I have advanced to Martha Cheatham, wife of Thomas Cheatham, the sum of five hundred dollars--\$500—in Negro boy Aaron, horse, saddle, etc. I have this day executed to Alfred Knight a deed to a certain tract or parcel of land as an advancement to Frances Knight, wife of said Alfred Knight, for which the said Alfred Knight is to account for the sum of five hundred dollars--\$500. I have advanced to Lucy Reavis, wife of Thomas Reavis, the sum of seven hundred dollars--\$700—in Negro woman Lacey and child, horse & saddle, etc.

I have sold to John W. Bryant, Junr., the tract of land on which he lives for the sum of one thousand dollars, which I consider as an advancement to the children of Harriet Bryant, who was the wife of said John W. Bryant, to wit, Wesley S. Bryant, Sara Bryant, Judith Bryant, William Bryant, Pamina Bryant. And it is further my will that my executors collect the said thousand dollars from said John F. Bryant, when due and as the said children of the said Harriet Bryant, deceased, shall arrive at the age of twenty one years, to give each and all of them their portion of the said amount share & share alike.

It is my will and desire that after each of my children shall have accounted for the amounts I have charged as advancements that the residue of my estate be equally divided between my twelve children, to wit, Johnathan, Judith, John, Sarah, Rachel, Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, Martha and the children of Harriet Bryant, deceased, Frances, Lucy to them and their heirs and assigns forever.

I will and bequeath to my wife Sarah one good horse and saddle, two feather beds and furniture, two tables, two (), one trunk, one (), to her and her heirs forever. Finally I nominate and appoint my two sons-in-law Alfred Knight and Thomas Reavis my executors to carry out this my last will and testament, thereby making this my last will and testament by me made witness my hand and seal the 15th June 1842.

signed William Amis

Witness: D. A. Paschall; Sea. Parham

State of North Carolina)

Granville County)

I William Amis of the above county & state do hereby make and ordain and declare this Codicil a part of my last will and testament in the following words, to wit, I have omitted to charge my daughter Elizabeth Bryant in my will above written dated 15th June 1842 with the sum of seventy five dollars for a wagon and gear furnished her and in the settlement of my estate she must account for said sum of seventy five dollars. I also give to my daughter Missniah one Negro boy named Armistead instead of and to make up for one Negro boy named Anderson given to her in my will and who has since died. In witness of which I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 24th day of July 1848.

signed William Amis

Witness: Richard Obrinton; D. A. Paschall

It also seems clear that when Haywood Amis, the freed slave of John W. Amis recalled going back to North Carolina “when the old master died” was probably for the death of William Amis, Sr. Since I estimate his death to have occurred in 1816, this also suggests that John W. Amis left North Carolina earlier than previously supposed from the record of his marriage.

Children of WILLIAM AMIS and JUDITH KNIGHT are:

- i. JONATHAN⁵ D. AMIS, m. ELIZA HILL 3 September 1820 Granville Co., N. C.
- ii. JUDITH⁵ AMIS, b. 1791 Granville Co., N. C.; d. April 1870 Granville Co., N. C.; m. WILLIAMSON PARHAM 12 December 1807 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 1788 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 9 September 1857 Granville Co., N. C.¹²²
- iii SARAH WOODSON⁵ AMIS, b. 1 April 1794 Granville Co., N. C.; 14 April 1870 Marshall Co., Tenn.; m. JOHN FARRINGTON BRYANT 3 November 1812 Granville Co., N. C.;¹²³ b. 14 May 1790 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 6 December 1857 Mooresville, Marshall Co., Tenn.¹²⁴

¹²² Irene. Morris, Ellsworth, Butler, and Adams Lineage. 16 June 2010. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. morris-butler.)

¹²³ Andrew D. Bryant, from whom the station takes its name was born in Franklin Co., N. C., 14 March 1825, son of John F. and Sarah W. Amis Bryant who located near Mooresville 1837. http://books.google.com/books?id=9dQBAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA4&dq=maury+tennessee+records&hl=en&ei=diDDTqTjO4a4twfCxry3DQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CEYQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=Amis&f=false. Accessed 20 November 2011. Also Goodspeed's Biographies of Marshall County, Tenn., also include the following:

ALEXANDER BRYANT, of Marshall County, Tenn., is a son of John F. and Sarah (Amis) Bryant, and was born in Granville County, N.C., December 14, 1818. His parents were also born in North Carolina, and were married in that State, and became the parents of ten children. The father was a well-to-do farmer, and lived in his native State until 1837, and then moved to Tennessee, and located in Marshall County, and there died in 1857. He was a Democrat and for several years held the position of magistrate. The mother died in 1870. Alexander's early school advantages were very limited, never having attended school more than twelve months. After attaining manhood he began farming and has followed that calling through life. In 1842 he wedded Maria Wilkes, by whom he had eleven children. Both he and Mrs. Wilkes are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Mr. Bryant is a Democrat and as a farmer has met with well deserved success. He has been a resident of Marshall County for twenty-seven years, and has the confidence and respect of all who know him.

JOHN A. BRYANT, farmer, is a son of John F. and Sarah W. (Amis) Bryant, both natives of North Carolina, the father born in 1790 and the mother in 1794. After marriage, in 1837, they removed from their native State and came to Marshall County, where they spent the remainder of their days. This family consisted of ten children, six of whom are living. The father was an industrious tiller of the soil, owning nearly 800 acres of land. He was a Democrat and a man of fair education and good business qualities. His death occurred in 1857. After his death the mother lived a widow on the old homestead until 1870, when she, too, was called away. Our subject was born in North Carolina June 28, 1828, and his ancestors on both sides were of Irish extraction. He was reared on the farm, and owing to the demand for his services at home, received a very limited education. He worked for his father till twenty-one years of age, and then began his career as an independent farmer. In 1860 he wedded Sallie C. Fry, a native of Marshall County, born May 9, 1835, and to them were born four children. In 1862, Mr. Bryant enlisted in Company E. Eleventh Tennessee Confederate Cavalry and after twelve months' service was appointed brigade forage

- iv. RACHEL⁵ AMIS, b. 1794 Granville Co., N. C.; d. before 1860 Granville Co., N. C.; m. LEWIS PARHAM 5 October 1816 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 1790 Granville Co. N. C.;¹²⁵ d. before 1870 Granville Co., N. C.
- Lewis Parham and family are in Tabs Creek District in 1860.¹²⁶ Rachel Amis is dead by the time of this census. Lewis is dead by the time of the 1870 Census.¹²⁷
8. v. JOHN WOODSON⁵ AMIS, b. 22 September 1795 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 4 February 1849 Scott Co., Miss.; m. MARTHA WADKINS 10 February 1824 Copiah Co., Miss; b. 10 June 1805 Montgomery Co., Tenn.; d. 10 September 1887 Scott Co., Miss.
- vi. ELIZABETH⁵ AMIS, b. 22 September 1797 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 9 October 1876 Maury Co., Tenn.;¹²⁸ m. EDWARD T. BRYANT 17 February 1818 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 7 October 1778 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 23 September 1845 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. (1) NANCY PARHAM.

Elizabeth Amis was 20 in 1818 when she became the second wife of Edward Bryant who was twice her age. They had eleven children: William Rowland, Albert (or Abner), Harriett D., Lewis Amis, Lucy H., Ellen G., Martha, Elizabeth, James D., Lucius Rhodes, and Thomas H. In 1841, her son William R. Bryant married Sarah Anthony. Her daughter Harriett married Archelaus M. White. Four years later, her husband Edward and four other children died during an epidemic, probably cholera. Ellen, 19 years old, died first, on August 8. Lewis, 23, died the next month on September 19, and his father four days later. Albert, 25, died on October 3. Lucy, 20, died on November 16. The documents relating to the settlement of her husband's estate show that it took many years before it was completed. Elizabeth was not alone in this task - the epidemic raged almost ten years and often killed whole families. Her uncle John Amis, his wife Polly Knight, and their son Josiah died of the same cause a few years later. In the 1860 census, Elizabeth was recorded as being 62 years old and living with two sons, Lucius (22) and

master, and a year later held a position in the ordnance department. During three years of faithful service he was never wounded nor taken prisoner. After peace had been declared he returned to the more peaceful pursuits of farming. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and for eight years held the position of magistrate. He is a Democrat in politics. He owns over 500 acres of land, and for forty-nine years has been a resident of Marshall County.

¹²⁴ An extended genealogy of the relevant Bryant family was posted by Clements, Virginia. 7 March 2011. <http://genforum.genealogy.com/bryant/messages/10708.html>.

¹²⁵ 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Tabs Creek, p. 83A, #71/71 William Amis, 82, is living with them.

¹²⁶ 1860 Census Granville Co., N. C., Tabs Creek District, p. 145, #910.

¹²⁷ Irene. Morris, Ellsworth, Butler and Adams Lineage. 15 June 2010. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. morris-butler) reports that Lewis R. Parham sold Lewis Parham his interest in a 21 year old male slave named Anderson, (Granville Co., N. C., DB 11:410); Lewis Parham and Asa Parham sold a slave to James Floyd, (DB 7:260); Lewis Parham sold Albert Parham an eight year old slave girl named Ida for the use of his grandchildren, Lucy and Sarah. (DB 20:214.)

¹²⁸ Tombstones for both are found in Friendship Baptist Church, Culleoka. Located on <http://www.findagrave.com>.

Thomas (20). She lived as a widow for more than 30 years, dying October 9, 1876 at the age of 79.¹²⁹

- vii. MARY⁵ AMIS, b. 1800 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 15 September 1875 Granville Co., N. C.; m. SAMUEL MONTAGUE 25 April 1818 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 27 February 1791 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 8 July 1873 Granville Co., N. C.

Samuel Montague and Mary (Amis) Montague are in Granville Co., N. C., in 1850.¹³⁰

- viii. NANCY⁵ AMIS, b. 11 September 1801 Granville Co. N. C.; d. 6 September 1868 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. ROBERTSON BRYANT 19 February 1818 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 11 February 1795 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 2 February 1872 Maury Co., Tenn.¹³¹

Robertson Bryant died testate.¹³²

I Robertson Bryant of the County of Maury and State of Tennessee do make and publish this my last will and testament, hereby revoking and making void all other wills by me at any time made.

Item 1st: I direct that my funeral expenses and all my just debts be paid as soon after my death as possible, out of any moneys that I may die seized and possessed of or may first come into the hands of my executors.

Item 2: I will that after my death my daughter, Francis D. Bryant, and my daughter, Missniah E. Bryant and Rowland E. Bryant, my son, shall each have one well furnished featherbed and clacking and bedstead.

Item 3: I next will that after my death my executor shall sell at public sale on 12 months credit all my perishable and personal property, stock, and crop and farming utensils, household and kitchen furnishings, all sums under five dollars to be cash, the purchaser giving bond and good security the proceeds of which is to be equally divided between my daughter, Francis D. Bryant and my son Wm H. Bryant and Isaiah B. Bryant, Louisiana B. _elley and Livinia L. Moore, Rowland E. Bryant and Misiniah E. Bryant, and my Grandson, Robertson B. Nolen.

Item 4: I have given to my son Robert D. Bryant a liberal education and the use of a negro boy Rowland which I value to him at five hundred dollars of my estate already received by him and also I have given to my son Archibald S. Bryant the advantages of a good education and the use of a negro boy Albert, which I value to him at four hundred dollars already received by him as a part of my estate, and I have given to my daughter, Martha E. Jackson, the advantages of a good education and the use of a negro girl Mariah which I value to her at three hundred and fifty dollars as a part of my estate already received by her; there is no interest to be claimed off the three legatees last

¹²⁹ Green, Virginia Pearson. As I Have Been Told. Updated April 1998. Accessed 29 November 2011 at <http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~aihbt/profiles/amis.html>.

¹³⁰ 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Ledge of Rock District, p. 313, [157A] #118/118

¹³¹ Nancy is not a legatee of William Amis, but he is the only person likely to have a daughter of this age. Data are from Robertson Bryant's Bible, located online 23 November 2011 at <http://www.tngenweb.org/maury/bible/rbryant.html>. Robertson Bryant is buried in the Bryant Family Cemetery, Maury Co., Tenn.

¹³² Maury Co., Tenn., Will Book F:419, [6 February 1872]. Transcription by Lucy Bryant Duanaway Zeier. Located at <http://tngenweb.org/maury/wills/rbryant.html>. Accessed 10 November 2001.

named for the amt they have already received until the final settlement of my estates.

Item 5: I will that when my youngest child, Misniah E. Bryant, shall arrive at the age of twenty-one yrs that all my land shall be equally divided between all my children. But if said land cannot be satisfactorily divided I will that my executor shall sell it to the highest bidder after giving thirty days notice in the public news paper of the County and at other places in the neighborhood and I authorize my Executor to divide the land into lots if it is considered by him to be to the advantage of the legatees and the items of the sale be determined by my Executor and I hereby authorize and empower him to make the title to the land if sold by him and the proceeds to be so divided among all my children viz: Robert D. and Archibald S. Bryant's children Raph and Archibald one share Francis D. Bryant and Mary J. Nolen's son, Robertson B. Nolen, one share Wm H. Bryant, and Martha E. Jackson, Isaiah B. Bryant and Louisiana B. _eelley, Lavinia Lemon Moore and Rowland E. Bryant and Misniah E. Bryant that they be made equal in the final distribution of my estate, taking into consideration the advancements I have already made.

Item 6: I will the Stock I own in the Nashville and Decatur Railroad is equally divided among all my children as above named and Grand children as above named, viz: Archibald S. Bryant's two sons to receive one share and Robinson B. Nolen to receive one share.

Item 7: I will that if any dissatisfaction should arise among my legatees about my will and the distributions I have made of my estate that my Executor shall call in 3 disinterested parties and lay the difficulty before them and there decision shall be a final settlement of the matter. But if any legatees should carry it to court of law or equity, I hereby disinherit them and will that they shall receive no part of my estate.

Item 8: I hereby nominate and appoint Henry Harris Executor of this my last will and testament, this in witness where of and whereby set my pen this 19th day of February 1867.

S/ Robertson Bryant, Esq.

Witnesses: W.A. Henderson
Williamson Denton

- ix. HARRIET⁵ AMIS, d. before 15 June 1842;¹³³ m. THOMAS FARRINGTON BRYANT 23 December 1824 Granville Co., N. C
- x. FRANCES⁵ AMIS, m. ALFRED KNIGHT 16 December 1829 Granville Co., N. C.
- xi. MARTHA⁵ AMIS, m. THOMAS CHEATHAM 29 October 1830 Granville Co., N. C.
- x. MISSNIAH⁵ AMIS, b. 11 July 1811 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 22 September 1882 Maury Co., Tenn.¹³⁴
- xiii. LUCY⁵ AMIS, b. 4 April 1814 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 20 June 1889 Vance Co., N. C.; m. THOMAS REAVIS 20 October 1838 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 31 March 1808 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 20 September 1869 Granville Co., N. C.¹³⁵

¹³³ Deceased when her father wrote his will, but named her children.

¹³⁴ She is buried in Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery, also known as Culleoka Cemetery. She is specifically identified as a daughter of William and Judith Amis. Hawkins, Fred L., Jr. Maury County, Tennessee, Cemteries, (Columbia, TN, 1989,) p. 480. She appears to have been living with Edward T. Bryant and her sister, Elizabeth Amis Bryant at the time of her death.

REAVIS - Mrs. Lucy D. Reavis, relict of Thomas Reavis deceased, died at her home near Henderson, N.C., June 20th 1889, aged 75 years, 2 months and 10 days. The deceased was born in Granville county, N.C.; and was a daughter of William and Judith Amis. She embraced religion in her girlhood and at once joined the M.E. Church, in which she lived a pious, useful member until her earthly pilgrimage ended. She was a devoted Christian, and loved the church of her choice very much, but did not fail to love all Christians. We have often seen her cup of Christian joy full and overflowing, and heard shout the praises of God. Her home was the Christian's home, and there many ministers of the gospel of Christ found a welcome reception and hospitable entertainment. In extolling her many virtues much could be said, but let it suffice to say that her life was but a living epistle of good works, to be read and admired by all who knew her. Her death was as calm as her life was pure. At a ripe old age her lamp of life went out; or, rather she fell asleep...¹³⁶

6. JOHN⁴ (WILLIAM³, JOSEPH²) AMIS was born 29 October 1774 in Granville Co., N. C., and died 9 September 1852 in Culleoka, Maury Co., Tennessee. He married MARY KNIGHT, daughter of JONATHAN KNIGHT and JUDITH WOODSON, 2 October 1797 Granville Co., N. C. She was born 24 March 1778 in Granville Co., N. C., and died 21 October 1851 in Culleoka, Maury Co., Tenn.

John Amis appeared with his brother William Amis in the 1810 Census for Granville Co., N. C., age 26-45 with a wife, five sons and one daughter.¹³⁷ John Amis appears to have been the youngest son of William Amis, who was disposing of his slaves in 1813 just prior to his death.

John Amis and his family moved to Williamson Co., Tenn., along with his sisters Mary and Hannah and the Ogilvies, where he appears in the 1820 Census.¹³⁸ Elizabeth Amis married John Cheatham 4 March 1820 and William Amis married Polly Anderson 26 March 1822 in Williamson County, Tennessee.

The 1840 Census for Maury Co., Tenn., shows John Amis, age 60-70 with one male 30-40 and one male 20-30 and no women in the household living in the 6th Civil District.¹³⁹ Also living in the 6th Civil District are Lewis Amis, 30-40,¹⁴⁰

¹³⁵ 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Henderson, p. 64B, #71/71. Data obtained online 29 November 2011 at <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/r/e/a/David-C-Reavis/GENE36-0008.html#CHILD37>. Hereafter David Reavis.

¹³⁶ Obituary by her daughter Roberta Reavis Renn. Cited by David Reavis.

¹³⁷ 1810 Census Granville Co., N. C., p. 274 (p.909) His family structure is 22110-10010.

¹³⁸ 1820 Census Williamson Co., Tenn., p. 121. His family structure is now 211401-11010. He was reportedly the father of 12 children, so at least 2 are missing from this list.

¹³⁹ 1840 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 303. [000011001-0].

¹⁴⁰ 1840 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 303. [10000001-21001].

and Thomas Amis, 30-40.¹⁴¹ Jonathan Amis is in the 7th Civil District,¹⁴² and William Amis is in the 25th Civil District.¹⁴³

In 1850 John Amis, 75, and Mary, 72, both born in North Carolina are still in the 6th Civil District.¹⁴⁴ He and Mary are buried in Amis Cemetery on Valley Creek Road, Culleoka, Maury Co., Tenn., along with their youngest son, Josiah D. Amis, b. 10 April 1819; d. 4 April 1852.¹⁴⁵

The 1850 Census also shows Lewis Amis, 41, and Louiza, 39,¹⁴⁶ are living next door to John and Mary Amis with their family, and Thomas Amis, 49, and Hannah, 50, are three families away.¹⁴⁷ Jonathan Amis, 50, and Elizabeth, 52, are in the 5th Civil District with their family, and William Amis, 52, and Nancy 50, with their family are in the 21st Civil District.¹⁴⁸

The 1860 Census shows Thomas Amis, 55, and Hannah, 58, in the 6th Civil District (Culleoka),¹⁴⁹ Lewis Amis, 50, and Louiza 48, in the 7th Civil District (Bigbyville),¹⁵⁰ with Jonathan Amis, 60, and Elizabeth 61 nearby,¹⁵¹ and William Amis, 61, and Nancy F., 60, in District 24 (Columbia.)¹⁵²

Marriage records of Maury Co., Tenn.,¹⁵³ show that William Amis married Nancy F. Wilson 28 September 1843, which seems likely to be a second marriage for him. Thomas Amis married Hannah Kennedy 12 October 1827, and Lewis Amis married Louisa Y. Johnson 12 July 1830. I have attempted to sort the daughters based on marriage records and the census records, although some remain uncertain.

Alice Hodges cited a Bible record to establish the birth dates for most of the children.¹⁵⁴ Cemetery records for Maury Co., Tennessee, confirm the dates and establish some of the family relationships listed.¹⁵⁵

Children of JOHN AMIS and MARY KNIGHT are:

¹⁴¹ 1840 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 302. [010001-121001].

¹⁴² 1840 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 7th Civil District, p. 306. [1001001-121001].

¹⁴³ 1840 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 15th Civil District, p. 392. [0200001-1120001].

¹⁴⁴ 1850 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 331A, #1243/1243.

¹⁴⁵ Gray, R. and Gray A. Amis Cemetery. Accessed 22 October 2011. Located at <http://freepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~maury/cemetery/Amis.txt>.

¹⁴⁶ 1850 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 331A, #1244/1244.

¹⁴⁷ 1850 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 5th Civil District, p. 306A, #875/875.

¹⁴⁸ 1850 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 21st Civil District, p. 263B, #277/277. Dorothy Amis, 15, is at school in the 9th District, (p. 270B, #376).

¹⁴⁹ 1860 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 337, #529.

¹⁵⁰ 1860 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 7th Civil District, p. 345, #15.

¹⁵¹ 1860 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 7th Civil District, p. 346, #24.

¹⁵² 1860 Census Maury Co., Tenn., 24th Civil District, p. 516, #856.

¹⁵³ Sistler, Byron and Sistler, Barbara. *Early Middle Tennessee Marriages*. (Nashville, 1998). Grooms Vol. 1:11; brides 2:12.

¹⁵⁴ Hodges, A. A., pp. 13-14.

¹⁵⁵ Hawkins, Fred. *Maury County, Tennessee, Cemeteries*. (Columbia, TN; 1989.) cited as Hawkins.

- i. WILLIAM WOODSON⁵ AMIS, b. 4 December 1798 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 19 July 1865 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. (1) MARY J. ANDERSON 26 March 1822 Williamson Co., Tenn.; b. 3 January 1805 Virginia; d. 9 January 1842 Maury Co., Tenn.;¹⁵⁶ m. (2) NANCY F. WILSON 28 September 1843 Maury Co., Tenn.

Children of WILLIAM AMIS and MARY ANDERSON are:¹⁵⁷

- a. MARTHA JASPER⁶ AMIS, b. 1 January 1828 Williamson Co., Tenn.; d. 5 January 1877 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. JESSE E. EVANS 19 December 1845 Maury Co., Tenn.; b. 24 March 1805 Williamson Co., Tenn.; d. 20 September 1862 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. (2) SQUIRE HAMILTON TIMMONS 12 April 1864 Maury Co., Tenn.; b. 4 April 1813 Williamson Co., Tenn.; d. 24 April 1884 Maury Co., Tenn.
- b. NANCY⁶ AMIS, b. 29 January 1829 Maury Co., Tenn.;¹⁵⁸
- c. SARAH D.⁶ AMIS, b. 12 February 1832 Williamson Co., Tenn.; d. 12 March 1909; m. JAMES W. NICHOLSON 12 January 1848 Maury Co., Tenn.; b. 30 June 1809 Franklin Co., Ala.; d. 7 April 1862 Maury Co., Tenn.
- d. JOHN D.⁶ AMIS, b. about 1833 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. (1) MARGARET H. DANIEL 8 June 1852 Maury Co., Tenn.; b. 29 October 1831; d. 29 April 1853 Maury Co., Tenn.;¹⁵⁹ m. (2) MARGARET D. HARDISON 19 October 1854 Maury Co., Tenn.
- d. THOMAS J.⁶ AMIS, b. about 1834 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 31 May 1862 Shiloh Chapel, Hardin Co., Tenn.; m. ELIZABETH ANN JACKSON 16 January 1860 Mt. Moriah, Benton Co., Tenn.¹⁶⁰
- e. MARY HENRIETTA⁶ AMIS, b. 17 October 1836 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁶¹
- ii. JONATHAN KNIGHT⁵ AMIS, b. 23 April 1800 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 6 November 1869 Maury Co., Tenn.;¹⁶² m. (1) NANCY BOYD 21 December 1825 Williamson

¹⁵⁶ She is buried in Joel Anderson Cemetery, Williamson Co., Tenn.

¹⁵⁷ White, Boone. Boone White Family. 18 January 2011. Located at <http://www.wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db.1553blw.) Cited hereafter as Boone White. I have been in contact with him occasionally over the years. Nancy, John, Thomas and Henrieta are still at home in the 1850 Census for Maury Co., Tenn. 21st Civil District, p. 263B, #277. Boone White also lists Benjamin Franklin Amis and Francis Nemas Amis as the two eldest children, but I have not seen a source for this, and their birth years are estimates only.

¹⁵⁸ Nancy A. Amis married Pleasant H. Wilson 8 October 1849. Since Nancy was still at home in the 1850 census, I am assigning this marriage elsewhere. Boone White did make the assignment, but I found a grave for Nancy Nelson, b. 29 January 1820; d. 17 April 1891 in McCain's Cemetery, Maury Co., Tenn., which is the death date Boone White gave to this Nancy, even though she was born 10 years later.

¹⁵⁹ Hawkins, p. 93. He adds that she was the daughter of Simm and Eliza (Hardison) Daniel. She was identified on her tombstone as the consort of John D. Amis. This is the only John of the appropriate age to be this man.

¹⁶⁰ Boone White says he was shot at the Battle of Shiloh 7 April 1862 and died of his wounds on the date indicated.

¹⁶¹ Boone White says she married Squire Hamilton Timmons as his third wife about 1878 after the death of her older sister, Martha Jasper Amis.

¹⁶² Reece's Chapel Cemetery, Hawkins, p. 599. Hodges listed birth as 25 April 1800.

Co., Tenn.¹⁶³; m. (2) ELIZABETH POLK HENDERSON; b. 16 August 1798; d. 21 June 1860 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁶⁴; m. (3) CATHERINE FARLEY 28 November 1863 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁶⁵

In 1840 Jonathan Knight has one son 15-19, one son under 5, and four girls, one under 5, two 5-10, and one 10-15. In 1850 he has Dorinda 16, and Felix 14, living with him. These are clearly the two youngest children. Since I do not have a death date for Nancy Boyd Amis, I am not sure who the mother was.

Children of JONATHAN KNIGHT AMIS are:

- a. male, b. abt 1827
- b. female b. about 1830
- c. female b. about 1832
- d. female b. about 1834
- e. DORINDA A.⁶ AMIS, b. about 1835 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. DAVID S. MAXWELL 9 September 1852 Maury Co., Tenn.
- f. FELIX G.⁶ AMIS, b. about 1836 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 8 February 1861 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁶⁶
- iii. JOHN⁵ AMIS, b. 25 March 1802 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 15 April 1859 Giles Co., Tenn.; m. MARTHA ANN WILKINSON, dau. of THOMAS WILKINSON and MARY ROBERTSON 14 August 1823 Williamson Co., Tenn.;¹⁶⁷ b. 27 January 1805 Va.; d. 7 March 1881 Giles Co., Tenn.¹⁶⁸

John "Ames" is in the 7th Civil District Tax List of Giles Co., Tenn., in 1836, with 30 acres of land, two town lots in Pulaski, and one slave and one white poll.¹⁶⁹

John "Amus" is listed in the 6th Civil District of Giles Co., Tenn., in 1850 as a machinist, b. in North Carolina. Martha Ann is 44 and born in Virginia.¹⁷⁰ Martha "Amos" is head of household in the 1860 Census.¹⁷¹ Martha is in

¹⁶³ Jonathan Amis and Nancy Amis sold land to James G. Swisher in Williamson County, Tenn., in 1829. (Court Minute Book 10/208). [cited in Johnson, Albert L. Minute Book Genealogy of Williamson County, TN, 1799-1865, p. 65.]

¹⁶⁴ Her dates are from her tombstone adjacent to his in Reece's Chapel Cemetery.

¹⁶⁵ Boone White identifies her maiden name as Wright. (<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, db. 1553blw.) I was in contact with him about 10 years ago, and he was a cousin collector.

¹⁶⁶ His obituary was published *The Maury Press*, Vol. 2, #5, 14 February 1861. Accessed 20 November 2011 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/maury/newspapers/newsmisc.txt>. He died from a fall off a horse at "about age 25."

¹⁶⁷ Data obtained from a Goodspeed's biography of their son, Lewis Amis contained in the Giles County chapter. [<http://www.tngenweb.org/records/giles/history/goodspeed/bios.html>. Accessed 20 November 2011.]

¹⁶⁸ Smith, Jonathan K. T. Death Notices From The Christian Advocate, Nashville, Tenn., 1880-1882. 14 May 1881. [http://www.tngenweb.org/records/tn_wide/obits/nca/nca7-04.html. Accessed 20 November 2011.]

¹⁶⁹ McDonald, Joyce. Located at <http://tngenweb.org/giles/tax/1836/1836-07.html>. Accessed 24 November 2011.

¹⁷⁰ 1850 Census Giles Co., Tenn., 6th Civil District, p. 401, #5/#5.

¹⁷¹ 1860 Census Giles Co., Tenn., Vale Mills, p. 113, #178/154. James F., Lewis, and Eliza J. Amis are still at home.

Pulaski in the 1870 Census with “Jeff” 36, farmer, Lewis, 35, a dry goods merchant and five young black children who are listed as cotton factory hands.¹⁷² Dates for the males were identified from Giles County cemetery records.¹⁷³

Children of JOHN AMIS and MARTHA WILKINSON are:¹⁷⁴

- a. MARY A.⁶ AMIS.
- b. NANCY⁶ AMIS.
- c. MARTHA JANE⁵ AMIS, b. 30 November 1827 Giles Co., Tenn.; d. 7 October 1828 Giles Co., Tenn.
- d. JOHN W.⁶ AMIS, b. 25 May 1834 Giles Co., Tenn.; d. 15 December 1859 Giles Co., Tenn.; m. REBECCA EMILY SUMMERHILL dau. of HORACE SUMMERHILL and PERMELIA _____ 1 December 1858 Giles Co., Tenn.; b. 26 August 1839; d. 6 December 1908 Giles Co., Tenn.
- e. JAMES FRANKLIN⁶ AMIS, b. 7 January 1833 Giles Co., Tenn.; d. 15 October 1913 Giles Co., Tenn.
- f. FIELD R.⁶ AMIS.¹⁷⁵
- g. LEWIS⁶ AMIS, b. 5 December 1836 Giles Co., Tenn.; d. 6 May 1887 Giles Co., Tenn.; m. REBECCA EMILY SUMMERHILL, dau. of HORACE SUMMERHILL and PERMELIA _____; b. 26 August 1839; d. 6 December 1908 Giles Co., Tenn.¹⁷⁶
- h. NANCY E. J.⁶ AMIS, b. 1841 Giles Co., Tenn.

¹⁷² 1870 Census Giles Co., Tenn., Pulaski, p. 103, #188/188.

¹⁷³ <http://www.findagrave.com/> Accessed 24 November 2011. The burials were all in Maplewood Cemetery.

¹⁷⁴ Lewis Amis, of the firm of L. Amis & Bro., dealers in groceries and general merchandise, at Vale Mills, Giles Co., Tenn., was born December 5, 1836, in Pulaski, Tenn. He is a son of John and Martha A. Amis, both natives of North Carolina. John Amis was the son of John and Pollie Amis, natives of Granville County, N. C., and Martha Amis was the daughter of Thomas and Pollie (Robertson) Wilkinson, natives of North Carolina. The parents of our subject were married August 14, 1823, in Williamson County, and to them were born eight children, named Mary A., Nancy, Martha J., John W., James F., Field R., Lewis and Nancy E. J. Our subject was educated in the district schools, and his occupation has been merchandising and farming from early boyhood. In 1866 he was married to Rebecca E. Summerhill, daughter of Horace and Parmelia Summerhill, of Lauderdale County, Ala. To our subject and wife was born one son, John L. The Amis Bros. are Democrats in politics, and our subject is a member of the F. AZ A. M. and also the A. L. of H. The Amis family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and in high standing. They have been successful men in all their undertakings, and are regarded as prosperous and industrious business men. The older members of the family came here at an early date and have been known in this State for nearly a century. They are of Scotch-Irish descent. [Goodspeed’s History accessed online 20 November 2011 at <http://www.tngenweb.org/records/giles/history/goodspeed/bios.html>.]

¹⁷⁵ His name was given in the biography of Lewis Amis, but he is not in the 1850 or 1860 Census with his parents.

¹⁷⁶ Rebecca E. Summerhill first married John W. Amis 1 December 1858 in Giles Co., Tenn.

- iv. THOMAS⁵ AMIS, b. 3 October 1803 Granville Co., N. C.;¹⁷⁷ d. 19 January 1867 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. HANNAH KENNEDY 12 October 1827 Maury Co., Tenn.; b. 25 November 1800; d. 2 March 1878 Maury Co., Tenn.

Hannah (Kennedy) Amis' obituary was published in *The Christian Advocate*, (Nashville, TN) for 6 April 1878.¹⁷⁸

Hannah Amis, nee Kennedy, wife of Thomas Amis, born Maury Co., Tenn., Nov. 25, 1800, married October 1827; mother of 7 children all of whom "died years ago"; had six surviving grandchildren (four children of Rev. W. H. Wilkes and two children of Erastus Amis); died March 2, 1878.¹⁷⁹

Children of THOMAS AMIS and HANNAH KENNEDY are:

- a. MARY KENNEDY⁶ AMIS,¹⁸⁰ b. 18 October 1828 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 2 March 1856 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. WILLIAM HARRIS WILKES 6 January 1848 Maury Co., Tenn.; b. 7 May 1821 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 16 October 1895 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. (2) ZERALDA AMIS.
- b. ZERALDA⁶ AMIS, b. 17 November 1830 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 28 February 1860 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. WILLIAM H. WILKES 30 December 1856 Maury Co., Tenn.
- c. JOHN ERASTUS⁶ AMIS, b. 26 September 1831 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 12 March 1862 St. Louis, Mo.; m. REBECCA J. THOMAS 12 October 1857 Maury Co., Tenn., dau. of JAMES E. THOMAS and MARTHA C. ____; b. 1 November 1838 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 5 March 1903 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁷ Mrs. Hodges gives his date of birth as 11 October 1803. Dates are from his tombstone in Wilkes (Old Campground) Cemetery, Maury Co., Tenn., Hawkins, p. 499. Most of this family is buried in the cemetery allowing for fairly good dating.

¹⁷⁸ Located at http://www.tngenweb.org/records/tn_wide/obits/nca6-04.html. Accessed 27 November 2011.

¹⁷⁹ I have only been able to find six children. Perhaps the other was an infant death. However, she certainly outlived the six children I have been able to find.

¹⁸⁰ Boone White listed her as the eldest daughter. The remainder are listed in the 1850 Census.

¹⁸¹ Information from her tombstone in Wilkes Cemetery, Maury Co., Tenn. "Mrs. Rebecca T. Amis, a native of Maury County, Tenn., was born in 1839 and is a daughter of Col. Jonas and Martha (Adkisson) Thomas, who were both born in the "Old Dominion." The father came to Tennessee at an early day, and became an eminent lawyer and politician. He represented Maury County in both branches of the State Legislature, and was speaker of the State Senate one term, and as parliamentarian had no superior. He was once nominated for Congress, but owing to ill health was compelled to withdraw from the race. His demise occurred August 3, 1856. The mother died January 14, 1870. Mrs. Amis, our subject, was married October 13, 1857 to John E. Amis, and two children blessed their union, Bruce E. and Jonas T. Mr. Amis took an active part in the late war and was a member of the gallant Forty-eighth Tennessee Infantry. He was captured at the fall of Fort Donelson and died in prison in St. Louis, Mo., in 1863. Mrs. Amis is a finely educated woman, and has won quite a reputation as an instructress, having taught at the Atheneum at Columbia, and in the Tennessee College at Franklin, and also in public schools at that place. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church." From Goodspeed's History. Accessed online 20 November 2011 at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~maury/biog.htm>.

- d. TALITHA C.⁶ AMIS, b. 18 November 1832 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 12 March 1854 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. CARTER WITT 6 January 1853 Maury Co., Tenn.
- e. EMILY⁶ AMIS, b. 15 July 1838 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 23 November 1855 Maury Co., Tenn.
- f. MCCOY CAMPBELL⁶ AMIS, b. 27 February 1841 Maury Co. Tenn.; d. 5 February 1863 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁸²
- v. ELIZABETH⁵ AMIS, b. 15 January 1806 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 11 May 1845 Giles Co., Tenn.¹⁸³; m. JOHN CHEATHAM 4 March 1820 Williamson Co., Tenn.; b. 16 January 1798 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 24 July 1873 Culleoka, Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁸⁴
- vi. LEWIS⁵ AMIS, b. 15 March 1809 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 19 June 1873 Maury Co., Tenn.;¹⁸⁵ m. LOUISA YEOMANS JOHNSON 12 July 1830 Maury Co., Tenn., daughter of ALEXANDER JOHNSON and MARY _____; b. 11 October 1811.¹⁸⁶

The dreadful story of infant mortality is detailed in the tombstone inscriptions surround Lewis Amis and Louisa Johnson in the Johnson-Amis Cemetery in Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁸⁷

Children of LEWIS AMIS and LOUISA JOHNSON are:¹⁸⁸

- a. MARY F.⁶ AMIS; b. 1832 Maury Co., Tenn.; m. JAMES W. NANCE 13 December 1860 Maury Co., Tenn.
- b. ELIZA ANN⁶ AMIS; b. 30 November 1833 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. July 1834 Maury Co., Tenn.
- c. AMANDA MALVENA⁶ AMIS, b. 23 July 1835 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 31 August 1840 Maury Co., Tenn.
- d. SARAH⁶ AMIS, b. 11 August 1837 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 14 December 1914 Pulaski, Giles Co., Tenn.;¹⁸⁹ m. DAVID C. SCOTT 6 September 1858; b. 11 April 1826; d. 23 November 1907 Pulaski; Giles Co., Tenn.
- e. JOHN ALEN⁶ AMIS; b. 20 June 1839 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 24 July 1840
- f. OP⁶ AMIS; b. 6 May 1842 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 26 June 1843 Maury Co., Tenn.; “4th child of Lewis and Louisa Amis.”

¹⁸² He served in Co. E.; 3rd Tenn. Infantry, CSA.

¹⁸³ She is buried in Evans Cemetery, Giles Co., Tenn. Located 24 November 2011 at <http://www.findagrave.com>.

¹⁸⁴ He is buried in Wilkes Cemetery, Maury Co., Tenn. Located 24 November 2011 at <http://www.findagrave.com>. (This is the same cemetery where Thomas and Hannah Amis are buried.)

¹⁸⁵ In addition to his tombstone, there was an obituary notice in *The Mail* (Columbia, Tenn.) vol. 1:22, 26 June 1873. [<http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/maury/newspapers/newsmisc.txt>. Accessed 15 November 2011.]

¹⁸⁶ These dates are from a family Bible owned by a descendant of this Lewis Amis. She is buried along with Lewis Amis in the Johnson-Amis Cemetery, Maury Co., Tenn., but there are no dates given on the stone. Hawkins, p. 496.

¹⁸⁷ Hawkins, p. 446.

¹⁸⁸ List from the tombstone, census, and Boone White.

¹⁸⁹ Tombstones i Maplewood Cemetery, Pulaski, Giles Co., Tenn. She is actually listed as Sarah H. Amis on the double stone.

- f. RUTH ADELIA⁶ AMIS, b. 1843 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁹⁰
- g. ALEXANDER JOHNSON⁶ AMIS, 20 September 1845 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 20 January 1847 Maury Co., Tenn., “second son of Lewis and Louisa Amis.”
- h. WILLIAM⁶ AMIS, b. 1847 Maury Co., Tenn.
- i. JOSEPH D.⁶ AMIS, b. 11 August 1849 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 15 August 1865 Maury Co., Tenn.
- j. WALTER WOODSON⁶ AMIS, b. 3 June 1851 Maury Co., Tenn.;¹⁹¹ d. 31 January 1927 Springfield, Greene Co., Missouri;¹⁹² m. BELLE CHURCHILL LYNES 22 December 1885 Calloway Co., Mo.; b. 22 July 1855 in Missouri; d. 28 February 1937 Springfield, Greene Co., Mo.

Walter W. Amis and Belle Lynes have not been identified in the 1880 Census, but are living in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in 1900, along with Mary, b. January 1888 and Everett b. May 1890.¹⁹³ In 1910, the family is living in St. Louis, where Walter was working as a salesman.¹⁹⁴ In 1920, Belle and Walter Amis appear to be separated. Belle is living with her older sister, “Statie” Fisher and her mother, Mary E. Lynes, age 98.¹⁹⁵ Walter is living with his daughter Mary A. Luster and her husband Lewis, 45, attorney.¹⁹⁶

Children of WALTER AMIS and BELLE LYNES are:

1. MARY L.⁷ AMIS, b. 13 January 1888 Union City, Obion Co., Tenn.; m. LEWIS LUSTER about 1920.
2. EVERETT LYNES AMIS, b. 18 May 1890 Calloway Co., Mo.; m. MARY ORME 7 June 1916 Hugo, Choctaw Co., Oklahoma; b. 11 Jan 1890 Hardeman Co., Tenn.

Robert W. Amis, 85, died in Minneapolis, MN, on October 17, 2008. Preceded in death by father Everett L. Amis, mother Mary O. Amis, brother Everett, sisters Polly Spaar, and Mary Elizabeth Knorr. Survived by wife, Lucille Hamer of

¹⁹⁰ Sarah Ruth is living with William Amis in Columbia, age 22, in the 1860 Census for Maury Co., Tenn. (Civil District 24, p. 516, #856/856.) His wife is now Nancy F. Amis, b 1810 in North Carolina.

¹⁹¹ Boone White indicates he lived in Cape Girardeau, Mo., and also indicates that Ruth married a man in Missouri. Will look for them in the census.

¹⁹² Tombstone in Hazlewood Cemetery, Springfield, Greene Co., Mo. Accessed 26 November 2011 at <http://www.findagrave.com>.

¹⁹³ 1900 Census Cape Girardeau, Mo., 4th Ward Cape Girardeau, p. 132B, SD12, ED26, sheet 19B. Walter, b. June 1851; Belle, b. July 1855 Missouri. The marriage date is from an IGI file that has provable errors, so I will need to confirm it, but I think it probable. Mary was born in Tennessee, and Everett in Missouri, and there is evidence they were in Obion Co., Tenn.

¹⁹⁴ 1910 Census St. Louis Co., Mo., 28th Ward, St. Louis, p. 108, #5727/110/331. Mary L. Amis was also counted that year in the 2nd Ward Lebanon, LaClede Co., Mo., p.229, #254/263. I suspect she was actually living there and was simply listed at her “permanent” address by her parents as well.

¹⁹⁵ 1920 Census Greene Co., Mo., 4th Ward Springfield, p. 35A, #50/51.

¹⁹⁶ 1920 Census Greene Co., Mo., Campbell Twp., p. 4. The Lusters have one daughter, Nancy L., b. June 1919.

Brownsville, TN; sons Robert (Gretchen) and Allan (Ginna); grandchildren Lucille, Brian, Susan, Julia, Alison, and Mary; and sister Jeanne (Robert) Jernigan. Bob grew up in Dyersburg, TN, graduated from Rhodes College, and lived in Memphis with his wife, Lucille, until they moved to Minneapolis in 1966. Bob's life was full of hard work, devotion to his wife and family, and random whimsical acts. His courage, dignity, and sense of humor during his prolonged battle with heart and lung disease were a powerful testament to the character and spirit of this noble man. Memorials preferred to Rhodes College, 2000 North Parkway, Memphis, 38112.¹⁹⁷

Robert Howard Jernigan married Jeanne Amis 26 January 1951 in New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana.¹⁹⁸

- k. LOUISA J.⁶ AMIS, b. 1852 Maury Co., Tenn.¹⁹⁹
- j. LEWIS RANDOLPH⁶ AMIS, b. 7 December 1856 Maury Co., Tenn.; d. 16 December 1904 Nashville, Davidson Co., Tenn.; m. AGNES FULTON 26 June 1884 Maury Co., Tenn.²⁰⁰
- vii. MARY⁵ AMIS, b. 18 October 1811 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 21 June 1894 Mooresville, Marshall Co., Tenn.;²⁰¹ m. JAMES FRY about 1838 Maury Co., Tenn.²⁰²

¹⁹⁷ The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN) 16 November 2008. Located at <http://www.commercialappeal.com/obituary-archives/> Accessed 23 December 2011.

¹⁹⁸ Louisiana Parish Marriages 1837-1957. Located at <http://familysearch.org>. Accessed 23 December 2011. He was the son of Lora Howard Jernigan and Clara Belle McClung, both born in Florida. He was born in Dunedin, Fla., 9 May 1925, and was working as an intern at the U. S. Naval Hospital in New Orleans at the time of the marriage. Jeanne Amis was born 7 June 1927 in Atlanta, Ga., daughter of Everett Lynes Amis, b. Mo., and Mary Orme, born in Tennessee. An IGI file says that Mary Orme Amis died in Texas in 1945, but Mrs. E. L. Amis signed the marriage certificate as a witness. While she might have been a sister-in-law, I think it more probable that she was her mother.

¹⁹⁹ Boone White indicated she married Mr. Vaught.

²⁰⁰ Louis Randolph Amis was born December 7, 1856 in Maury County, Tennessee, the son of Lewis Amis and Louisa Johnson Amis, and the grandson of John Amis and Mary (Polly) Knight Amis. He married Agnes Fulton in 1884. They had five children. Louis Amis received his education at the Webb Brothers Training School and at Vanderbilt University. He taught in the Webb Brothers Training School in 1883/1884. He was a Methodist minister. He died December 16, 1904, in Nashville. [Excerpt from Goodspeed's History accessed online 20 November 2011 at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~maury/biog.htm>.] Lewis Randolph Amis was born 7 Dec 1856 in Maury County, Tennessee, the youngest child of Lewis Amis and Louisa Yeomans Amis. He united with the Methodist Church in Sept 1867. He entered the Tennessee Methodist Conference as preacher in Oct 1878. From 1880-1895, he served as assistant secretary of conference. He began serving as secretary of the conference in 1895, a position he held until his death. On 26 Jun 1884 in Maury County, he united in Holy Matrimony with Agnes Jane Fulton, daughter of Josiah Fulton and Martha White. This union was blessed with the birth of five children: Fulton (died as an infant), Louise (lived to age one), Agnes (never married), Ruth (wife of Frank Burke Wilkes), and Lewis Randolph Amis Jr. (husband of Anne Cole Townsend). Lewis died at Nashville, Tennessee on 16 Dec 1904. He is buried at Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Maury County, Tennessee. [<http://www.findagrave.com>, accessed 26 November 2011.]

- viii. JAMES⁵ AMIS, b. 8 May 1814 Granville Co., N. C.; m. MARY ANN _____ about 1835 Giles Co., Tenn.; b. 20 March 1818 Tennessee; d. 11 January 1886 Madison Co., Tenn.²⁰³

James "Amis" and Mary Ann are in Giles County, Tennessee, in the 5th Civil District along with seven children.²⁰⁴ James Amis and Mary Ann are living in Hardin Co., Tenn., in 1860.²⁰⁵ The list of children is from that census. I have not yet found him in 1870, but in 1880 he and Mary Ann are living in the 10th Civil District of Madison Co., Tenn.²⁰⁶

Children of JAMES AMIS and MARY ANN are:

- a. JOHN A.⁶ AMIS, b. 25 November 1836; d. 6 November 1852 Hardin Co., Tenn.²⁰⁷
 - a. JAMES M.⁶ AMIS, b. 1841 Giles Co., Tenn.
 - b. WILLIAM⁶ AMIS, b. 1843 Giles Co., Tenn.²⁰⁸
 - c. JOSEPH⁶ T. AMIS, b. 29 June 1844 Giles Co., Tenn.; d. 22 October 1922 Madison Co., Tenn.;²⁰⁹ m. SUSAN TAMYRA NOEL about 1870;²¹⁰ b. 22 September 1845 Tenn.; d. 17 January 1917 Madison Co., Tenn.
 - d. CORNELIA⁶ AMIS, b. 1846 Giles Co., Tenn.
 - e. TOLBERT F.⁶ AMIS, b. 23 August 1847 Giles Co., Tenn.; d. 29 January 1927 Madison Co., Tenn.;²¹¹ m. TENNIE _____ about 1870.²¹²
 - f. LAURA J.⁶ AMIS, b. 1859 Hardin Co., Tenn.
- ix. ALEXANDER⁵ AMIS, b. 27 April 1817.

²⁰¹ Tombstone in Old Bear Creek Cemetery, Marshall Co., Tenn.

²⁰² There is a marker in Old Bear Creek Cemetery, Marshall Co., Tenn., for Joseph Fry, b. 19 September 1800; d. 31 October 1858. James and Joseph seem likely to be the same person. Located at <http://www.findagrave.com>. Accessed 26 November 2011.

²⁰³ The burial was apparently originally in Pleasant Hill-Gilmore Cemetery, Madison Co., Tenn. Her burial was not recorded in the Hollywood Cemetery database.

²⁰⁴ 1850 Census Giles Co., Tenn., 5th Civil District, p. 373, #79/79. He is living between Samuel Harwell and Frederick Harwell, both of whom are about his age, suggesting his wife may be a Harwell.

²⁰⁵ 1860 Census Hardin Co., Tenn., 12th Civil District, Coffee Landing, p. 379B, #1354/1402.

²⁰⁶ 1880 Census Madison Co., Tenn., 10th Civil District, SD 5, ED 5, p. 51, #408/409. Laura J. Amis, 20, is still living at home.

²⁰⁷ Amis Cemetery, Milledgeville, "son of J. and M. A. Amis."

²⁰⁸ 1880 Census Madison Co., Tenn., Jackson, SD 5, ED 101, p. 9, #59/68. He is listed as a railroad gate keeper, and is a boarder in the home of John D. Parham, who was a fire insurance agent. There does not appear to be a direct link between this Parham and the family of the same name associated with the Amis family in Granville Co., N. C.

²⁰⁹ Dates and her name are from their tombstones in Riverside Cemetery, Jackson, Tenn. His will was written 27 January 1917 and proved 4 January 1923 Madison Co., Tenn., Will Book C:343. On page C:474 his date of death is given as 29 October 1922.

²¹⁰ 1880 Census Madison Co., Tenn., 10th Civil District, SD 5, ED 5, p. 51, #406/407.

²¹¹ Maple Springs Cemetery, Madison Co., Tenn.

²¹² 1880 Census Madison Co., Tenn., 10th Civil District, SD 5, ED 95, p. 29, #221/222. A Mary Ann Amis is also buried in Maple Springs Cemetery with dates 17 August 1846-25 June 1825. Presently I am not sure if this is another wife or the same woman.

- x. JOSIAH D.⁵ AMIS, b. 11 April 1819 Williamson Co., Tenn.; d. 4 April 1852 Maury Co., Tenn.²¹³
- xi. JUDITH⁵ AMIS, b. 12 October 1821 Williamson Co., Tenn.; m. JOHN H. WALKER 16 December 1836 Maury Co., Tenn.

Fifth Generation

7. WILLIAM⁵ (LEWIS⁴, WILLIAM³, JOSEPH²) AMIS was born 11 December 1782 in Granville Co., N. C., and died 28 December 1842 in Granville Co., N. C. He married ELIZABETH PURYEAR 3 December 1804 in Granville Co., N. C. She was born 11 February 1788 in Granville Co., N. C., and died 26 April 1859 in Granville Co., N. C.

William Amis was an attorney in Granville Co., N. C., and he left extensive records which have been placed in the archives at East Carolina University, where I reviewed them in February 2012.²¹⁴

“Correspondence of Amis family members consists largely of notes and letters requesting loans and making arrangements to sell brandy and corn. Items of interest include a letter (Oct. 1, 1826) which briefly mentions a decline in cotton and corn prices and deaths resulting from an epidemic of colds, and a letter (Dec. 9, 1835) requesting settlement of the Archibald Clark estate.

Among legal and estate papers are receipts for the payment of public, county, and poor taxes (1800-48) and various promissory notes. Of interest are receipts (Oct. 11, 1822; Dec. 15, 1829) for payments on tracts of land, bills (Sept., 1830) for William Amis's law services, and a receipt (Nov. 29, 1833) for the cost of an equity suit between William Amis and John Puryear.

Financial papers reflect the social and economic life of the Amis family. Business-related financial materials includes receipts for a donation for building the Grassy Creek Baptist Meeting House (Dec. 23, 1832), charges for lodging a traveler and his horse (Oct. 13, 1836), expenses at the Washington Hotel (1838), and the expenses of maintaining a Negro woman and her two children (July 24, 1846). An item of particular interest is a document (undated) recording the age and valuation of slaves received by Elizabeth Amis when she married. In general, business receipts record purchases and sales of such items as horses, lumber, tobacco, iron, and corn.

Among the domestic financial papers are receipts (July 14, 1814; July 28, 1832) for medical services, including prices and prescriptions for the Amis family and its slaves. Tuition receipts (Dec. 10, 1824; Feb. 2, 1831; Jan. 28, 1832; Mar. 6, 1833; May 12, 1834) and receipts for subscriptions to the Raleigh Register and North Carolina Gazette (Mar. 8, 1829), the Oxford Examiner (Aug. 21, 1830),

²¹³ Buried with his parents and apparently did not marry.

²¹⁴ Amis-Clark-Puryear Papers (#474), Special Collections Department, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, USA. Accessed 27 November 2011 at <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0474/>.

and the Oxford Mercury (Nov. 8, 1843) are found in the domestic financial material. Overall, this group of papers contains accounts and receipts documenting purchases of items such as foodstuffs, clothing, and household goods.”

The letter mentioned was sent to Lewis Amis from his brother, Thomas Amis of Oglethorpe Co., Ga.,²¹⁵ In addition to discussing the drought, Thomas asks how settlement of the estate is going. Although he does not say “our father’s estate” or any other such identification, the letter is dated October 1, 1826, and almost surely the reference is to the death of Lewis Amis.

William Amis, Esq., paid his own taxes as early as 1805, where he is identified as “the younger” to distinguish him from his grandfather, and he also entered into a bond with Lewis Amis, Sr., on 19 March 1810 for £41, 19.3 to John Downey. All of this indicates that William was not enumerated in the 1810 Census with his father, Lewis, and thus that the older son at home was likely Thomas, who can now be proved to be in Oglethorpe Co., Ga., by 1826, and probably somewhat before that.

The papers also make it clear that William Amis, Esq., was the administrator for the estate of John Puryear. He filed suit with his wife “and others” against John Puryear for which he paid court costs of \$18.40 on 29 November 1833. However, on 1 March 1834, D. T. Wilkerson, George W. Tucker, John Y. Wilkerson, and John Puryear entered into a bond for William Amis in the amount of \$399.37 against the estate of John Puryear, deceased. All of this is additional evidence for the marriage of William Amis and Elizabeth Puryear.

Rufus Amis, youngest son of William Amis and Elizabeth Puryear was also an attorney and left an extensive correspondence as well as Bible records which are on file at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Copies of the Bible records were reviewed at the Richard Thornton Library in Oxford, N. C., in February 2012. They establish the dates of birth and death for William Amis and Elizabeth Puryear.

William Amis left a very extensive estate settlement file, but no will. A microfilm copy was reviewed and showed several items of interest. First, Elizabeth Amis sued John Amis & others in a petition for her dower rights. Since Thomas Amis, William Amis, and Alexander Amis were non-residents, notice was published in the Raleigh Times of an intent to grant the petition at the August Court for Granville Co., N. C.²¹⁶

Elizabeth Amis received her dower land in a survey by a commission on 3 October 1849.

²¹⁵ The letter is addressed “Dear Brother”.

²¹⁶ Notice was dated 16 June 1849.

State of N Carolina)

Granville County) We the undersigned subscribers being lawfully summoned and empowered according to law as Jurors to allot & lay off the dower of Elizabeth Amis, widow of William Amis, decd., we have this day met on the premises and have viewed the said lands and have laid off the same and have given the boundary as follows to wit: beginning at J...Amises corner pine on Aaron's Creek thence East 291 poles to pointers, thence North 152 poles to a pine in Bohannon's line, thence West 16 poles to pointers, thence South 25 poles to a corner a litewood stake then West on Zaney's line 162 to his corner pointers, thence North 246 poles to a Redd Oak in the Virginia line then west by the Virginia line to Aaron's Creek, thence up the creek as it meanders to the mouth of the first branch which falls into the said creek on the west side of said creek below where the old road crosses the said creek as it meanders to Winfrees line, thence south by Winfrees to Robert Waids corner on the bank of Aaron Creek and then up the said creek as it meanders to the beginning, containing 540 acres more or less and we have put her in possession of the same given under our hands and seals this 3rd of October AD 1849.²¹⁷

Attached to this document was the sheriff notice where Elizabeth Amis had petitioned for her dower rights against her children, John Amis, James Amis, Lewis Amis and Martha P. Amis, his wife, Mary Amis, Rufus Amis, Susannah E. Amis, Rosaltha A. Amis, William J. Amis, Thomas Amis, William Amis, and Alexander Amis as defendants.

The file also included powers of attorney which help to locate the children of William Amis.

Know all men by these presents that I James Amis of Ouachita County & State of Arkansas for divers good causes and considerations me hereunto receiving do have nominated and appointed and by these presents do nominate and appoint John Amis, Junr., of the County of Granville & State of North Carolina my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name and for my own purposes use & benefit to ask, demand, sue for recovery, & receive from and of the Clerk and Master of the Court of Equity of the said county of Granville and from any & all other persons such sums or sum of money as I am or may be entitled to as one of the children and heirs at law of the said William Amis, decd., ... whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 10th day of May 1851. signed James Amis; witnessed by James Winfree; Joel Chandler.

Know all men by these presents that I William Amis of the County of Henry and State of Georgia for divers good causes and considerations hereunto moving have nominated and appointed and by these presents do nominate and appoint

²¹⁷ The jurors are signed in their own hand, and I cannot make out most of the names with certainty. Those that are clearly legible in the microfilm are E. Royster, who signed by mark, Robert Sandford, W. G. Thomas, L. Williamson, Thos. Chandler. The Sheriff listed all the jurors in his attachment to the deed.

John Amis, Junr., of the County of Granville and State of North Carolina my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name and for my own purposes use and benefits ask, demand, sue for, recover, and receive of and from James Amis, Administrator of William Amis, decd.,...as one of the children and distributees of the said decd....I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 21st day of December 1849. signed William Amis; witnessed by Joel Sh..ny; Gabriel Jones.

Lewis E. Amis in right of his wife, Rosa, and William J. Amis petitioned the court as tenants in common to divide the slaves of William Amis, decd., at the November term of court 1859. A total of 24 names were listed. The court ordered a panel to separate these 24 slaves into two lots as equal as possible, and to let the petitioners choose their lot.

The file also includes a plat for a tract of 126 acres sold by Peyton Puryear to William Amis, described as part of the Harris tract lying along the west side of the Oxford Road and on the east Spring Green Meeting House is identified about half way along the north-south boundary line. Newman's Store is identified at the narrow southern end of the plat. There is a tract of land described as belonging to William Amis' heirs, surveyed 10 October 1849 and containing 201 acres lying on Aaron's Creek. There is another plat for a 100 acre tract adjacent William Chandler. He also had a tract of 436½ acres, described as the Wade tract, touching on Aaron's Creek. Finally there is a 159½ acre tract lying just south of the Virginia line and to the west of Aaron's Creek where it crosses that boundary. It is unclear to me if these properties were excluded from calculation of the widow's dower of 540 acres, but they total to 997 acres, which would give the widow somewhat more than 1/3 of the land accounted for by these various plats. I have not tried to research William Amis' land purchases and sales in the deed books.

Children of WILLIAM AMIS and ELIZABETH PURYEAR are:

- i. THOMAS⁶ AMIS, b. 1805 Granville Co., N. C.; d. after 1860 Ouachita Co., Ark.; m. MARTHA ANN BOYD 22 April 1830 Halifax Co., Va.
- ii. LEWIS⁶ AMIS, b. 1809 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 1843 Granville Co., N. C.; m. ELIZABETH AMIS 1836 Granville Co., N. C., dau. of JOSEPH AMIS and ELIZABETH DOWNEY.²¹⁸
- iii. WILLIAM⁶ AMIS, JR., b. 18 August 1811 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 16 October 1881 Henry Co., Ga.; m. ANN WHITE about 1833 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 18 August 1811 in Virginia; d. 28 June 1869 Henry Co., Ga.²¹⁹
- iv. JOHN⁶ AMIS, b. 1814 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 1898 Granville Co., N. C.²²⁰; m. CATHERINE S. _____ about 1839 Granville Co., N. C.²²¹

²¹⁸ Obviously this represents a first cousin marriage, but it is not the only one I have found in this generation.

²¹⁹ Buried McDonough City Cemetery.

²²⁰ Buried in Amis Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery. Located online 11 March 2012 at <http://cemeterycensus.com/nc/gran/cem242.htm>.

A respected citizen and well known lawyer of Granville was born in this county, educated at Caldwell Institute in Greensboro, afterwards at Chapel Hill from which he graduated in 1846. He was engaged as a teacher a year at the first mentioned institution, later studied law under Judge Battle and was admitted to the bar in 1848 and to the Supreme Court in 1849. He practiced till 1856 and then retired to his farm and came again to the courts after the war. In 1852-3-4 he was representative to the State Legislature and in 1854 was the Whig candidate for the Speakership of the House. During the war he was Colonel of the militia stationed in this county. In 1862 and again in 1864 he was elected to the House of Representatives. In 1866 he was elected County Solicitor serving till reconstruction in 1868. From 1872 to 1878 he was chairman of the county Democratic Executive Committee, of which he is still a member, from 1877 to 1878 he was on the Board of Directors of the State Insane Asylum. In all the various positions Colonel Amis has acted unselfishly and energetically and has shown himself fully worthy of the trusts submitted to him. Since the war he has had his law office in Oxford, now in the bank building and being a well read lawyer enjoys a good practice in this and Vance counties. He is a member of the Presbyterian body. He married a Hillsboro lady and has two of a family.²²²

Children of JOHN AMIS and CATHERINE S. _____ are:

- a. JOANNA⁷ AMIS, b. 1840 Granville Co., N. C.
- b. NANCY⁷ AMIS, b. 1842 Granville Co., N. C.; m. JAMES A. JONES 14 December 1866 Granville Co., N. C.
- c. ELMIRA⁷ C. AMIS, b. 1844 Granville Co., N. C.; m. S. L. PURYEAR 6 December 1868 Granville Co., N. C.
- d. SOPHRONIA⁷ AMIS, b. 1847 Granville Co. N. C.
- v. ALEXANDER⁶ AMIS, b. 6 April 1816 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 28 July 1858 Dallas Co., Ark.; m. HENRIETTA LEWIS 17 February 1840 Granville Co., N. C.²²³

Alexander Amis obtained a patent for 80 acres of land in section 32, twp. 98, range 13 west in Dallas County, Arkansas on 1 December 1857.²²⁴

Children of ALEXANDER AMIS and HENRIETTA LEWIS are:²²⁵

- a. ELIZABETH⁷ AMIS, b. 1841 Granville Co., N. C.
- b. WARREN⁷ AMIS, b. 1843 Granville Co., N. C.

²²¹ John Amis, 36, is living in Goshen District with Catherine S., 24. James Amis, 27, and Marsha A. Amis, 21, are also living in Goshen District. 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Goshen District, p. 185B,#86/86. James is #88/88. John Amis, 35, is living with Catherine, 27, m. about 1839 in County Line District, as is Lewis Amis, 27. Based upon the family clusters, I have decided this John Amis is the man living in Goshen District.

²²² *A Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina 1885.* (Charleston, S. C.: Empire Publishing Co.,1885) p. 116

²²³ Buried Juniel Cemetery, Dallas Co., Ark.

²²⁴ BLM records compiled by Joy Fisher. Located online 16 December 2011 at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/ar/dallas/land/dallas.txt>. This land is not in the townships being settled by John N. and Louis Amis.

²²⁵ 1850 Census Dallas Co., Ark., Princeton Twp., p. 81A, #540/540.

- c. WILLIAM⁷ AMIS, b. 1844 Granville Co., N. C.
- d. JOSEPH⁷ AMIS, b. 1847 Tennessee
- e. male, b. April 1850, Dallas Co., Ark.
- vi. WARREN⁶ AMIS, b. 1818 Granville Co., N. C.; d. July 1844 Granville Co., N. C., (unm.)
- vii. JAMES S.⁶ AMIS, b. about 1823 Granville Co., N. C.; d. before 9 November 1853 Ouachita Co., Arkansas; m. MARSHA A. JUNIEL 1847 Halifax Co., Va.²²⁶
James Amis, 27, and Marsha A. Amis, 21, are living in Goshen District in 1850, two houses down from John and Catherine S. Amis.²²⁷
- viii. MARTHA P.⁶ AMIS, b. about 1825 Granville Co., N. C.; d. about 1850 Granville Co., N. C.; m. LEWIS AMIS 1844 Granville Co., N. C., son of JOSEPH AMIS and ELIZABETH DOWNEY; b. 22 December 1822 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 19 July 1894 Dallas Co., Ark.; m. (2) MARTHA J. DANIEL 1 June 1852 Granville Co., N. C.²²⁸
- viii. MARY⁶ AMIS, b. 1833 Granville Co., N. C.²²⁹
- 9. ix. RUFUS⁶ AMIS, b. 24 January 1835 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 29 October 1903 Granville Co., N. C.; m. (1) ELIZABETH ANN RAGLAND 14 November 1855 Halifax Co., Va.; b. 1836 Virginia; d. 1900 Granville Co., N. C.;²³⁰ m. (2) CARRIE (_____) HUDGINS 19 December 1900 Baltimore, Baltimore Co., Maryland.²³¹

8. JOHN WOODSON⁵ (WILLIAM⁴⁻³, JOSEPH²) AMIS was born 22 September 1795 in Granville Co., North Carolina and died 4 February 1849 in Scott Co., Mississippi. He married MARTHA WADKINS 10 February 1824 in Copiah Co., Mississippi. She was born 28 June 1805 in Montgomery Co., Tennessee, and died 10 September 1887 in Scott Co., Mississippi.

²²⁶ 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C., Goshen District, p. 196B, #88/88. They have no children listed.

²²⁷ 1850 Census Granville Co., N. C.,

²²⁸ Data from Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, 1890, Chapter 27:709, Dallas County. Copy located on line at <http://books.google.com>. Louis Amis obtained patents in sections 29 and 30 of township 108, range 12W in 1859 and 1860. Cited by Fisher, Joy, *op cit.*

²²⁹ Living with Rufus Amis and wife Elizabeth in the 1860 Census Granville Co., N. C., Buchanan P. O, p. 467, #184/180. Next door is John Amis, 46, wife Catherine, 37, Joanna, 20, Nancy, 17, Eltamira, 14, and Frances 13, all daughters. Two more houses down is Peyton Puryear, so it appears they are living on the tract along the Oxford Road.

²³⁰ Rufus Amis Papers #3158-z, Southern Historical Collection, The Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Description accessed online 7 October 2011 at <http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/inv/a/Amis.Rufus.html>. The records apparently include genealogical materials which I have not yet consulted.

²³¹ The marriage was proved by a copy of the license and also the Bible records accessed in Oxford, N. C. There was also a newspaper clipping about the marriage.

My information about John Woodson Amis was derived in large measure from my Mother, who heard her father, Albert G. Petty, speak of him; from Haywood Amis, the old Negro slave, above mentioned, and Calvin H. Doolittle, son-in-law of Ascension Amis Blalock, with whom I had quite a long conversation on the day of her funeral in 1905. My maternal grandfather, Albert G. Petty, and old Haywood knew him personally, and Calvin H. Doolittle got his information from his mother-in-law, Ascension Amis Blalock, who was the oldest child of John Woodson Amis, and I am convinced that my information is reasonably accurate.

As above stated, he was born September 22nd, 1795, in North Carolina, and grew to manhood there. After reaching his majority, sometime about the year 1820, he went west across the Cumberland Mountains, to some point on the Cumberland River, but just where is not known. There he took passage on a flat boat, the only kind then in use, down the Cumberland, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers and landed at Natchez, Mississippi. By occupation he was a millwright, that is, a builder of grist mills, flour mills, and cotton gins, to be operated either by water power or animal power. After landing at Natchez he followed his trade of millwright in Adams, Copiah, Wilkinson and adjoining counties. And while engaged on a job of that sort, he met Martha Wadkins, who with her sister, was living with her uncle, Seth Corley, in Copiah County.²³² Subsequently on February 10th, 1824, he and Martha Wadkins were married. After his marriage he settled near Woodville, in Wilkinson County, where he continued to reside until about 1838 or 1839. He became a landowner and a slave holder, as most other men of means were, and seems to have been highly esteemed by the people of his community. About 1838 or 1839 he moved to Newton County and settled on a tract of land about halfway between Newton and Decatur, just north of a large plantation then owned by Millanton Blalock, now owned by Tom Doolittle and others. About 1845 or 1846, he moved to Scott County and settled on the old stage road running from Jackson, Mississippi, to Livingston, Alabama, at the eastern end of the old turnpike across Tuscalameta Swamp, where he died February 4th, 1849. He was buried on his own farm, in the old Amis graveyard, about five or six miles northwest of Conehatta. For many years this grave yard was the neighborhood burial ground although no one has been buried there for ten or fifteen years past. A tombstone was erected at his grave many years ago, but it is now fallen down and broken in pieces.

Physically he was of spare build and a little below medium height, and at some time during his life he had lost one eye. Those who knew him after he moved to Newton County say that he was a one-eyed man. How or when he lost his eye I never heard. He was a vigorous, active man and had considerable influence in his community. In temperament he was somewhat taciturn and sometimes a little obstinate, not being inclined to argue matters much. He was rather sensitive concerning the honor of himself and his family and was not quick

²³² Seth Corley was actually Temperance Wadkins' husband, and thus Martha Wadkins' brother-in-law, as is developed in the section of information on her family.

to forgive an injury to either. In politics he was a Whig and always voted the straight ticket. In religion he was a Baptist, being a member of old Sulphur Springs Baptist Church at the time of his death. He was a royal arch mason, being a member of the Hillsboro lodge at the time of his death. I have in my possession the original copy of the resolution of respect and condolence passed by Hillsboro Lodge, after his death, March 25th, 1849, a copy of which is shown in the appendix to these sketches. His neighbors, widely scattered, in those days of sparse population, were the ancestors of the Graham, Brewer, Pettey, Eastland, Blalock, Keith, Carleton, Doolittle, Wilson, Smith, and Johnson families of Newton and Scott Counties. All of them were of the old pioneer stock, whose memory has almost faded. Their like will never be seen again.

Martha Wadkins Amis, familiarly and affectionately known as "Old Mother," was born at, or near, Macon, Georgia, June 28th, 1805.²³³ Her mother was a Curle, but I do not know anything of her father or mother. She had one sister named Tempe, but if she ever had a brother I do not know it. Their father and mother died when they were quite young, and they were reared by their uncle, Seth Corley. Whether this uncle lived in Georgia or Mississippi, I do not know; but at any rate they were both living with, or visiting one of their uncles in Mississippi in 1824, and both of them married from his home. Which was the older and which married first, I have never heard, but Tempe married and settled in Copiah County and her descendants are there yet, but I do not now anything about them.

On February 10th, 1824, when she was not quite nineteen years old, Martha was married to John W. Amis, with whom she lived until his death in 1849, and to whom she bore four sons and five daughters. In 1849, at the age of forty four, she was left a widow, but never married again. She took charge of the plantation and the slaves and reared her family to manhood and womanhood. Her youngest daughter Frances married in 1869 and a short time afterward, I do not know just when, she sold the old home to her son-in-law J. D. Graham, and "broke up housekeeping." She then began to live around among her children, though for many years she kept her clothing and had her headquarters at the old home with Uncle Dock and Aunt Wootie. Finally, however, a few years before her death she went to live with her youngest daughter, Frances, at the old Ed Moore place, where she lived until she died September 10th, 1887. She was buried beside her husband in the old Amis graveyard, and a tombstone marks her grave.

My recollection of her is very vivid, as is that of all who knew her; because she was a vigorous woman of strong personality and great courage. As an instance of her courage, it is related that shortly after her husband's death,

²³³ Actually, she was born in Montgomery Co., Tennessee, and moved with her family to Jones County, Georgia, which is just northeast of Macon, Ga., about 1809. The parents had died by 1815 when court records establish that Temperance Wadkins avoided an appointed guardian by marrying Seth Corley, and Martha Wadkins became the ward of her uncle, Kinchen Curl. She said she was born in Tennessee in the 1850 Census.

one of her Negro slaves, a man, rebelled against her authority and refused to obey her; but instead of being frightened or of calling some neighbor man to chastise him, as was the custom of widows in such cases, she proceeded without assistance to administer the punishment suitable to his offence. After that she never had any trouble with the Negroes.

It is also related that Sherman's army marched right by her place at one time during the Civil War, and she knew that the soldiers would steal everything that they could lay their hands on. All her sons were gone to the war and there was no one home except herself, her daughters, and the Negro slaves. So when she heard the army approaching, she had her few valuables, and all her bacon, lard, and other foodstuffs, brought in and piled in the middle of her room, which was the main living room of the family. She then got her daughters in and sat herself down in a chair in the open doorway and waited. Shortly the soldiers came and spread all over the place, into the smokehouse, the corn-crib, the dairy, and everywhere else, and some even tried to get past her into her room; but she calmly sat there and kept them back. In a little while she saw an officer approaching, whereupon she called to him, identified herself as a master mason's widow, and asked for a detail of soldiers to guard her residence, which was immediately given her. Knowing her as I did, I can well understand why any skulking thief, soldier or not, would stop when he tried to pass her sitting in that open doorway.

And yet, everybody loved her, and all the children in the whole countryside, and many of the grown folks, called her "Old Mother." And when she would pass a house going from one child's house to another, the children would come running to meet her and she would always stop and talk to them or to anyone else she met, even a Negro, and seemed to be greatly interested in their welfare.

An amusing story used to be told about Jeffie Wilson, daughter of Uncle Henry Wilson, who lived in the neighborhood. All the children, except Jeffie, were accustomed to calling her "Old Mother." Jeffie, however, always called her "Mrs. Amis." As Old Mother would pass along the road by Uncle Henry's place, the children would always run out to meet her shouting "Howdy, Old Mother." So, when they ran out to meet her, Jeffie in the lead, she shouted "Howdy, Old Mrs. Amis." The children teased her about it for years afterward.

In going from one child's house to another, she nearly always walked, and usually had one or two children along to carry her bundles. But very often she would go alone. When she got tired she would stop at the first house and rest awhile; and if it was near mealtime, she would always stay and eat with the family. She was always welcome everywhere and the children were glad to see her. She always had an apple, a marble, or some little thing for them, and what was better, a smile and a hug. She used to make trips that way for twenty miles or more. It would take her two or three days, but she never got in a hurry and always arrived safely.

She would ride in an ox wagon or a mule wagon, if the mules were old and slow; but she did not like to ride in a buggy or hack with spirited horses. They went too fast for her. I remember, once, my mother induced her to have me carry her from our house to Uncle Dock's, about five miles, in a buggy; but from the way she looked and held on, I am sure it was a journey in which she took no pleasure. She went to Texas once, about 1880, but when she got back, she said never again, it was all too fast for her. I wonder what she would have thought of the swift moving automobiles of these speed-mad days, and whether she would have ridden in one of them.

She was a member of the Baptist Church and a devout believer in the over-ruling providences of God, yet she had a great fund of common sense and homely philosophy, and firmly believed that "God helps only those who help themselves." Once, when my father was a candidate for office, she told him that if he set himself up as a target he might expect to be shot at; and the last time I ever saw her alive, she told me that if I ever got a handle to my name, folks would take hold of it and shake it. She had a little money, which she kept loaned out, and was always very particular to collect her "intrust" as she called it. And I remember one day, when one of the borrowers paid her the "intrust," she said to him, with a chuckle, "That's what you pay me for trusting you with my money." And while that does not coincide with the definition given by the lexicographers or the law writers, yet every lender knows that she was right, because the custom is, that the greater the risk of losing the principal the higher is the rate of interest charged.

She had great faith in the virtues of castor oil in generous doses as a remedy for childish ailments and seldom suggested anything else. She also believed that a jug of good whisky—with some rock candy and various kinds of barks in it, was mighty good to cure a cold if you have one and to keep it off if you didn't. And I think she was right. In fact, I wish I had a little of that same kind of medicine (with the barks left out), because I am liable to catch a cold most any time.

Old Mother was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. When I can first remember her, she was nearly seventy years old, but was still vigorous. She was a little below medium height and was somewhat corpulent. Her complexion, even at seventy, was ruddy. After each meal she smoked a pipe of tobacco, but not often at other times. She had an old clay pipe and a cane stem that she carried around in her bag—I think it was called a reticule in those days—and she would get it out and fill it, and many a time I have dipped it in hot ashes for her or handed her a live coal to light it. And then she would sit and puff, the perfect picture of peace and contentment. And yet they say, in these days of equal rights for women, that ladies should not smoke! O tempora! O Mores! Dear Old Mother, I loved her well, as did all who knew her. May she rest in peace.

Children of JOHN W. AMIS and MARTHA WADKINS are:

- i. ASCENSION LUCRECY⁶ AMIS, b. 28 December 1824 Wilkinson Co., Miss.; d. 3 May 1905 Newton Co., Miss.; m. SAMUEL BLALOCK son of MILLENTON BLALOCK 12 March 1840 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 11 March 1852 Newton Co., Miss.

Ascension L. Amis, oldest daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born in Wilkinson County, December 28th, 1824 and grew to womanhood there. About 1838 or 1839 her father moved to Newton County and settled on a tract of land just north of the plantation of Millenton Blalock, now known as the Doolittle place. There she met Samuel Blalock, son of Millenton Blalock, and they were married March 12th, 1840. They lived together until his death, March 11th, 1852, and had three children: John M., Harriet P., and Louisa L. Blalock. She never remarried, but remained a widow until her death, May 2nd, 1905.

From the time of her marriage until her death she lived at Newton, first with and among the family of her husband, and later with her children and grandchildren. I never knew her very intimately, but would visit her occasionally after I reached manhood. She was a quiet, soft-voiced, delicate old lady, with a slow, sweet smile, and features that showed she was quiet a beauty in her younger days. Evidently she developed into womanhood early, because she married when she was but a few months above the age of fifteen years.

On the day of her funeral, in 1905, her son-in-law, Cal Doolittle, showed me some of her keepsakes, and among them was a formal, printed invitation to Miss Ascension Amis, to attend a grand ball in the town of Woodville, in Wilkinson County, which, as I remember bore the date of 1836, but it may have been 1838. Well, well, folks, talk about how precocious the modern flapper is, and how they have "dates" when they ought to be playing dolls; but how about the old days when a twelve or fourteen year old Miss was formally invited to attend a grand ball, where the belles and beaux of the Southland danced away the fleeting hours, in the moonlight's mellow glow, in the old time town of Woodville, nearly a hundred years ago!

*O time and change what has thou wrought
Of all that scene of yesteryear!
The forms are faded that the moonbeams sought,
And the hearts are still that were then so dear;
But life ever laughs your havoc to nought,
And youth is the same from year to year.*

And so it was that good old "Aunt Tent" sipped life's nectar in the early morning of youth, when her dreams were sweet; but when she met her mate her soul was satisfied. And though he was taken from her when she was only twenty eight years old, she never sought another, but for more than half a century trod her lonely way, content with her memories, and the love and care of her children and grandchildren, in the full faith that somewhere, sometime,

all would be well. Such constancy! What was it that held her so true through all those years?

*What was it? Alas, who knows!
What sage or seer hath ever told;
Or whence it comes, or wither goes,
Or how to win, or how to hold.*

*It blushes like a summer's dawn,
Then like the noontide sun it glows;
Or like a brook it babbles on,
Then like the mighty river flows.*

*It whispers low in soundless sigh
A story that no tongue can tell—
That lifts us up above the sky
Or drags us downward into hell.*

*It makes or mars each human life
Nor counts the cost in pain or tears;
But leads us on to joy or strife
In endless cycles through the years.*

*A passion born of nature's urge,
Repressed, refined through long control;
But when its fires begin to surge
'Tis master of the human soul.*

*And when its fires consume the dross
And fill our souls with perfect trust,
Then each will bear the other's cross
Till dust returnest unto dust.*

*And though one fall beside the way
Their spirits nought will e'er dis sever,
For the lonely one will wait the day
They meet to part no more forever.*

Children of ASCENSION AMIS and SAMUEL BLALOCK are:

- a. JOHN MILLENTON⁷ BLALOCK, b. 6 July 1842; d. 24 July 1856 Newton Co., Miss.
- b. HARRIET PARISADE⁷ BLALOCK, b. 18 June 1844 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 16 January 1890 Newton Co., Miss.; m. CALVIN H. DOOLITTLE 18 June 1863 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 13 March 1906 Newton Co., Miss.
- c. LOUISA LAVINIA⁷ BLALOCK, b. 25 February 1847 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 4 November 1892 Newton Co., Miss.; m. WAD H. THOMPSON about 1866 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 12 September 1882 Newton Co., Miss.

These were two daughters of Samuel Blalock and Ascension Amis, and were born, reared and lived out their lives at or near Newton.

They were my cousins, but as they were both older than my mother, I was never familiar with either of them. In fact, because of the distance they lived from the rest of the kindred, I never knew either one of them very well and know but little of their lives or characteristics. My information is, that when Millenton Blalock, their grandfather, died shortly prior to the Civil War, they inherited considerable property from his estate. But the administration dragged along in the courts for many years, and then the War came on and freed the slaves and destroyed the value of the land. And the result of it all was that their inheritance was never of much benefit to them.

Lou married Wad Thompson, and while I used to hear my father speak of him, I never knew him. He died when I was about fifteen years old and up to that time I had scarcely ventured so far from home as Newton was then. It was a whole lot further then than it is now in these days of the Ford car and good roads.

Harriet married Cal Doolittle, whom I knew well, but not until after she was dead. Cal was the oldest son of Roger Doolittle, one of the pioneer settlers of Newton County. He was a man of intelligence and judgment and was popular in his community. For a long time he was Justice of the Peace at Newton, and was a good one too, as I can testify, having tried many cases in his Court. He had an accurate and retentive memory and a wealth of information about local people and conditions, extending back several years before the Civil War, and I always enjoyed hearing him tell of early times and conditions.

My information is that Harriet and Lou, as well as their husbands, are buried in the old Doolittle burial ground, just north of Newton.

Robert W. Thompson, son of Wad Thompson and Louisa Blalock, familiarly known as Bob, was born October 7th, 1872. He was a locomotive engineer of the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad, and was killed in the performance of his duties on the 9th day of July 1916. He married Maud Doolittle, daughter of Thomas I. Doolittle, of Newton, Mississippi, about the year 1899. He left surviving him his widow, Maud Thompson, who is now matron of Gulfpark College at Gulfport, and two children, Robert and Loucidel. Bob was genial and accommodating and well liked by all who knew him. Children were especially fond of him, and that, in my opinion, is the supreme test of a man's goodness of heart. His death was accidental, caused by a washout on the main line of the railroad, his engine turning over and the steam scalding him. After his death, the officials of the railroad were very considerate of his widow and children and made a liberal settlement with them without any suit in the courts.

- ii. TEMPERANCE PARIDADE⁶ AMIS, b. 18 September 1826 Wilkinson Co., Miss.; d. 10 May 1908 Conehatta, Newton Co., Miss.; m. (1) B. O. SWINNEY 21 March 1844 Newton Co., Miss.; m. (2) CHARLES W. DAY 3 March 1853 Scott Co., Miss.

Temperance Parisade Amis, (Aunt Pod), daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born in Wilkinson County, September 18th, 1826. On March 21st, 1844, she was married to B. O. Swinney. She lived with him only a short time, but just how long I do not know. He was cruel to her and she left him and returned to her father's home. Swinney promised to reform and tried to get him to return to her, but she would not consent, and her father, on pain of death, forbade him coming to see her. My maternal grandfather, Albert G. Petty, was a friend to both of them and tried to effect a reconciliation without success. I do not know whether Swinney died or they were divorced, but at any rate on March 3rd, 1853, she was married to Charles W. Day, with whom she lived until she died May 10th, 1908. She never had any children by Swinney that I ever heard of. By her second husband, Uncle Charley Day, she had two children: Emma and Loula.

Uncle Charley and Aunt Pod, as they were familiarly and affectionately known, lived all their lives within five miles of the present village of Conehatta, in Newton County, and for a larger part of the time in the village itself. And for me it is impossible to think of or write about them separately, for while they were unlike in appearance, yet they were truly one in spirit.

Aunt Pod was a great cook of the old southern style, and Uncle Charley gloried in her excellence. The form of his blessing at mealtime was the shortest I ever heard. It was: "Dear Lord, bless us and dinner," or supper, or breakfast as the case might be; and when Aunt Pod had prepared something which specially suited his taste, he would add: "and the old woman for cooking it." And that reminds me of the story of Uncle Charley and his false teeth. When he began to get along in years, he had all his teeth pulled, and a full set of artificial teeth, but upper and lower plates, made. In due time the dentist delivered and fitted them, and Uncle Charley was quite proud of them, though I know he felt like he had a couple of wheelbarrows in his mouth. That day for dinner, Aunt Pod baked some sweet potatoes, of which he was specially fond. And so when dinner was ready, he sat down and said his usual grace, with a special blessing for the cook, and taking one of the potatoes he pulled off the skin and took a huge bite. Now that potato was soft, sticky, and quite hot, as he discovered when he bit into it, but it stuck in his teeth and he could neither swallow it nor spit it out; and the more he tried to swallow it the more it stuck, the more it got under his plates and the more it burned him. He struggled and sputtered for awhile, and finally took the whole mess out with his fingers, laid it on his plate and said: "Now, damn you. Lie there and blaze." After that, those teeth were a matter of ornament, not of use; for he laid them up on the mantel, cussed 'em, and swore he would "gum it" for the rest of his days. And so he did.

Like many oldtimers, Uncle Charley had no liking for paper money, "Greenbacks," as it used to be called. In his opinion, gold was the only real safe money. And so when he would hear of anyone having gold, he would go and trade for it, even if he had to pay a premium, which he often did. He was a frugal man, and in this way accumulated quite a sum in gold, for the proverbial rainy day. How much he had or where he kept it, I never knew, but I know he had it, and it was a source of great comfort to them in their old age when the "rainy day" came.

Uncle Charley was a very large man, and as so often happens in matrimonial affairs, Aunt Pod was a small woman, though in her old age she became quite corpulent. They were quiet, peaceful old people, and were liked by all who knew them. They seemed to be wholly satisfied by their surroundings and with each other; and I feel sure that for more than forty years before they died, neither of them ever went as much as ten miles from home. Nothing ever seemed to disturb the even tenor of their lives, but secure in the esteem and affection of their friends and kindred, they lived out their days in peace, if not in plenty. They were buried side by side in the old Amis graveyard, but no tombstone marks their graves.

*And there they sleep the years away
Patiently awaiting the judgment day,
For under the sod, as well as the stone,
God will claim and keep his own.*

Children of PARISADE AMIS and CHARLES DAY are:

- a. EMMA⁷ DAY, b. 8 June 1863 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 8 October 1945 Athens, Henderson Co., Texas; m. NATHAN CLARKE MURRELL 6 October 1887 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 14 August 1860 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 17 August 1933 Athens, Henderson Co., Texas.²³⁴
- b. LOULA⁷ DAY, b. 12 September 1867 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 26 September 1927 Chattanooga, Hamilton Co., Tennessee; m. THOMAS P. WILLIAMS about 1889 Newton Co., Miss; b. 8 August 1861; d. 4 March 1950 Newton Co., Miss.²³⁵

Loula Day, daughter of Charles W. Day and Parisade Amis, was born September 12, 1867, in Newton County and grew to womanhood there. During most of her life she resided in the village of Conehatta. She attended the High School there and as I remember graduated about 1889, and in the fall of that year was married to Thomas P. Williams. Her sister Emma had previously married Clarke Murrell and they had moved to Texas. So after her marriage, Loula and her husband lived with her father and mother in the village until about 1901 or 1902 when they moved to the old Thornton homestead about half a mile north of the village where they lived for several years, after which they returned to the village and lived in the old Giles Brunson homestead. About 1927 or 1928 they moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to live with their daughter, where she died about the year 1930.

As a girl she was tall and rather slender with black hair and eyes. Her complexion, while it had a tinge of red in the cheeks, was not so ruddy as was that of her mother and sister Emma. She did not have

²³⁴ Tombstones are in Athens Cemetery, Athens, Henderson Co., Texas. Located 4 December 2011 at <http://www.findagrave.com>.

²³⁵ Both markers are in the Conehatta Methodist Church Cemetery, Newton Co., Miss., although hers notes she is buried in Chattanooga. (Smith, Bonnie A., Smith, Jackson E., Smith, Robert E. Newton County, Mississippi: A Cemetery Census, 1782-1995. (Decatur, MS: EBRS Publishing, 1997,) p. 95.

that quickness of motion or characteristic of the Amis strain, but like her father, was deliberate in all she said or did. She was a lovely winsome girl, and I thought very beautiful.

We were nearly the same age and took great delight in each other's society and companionship. When Emma, who was several years older than we were, had a beau to church, or an entertainment in the village, we played the part of chaperone and tagged along behind; and just for fun, we often tried to hear the love making going on ahead of us. And one time we crept up rather close and heard John Bishop trying to tell her how pretty she was and how much he loved her. But he stammered so much and got so badly stalled in the effort, that we laughed out loud and put an end to the romantic scene. Another time we were tagging along, one beautiful moonlight night, behind our mutual cousin Ella Graham and her beau. Ella grew sentimental and looking up at the moon she said, "The moon, the moon, the pale yellow moon." Her beau did not know any poetry, but not to be outdone, he said, "The sun, the sun, the red hot sun." Again, we laughed and ruined the love making.

She bore and reared ten children and gave her life, with patient cheerfulness to their service and that of her husband. Her father and mother lived in the same house with her all her life, and when they became old and decrepit she cared for them and nursed them in that sweet spirit of kindness and gentleness so characteristic of her. Like her mother, she stayed home and seldom went visiting or traveling. Until she and her husband went to Chattanooga to live with their daughter, I do not think she had been out of the county since her marriage.

Her life was one of service and self denial for those she loved. And the Master said "Greater love hath no man than this, that he giveth his life for his friends." Measured by that standard, she had no superior. Like deep waters, her life flowed on to the ocean of eternity without a ripple, without a murmur of complaint or note of discontent. To the great world of men she was unknown, unhonored, and unsung. But in her own sweet gentle way her life was a benediction, a hymn of love, and a prayer of service. Many a flower blooms by the wayside, and dies unseen by the hurrying throng. But its beauty and fragrance is just as great as if the multitude had stopped to enjoy it. And I am sure that as the sun of life was setting, she saw the stars shine through the gathering gloom, and heard a voice whisper to her fading consciousness, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." For again the Master said, "He that is greatest among you shall be your servant."

10. iii. WILLIAM ALEXANDER⁶ AMIS, b. 24 July 1829 Wilkinson Co., Miss.; d. 7 November 1862 Scott Co., Miss.; m. MARGARET BURLESON 3 February 1858 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 27 December 1862 Scott Co., Miss.
- iv. JAMES C.⁶ AMIS, b. 20 January 1832; d. 26 January 1832, Wilkinson Co., Miss.
11. v. RANKIN HAYWOOD⁶ AMIS, b. 25 May 1834 Wilkinson Co., Miss.; d. 4 April 1910 Newton Co., Miss.; m. (1) ELIZABETH KIMBALL 21 December 1854 Newton Co., Miss.; m. (2) ELIZABETH WINDHAM 3 April 1897 Newton Co., Miss.

- vi. MARTHA JANE⁶ AMIS, b. 11 March 1838 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 12 November 1909 San Saba Co., Texas; m. (1) E. A. GRAHAM 4 March 1858; m. (2) JAMES M. PARKS 10 February 1867.

Martha Jane Amis, daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born March 11, 1838, I believe in Newton County, Mississippi, and died November 12th, 1909, in San Saba County, Texas. She married E. A. Graham, March 4th, 1858, but had no children by that marriage.

What became of E. A. Graham; whether he was killed during the war or died after the war, or whether they were divorced, I do not know; but the old family record shows this marriage. It also shows that she was married to James M. Parks, February 10th, 1867, who at that time was a widower with two daughters living. He built, and was the owner of the Wanita Woolen Mills, at Wanita, in Clarke County, about eight miles from Enterprise. About the year 1875 he sold the woolen mills and with his wife and three daughters, moved to San Saba County, Texas, where they lived the balance of their lives.

Aunt Martha never had but one child, Nettie, who was born a year or so after her second marriage. Sometime prior to 1889 Nettie married a Mr. Harkey and both of them live in San Saba, Texas.

I never knew very much of Aunt Martha and my recollection of her is not very vivid. She married Uncle Jim about the time I was born and went to live at Wanita, about thirty or forty miles away from where the balance of the kindred lived. In fact, I do not remember ever having seen her but once, when she came to visit us. As I remember her, she was a rather tall, handsome woman, and, as I thought, very finely dressed. In fact, for some unknown reason, I was a bit afraid of her. But somehow, although Uncle Jim was a bluff, hearty, loud voiced man, I was not afraid of him at all; but would sit and listen to him talk by the hour. I remember he was slightly deaf, and so was Old Mother, but neither of them appreciated just how deaf the other was. Somehow, each one thought the other was very deaf, and when they got together and began to talk, they made the shingles rattle on the roof. It was a source of great amusement to my father, and I halfway suspect he was the cause of the impression each one had of the other.

12. vii. ALBERT GALLATIN⁶ AMIS, b. 15 January 1841 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 31 July 1878 Conehatta, Newton Co., Miss.; m. MARY AUGUSTA PETTY, 16 December 1865 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 8 April 1849 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 9 July 1922 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. (2) WILLIAM BUYCK THORNTON.

- vii. MIRNIA WOODSON⁶ AMIS, b. 27 February 1844 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 29 December 1897 Newton Co., Miss.; m. J. D. GRAHAM 14 January 1864 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 21 June 1896 Newton Co., Miss.

Mirnia Woodson Amis, Aunt Wootie, daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born February 27th, 1844, in Newton Co., Mississippi. She married J. D. Graham, Uncle Dock, January 14th, 1864. He died June 21st, 1896, and soon thereafter, on December 29th, 1897, she followed him. They had nine children: Harvey, Ella, Walter, Ida, Mattie, Jimmie, William, John, and Ruby, all of whom, except Mattie, lived to be grown and married.

Aunt Wootie was rather taller than any of her sisters, unless it was her sister, Martha. She and Aunt Martha were never as stout as the others; and as I remember them, their complexion was not as ruddy as was that of all the

others. She was a very kind, motherly sort of woman, but she never fussed or worried about the children. Her son Harvey was just a little older than I was, and I remember that I always enjoyed visiting him very much, because she would let us do almost anything we wanted to, except tear the house down or set something afire. We would go fishing, hunting, make blow-guns, play "injun," or yoke up the yearlings and haul with the wood wheel wagon and never heard a word of protest from her. And Uncle Dock was the same way. They seemed to think the Lord took care of boys and there was no use to worry about us. And they were right about it, for I guess we would have done it anyway, even if we had to sneak off.

Uncle Dock was a happy-go-lucky sort of man, full of fun and a great practical joker. He and his neighbors, Ferd Petty, Pate Finlayson, and Jim Wilson were always playing pranks on each other, like grown up boys, much to their own amusement and that of everyone else in the neighborhood. Nor were Uncle Dock's pranks confined to them, but often included others as well.

He knew that Uncle Charley Day liked his "dram" as well as anybody, if not a little better, especially in cold weather. In going to Newton to market, he had to pass through the village of Conehatta. On one occasion, just before Christmas, he carried a load of cotton to Newton. While there he bought a jug of whisky and a jug of cottonseed oil and placed them both in the back end of his wagon among the various other articles he had purchased. Of course, he took a few "nips" out of the whisky jug himself on his way home, but just before he got to Conehatta, he drove the stopper down tight in the whisky jug and left the one in the oil jug loose so it could be pulled out easily. When he reached the village, he stopped his wagon right in front of Uncle Charley's house and began to talk loud to a crowd of on one of the store galleries. Pretty soon Uncle Charley came over and after he got a whiff of Uncle Dock's breath, he asked him if he had any left. In a maudlin, have drunk manner Uncle Dock said: "Yes, plenty in the back end of the wagon, help yourself." Without waiting for a second invitation, Uncle Charley went and pulled out the loose stopper and there, before the whole crowd, proceeded to take a good long swig of cotton-seed oil, before he discovered his mistake. Although he got plenty of the contents of the other jug to take the taste out, I do not think Uncle Charley ever fully forgave him.

And shortly before Dr. McIlhenny married Uncle Tank's daughter, Mollie, Uncle Dock told him, in the greatest confidence, that there was a great secret about the Amis family that he ought to know, but which he could not tell. Doctor was greatly worried, but of course could not ask Mollie to tell him. So he got very confidential with her and told her all manner of yarns about his folks, mostly in the hope that she would tell him the great family secret. But this availed him nothing and he was still mystified the day of the wedding when Uncle Dock, leading a mangy, bob-tailed cur, waylaid him on his way to the wedding and after presenting him with the dog, told him that the secret was that every Amis son-in-law must own a bob-tailed dog.

It would take a volume to record all the pranks he played on his neighbors and kindred, and yet he was a good neighbor and friend. His pranks served to drive away the tedium of life and the dull carking care that sits, too often, on

the brow of those who dwell on the farm and toil with their hands alone in the fields.

“The evil men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones,” wrote the great bard of Avon, but I prefer to remember the good rather than the evil; and to record that which makes life a little better and a little brighter. Like an old preacher friend of mine, now passed to his reward, I would rather make men laugh than to make them cry, and if I were permitted to amend the “Beatitudes” I would add: “Blessed are the mirth makers, for theirs is the kingdom of gladness.”

*Laugh and the world laughs with you,
Weep, and you weep alone.*

*For the sad old earth must borrow its mirth,
It has troubles enough of its own.*

Children of MIRNIA AMIS and J. D. GRAHAM are:

- a. HARVEY JORDAN⁷ GRAHAM, b. 1866 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 1925 Lubbock, Texas; m. ELIZABETH HARDING.²³⁶

Harvey J. Graham, son of J. D. Graham and Mirnia Woodson Amis, was born about 1866 in Scott County, Mississippi, and grew to manhood there. In his early boyhood, he, along with Jesse Willis, Thomas Wilson, and myself, attended a school, at Old White Plains, in the winter of 1873 and 1874 taught by an old Yankee school teacher named Rhodes. All four of us were in the same class in spelling, which, by the way, we all studied, or pretended to study. We “said three lessons” every day, or in modern phraseology, recited, three times every day. And that old scoundrel whipped each one of us nearly every time we “said a lesson,” or rather tried to say it, for we were so scared of him we couldn’t “say” what little we did know. And then to add insult to injury, he often kept us, six and seven year old boys, in after school until sundown, and we had to walk home, two or three miles, after dark. I believe he just hated every white skin in the South and tried to take it out on us children. And because of his cruelty, his patrons finally ran him off.

Later, Harvey attended High School at Conehatta, where we both at last, began to learn a little. After he grew to manhood, he went to Texas and for some years worked for his uncle, James M. Park, at San Saba, Texas. Later he married Elizabeth Harding, and, as I understand, accumulated considerable property. At the time of his death, in 1925, he lived in or near Lubbock, Texas, but I cannot get any information as to his family, although I have tried repeatedly. In our boyhood, Harvey and I were great friends and playmates, and we spent many happy hours together in boyish sports. And, by the way, even old Rhodes didn’t get ahead of us much by keeping us in after school;

²³⁶ In 1920 Harvey J. Graham 54, MS, and his wife, Betty, 53, were living with Robby, 19, Jeffie 17, and Murrie (f.) 12 in Dawson Co., Texas. [1920 Census, Dawson Co., Texas, Commissioner’s Precinct 3, ED 250, p8A, #172/172.] The county seat is Lamesa, and it is closer to San Antonio than anywhere else.

because we took a lot of splinters and our dog with us to school, and would sometimes catch possums on the way home at night. So then, as now, every bitter had its sweet.

- b. ELLA⁷ GRAHAM, b. 15 April 1868 Scott Co., Miss.; m. WILLIAM H. LACK 6 September 1886 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 12 January 1858 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 25 July 1925 Norton, Miss.

William H. Lack, familiarly known as Bill, was the son of Dr. Lack of Hillsboro, Mississippi, where Bill was born January 12th, 1858, and was reared there. On September 6th, 1886, he married Ella Graham, daughter of J. D. Graham and Mirnia Woodson Amis. After their marriage they lived for several years at Conehatta, Mississippi, where he engaged in farming and for several years was a Deputy Sheriff of the County. Subsequently the family moved to Bay Springs, Miss., where they resided for a number of years, and finally moved to Norton, where he died, July 25th, 1924. His widow still resides at Norton.²³⁷

- c. WALTER WOODSON⁷ GRAHAM, b. 11 June 1869 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 6 November 1954 Newton Co., Miss.,²³⁸ m. MARTHA PETTEY 15 October 1879 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 13 October 1879; d. 23 August 1957 Newton Co., Miss.

- d. IDA V⁷ GRAHAM., b. 10 May 1872 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 14 June 1911 Jackson, Hines Co., Miss.; m. OLLIE L. LACK 17 December 1891 Scott Co., Miss.

Ida Graham, daughter of J. D. Graham and Mirnia Woodson Amis was born in Scott County, Mississippi, May 10th 1872. While she was a young girl, her father's family moved to Conehatta, where for a time she was a student at the High School there. On December 17th, 1891, she married Ollie L. Lack, a son of Dr. Lack, of Hillsboro, Mississippi. After their marriage, they continued to reside for some time in and near Conehatta, but finally moved to Jackson, Miss., where she died June 14th, 1911.

- e. JIMMIE⁷ GRAHAM, b. 12 July 1876 Scott Co., Miss; m. J. D. COLEY 6 December 1900 Scott Co., Miss.

- f. JOHN D.⁷ GRAHAM, b. 12 March 1881 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 30 June 1950 Hillsboro, Scott Co., Miss.; m. CARRIE E. HOLLINGSWORTH 12 December 1913 Scott Co., Miss; b. 12 November 1893 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 16 September 1983 Scott Co., Miss.

- g. WILLIAM ALBERT⁷ GRAHAM, b. 11 December 1881 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 5 November 1951 Scott Co., Miss.; m. MARY LOIS LEACH; b. 22 July 1903 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 19 October 1987 Newton Co., Miss.

- h. RUBY⁷ GRAHAM, b. 8 September 1885 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 24 November 1962; m. RUFUS F. UNDERWOOD 12 November 1905 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 17 December 1879; d. 25 February 1969 Newton Co., Miss.

²³⁷ I have been unable to locate Norton, although there is a Bay Springs in both Jasper and Smith County. The former seems more likely.

²³⁸ Buried Sulphur Springs Baptist Church Cemetery.

- ix. FRANCES⁶ AMIS, b. 28 January 1848 Scott Co., Miss.; m. WILLIAM H. MOORE 18 February 1869 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 1 January 1908.

Frances Amis, daughter of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born January 28th, 1848, a little more than a year before her father died. She married William H. Moore, February 18th, 1869. He died January 1st, 1908, but she is still living and, like Old Mother, lives with and among her children, sometimes with her daughter, Nettie Moore Harper, at Wolfe City, Texas, and sometimes with her son, Almon Moore, at Navarro, Texas.

I remember her back as far as fifty years ago and I always thought she was more like her mother than any of her sisters. She always had the same little motions and mannerisms that distinguished Old Mother from all other people I ever knew. And while I have not seen her for many years, I am told by those who have that she grows more and more like her as she grows older. She was the baby child of the family, and I always thought, my father's favorite sister.

When I can first remember, she and Uncle Bill lived within a mile or so of my father's home, and the families visited each other often. And one of the most vivid recollections I have is how he used to tease her, or else one of her children until he got one or both of them crying. And when she began to scold him, he and Uncle Bill would pick up their hats and go off laughing, with me trudging along at their heels. She always called him Albert, but when she got angry and began to scold him, she said it so quick it sounded like "Abbott" instead of Albert. And yet, with all his teasing and her scolding, they were very fond of each other. And when Old Mother was too feeble to travel around among her children, she chose her baby as the one with whom she would spend her last days. And her trust was not misplaced, for she was lovingly and tenderly cared for until the end.

Aunt Frances for nearly twenty years has been a widow, and yet she lives on. She has lived out her allotted of three score and ten years and, by reason of strength, has almost reached four score. But the years come on apace and the shadows are lengthening around her. The pathway is darkening and just over the hill lies the Valley of the Shadow. Conscious of a life well spent, she patiently awaits the Master's summons, in the blessed assurance that all will be well when her "ship puts out to sea." May her last days be glad days, and when the end comes, may she be—

*Sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.*

Uncle Bill was a bluff, hearty man, with a deep, bass voice, and a slow, rumbling laughter that seemed to come from the depths of his being. He was fond of children, especially boys, and made companions of his sons. He was a man's man, and took great pleasure in their company and conversation. He seldom borrowed trouble or took things too seriously. He seemed to believe in the proverb: "Don't trouble trouble, till trouble troubles you," and as a result he escaped many of the needless worries and anxieties of life.

He like to hunt and fish, and especially to trap partridges. He used to have a net and a pony trained for the business; and when he went out on a

damp, drizzly day along in the fall, he seldom failed to bag a covey. Some of the gun club members might say that he was not sportsman-like. But he wouldn't have cared if they had. He was out after the birds and he got them just like a modern hunter with three or four dogs and a pump gun does. What's the difference, the birds get killed either way. The only difference is that when Uncle Bill bagged more than he needed for his own table, he divided with his neighbors; while the latter-day pump-gun hunter puts all his kills in cold-storage and keeps them for his own use. As between the two, I vote for Uncle Bill.

Uncle Bill is gone, and so are most of the birds and nearly all the fish and squirrels. Canals have been dug along the streams and the fishing is ruined. The forests have been cut down and destroyed and there is no place for the game to hide and nothing for them to feed on. The only hiding places left are the sedge fields and the briar patches, and about the only game that thrives there are the cotton-tail rabbits, which the small boy and his hound pup still chase over hill and dale, to the great amusement of all concerned.

Children of FRANCES AMIS and WILLIAM MOORE are:

- a. WILLIS WATKINS⁷ MOORE, b. 15 August 1870; m. (1) ANNIE M. ESTES 1 February 1906; m. (2) CLARABEL FREEKET December 1924.
- b. CLARENCE ALMOND⁷ MOORE, b. 12 April 1873; d. 26 May 1941 Navarro, Navarro Co., Texas; m. KATIE ISABELLE THOMAS 18 August 1901 Texas; b. 14 August 1880 Corsicana, Navarro Co., Texas; d. 22 May 1952 Navarro, Navarro Co., Texas.
- c. NETTIE B.⁷ MOORE, b. 19 April 1874; m. T. B. HARPER 14 November 1899 Wolfe City, Hunt Co., Texas.
- d. EFFIE D.⁷ MOORE, b. 2 January 1876 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 22 March 1909 Lake, Scott Co., Miss.; m. CLAUDE G. MC CLANAHAN 28 December 1902 Newton Co., Miss.

Effie Moore, daughter of W. H. Moore and Frances Amis, was born January 2nd, 1876, in Newton County, and was reared there. When she was a young girl her parents moved to Conehatta and for a time she was a student at the High School there. Afterward her parents moved to Harpersville, and she was a student in the High School there for a time. On December 28th, 1902, she married Claude G. McClanahan, of Hillsboro, where they resided for some years after their marriage. Later, they moved to Lake, where she died, March 22nd, 1909. She left three children, all boys, surviving her. She was a shy sweet girl, as modest and shrinking as a violet that blooms by the wayside, and gladdens the eye with its beauty and loveliness. In memory, I can still see her sweet face and timid winsome smile, that won the hearts of all who knew her. The dread white plague, tuberculosis, laid its hand upon her, and at the touch of its blighting breath, she faded away.

Sixth Generation

9. RUFUS⁶ AMIS (WILLIAM⁵, LEWIS⁴, WILLIAM³, JOSEPH² AMIS was born 24 January 1825 Granville Co., North Carolina, and died 29 October 1903 Granville Co., N. C. He married (1) ELIZABETH A. RAGLAND 14 November 1855 Halifax Co., Virginia. She was born 18 April 1834 and died 20 April 1900. She is the mother of all his children. He married (2) CARRIE (_____) HUDGINS 19 December 1900 Baltimore, Baltimore Co., Maryland.

Children of RUFUS AMIS and ELIZABETH RAGLAND are:²³⁹

- i. WILLIAM DABNEY⁷ AMIS, b. 25 January 1862 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 5 December 1927 Granville Co., N. C.; m. PEARL LUCK 1 January 1895 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 1873; d. 1948 Granville Co., N. C.²⁴⁰

Children of W. D. AMIS and PEARL LUCK are:

- a. ELIZABETH LOUISE⁸ AMIS, b. 25 April 1896;
- b. WILHELMINA⁸ AMIS, b. 7 April 1898;
- c. ROBERT THOMAS⁸ AMIS, b. 23 January 1900;
- d. CORNELIA ROSE⁸ AMIS, b. 17 June 1901 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 28 January 1902 Granville Co., N. C.²⁴¹
- e. WILLIAM DOWNEY⁸ AMIS, b. 13 September 1903;
- ii. HARRIET ELIZABETH⁷ AMIS, b. 21 May 1864 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 24 August 1946 Granville Co., N. C.; m. JAMES P. CHANDLER 3 November 1886 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 22 July 1844; d. 25 July 1926 Granville Co., N. C.²⁴²

Children of HARRIET AMIS and JAMES CHANDLER are:

- a. MARY ELIZABETH⁷ CHANDLER, b. 26 February 1889; d. 12 August 1983.
- b. JULIA AMIS⁷ CHANDLER, b. 4 September 1891; d. 26 March 1974.
- c. RUFUS EDWARD⁷ CHANDLER, b. 18 January 1894; d. March 1991.
- d. SALLIE ANN⁷ CHANDLER, b. 25 March 1897; d. 15 February 1990.
- e. ROBIE THOMAS⁷ CHANDLER, b. 11 April 1900; d. 29 March 1991.
- f. JAMES LEE⁷ CHANDLER, b. 31 December 1902; d. June 1957.
- iii. ROBERT THOMAS⁷ AMIS,²⁴³ b. 4 September 1866 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 27 February 1900 Granville Co., N. C.; m. ANNIE H. CHANDLER 28 November 1888 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 2 October 1867; d. 7 August 1924, Granville Co., N. C.²⁴⁴

²³⁹ Data are from his Bible, which was kept in the Chandler Family. Copy located at the Robert Thornton Library, Oxford, N. C., 27 Feb 2012.

²⁴⁰ Both are buried in Amis Chapel Cemetery. Located online 11 March 2012 at <http://cemeterycensus.com/nc/gran/cem242.htm>.

²⁴¹ Buried in Amis Chapel Cemetery.

²⁴² Buried in Amis Chapel Cemetery.

²⁴³ Even though his name was spelled out as Robert Thomas Amis, he appears everywhere else in the Bible as Robert L. Amis. I have no explanation for the discrepancy.

²⁴⁴ Buried in Amis Chapel Cemetery.

Children of R. L. AMIS and ANNIE CHANDLER are:

- a. RUFUS THOMAS⁸ AMIS, b. 19 August 1889;
- b. LILLIE MAE⁸ AMIS, b. 14 May 1891;
- c. JANIE LEE⁸ AMIS, b. 18 July 1892; m. EUGENE WARREN WHITAKER 9 November 1912.
- d. CHARLES JAMES⁸ AMIS, b. 18 November 1895;
- e. EVELYN MARIAN⁸ AMIS, b. 15 September 189_.
- iv. RUFUS EDWARD⁷ AMIS, b. 15 August 1878 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 22 February 1975 Granville Co., N. C.; m. LILLIAN CHANDLER 30 April 1901 Granville Co., N. C.; b. 16 October 1879 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 2 June 1920 Granville Co., N. C.²⁴⁵

Children of R. E. AMIS and LILLIAN CHANDLER are:

- a. RUBY ELIZABETH⁸ AMIS, b. 11 January 1902, d. 23 November 1953.
- b. MARY LYLE CHANDLER⁸ AMIS, b. 25 July 1903, d. 19 May 1941.²⁴⁶

10. WILLIAM ALEXANDER⁶ (JOHN W.⁵, WILLIAM⁴⁻³, JOSEPH²) AMIS was born 24 July 1829 in Wilkinson Co., Mississippi and died 7 November 1862 Scott Co., Miss. He married MARGARET BURLESON 3 February 1858 Scott Co., Miss. She died 27 December 1862 in Scott Co., Miss.

William Alexander Amis, son of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was born in Wilkinson County, July 24th, 1829. He was about eight or nine years old when his father moved to Newton County. He remained a bachelor until he was nearly thirty years old, and on February 3rd, 1858, he married Margaret Burleson. They had two children, George W., and Rankin H., Jr.,²⁴⁷ otherwise known as "Little Tank."

Uncle William, as I was taught to call him, was a very small man physically, and so were both his sons, neither of them being more than five feet four inches high. Before his marriage he was rather wild, and was of no help to his mother in rearing the younger members of the family. He kept the toll gate on the turnpike across Tusculameta Swamp and the grocery, as they then called it, connected therewith, for Col. Boyd, the owner; and like many other men of that day, drank more whisky than was good for him. When the war came on he enlisted as a private soldier in the Confederate Army, and while in camp at Vicksburg, he contracted what was then known as camp fever, which subsequently came to be known as typhoid fever. His mother sent for him and brought him home, where his wife tenderly nursed him until he died November 7th, 1862.

²⁴⁵ Buried in Amis Chapel Cemetery.

²⁴⁶ Buried in Amis Chapel Cemetery.

²⁴⁷ In today's nomenclature, we would call him Rankin Haywood Amis, II, to note that he was not the son of Rankin Haywood Amis, the elder, who was his uncle.

While nursing him, his wife contracted the disease, and she too died, December 27th, 1862.

His mother took his two sons, George and Tank, and kept them until she broke up housekeeping about 1873 or 1874, when George went to live with Uncle Charley and Aunt Pod, and Tank came to live with my father, Albert G. Amis, where they continued to live until they were grown.

In the year of 1879 Tank and Walter Willis, a young man about the same age, went to Texas. From there they both drifted up into Oklahoma—then Indian Territory—and married. I have not heard from Tank directly in more than forty years. About a year ago, Nettie Parks Hankey, of San Saba, Texas, wrote me that Tank died in the summer of 1925 and that his family lived in Tulsa, Oklahoma.²⁴⁸ I wrote his widow a letter, but never had any reply. About 1881 or 1882, George also went to Texas. For a time he lived in or near San Saba, with his uncle James Parks, but later drifted northward and married. I have not heard from him directly for more than thirty years. About a year ago, Nettie Parks Harkey wrote me that he was living in Mangum, Oklahoma. I wrote him at once, but never had any reply.

Both William Amis and his wife are buried in the old Amis graveyard, but no one now living can locate their graves.

Children of WILLIAM AMIS and MARGARET BURLESON are:

- i. GEORGE WASHINGTON⁷ AMIS, b. 1 December 1858 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 5 January 1941 Hughes Co., Oklahoma.²⁴⁹

George Amis, 61, was widowed, and living as “father-in-law” in the household of “Willie” Morgan, b. 1892, and Hubert Morgan, 45, in 1920. They also have Maxine Amis, 18, living with them.²⁵⁰ In 1930, George, now 71, is living with the Morgans in Wetumka, Hughes Co., Oklahoma. His daughter is Willa U. Morgan, 38.²⁵¹ Maxine is not living with them any more. From the data, we can conclude that George Amis’ wife died between 1902 and 1920, and that he had at least two children, Maxine, born 1902, and Willa U. (Amis) Morgan.²⁵²

- ii. RANKIN HAYWOOD⁷ (AKA JOHN RANKIN) AMIS, b. 28 March 1861 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 4 June 1925 Tulsa, Tulsa Co., Oklahoma; m. AMANDA AVIS MULKEY 11 December 1884 San Saba, San Saba Co., Texas, dau. WILLIAM ROSS

²⁴⁸ He apparently changed his name to John Rankin Amis. He was buried in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 5 June 1925. <http://www.findagrave.com>, accessed 3 December 2011.

²⁴⁹ Buried in Wetumka Cemetery, Hughes Co., Okla. <http://www.findagrave.com>, accessed 3 December 2011.

²⁵⁰ 1920 Census Muscogee, Oklahoma, o

²⁵¹ 1930 Census, Wetumka, Hughes Co., Oklahoma,

²⁵² Willie Morgan was born 22 January 1892 and died 31 August 1960. She is buried in Wetumka Cemetery.

MULKEY and MARGARET REBECCA HUDSON; b. 4 April 1866 San Saba Co., Texas; d. 20 December 1933 Tulsa, Tulsa Co., Okla.²⁵³

Children of JOHN R. AMIS and AMANDA MULKEY are:

- a. WILLIAM ALVIN⁸ AMIS, b. 1886 Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma, Indian Terr.; d. before 25 June 1969;²⁵⁴ m. KATHRYN ____; d. before 17 December 1971.
- b. JAMES EARL⁸ AMIS, b. 1889 Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma, Indian Terr.; d. before 6 July 1935; m. MARGARET ____; d. before 4 May 1940.²⁵⁵
- c. EDWIN R.⁸ AMIS, b. 1892 Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma, Indian Terr.; d. before 3 October 1949;²⁵⁶ m. AMANDA OTIS; d. before 22 December 1933.
- d. MARGARET E.⁸ AMIS, b. 1892 Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma, Indian Territory.

11. RANKIN HAYWOOD⁶ (JOHN W.⁵, WILLIAM⁴⁻³, JOSEPH²) AMIS, b. 25 May 1834 Wilkinson Co., Miss.; d. 4 April 1910 Newton Co., Miss.; m. (1) ELIZABETH KIMBALL 21 December 1854 Newton Co., Miss.; m. (2) ELIZABETH WINDHAM 3 April 1897 Newton Co., Miss.

Rankin Haywood Amis, generally known as Tank Amis, was a son of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins. He was born May 25th 1834 in Wilkinson County, and died in Newton County, April 4th, 1910, and was buried in the old Amis graveyard.

He married Elizabeth Kimball, December 21st, 1854, who bore him one son and five daughters, namely, Frances, John, Mattie, Eliza, Mollie, and Emma. Soon after their marriage they settled on a farm about half a mile from White Plains Church and resided there until sometime after the Civil War. They then moved to a farm they purchased from Uncle Charley Day, near the junction of the old Jackson road with the Lake and Carthage road, where they resided the balance of their lives. About 1896 his first wife died and on April 3rd, 1897, he

²⁵³ Council, Jess. Sanders-Nelson Family Tree. 19 October 2009. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. jsan-nel.) The family is present in the Cherokee Nation in the 1900 census, and in Washington, Oklahoma, in 1920. Both are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Tulsa, Oklahoma. (<http://www.findagrave.com>, accessed 3 December 2011.) According to the Dawes Record (family #5077) cited by Mr. Council, Mrs. Amis was part Cherokee, so she may have thought her husband's Mississippi kinfolks would not be interested in knowing her, and so not responded to the letter A. B. Amis sent to her.

²⁵⁴ Buried that day in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma. (<http://www.findagrave.com>,) accessed 3 December 2011. I have imputed the marriages based upon location in the cemetery.

²⁵⁵ Of course, I can't be sure this is not the sister.

²⁵⁶ Edwin R. Amis is on the list of Oddfellows who completed military service in World War I. He was a member of Romona Lodge, #338, in Washington Co., Oklahoma. Located online at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/ok/ioof/military/wwihonorroll.txt>. Accessed 4 December 2011.

married Elizabeth Windham, who survived him and is still living on the old homestead. He had no children by his last wife.

He enlisted as a private soldier in the Confederate Army and served throughout the war. He was a master mason, being a member of White Plains Lodge at Sebastopol, at the time of his death. He was a consistent and devout Christian and a member of Sulphur Springs Baptist Church; and yet he believed in enjoying all the good things in life in a sane, sensible sort of way. To him life was neither a joke nor a funeral; but like a summer day, was full of sunshine as well as shadows. Like other people, he devoutly believed in a future life, but he was sure of this one, and enjoyed it fully. When there was sorrow among his neighbors and friends, he was there to aid and comfort them, and when there was joy and gladness, he was there to share it with them.

Uncle Tank was one of the finest and most loveable men I ever knew. He was jolly, even tempered and kind to everyone. He never borrowed trouble, but said and believed that everything would always work out for the best in the end, if he would just do his part. He was frugal and industrious, but believed fully in the proverb that haste makes waste; and so, no matter what the task was, he never got in a hurry, but went at it steadily and deliberately until it was finished. His idea was that if a man worked reasonably in the daytime, he was entitled to rest and sleep at night; and so he never tried to turn night into day to complete any task. No matter how pressing the farm work was, nor how fast the grass was growing in his crop, he never went to work until after the sun was up, nor even then until he had sat down after breakfast and smoked a pipe or two of tobacco.

He had an original idea about paying debts. No matter when a debt was due by its terms, he thought it was all right if he paid up by Christmas each year, so he was able to start the new year with a clean slate on the first day of January. And with him the rule worked both ways. He was always perfectly satisfied if anyone owing him paid up by Christmas. And when one thinks of it, as customs were then, there was a good reason for his idea. At that time cotton was the sole money crop of the farmer; and it took him till the end of the year to cultivate, gather and market it, and he was fortunate if he could pay in full year by year. So why not everybody be satisfied if there was full payment by Christmas?

Another original notion of his was that everyone was entitled to feel rich once a year; and so, when he went down to Newton and settled up his debts just before Christmas, he would get him a jug of whisky, and as long as it lasted, he kept pretty mellow and felt mighty rich, much to the scandal and disgust of Aunt Betty, his good old wife. But when it was gone, that was the end of his spree until about the same time next year.

He was of medium height with a ruddy complexion and black hair and beard. He had a quick ready smile, a short chuckling laugh, and sly wit that was often very amusing. For example, while he believed in education he did not think it ought to make a fool of anybody; and so if any of the young folks got a little too precise in conversation, "too proper," as he called it, he would suddenly lapse

into a regular Negro dialect, which seldom failed to take the starch out in a very short time.

In his later years, he became almost blind, but that did not change his disposition or his outlook on life in the least. He still had the same cheery smile and mirth-provoking chuckle that made one know he had a clean mind and a pure heart. And it seemed to be really true, as he told me on my last visit to him, that his last days were his best days. And God was good to him, because he passed on without pain. He just went to sleep and never waked up.

Uncle Tank and Aunt Betty, how everyone loved them and enjoyed visiting them; and home much at home they made everyone feel. And they loved to have their friends and neighbors with them, for as he often said: "When Betty has company, I get treated like company, too." They are both gone the way of all flesh, and lie side by side in the old Amis graveyard. Their like we will not see again soon. May the sod lie lightly above them until the Master calls.

Children of RANKIN AMIS and ELIZABETH KIMBALL are:

- i. FRANCES VIRGINIA⁷ AMIS; b. 5 October 1855 Newton Co., Miss.;²⁵⁷ m. (1) E. W. T. HORTON 16 December 1875 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 15 July 1900; m. (2) M. W. BRIDGES 24 November 1904.
- ii. JOHN DAVIS⁷ AMIS, b. 3 May 1858 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 16 March 1934 Newton Co., Miss.; m. (1) SUSIE DOWDLE 12 January 1882 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 8 March 1863 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 12 August 1900 Newton Co., Miss.²⁵⁸; m. (2) ELIZA ANDREWS 23 January 1901 Newton Co., Miss.;²⁵⁹ b. 1 December 1878 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 29 January 1938 Newton Co., Miss.

John Davis Amis, son of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kimball, was born May 3, 1858, in Newton County and lived there all his life. By the time he was old enough to go to school, the Civil War had been fought to a conclusion and the South was prostrate. The people were too poor to support private schools and the public schools were taught by ignorant Yankee teachers only a few months in the year. The result was that he never had the opportunity to attend any other sort of school. And while he learned the three Rs, readin', 'ritin, and 'rithmetic, he had no other "book learning." But like all the Amis's he was a good farmer. He knew good land when he saw it and how to make it produce good crops. So as soon as he reached his majority he bought a tract of valley land on Bougephalia Creek adjoining his father's farm, and went to work. There he lived all his life and there he died in March 1925. On January 12, 1882, he married Susie Dowdle, daughter of that fine old Irishman, Uncle Jim Dowdle. She died in 1900, but bore him seven children. Afterwards, on January 23, 1901, he married Eliza Andrews who survived him and still resides on the old homestead. She bore him seven children, some of whom are now dead.

²⁵⁷ Living in Stamps, Lafayette Co., Arkansas, in 1936. No record of burial there so they may have moved afterward.

²⁵⁸ Buried in Erin Cemetery, Newton Co., Miss. Data from Boone White.

²⁵⁹ Newton Co., Miss., MB A:576. (Boone White.)

Though he was unlearned in books yet he was a man of quick perception and vigorous intelligence. His motions and speech were quick and decisive. And I used to wonder how he and his first wife, Susie, ever carried on a conversation; because she spoke so slowly and deliberately while his words came like the chatter of a machine gun. He was genial and jolly and always full of fun, playing pranks and telling amusing stories on his sisters and other kindred. When Will Horton, his oldest sister's first husband died, she married a man named Windom Bridges, and John in speaking of him to his sister, always called him Windy Britches. He nearly worried the life out of his sister Mattie about having to prompt her husband, Alex, when he forgot part of his sermon. I have heard him tell, with great glee, about how Alex got "in a weaving way" in one of his sermons and the congregation was enthralled with his eloquence, when Mattie blurted out "You've skipped a page, Alex."

He was an inveterate talker and he laughed almost as much as he talked. Like his father he enjoyed life in his own way among his friends and neighbors. And they were all his friends. While he lived the frugal life of a well to do farmer, he never accumulated or hoarded money. I do not think he cared for it further than to pay his just debts and provide the comforts of himself and family. His sense of right and wrong was as keen and clear as any man I ever knew. And for that reason his judgment was respected by all who knew him. When his older children grew up and married, some of them went to Texas, some to New Mexico, and one to California. He visited them one or more times and they tried to induce him to "go West and grow up with the country" as they had. But he said no, he had grown up already. To him the scenes and friends of his youth and earlier manhood were too sacred for him to abandon. And so he lived his life out within a mile of the place where he was born, and now lies buried in the churchyard at Sulphur Springs, scarcely two miles away.

Children of JOHN AMIS and SUSIE DOWDLE are:

- a. JAMES RANKIN⁸ AMIS, b. 3 December 1882 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 3 November 1883 Newton Co., Miss.²⁶⁰
- b. ALMA⁸ AMIS, b. 8 January 1884 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 20 January 1913 Newton Co., Miss.; m. JOSEPH BENJAMIN VANCE 23 November 1902 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 11 June 1882 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 12 April 1960 Newton Co., Miss.²⁶¹
- c. WILLIAM ANDREW⁸ AMIS, b. 18 July 1886 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 30 December 1892 Newton Co., Miss.²⁶²
- d. GEORGE GROVER⁸ AMIS, b. 24 March 1889 Newton Co., Miss.; m. MITTIE ELOISE RUSSELL 23 September 1915 Newton Co., Miss.
- e. NETTIE MOORE⁸ AMIS, b. 19 September 1891 Newton Co., Miss.; m. CLAUDE BARBER 1 September 1911 Newton Co., Miss.
- f. JOHN LEON⁸ AMIS, b. 9 August 1894 Newton Co., Miss.; m. JULIA STANLEY 6 June 1925.²⁶³

²⁶⁰ Buried in Amis Cemetery, Scott Co., Miss.

²⁶¹ Buried in Erin Cemetery, Newton Co., Miss.

²⁶² Buried in Amis Cemetery, Scott Co., Miss.

- g. MORRIS PARKER⁸ AMIS, b. 17 October 1897 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 11 December 1967 Newton Co., Miss.; m. SARAH ANN EZELL 30 April 1919 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 28 May 1900 Newton Co., Miss.; 5 January 1987 Newton Co., Miss.²⁶⁴

Children of JOHN AMIS and ELIZA ANDREWS are:

- h. LENA RIVERS⁸ AMIS, b. 17 October 1901; d. before 1936.
- i. WILLIAM RANKIN⁸ AMIS, b. 1 October 1903 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 14 March 1982 Newton Co., Miss.; m. MINNIE EUNICE VANCE 9 August 1934 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 26 July 1902 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 26 August 1999 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.²⁶⁵
- j. CHARLES H.⁸ AMIS, b. 23 October 1905 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 29 January 1972 Dona Ana Co., N. M.; m. LILLIAN GYLES 11 December 1926; b. 17 November 1906; d. 10 April 1976 Dona Ana Co., N. M.²⁶⁶
- k. EDGAR H.⁸ AMIS, b. 23 December 1907 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 16 February 1994 El Paso, El Paso Co., Texas;²⁶⁷ m. ELVA ELOISE MULLOY; b. 23 November 1921; d. 1998 Dona Ana Co., N. M.
- l. MURRAY⁸ AMIS, b. 30 March 1911 Newton Co., Miss.
- m. JOHN D. AMIS, JR., b. 15 February 1913 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 19 June 1915 Newton Co., Miss.
- n. HERBERT BAILEY⁸ AMIS, b. 21 December 1916 Newton Co., Miss.
- iii. MARTHA SUSAN⁷ AMIS, b. 24 September 1863 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 22 March 1922, Farrar, Limestone Co., Texas; m. ALEX T. BRUNSON 27 February 1879 Newton Co., Miss.

Mattie was the daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kimball and was born and reared in Newton County, Mississippi. In 1879 she married Alex Brunson, and continued to reside there until 1884 when the family moved to Texas. After moving to Texas, Alex was actively engaged in the ministry and in the pursuit of his calling, moved from place to place in the state until the family finally located at Farrar, Texas, where she died March 22, 1922, and was buried there. Although they were a few years older than I, yet I remember them both as young people before as well as after their marriage.

As I remember Mattie, she was rather more of her mother's type than that of her father's people. She was a great singer, and had all the songs, words as well as notes, in the old Sacred Harp "on the tip of her tongue." And so did Alex, her husband. And after they married and moved off to themselves, the neighbors used to say that the last thing they heard before they went to bed and the first thing they heard when they waked in the morning, was Alex and

²⁶³ Boone White says the marriage was in Lancaster, California.

²⁶⁴ Buried in Erin Cemetery, Newton Co., Miss. Boone White also lists a Johnnie Amis, b. 11 July 1900, d. 30 September 1900, buried in Amis Cemetery.

²⁶⁵ Buried at Sulphur Springs Baptist Church. Marriage date from Boone White.

²⁶⁶ Both of their stones are in the Masonic Cemetery, Las Cruces, Dona Ana Co., N. M. along with a son, Charles H. Amis, Jr., (1935-1978). Located at <http://findagrave.com>. Accessed 4 December 2011.

²⁶⁷ Buried Anthony Cemetery, Anthony, Dona Ana Co., N. M. (near Las Cruces.) Her end date is not on the stone. Located at <http://findagrave.com>. Accessed 4 December 2011.

Mattie singing. But they were young and light-hearted and didn't care what their neighbors said about it, but just kept on singing whenever they felt like it. A short time after their marriage, Alex felt he had a call to preach and began preparing to enter the ministry. And John, Mattie's brother, used to nearly tease the life out of her about how Alex would first try his sermons out on her, to see how they worked, before he tried them on his congregation. And with great glee used to tell me many amusing stories about them. I never knew how much truth there was in them and always thought they were mostly pure fabrication; but I also suspect that Alex, like most other husbands, appreciated his wife's kindly sympathy and criticism, especially in the earlier days of his Ministry. But, like her mother, Mattie was always a good sport, a happy go lucky sort of woman, who took a joke well, and never suspected anyone of intentionally mistreating her. And this, as well as her many other admirable traits, made her a great favorite of all who knew her.

She was a member of the Baptist Church and when I knew her was a zealous worker in the vineyard, and always took a keen interest in the Ministerial work of her husband. She lived to see all of her children married and settled in homes of their own, and to live over again the days of her young motherhood, in the caresses and prattle of her grandchildren; than which there is no greater comfort or joy to the aged.

- iv. ELIZA⁷ AMIS, b. about 1866 Newton Co., Miss.; d. about 1892; m. J. T. WESTERFIELD about 1888 Newton Co., Miss.
- v. MALLIE⁷ AMIS, b. 15 April 1869 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 1930 Scott Co., Miss.; m. G. A. MCILHENNY December 1888 Newton Co., Miss.

Mallie Amis, daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kendall was born April 15th, 1869, in Newton County and was reared there. She attended the High School at Conehatta, but I do not think she graduated. During the Christmas holidays in December 1888 she married Dr. G. A. McIlhenny, a dentist who then lived near Hillsboro, in Scott County. He was well liked by everyone, and the only person to object to the marriage was old Steve Graham, a Negro neighbor of Uncle Tank, who insisted that no man could make a living for a woman "jest pullin' a toof here and a toof dar." After their marriage, they lived for some years on a farm about two miles east of Hillsboro. Subsequently they moved to Forest, where they continued to live until she died and was buried there in 1930. They had three children, Oliver, Elizabeth, and George, all of whom survived her and are now married and have families of their own. She was a fair, slender girl, of her mother's type of face and figure. Her personality was winsome, and her manner charming to all who knew her. She was greatly attached to her husband and children, and they in turn almost worshipped her. When slightly teased, her little giggling laugh was the most delightful I ever heard. As a consequence, I used to tease her, just to hear that laugh. And I think Uncle Dock did too. She and her sister Emma, and Lula Day, were near my own age. Naturally they were my favorite cousins and I loved them very much. After Mollie and Dock moved to Forest I went to see her every time I was there and always enjoyed the visit. Her last illness was long and painful, and though she knew the disease was incurable, she bore the suffering with a patience and fortitude which none could excel. Dock spared neither pains nor expense to provide the best medical care and skill

and care for her, but without avail. The grim reaper came and naught could stay his hand.

*O spirit fair, where art thou now,
In all the expanse of earth and sky?
Dost linger here to soothe the brow
Of loved ones, when pain and anguish are nigh?
When the stars are shining throughout the night
Dost flit above them as they sleep?
Or mid heaven's bright celestial light
Sittest thou thy watch and ward to keep?
Dost pluck aside death's dismal veil
To share their griefs and quell their fears—
To give them strength lest courage fail?
Or hast thou fled this veil of tears?
In all the realms of boundless space
Where art thou now, O spirit sweet?
Dost gaze upon thy Maker's face,
Or dost thou sit at Jesus' feet?
Beyond the bounds of space and time
And faintest gleam of sun or star
Mid angel throngs and scenes sublime
Dost hold the gates of heaven ajar?
Who knows? We may not lift the veil
That hides what lies beyond the grave—
We can but hope, within life's pale,
To live so that His grace will save.*

- vi. EMMA⁷ AMIS, b. 15 November 1871 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 1932 Newton Co., Miss.; m. JOHN M. WILLIS about 1894 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 18 March 1866 Newton Co., Miss.; d. about 1909.²⁶⁸

John M. Willis, (Reb) a son of James M. Willis, of Newton County, was born March 18th, 1866, and was reared on a farm near Decatur. About 1894 he married Emma Amis, a daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kimball. After their marriage, they resided at his father's old farm, which he purchased, until his death, about the year 1909. He was murdered by a Negro, one of the tenants on his farm, who was afterward duly tried, convicted, and executed for the crime. His widow never remarried, and continued to reside at the old homestead, and for a number of years was a teacher in the public schools of the county. She died in 1932 or 1933.

Emma Amis, daughter of Rankin H. Amis and Elizabeth Kimball, was born November 14, 1871, in Newton County and lived there all her life. In her young womanhood she attended the High School at Conehatta, but I do not think she graduated. About the year 1894 she married John M. (Reb) Willis. For several years they lived just north of Cross Roads Church on the Newton and New Ireland road. When Reb's father, James M. Willis, died, they purchased they purchased his place and moved on it. In 1909 her husband was murdered by one of his Negro tenants and she was left with a family of

²⁶⁸ Both are buried at New Hope Church near Stratton, Newton Co., Mississippi.

five small children to rear and educate; and what was equally perplexing to her, a considerable sum of debts due by her deceased husband. But like her father, whom she resembled very much, she set herself to the task with grim determination, and slowly, but surely paid the debts and reared her family to manhood and womanhood in a creditable manner.

To do this she managed the farm, kept the home, and taught the neighboring school for a number of years. She died on Sunday with all her children about her. She had requested them to visit her on the previous day when she divided all her property among them. The next day she went to Church came back home and died that afternoon. I do not remember the date of her death, but I think it was in the summer of 1932. She was buried beside her husband at New Hope Church near Stratton.

She was the youngest of six children and was as much like her father as it was possible for a woman to be. She had the same ruddy complexion, the same quick step, the same chuckling laughter and ready wit, the same patience and perseverance under difficulties, and the same genial disposition that made both of them well liked by all who knew them. When she was young, she was more handsome than beautiful. There was something about her that was masculine. Her voice had none of the feminine treble in it, but was somewhat husky, as though it was about the halfway mark between the masculine and the feminine.

While rearing her children she took part in their pleasures for she was a good sport and loved a joke or a laugh as well as they did. Occasionally she visited me and I always stopped with her when I was in that part of the country. I well remember the last time I spent the night at her home. We laughed and talked about old times and the old timers until after midnight. And it rained that night and the car got stuck on the way back to Decatur next morning.

I knew her husband Reb quite well and liked him; but I have often wondered who was the better businessman, he or his wife. He was inclined to be a plunger in financial matters, but his wife was more careful and frugal. She never made a debt until she knew how she could pay it, a trait he did not have. Am I am not sure that she did not succeed, financially, as well or better than if he had lived. All of which reminds me of Uncle Tank's maxim that everything works out for the best in the end if we only do our best. And the energetic, courageous soul that she was did her best. No one could do more.

12. ALBERT GALLATIN⁶ (JOHN W.⁵, WILLIAM⁴⁻³, JOSEPH²) AMIS, b. 15 January 1841 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 31 July 1878 Conehatta, Newton Co., Miss.; m. MARY AUGUSTA PETTY, 16 December 1865 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 8 April 1849 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 9 July 1922 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. (2) WILLIAM BUYCK THORNTON September 1879 Newton Co., Miss. He died February 1897 in Gulfport, Miss.

Albert Gallatin Amis, son of John W. Amis and Martha Wadkins, was my father. He was born January 15th, 1841, and died July 31st, 1878. He served as a

soldier in the Confederate Army, first as a private for fourteen months in the 6th Mississippi Infantry Regiment, and then for thirty four months as 2nd Lieutenant of Company K, 34th Mississippi Cavalry Regiment. He was wounded at the battle of Shiloh, and subsequently took part in the Georgia campaign, when General Johnston's Army retreated from Chattanooga across Georgia to the sea and thence north into the Carolinas.

On the evacuation of Richmond in 1865, the specie, (gold and silver) in the Richmond banks was loaded into army wagons and started south under military escort. When this money train, as it was called, reached the Carolinas in the military area under the command of General Johnston, a squadron of cavalry under the command of Col. William Preston Johnson, was assigned to guard it in its movement to the southwest; and Co. K, 34th Mississippi Cavalry was one of the units assigned to that duty. When that command reached Forsyth, Georgia, they learned that General Johnston had surrendered his entire army and thereupon the officer in command distributed twenty dollars in silver to each soldier and placed the balance of the specie in a brick storehouse and waited for the Federal troops. On their arrival, the Confederates surrendered. They were paroled and permitted to keep their horses and the officers to retain their side-arms.

My father brought home two "Navy six" cap and ball pistols and his sword. He gave the sword to China Grove Lodge of Masons at Conehatta, Mississippi, and it was used by them as the tyler's sword, the last I knew of it. He sold one of the pistols when I was a boy, but he kept the other until his death, and he was an expert in the use of it. He said it saved his life once in the army and he would not part with it.

After having surrendered, he, in company with Lt. Robert Burton of Lawrence, Steve Daniels of Union, and Clay McMullan, now living at Decatur, rode home across the country, where they arrived on the third Sunday in June 1865. On arriving home, he found the family had gone to church, at old Sulphur Springs, a couple of miles away and so he rode over there. When he arrived the pastor was in the midst of his sermon; but some members of the congregation seeing him ride up on his old cavalry horse, clad in his worn and faded uniform, forgot the solemnities of the occasion, and blurted out: "Yonder comes Ab Amis." With that, his mother and sisters, and the whole congregation, preacher and all, rushed out of the church to greet and welcome one whom they had already begun to mourn as dead. And they all say there was no more preaching that day.

On December 6th, 1865, he married Augusta Petty, daughter of Albert G. and Luvenia Brewer Petty, and soon thereafter, bought and settled a tract of land about a mile and a half northwest of Prospect Church, in Newton County, where he continued to reside until January 1878, when he moved to Conehatta, where he died in July following.

He was an excellent farmer and a good businessman. He was a member of the Baptist Church, a Royal Arch Mason, an enthusiastic Granger, and was, at various times, master of his Lodge and his Grange. He was active in politics and

was one of the political leaders of the county. In 1876 he was a candidate for Representative from Newton County, but was defeated by a margin of four votes in the single primary election of those days, in which there were five candidates.

He was a handsome man, about five feet eleven inches high, broad shouldered and erect. His complexion was ruddy, his eyes were gray, his beard was luxuriant and his black hair was worn rather long, in the style of the old south. At home he dressed as other farmers; but when he "went abroad" as the saying was, dressed in his broadcloth suit, polished, high heel calfskin boots, and broad-brimmed black hat, he was a striking figure in any crowd. He was a great talker in private, but could never make a public speech. He was an inveterate tease, and kept his sisters and sisters-in-law in constant dread of him, and yet they all loved him.

As a businessman, he was prompt in the performance of his obligations, and insisted that others do likewise. He bought his first tract of land on credit, but he paid for it when it was due, and after that, he never bought anything on credit of more than thirty days. He realized the power of cash in driving business deals, and always took advantage of it. And as far back as I can remember he always kept a cash reserve of five hundred dollars in gold, in an old leather trunk in his bedroom. At it was there when he died.

Although he was just a farmer, he kept an old single entry ledger on the old high boy in the "big room" and every night he would enter into it a record of the day's transactions, whether with his tenants, wage-hands, or others with whom he had business. When his cotton was ready for market, he would always send his wagons on ahead and then he would bathe, shave, and dress, mount his saddle-horse and get there before they did. He would the sell his cotton, purchase his supplies, load them on the wagons, and then beat them back home. I think he had the idea, now generally recognized, that a man's personal appearance counts in business of any sort.

Of course, he was my ideal man. When I was a boy he would often take me with him when he went hunting, and I remember that I would try to tread in his tracks as I trudged along behind him. And though he has been dead more than fifty years, I have tried through the years, though often unsuccessfully, to tread in his tracks. And to me, though dead, he yet liveth.

He left surviving him my mother and four children; myself, two sisters, Elvy and Bertha, and my brother Alvin; all of whom, except my mother and my sister Elvy, are still living.

My mother, Augusta Pettey, was born April 8th, 1849, and was only twenty nine years old when my father died. And in September 1879 she married William Buyck Thornton, of Conehatta, Mississippi, by whom she had one child, Ruby, born in 1881. After the marriage of my mother the family resided at Conehatta until 1896, when they moved to Gulfport, Mississippi, where my step-father died in February 1897. My mother continued to reside at Gulfport until 1905 when she moved to Meridian and lived in her own home, beside mine, until she died July 9th, 1922, and was buried in Magnolia Cemetery, at Meridian.

No children ever had a more faithful, kind, tender and loving mother that was ours. Year in and year out, she loved us, toiled for us and cared for us. She often denied herself the comforts of life that we might have the best. True to our father's ambition as well as her own, she struggled and toiled to earn the money to send us all to college.

It would be ungrateful in me not to record here a tribute to our step-father, because he, too, helped to care for us, educate us; and without his help, I do not believe our mother would have succeeded half as well as she did. And the fact that he was a college man himself contributed to give us a broader vision and encouraged us to take a collegiate education. His financial career was a varied and stormy one, for he was sometimes prosperous and sometimes poor.

But whatever he had, he shared with us, and when he lay dying, with full knowledge that the end was near, he prayed "for his children, all five of tem," that God would keep and guard them. "After life's fitful fever he sleeps well" in the Methodist Church Yard at Conehatta. His only child, Ruby, now Mrs. J. H. Matthews, resides with her husband and three children at Gulfport, Mississippi.

Children of ALBERT G. AMIS and AUGUSTA PETTY are:

12. i. ALPHONSO BOBBETT⁷ AMIS, b. 7 February 1867 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 6 July 1949 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. MARY SALOME LANGFORD 11 June 1893 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 1 February 1868 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 7 December 1942 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Mississippi.
- ii. ELVY ZERAH⁷ AMIS, b. 13 December 1868 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 26 June 1900; m. EUGENE E. KELLY 12 February 1895 Newton Co., Miss.

Elvy Amis, daughter of Albert G. Amis and Augusta Pettey, was born December 13th, 1868, in Newton County and was reared there. In her girlhood, she attended, along with me, the old time Yankee teacher schools, and later the High School at Conehatta. When she was nearly grown, she attended the East Mississippi Female College at Meridian for two or three years. On February 12th, 1895, she married Eugene Kelly, of Conehatta, and they continued to reside in our old home until her death June 26th, 1900. She was buried in the Methodist Churchyard at Conehatta. She was about five feet high and weighed about a hundred pounds. She had a ruddy complexion, black eyes, and hair that reached almost to her knees. She was always neat in appearance, sprightly in disposition, and kind in word and deed. She died of an internal hemorrhage and was conscious until almost the end. When the eternal shadows began to fall about her she thought it was only the night coming on; and with a tired sigh, murmuring, "I'll be better in the morning," she fell asleep to wake no more.

*The moving finger writes and having writ
Moves on; nor all our piety nor wit
Shall lure it back to cancel half a line
Nor all our tears wash out a word of it."*

And while we cannot understand the inscrutable decrees of Providence, nor plumb the depths of His wisdom, yet we are comforted by the reflection that somewhere "Behind the dim unknown, standeth God within the shadow,

keeping watch above His own. Like a flower in the springtime, she lived only to bloom and die, but-

*A lily of a day is fairest in May
Although it fall and die that night—
It was a plant and flower of light.*

Children of EUGENE KELLEY and ELVY AMIS are:

- a. FRANK EDWARD⁸ KELLEY, b. 28 January 1896; m. (1) BERNICE RUSS 28 July 1918, divorced; m. (2) RUTH WOOSTER June 1926.
 - b. AMIS WILLIAM⁸ KELLEY, b. 28 October 1898; m. JENNIE MEYER 18 October 1918.
- iii. BERTHA⁷ AMIS, b. 11 February 1873 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 11 June 1951 Moss Point, Miss.; m. JACOB NATHANIEL RAPE 11 November 1897 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 18 February 1859 Harpersville, Scott Co., Miss.; d. 4 February 1935 Moss Point, Miss.

Jacob Nathaniel Rape was born about 1858 in Scott County, Mississippi, and was reared on a small farm a few miles north of Lake near Old Salem Church. I never knew his father, but I think his name was Cyrus Rape. My information is that he died in early manhood leaving his widow and two children, both boys, Jacob and John. All the property they inherited from their father was a small farm and the necessary plow animals and farming implements. And so from the time of his death the boys had to work the farm in order that they and their mother might have a living. The result was that they had very little schooling and when Jacob reached his majority he was scarcely able to read and write. Realizing the advantages of an education he went to work to acquire it. He first attended the common schools of the neighborhood and then the High School at Conehatta where I first knew him. At that time he was a grown man with a heavy moustache, the envy of the rest of us, who could only sport a few hairs on the upper lip, about eight on one side of the nose and nine on the other.

He was a hard working, industrious student and his progress was steady, though not rapid. After graduating at Conehatta High School he studied medicine, but I have forgotten which college he attended. I think it was Tulane University in New Orleans, but it may have been Mobile Medical College. After graduating in medicine he located near Chula, in Holmes County, where he stayed some years on a large plantation as plantation physician. On November 11, 1897, he married Bertha Amis, daughter of Albert G. Amis and Augusta Pettey. On their wedding trip they spent a month or six weeks in New York City where he took a special course at Bellevue Hospital. On their return, they located in the town of Chula until the fall of 1900 when they moved to Moss Point, Miss., where they resided as long as he lived. He died in February 1935 and was buried at Moss Point.

In appearance he was rather tall and slender and always had a moustache, though in later years he kept it cut short. He was one of the neatest men I ever knew; and while he never wore fine clothes yet they always fit him well and it seemed that he never got them soiled. Some men are that way and he was one of them. I never could understand how they do it. His manners were polite, kind, and courteous; and that was true at home as well

as abroad. He was patient and even tempered. In fact I do not think I ever saw him angry or out of humor in my life, though I knew him for nearly fifty years. He was a devout Christian and was sober and temperate in all things. He was an excellent physician and enjoyed a good practice from which he accumulated considerable money. But unfortunate investments and bank failures caused him to lose rather heavily. However, at his widow sufficient for her comfortable maintenance. His widow and four sons survived him. She is now and has been for several years a teacher in the Moss Point public schools. Two of the sons reside with her in the old family homestead and two of them live in Gulfport.

Children of JACOB RAPE and BERTHA AMIS are:

- a. CYRUS AMIS⁸ RAPE, b. 14 January 1900; m. ADELE YELVERTON 20 September 1928.
 - b. JOHN WOODSON⁸ RAPE, b. 28 August 1902 Moss Point, Miss.
 - c. JACOB NATHANIEL⁸ RAPE, JR., b. 12 August 1904 Moss Point, Miss.
 - d. ALFONSO GALLATIN⁸ RAPE, b. 12 June 1906; d. 13 June 1906.
 - e. KATHERINE⁸ RAPE, b. 21 March 1908; d. 4 July 1909.
 - f. WILLIAM PETTEY⁸ RAPE, b. 1 January 1910; d. 31 July 1911.
 - g. GRAHAM PETTEY⁸ RAPE, b. 1 September 1911 Moss Point, Miss.
- iv. ALVIN WOODSON⁷ AMIS, b. 6 January 1875 Newton Co., Miss.; d. January 1944; m. PATTI MAUD BROOKS 2 October 1904; b. 14 February 1877 Noxubee Co., Miss.; d. 1965.

Born January 6, 1875, student University of Mississippi at various times from 1891 to 1898; graduated at the University of Mississippi 1898; employee of G&SI RR from 1900 to 1925; auditor of G&SI RR from 1915 to 1925; real estate and insurance business since 1925; secretary and treasurer, Gulfport Baptist Church; Secretary Building & Loan Assn., Gulfport; Superintendent of Baptist Sunday School. Married Patty Brooks October 3, 1904.

Children of ALVIN AMIS and PATTI BROOKS are:

- a. ALVIN WOODSON⁸ AMIS, JR., b. 15 October 1905 Moss Point, Miss.; m. MILDRED KELLER 10 September 1927.
- b. WAYNE BROOKS⁸ AMIS, b. 28 August 1910 Moss Point, Miss.

12. ALPHONSO BOBBETT⁷ AMIS (ALBERT G.⁶, JOHN W.⁵, WILLIAM⁴⁻³, JOSEPH²) was born 7 February 1867 in Newton County, Mississippi, and died 6 July 1949 in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi. He married MARY SALOME LANGFORD 11 June 1893 in Newton Co., Miss., daughter of THOMAS DAVIS LANGFORD and LUCY FRANCES WILSON. She was born 1 February 1868 in Newton Co., Miss., and died 7 December 1942 in Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Mississippi.

In a work entitled Paths to the Past-An Overview History of Lauderdale County, Mississippi, by Fairley and Davison [quoted by Dan Langford]

A. B. Amis: A Meridianite who achieved prominence in legal circles in the course of a long career, A. B. Amis attended Tulane University in 1885 and the University of Mississippi from 1886 to 1892, before beginning his Meridian law practice in 1893. Amis served as city attorney from 1912 to 1931. In 1930, he became Chancellor of the Second District, earning distinction for his judicial decisions. Among his many accomplishments are his contributions to domestic relations law in Mississippi. His "Amis on Divorce and Separation" laid the foundation for equity court statutes in the state and remains in use today.

Judge Amis moved to Meridian to establish his law practice, and acquired the blocks between 12th and 14th Streets and 38th and 40th Avenues. He built the main house at 1201 38th Avenue, which was occupied by my grandparents when I was a child. Behind the main house, on the 12th Street side were the houses occupied by Merle and Aud, who were the Judge's cousins, and then the house occupied by Junie Cleveland, his first cousin. Junie's brother was Dr. Grover Cleveland, who was still in practice when I was a child. I recall one episode where Mom took me to him for an allergy injection. He loaded the syringe with the medication, and then decided that the needle was not sharp enough. So he reached into his desk drawer, pulled out a file, sharpened the needle, and gave the injection. Mom was aghast at this break in sterile technique. Of course, nowadays everything is disposable. I also got to know Junie's brother Mimms Cleveland. When I first went to Birmingham to start medical school, Mom had told me to look them up. I did so, and they invited me out to visit. They also had an old oscillating fan that they gave me, since the apartment where I was living did not have air conditioning. I still have that fan. Mimms and Emily fed me and my roommate many Sunday dinners those first couple of years. I was always struck by the ease with which the claims of kinship could be made, as I had never met these folks before. All I had to do when I called was to identify myself as Augusta's grandson. Unfortunately, Mimms died about 1974 and Emily moved to Texas to live with her children, and I lost all contact with them.

My mother, Mary Mina Whitener, wrote a recollection of her grandparents in 2000. "Since I have become an ancestor, I have been thinking about my ancestors. What do I remember about them?"

I suppose that I was closest to my maternal grandmother, whom we called "Mammy." We lived right next door to her and Grandpaw. And, I spent most of my growing up time at Mammy's house. I remember that the rest of the family called me Mammy's shadow.

Though I spent a good deal of time with her, I never knew she had false teeth. That is until one time we were on the screen porch in the swing when she sneezed! Lo and behold her teeth flew out of her mouth over the railing and into the flower bed. Needless to say I was very agitated. I thought something was wrong. I guess I was about 5 years old at that time. It took some explaining from my mother to quiet me down.

Mammy loved to fish and she and Miss Madge, Grandpaw's secretary, would go every time they could get away. And, I was allowed to tag along. Mostly we fished with live earth worms but once in a while Mammy would decide she wanted to use Catalpa worms. They were big green worms that I could never get on my hook. They bled green. I think Mammy was very disappointed that I was never able to bait my hook with one of them.

She also loved to garden. She had a plot down the hill on 12th street where the Negro Junior College is now located. Of course, Willie did the plowing and all the hard work, but Mammy did the harvesting and some hoeing. I used to go down there and "help" her pick beans and peas. I was not allowed to pull the corn, though, as I had a tendency to break the stalk as I pulled. Just didn't have the knack to break the ear from the stalk. She usually was already down there by the time I was awake and looking for her. That didn't stop me from going on down the hill to find her.

After she returned from the garden with her harvest to the back steps was the most fun. Mamma, Frannie and Mary would come over to decide what they would have for dinner (which was always at noon) They would shell peas, shuck the corn and just visit. Most of us grandchildren would help shell the peas or just sit and listen to the grown ups.

Usually after all the vegetables were ready to be cooked we would adjourn to the side yard and eat watermelon. From the 4th of July until well into the fall, Mammy had a watermelon every day. Toward the end of the summer, she would buy a whole truck load of melons from one of the Negroes who came by everyday and store them in the cellar. It was dark and damp down there but it kept the melons fresh for her one a day habit.

Holidays were one big get together with the whole family. B and Polly, Sonny and Paul would come up from Newton and spend the day. And, of course, Mamma and Daddy, Jim and Frannie, Mary and Donovan, and all the sundry kids were on hand. Some times Mammy and Grandpaw had one of Edna's kids living with them and they were there, too. In fact there were so many of us that we had a second table where the kids ate. I really wanted to make the big table, but never did while Mammy was alive. When Mamma moved into the big house, I finally made it one time before the house was sold.

Getting ready for dinner was a big deal. Black Mammy (Jean, the cook) always was in charge of the turkey which was always at least a 25 pound Tom Turkey. A couple of days ahead we made a pound cake and the ambrosia. I was allowed to sit in the pantry and cream the butter, real butter, which I did in a big wooden bowl with my hands. There were no mixers at that time. While I "played" with the butter, Mammy measured a pound of sugar, a pound of flour, separated one dozen eggs and then added it to my butter. I can smell it all now. In getting the ambrosia ready somebody always scraped their fingers grating the coconut and bled into the mix. Added flavor, I suppose.

Grandpaw always carved the turkey at the table. And, we all had to wait til he finished before we could eat. I remember that he ate with his knife and I

could never figure out why he didn't cut himself and how in the world he could pick up peas. But he did.

I was very fortunate to know all four of my grandparents. However, I knew my maternal ones best because they lived next door to us until we moved to Louisiana. I have already talked about Mammy. Grandpaw Amis was not a lovable personality; admirable, yes, but I don't ever remember having a conversation with him. I most remember his whittling. He always had a piece of cedar in his hand. He didn't make anything but was always surrounded by shavings. He always smelled like cedar.

I remember he walked a lot, up and down the sidewalk in front of the house. George and Bill would follow him around. Perhaps they had conversations with him.

Grandpaw at one time must have played a fiddle. I remember one summer he gave his old fiddle to Margaret and showed her how to get noise out of it. I was somewhat jealous because he didn't give it to me, tho, I have not a musical bone in my body. That is the only time I saw or heard of the fiddle.

When Luke was born, we took him to see his great grandpaw because not too many people had great grandparents. Luke must have been all of three months old, but he saw his great grandpaw! Grandpaw didn't ooh and aah over him but did pronounce that he would be plenty smart because he had a lot of head between his ears and the top of his head!

I suppose that is enough reminiscing. I had a wonderful carefree childhood. Not only did my aunts live next door but Junie and Merle lived on the block, too. And, I had the roam of the whole block. I was always visiting some one. And, I was allowed to walk to the store three blocks away to buy candy when I had a penny or two. Neighborhoods were safe then.

My descendants can't live that kind of life. But, I could wish for them the joy of knowing their family. And, the love that surrounds them."

A. B. Amis, III, mother's first cousin, also wrote his recollections of his grandfather for this work Dec. 6, 2000. "Dr. Luke Wright has asked me to write up a personal sketch about my Grandfather, and his Great-grandfather, A.B. Amis, Sr. I undertake the task cheerfully: I enjoy writing, as Grandpa did also, and I would hope to afford succeeding generations a bit of insight into this brilliant and strongly-motivated man, whose smart and self confident Amis genes they still carry.

Certainly there are other of my cousins still living who would have been better able to write from their own personal recollections of Grandpa -- cousins who spent most of their youth on "Grandpa's block" in Meridian and grew up seeing him daily and calling him "Mawka". He was never "Mawka" to me, so I'll be writing primarily about things I've heard and read about Grandpa. But because I'm his namesake, perhaps I've been a more careful collector and saver of things written about Grandpa.

At one time during the 1930s Grandpa had populated a full city block running from 12th to 13th Streets and from 38th to 39th Avenues atop one of

Meridian's higher hills, only a few blocks from Highlands Park. I don't know exactly when Grandpa bought this property or started building on it, but I expect it was soon after he came to Meridian in early 1893 as a newly graduated and newly married 25-year-old lawyer just starting his practice. I've always had the impression that my Father and most of his brothers and sisters were born and raised in the large two-story house that still stands on that lot now, more than a hundred years later. Grandpa presumably had that house built, and probably expanded later to accommodate a growing family, as permitted by a successful law practice. Upstairs rooms later became "apartments" which were way stations where my Father and many of his siblings spent the early months or years of their marriages. Grandpa probably made the offer, and people generally didn't argue with Grandpa. Then later he presumably offered lots on his block to his three daughters, and they all dutifully built homes adjacent to his. The other two building lots on his block were occupied by homes owned by two of Grandpa's cousins -- one of whom became a caretaker and housekeeper for him in his last years.

I grew up seeing Grandpa somewhere between weekly and monthly, when Daddy would drive us the 30 miles from Newton to Meridian for Sunday afternoon visits -- a practice that continued until Grandpa died in 1949. Up until the time of Mammy's death in 1942, the whole Amis clan was expected to gather around her large dining table on special occasions like Thanksgiving or Christmas; then Grandpa would offer the simple "Amis blessing" (the one I still use and have passed on down to my children), make a ceremony of carving the turkey, and finally inquire about the "sweet by and by" (dessert) after the main courses were all completed. While others might opt for the ambrosia or ice cream, Grandpa usually seemed satisfied to just spread a generous layer of butter on a large slab of the delicious yellow pound cake Mammy always included in her dessert offerings. Apart from these ceremonial gatherings and Sunday visits, I've been told the story that I spent several days in quarantine with Grandpa once when both of us must have had something contagious like mumps or measles. Whatever it was, we needed to be kept away from bright light, so we stayed in Grandpa's dark bedroom, where I taught him to play a child's card game -- the only card game he ever learned, because he wasn't one to waste time in play.

Brilliant, yes; energetic, yes; motivated, yes; witty, enough; playful, no. My Father used to opine that Grandpa's one shortcoming was that he'd never learned to play. I expect Grandpa disdained adult play as a waste of time - somewhat in the same category as politicking and much of purely social interaction. Even at the ceremonial family gatherings, the men would retire to the sitting room or porch, to be joined later by the ladies after the dishes had been cleared and the children attended to, and Grandpa would lead the conversation around to important issues of the day rather than personal talk about the children or family happenings. When my mother first came into the family, she said she felt very much intimidated by all the smart people and bright conversation, and confided this concern to one of the sisters, who advised her "Just don't say

anything and they'll think you're smart too." Grandpa's preoccupation with productive, rather than time wasting, activities no doubt set him apart from most people and likely came across as aloofness and a lack of warmth. In a 1938 newspaper editorial endorsing Grandpa's successful candidacy for a third four-year term as Chancellor, the editor had this to say:

God blessed this man with rare intelligence and a full understanding of the Law, and had the Maker of men given him the ability to acquire friends easily and a more full use of the tongue, he might have been one of the nation's contemporary greats.

It was this man who fashioned the first commission form of government for municipalities in Mississippi. It was this man who dreamed once of a great and beautiful city administration building, and we know it now as the most attractive structure of its kind in the commonwealth. It was this man who made our present Mattee Hersee hospital a possibility. As he designed our city hall, so is his influence seen in the architectural plans of this medical institution.

In a paid advertisement in that same newspaper issue, Grandpa, himself, had this to say:

I was reared in Newton County. Forty-five years ago I moved to Lauderdale County where I have lived ever since. During all those years I have been a part of the community life of the County. As a man, a lawyer and a judge I have walked among you and dealt with you. I have tried, as best I could, to live the life of an honest, sober, and industrious man and useful citizen. How well I have succeeded I leave to your judgment.

I know nothing of the arts or guile of the politician. All I know in that regard, is hard work and honest, faithful service. I am deeply grateful for the honor of serving you in the past and in return I have given to your service all the mental, moral and physical powers I possess. I desire the honor of serving you another term, and to that end respectfully solicit your votes.

In those 45 years referred to by Grandpa, he had raised a family (and meddled, benevolently by his reckoning, in their affairs), established a successful law practice, served as Meridian City Attorney for 19 years and Chancellor for 8 years, and participated in various civic organizations and causes where he felt he might contribute productively. Grandpa was supremely confident -- when he saw something that he thought needed doing, he undertook to get it done. When he saw something that he thought needed fixing, he undertook to fix it - with never a doubt that he could, indeed, fix it: he would simply read everything he could about it, think hard about it, and then write down instructions for others how it should be fixed.

As Chancellor, Grandpa heard civil cases involving all manner of disputes relating to property, debts, damages, etc., but certainly his greatest expertise and contributions were in matters of divorce, probate, and guardianship. One of his early acts after taking the bench as Chancellor in 1930 was to write, publish, and

distribute at his own expense three thousand copies of a pamphlet on the "Duties of Executors, Administrators, and Guardians." Quoting from a letter written some years later by an associate who had practiced law in his Court:

When he took office, he found the probate business of his district in a sad and derelict condition. Chancellor Amis went diligently to work to straighten out his probate dockets, to restore the estates to solvency where possible and to pursue the wasters and looters wherever practicable throughout the district.

His bar had so long neglected efficiency in this branch of their work that to aid them and himself in his efforts, he wrote and had printed at his own expense a paper bound booklet on probate practice which he distributed to the lawyers of his district.

I doubt that Chancellor Amis had any statute of another state which he followed. He didn't need any to show him the way or how to proceed. He was a statesman judge, with a creative and searching mind and he had the patriotic willingness to labor to correct such evils as these statutes and others he drew were designed to eradicate.

Grandpa then turned his attention to bank failures, which had become commonplace during the great Depression of the 1930s. Perceiving that there was nothing to guide lawyers in liquidating the failed banks and administering the assets, he again made a study of the banking system, thought hard about it, and then wrote and distributed to the lawyers of his district an outline of procedures to be followed.

In 1935 Grandpa published what he described as "A Brief on the Law of Divorce and Separation in Mississippi". This 500 page "brief" served as the preeminent reference on divorce in Mississippi for lawyers and professors for decades following its issue. In his "Foreword" to this book, he says:

GENTLEMEN OF THE BAR: This book is a brief in fact as well as in form. The only excuse for its preparation and publication, if any be required, is that I felt that something of the sort was needed; and since no abler man, of whom there are many, would undertake the task, I assumed to do it. .

The brief was prepared in a sort of desultory manner, at times when I was not engaged in the discharge of my official duties. For that reason, as will be observed, there is more or less repetition in it, a fact of which I am fully conscious. But if that be considered a literary sin, my defense is, that law like religion cannot be learned in a moment, but must be conned by littles, precept upon precept, rule upon rule, line upon line, here a little and there a little, over and over, until it becomes an integral part of the mental and moral nature. And besides that the various subjects are often so blended that it is difficult to trace the line of demarcation between them. However well or ill the task may have been performed, it has been a pleasant and profitable one to me, in that it has greatly increased my own knowledge of a subject matter, concerning which my ideas had previously been very hazy and uncertain.

During this same productive period, the mid-1930s, Grandpa also researched and recorded quite a lot of material on his own and Mammy's ancestries. In some preface material he cautions that some of the names and dates could be wrong, and then goes on to say, "However, I can make the same plea the old fiddler did, who put up a sign in the ballroom, 'Don't shoot the fiddler, he's doing his best'." It was Grandpa's intention to publish these genealogical data also, but in his words ". The publication was delayed because it seemed that I could not well spare the money to have it done. So I kept waiting until I felt I could spare it, but financial matters do not get any better so I am making a number of typewritten copies of it for those who may be interested."

I believe I've read that Grandpa had sandy brown or reddish hair as a young man, but by the time I have any recollection of him he was already in his mid-sixties or beyond, and projected a very distinguished appearance in his customary attire of a suit, with a black string bow tie and black high top shoes setting off his silver hair. Before stepping outside the house he'd take a hat from a hat rack and select a walking stick from a china urn, both just inside the front door. A medium size man in height and weight, he usually smelled of cedar, for it was his habit to carry a small knife with a keen blade and a stick of red cedar, and while taking testimony in court or even just conversing, he'd whittle small curly shavings from the stick. He explained that this helped him focus on what was being said rather than being distracted by other things going on around him. Grandpa never learned to drive as far as I know, and relied on trains or else getting a ride with his long time court reporter for travel to the various county seats in his district for terms of court.

Grandpa was 75 when he voluntarily stepped down from the bench in 1942 after three terms as Chancellor, and he received many public accolades for his distinguished service. While still sound of mind and body, age had nevertheless begun to take a toll on Grandpa - particularly a facial skin cancer condition for which he finally resorted to surgery in the late 1930s or early 1940s. My Father accompanied Grandpa to St. Louis for the surgery, and then Grandpa remained there at the Biltmore Hotel for several weeks afterwards, recuperating. In a letter to Mammy he wrote:

As you know I dreaded the trip and its possible results more than anything in recent years. Yet it has not been unpleasant. Everyone has been uniformly kind to me and I have made a number of pleasing acquaintances. And the numerous letters I have received show me that I have many friends who love me with genuine affection. That has been a source of much joy. I am keeping them for you to read. But the greatest thing is the burden of apprehension that the doctor has removed by his assurances that I need not have any further fear of cancer. The spectre that I would have my face eaten off by a slow cancer and thus become an object of pity and disgust to all with whom I might come in contact was almost more than I could stand. The doctor assures me that will not happen. He also says my eye will close naturally. But even if it does not I am content to escape what I feared so much - a cancer. I have been fighting it 20 years and I

pray God that it does not recur. If it does not, I feel that I will live and work at least 10 years more. For I feel fine every other way and life seems good and sweet, among those whom I love and who love me - of whom you, my dear, are the most beloved.

Grandpa probably figured right about living for another 10 years, but after stepping down from the bench and then Mammy slipping away in her sleep just months later, the two things that had made life most worthwhile for him were now ended. A place was made for Grandpa in a son-in-law's law firm, and he practiced a little law and agitated a little in the local city courts about issues that attracted his interest like lax and unequal enforcement of prohibition statutes, but in truth he was now redundant - and he realized it. He continued to go to the office every day and became a figure recognized by the townspeople as he charged across the busiest intersections in the heart of Meridian, against traffic, with his cane raised in the air commanding everyone to make way for him to cross.

Grandpa knew his Bible and could quote Scriptures in support of any lesson he was trying to illustrate relating to how men should conduct themselves. But he wasn't a Bible thumper. Much of his faith was in himself, I think, and he probably had less need of Biblical interpretations of God than most. He revered "the Word", but wasn't beyond making light of some of its institutions sometimes out of fear of being instantly struck down by a thunderbolt. In writing of a despised "old Yankee school teacher named Rhodes" who had mistreated him badly in his first years of school right after the end of the Civil War, he said:

And that old scoundrel whipped each one of us nearly every time we 'said a lesson', or rather tried to say it, for we were so scared of him we couldn't 'say' what little we did know. And then to add insult to injury, he often kept us, six and seven year old boys, in after school until sundown, and we had to walk home, two or three miles, after dark. I believe he just hated every white skin in the south and tried to take it out on us children. When I get up before the bar of Judgment, if old Saint Peter asks me whether I have any hatred in my heart, I am going to inquire where old Rhodes is, and if I find out he is where I think he ought to be, then I will forgive him; but if he is inside the pearly gates, dressed up in a halo and a pair of wings, playing 'Yankee Doodle' on a jews-harp, I don't believe I would enjoy going to Heaven.

Children of A. B. AMIS and MARY LANGFORD are:

- i. MARSHALL WILSON⁸ AMIS, b. 13 September 1894 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 11 July 1986 Fort Worth, Tarrant Co., Texas; m. ALICE MARY SMITH 21 July 1917 Memphis, Shelby Co., Tenn.; b. 25 March 1896; d. 7 February 1985

Marshall Wilson Amis received his BS and LLB degrees from the University of Miss. in 1917. He served in World War I as Captain, Battery A, 334th Field Artillery from 15 Aug 1917 until 7 Mar 1919. From 1919 until late 1933 he practiced law in Meridian, Miss. In Dec. 1933 he joined the Legal Division of the Public Works Administration where he served until

March 1938 when he joined the staff of the United States Housing Authority. In 1939 he became the Director of the Fort Worth Regional Office FPHA. In 1948 he was recalled to Washington to serve as General Counsel for the USHA. In 1953 he returned to Fort Worth as Regional Director. He retired September 1964.²⁶⁹

I met Marshall, or Buddy as he was called in the family, only twice. The first occasion was the marriage of my uncle, George Whitener in 1958. Of that meeting I have no distinct recollection of him. However, he visited with my parents and grandmother in Memphis in the summer of 1984 at which time he had turned 90. He had just returned from visiting a grandson who was serving in the Navy and was deployed with the Fleet. He was a very small man, much as his father was described, and of light frame. He was still mentally alert, despite his advanced age, but was becoming physically infirm.

Children of MARSHALL AMIS and ALICE MARY SMITH are:

- a. ALICE MARY⁹ AMIS, b. 20 August 1920 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; d. April 1993 Anderson Co., S. C.; m. VERNON SEYMOUR HODGES 9 April 1955; b. 16 August 1912; d. 11 February 1980 Pendleton, Anderson Co., S. C.²⁷⁰
- b. MARGARET⁹ BROOKS AMIS, b. 18 December 1922 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. JAMES ALBERT DICKIE 14 February 1950 Alexandria, Va.
- c. MARSHALL WILSON AMIS, JR., b. 31 December 1927 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. ELIZABETH HOYE.²⁷¹
- ii. MAURICE BREWER⁸ AMIS, b. 11 March 1896 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 11 November 1980 Midland, Midland Co., Texas; m. VIOLET BOLTON 3 May 1920; b. 1899; d. 1981 Midland, Midland Co., Texas.²⁷²

Maurice Brewer Amis attended the University of Mississippi 1912-1913 and graduated from the University of Alabama in 1918. During World War I he served as a sergeant in the 605th Engineers, U. S. Army A. E. F. He was discharged June 1919. His hearing was damaged during this conflict. Until his retirement he was Chief Chemist, Standard Oil Refinery, Baton Rouge, La.²⁷³

Child of MAURICE AMIS and VIOLET BOLTON is:

- a. VIOLET⁹ AMIS; m. (1) LELAND ELLIS 16 October 1942, divorced; m. (2) WILLIAM CAMERON BANKS 1959.

²⁶⁹ Hodges, Alice A. *Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala.* (Pendleton, S. C.: n. p. d., 1978,) p. 12. (this was her father.)

²⁷⁰ Both death dates and his birth date are from the SSDI.

²⁷¹ She was the granddaughter of Clarence V. Hoye who was A. B. Amis, Sr.'s, roommate at the University of Mississippi according to handwritten notes by Frances Amis Floyd.

²⁷² Resthaven Memorial Park, Midland, Midland Co., Texas. Located on <http://www.findagrave.com>.

²⁷³ Hodges, Alice A. *Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala.* (Pendleton, S. C.: n. p. d., 1978,) p. 15.

- iii. ALPHONSO BOBBET⁸ AMIS, JR., b. 20 August 1899 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 28 February 1972 Newton, Newton Co., Miss.; m. PAULINE HARDIN 25 April 1923 Hattiesburg, Miss.; b. 27 February 1901 Light, Miss.; d. 18 November 1982 Newton, Newton Co., Miss.

A. B. Amis, Jr., attended Miss. A & M College and the University of Mississippi, where he received his law degree in 1922. He practiced law in Lauderdale and Newton Cos., Miss. He was a member of the Mississippi State Legislature from Lauderdale County from 1924-1928.²⁷⁴

A. B. was the uncle about whom the most stories were told that I recall hearing as a child. One that my grandmother swore to was that he had flunked ninth grade three times, when his father told him that he had been enrolled at the University of Mississippi as a freshman. He was told that if he flunked out, that he would be on his own. As noted, he became an attorney and practiced for awhile in Lauderdale County before moving back to Newton.

One famous story told in the family concerned a time when he was arguing a case in front of his father. The judge was prone to whittle while sitting on the bench, and did not appear to be paying all that much attention. At one point, the opposing counsel was making a point, and A. B. stood and made an objection. The judge overruled him. This prompted A. B. to suggest that "perhaps the court is in doubt about the ruling." The judge responded, "Sir, I may be in error, but I am never in doubt." Of course this was told to illustrate what a terror the judge was supposed to be, at least in the minds of his daughters.

A. B. was the uncle I got to know best as a child, as he lived nearby when we lived in Meridian in 1954-1956. He like to fish more than he liked to practice law, and had a sign on the wall of his boathouse that I recall said "The world is six sevenths water, so evidently God intended man to spend six days out of seven fishing."

A. B. was considerably more fleshy than the pictures of his father, or as I recall his eldest brother, Marshall. His wife, Pauline, or Polly as she was called, was a very slow talker, and had a very gravelly, raspy voice that was certainly lower than my boyish treble. I recall her having a dry wit, though, to go with it, and she clearly ruled the house. I remember eating Thanksgiving dinner at her house, probably in either 1954 or 1955, and being introduced to things like mincemeat and pumpkin pie. I may have been exposed to them earlier, but that is the first occasion I recall specifically. A. B. died of lung cancer in 1972, and Polly died 10 years later.

Children of A. B. AMIS and PAULINE HARDIN are:

- a. A. B.⁹ AMIS, III, b. ; m. FRANCES HOLLADAY September 1949; b. 2 February 1926 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 31 August 2009 Grant, Fla.

Sonny, as my mother always called him, was her favorite cousin. He was a couple of years younger than she, but was around a good deal in the early years and shared similar interests. As a result, he was the only cousin of the Amis surname that I really ever got to know. His

²⁷⁴ Hodges, Alice A. *Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala.* (Pendleton, S. C.: n. p. d., 1978,) p. 15.

wife, Frances, died a couple of years ago, and he sent me a copy of her obituary, which I have inserted here.

Frances Amis passed away on Monday, August 31st, 2009 at her home. Born in Newton, MS, on 2/2/1926, to the late William Byron Holladay and Lydia Bounds Holladay, Frances's depression era upbringing as the second eldest of six siblings (oldest girl) instilled traits of responsibility, hard work, and love of family that stayed with her throughout her life. Completing public schools in Newton in 1944, Frances was valedictorian of her graduating class. After graduation, she worked for one year at the Mississippi Employment Service in Jackson before returning home to Newton to attend Clarke Memorial College and later work as a bank secretary up to the time of her marriage to A.B. Amis, III in 1949. She continued secretarial work at banks in Atlanta, GA, and Evansville, IN, while A.B. attended college and worked at his first job, before moving to Melbourne in 1953.

She is survived by her husband, A.B.; their two sons, William Paul and Richard Mark, by Mark's wife, Sandra, and grandchildren Simon and Hannah. Other survivors from Frances's immediate family are brother Wilbur Holladay, Macon, GA; sister's Mildred Valentine and Jennie Brady, Meridian, MS; Bobbie Miller and her husband Robert Miller, Lake Placid, FL; sister-in-law Agnes Holladay of Fairview, NC; one aunt, Sarah Massey, from Meridian, MS; special niece Julie Holladay Strahle, of Melbourne, who has been like a daughter; and numerous other nieces and nephews.

A member of the First Baptist Church of Melbourne since moving to Melbourne in 1953, Frances was a Florida Master Gardener for 20 years and also loved golf, gourds, RV travel, and bluegrass music.

Memorial services will be held at Brownlie-Maxwell Funeral Home in Melbourne on Friday, September 4th at 3:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Vitas Hospice or to the Alzheimer's Association.

b. PAUL HARDIN⁹ AMIS.

- iv. AUGUSTA⁸ AMIS, b. 26 July 1902 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; d. 30 November 1998 Memphis, Shelby Co., Tenn.; m. GEORGE ALVIN WHITENER 18 July 1924 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss; b. 30 August 1899 Cleveland, Bradley Co., Tenn.; d. 27 February 1962 Jackson, Rankin Co., Miss.

Children of ALVIN WHITENER and AUGUSTA AMIS are:

- a. MARY MINA⁹ WHITENER, b. 8 September 1925 Meridian, Lauderdale Co, Miss.; m. LUCIUS FEATHERSTONE WRIGHT, JR., 27 January 1947 Alexandria, Rapides Parish, Louisiana, son of LUCIUS FEATHERSTONE WRIGHT, SR., and KATHRYN PEARL DENNY; b. 1898 Iowa, d. 1943 Alexandria, Rapides Par., La.

Three children, nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren as of February 2012.

- d. GEORGE AMIS⁹ WHITENER, b. August 1934 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. JOAN ANDERSON 9 August 1958 Woodville, Wilkinson Co., Miss.

Four children and five grandchildren as of February 2012.

- v. FRANCES⁸ AMIS, b. 30 May 1904 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; d. 26 May 1994 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. JAMES COMBS FLOYD 26 September 1927 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; b. ; d. 12 December 1968 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss. (d. s. p.)
- vi. MARY⁸ AMIS, b. 16 October 1908 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; d. May 1984 New Orleans, La.; m. JOHN DONOVAN READY 4 January 1929 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; d. 11 April 1960 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

Children of DONOVAN READY and MARY AMIS are:

- a. JOHN DONOVAN READY, JR.; b. 9 January 1930 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; d. 3 October 1993 Austin, Travis Co., Texas;²⁷⁵ m. LESSIE CLYDE BOLER 26 December 1953.
- b. WILLIAM EMMETT READY, m. JULIA BANKS 26 June 1954 DeSoto Co., Miss.
- c. MARY FRANCES READY,

²⁷⁵ SSDI listing.

Martha Wadkins' Origins²⁷⁶

Judge Amis reported that his grandmother, Martha Wadkins Amis, “lived “around Macon, Ga., and that she came to Mississippi with Seth Corley some time prior to her marriage to J. W. Amis, in 1824.” He also reported that she had a sister named Temperance. He also identified Seth Corley as her uncle. When I examined the 1850 Census for Scott Co., Mississippi, I found a number of people named Corley living in close proximity, so I considered the possibility that her mother was actually a “Corley.”²⁷⁷ An search for Corley turned up records of an order for letters of administration in Jones Co., Georgia, which is, indeed, near Macon, Bibb Co., Georgia.

It is ordered that letters of administration on the estate of Edmund Corley be granted to Nancy Corley, Kinchen Curl, & James Stubbs.²⁷⁸

On application of the administrators of Edmund Corley deceased. It is ordered that James Lucas, William Butler, Evans Myrick, Thomas Hill, & Peter Clowers be & they are hereby appointed commissioners to divide fifteen Negroes that belong to said estate giving to Nancy Corley and her nine children viz: Seth Corley, Isham, Sally, Silas, John, Evelina, James, Edmund, and Kinchen Corley, or their legal representatives an equal share each and on said distributors giving their bond and security according to laws to refund their proportional part of any debt & cost that may be established against said estate, and said commissioners acting on what will make return of their actings and doings therein to next term of this court.²⁷⁹

On application of Nancy Corley, administratrix of the estate of Edmund Corley, deceased, stating that the intestate had in his lifetime made a settlement in the Mississippi Territory & carried part of his property there, & she and her children being desirous to prosecute his intended removal. It is ordered that she have leave to remove the children & their property after a legal division takes place & it recorded with the distributes that may remain in this State.²⁸⁰

Sally Corley & Silas Corley children of Edmund Corley deceased being about 14 years of age came into court & made choice of their mother Nancy Corley to be their Guardian & there being also other children under that age viz: John Corley, Evelina Corley, Edmund Corley, and Kinchen Curly [sic]. It is therefore ordered that she be their guardian also upon her giving bond and security of \$11,200.00. And Isham Corley another child of said Edmund Corley dec'd. above 14 years makes choice of Kinchen Curl to be his Guardian. Ordered that he be guardian on giving bond & security in \$1600.00.²⁸¹

²⁷⁶ Updated 1 April 2012.

²⁷⁷ 1850 Census Scott Co., Miss., p. 257, Silas Corley, age 49, b. Ga., #56, Isham Corley, 52, b. Ga., #55, Kinchen Corley, 34, b. Ga., #55, living next to the Grahams, then the Amis family, the Brewer family, and then the Petty family.

²⁷⁸ Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 111, 6 May 1816

²⁷⁹ Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 122, 2 September 1816

²⁸⁰ Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 124.

²⁸¹ Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, pp. 133-134.

Ordered that Nancy Corley, Kinchen Curl, & James Stubbs administrators of Edmund Corley deceased have leave to sell three hundred three and three fourth acres of land in the waters of Walnut Creek whereon Edmund Corley lived to be sold on a credit until the first day of January 1818 they giving the legal notice.”²⁸²

November Term 1818: “Ordered on application of James Stubbs that Nancy Corley, ~~Kinchen~~ [as written in the text] be cited to appear at this next term of this court & show cause why she should not be discharged from the guardianship of the children of Edmund Corley dec’d. & a new guardian appointed.”²⁸³

John Corley orphan of Edmund Corley dec. being over 14 years of age came into court and made choice of Chilmon[?] Johnson as his guardian who is ordered to be appointed of _____ accordingly bond & security in \$2000.00.²⁸⁴

Ordered that Nancy Corley be appointed guardian of Silas Corley orphan of E. Corley dec. having made that choice in open court. Bond \$2000.00”²⁸⁵

Ordered that Nancy Corley be & she is hereby appointed guardian of her infant children Arvelina, James H., Edmund, & Kinchen Corley orphans of Edmund Corley dec’d. in \$8000.00.²⁸⁶

Ordered that Kinchen Curl administrator of Edmund Curley deceased be & he is hereby discharged from the administration of said estate having published the _____pany made in the Georgian [?] Journal & satisfied the court that he has fully administered the same and the Clerk is hereby authorized to issue the _____ letters of _____ to him accordingly.²⁸⁷

John F. Corley orphan of Edmund Corley dec’d. came into court and made choice of Nancy Corley to be his guardian bond \$2000.00.”²⁸⁸

Seth Corley, 53, born in Georgia, and Temperance Corley, 51, born in North Carolina, are in Copiah Co., Mississippi, in the 1850 Census.²⁸⁹ These records make it clear that Seth Corley must have been Martha Wadkins’ brother-in-law, and that they moved to Mississippi sometime after 2 September 1816, when his mother received permission to move to the land Edmund Corley had already purchased in Mississippi. The records also establish that Jones Co., Georgia, was the area near Macon where Martha Wadkins had come from and establish the presence of a Kinchen Curl in the same county who was serving as administrator of Edmund Corley’s estate.

Further examination of the records of Jones County, Georgia, established the following data.

²⁸² Transcript of Jones Co, GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 138, May 1817.

²⁸³ Jones Co, GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1818-1826, p. 10, December 1818.

²⁸⁴ Jones Co, GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1818-1826, p. 12, January 1819.

²⁸⁵ Jones Co, GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1818-1826, p. 13.

²⁸⁶ Jones Co, GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1818-1826, p. 14, July 1819.

²⁸⁷ Jones Co, GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1818-1826, p. 19, July 1819.

²⁸⁸ Jones Co, GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1818-1826, p. 19.

²⁸⁹ 1850 Census Copiah Co., Miss., p. 228, #274/274. Seth Corley was born 3 November 1796 and died 30 October 1872, and was buried in Damascus Cemetery, Hazelhurst, Copiah Co., Mississippi. (<http://www.findagrave.com>, accessed 29 March 2012.) Temperance Corley was born 21 November 1798 and died 1 December 1876.

Ordered that Lucretia Watkins be & she is hereby appointed guardian over her persons & property of her two children to wit Temperance Watkins & Patsey Watkins, orphans of James Watkins deceased.

Amount of bond \$1200

Securities: Lucretia Watkins, Kinchen Curl, Drury Spane. Approved.²⁹⁰

Patsy Watkins being a minor under the age of fourteen the Court have appointed Kinchen Curl as her Guardian being the Orphan of James Watkins late of Tennessee dec'd and the said Kinchen Curl come forward & bound himself with Thomas Lockett his security their heirs executors etc. in the sum of six hundred dollars for his faithful performance of duty as Guardian of said orphan."

(signed) Kinchen Curl LS

(signed) Thomas Lockett LS²⁹¹

Ordered that Temperance Watkins an Orphan do come forward and choose a Guardian on the first Monday in September next and that she Temperance Watkins be forthwith served with a copy of the same.²⁹²

Ordered that the clerk issue a citation to Temperance Watkins to appear July Term next to choose a Guardian.²⁹³

An internet source reported that Seth Corley, son of Edmund and Nancy Corley married Temperance Watkins on 16 July 1815.²⁹⁴ Thus, Temperance turned 16, and so was able to choose her guardian, but chose to get married instead. Martha (Patsy) was born in 1805, and so was still under age and so was appointed a ward of Kinchen Curl.

These records established that Martha Wadkins Amis was the daughter of James Watkins and Lucretia Watkins, and there is a possibility that she was the niece of Kinchen Curl. She said she was born in Tennessee in the 1850 Census, and her sister Temperance was born in North Carolina, so James Watkins and Lucretia Watkins must have moved from North Carolina to Tennessee in the interim, and then moved to Jones County, Georgia, where James died before September 1811.

Wilson Curl died testate in Montgomery Co., Tennessee, between 25 November 1802 and the January term of court 1803, naming his eldest daughter, Lucretia, and his youngest son, Kinchen.²⁹⁵ This makes it highly likely that Martha Watkins was born in Montgomery Co., Tennessee. The 1800 tax list for Montgomery Co., Tenn., lists James Watkins with one poll and no property.²⁹⁶ However, detailed analysis of the available records of Montgomery Co., Tenn.,

²⁹⁰ Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 42, September 1811.

²⁹¹ Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 62, April 1814.

²⁹² Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 78, August 1814.

²⁹³ Jones Co., GA Ordinary Court Minutes 1808-1818, p. 89, May 1815.

²⁹⁴ Corley, Jennifer. Corleys of Jones/Hancock Co., Ga. 25 Mar 2001. Located on <http://genforum.genealogy.com/corley/messages/844.html>.

²⁹⁵ Montgomery Co., Tenn., WB 1. A transcription, which I have confirmed was posted at <http://genforum.genealogy.com/curl/messages/662.html>.

²⁹⁶ Published in Montgomery Co. (TN) Genealogical Journal 4:25-26,1974. (Copy located in Tennessee Room, Jackson-Madison Co. Library.)

are somewhat confusing, and it is likely there is more than one James Watkins living in the area.

Wilson Curl moved to Montgomery Co., Tenn., from Nash Co., North Carolina, and James Watkins can be shown to be in Nash Co., N. C., at the time of the 1790 Census, consistent with the idea that Temperance Watkins Corley was born in Nash Co., North Carolina, 21 November 1798.

Nash Co., North Carolina was formed in 1779 from Edgecombe County, and it appears that the Watkins, Curl, and Horn families all had property on or near the Tar River as it crossed the county line in what was then western Edgecombe County. The Watkins men do not appear in the land deeds of Edgecombe with the frequency of the Curl and Horn men, so some of the extant records are subject to interpretation. However, what follows is what I think is a fair representation of the genealogy of the family in North Carolina. I have not been able to find any clues that suggest where the Watkins family came from, and the commonness of the name makes any associations even more problematic.

The Watkins Families of Edgecombe and Nash Counties, N. C.

Probate records of Edgecombe County, North Carolina, show John Watkins died intestate before the end of October 1764, when his widow, Agnes, was granted administration of his estate.²⁹⁷ The fact that she did the administration suggests, but does not prove, that John had no sons over the age of 21. An "additional" inventory of the estate was presented in court in July 1766,²⁹⁸ and Agnes Dunbar, wife of Robert Dunbar, petitioned as administrator of the estate of John Watkins for its distribution.²⁹⁹ Settlement of the account was ordered in May 1769.³⁰⁰

A second John Watkins died before 26 May 1772 when administration of his estate was granted to his widow, Jane.³⁰¹ The inventory was presented on August 26, 1772,³⁰² and division of the estate was ordered 24 February 1773.³⁰³

Henry Watkins left a will dated 23 March 1804, which was probated at the May Court, in Nash County, North Carolina.³⁰⁴

Henry (x) Watkins 23 Mar 1804; May Ct. 1804

Wife: Mary Watkins

Son: Thomas Watkins-50 acres on north side of Kirby's Creek

²⁹⁷ Dorman, Marvin K. Edgecombe County North Carolina Abstracts of Court Minutes: 1744-46, 1757-94. (Winston-Salem: Hutchison-Allgood Printing, 1968,) p. 24.

²⁹⁸ Ibid., p. 27.

²⁹⁹ Ibid., p. 31.

³⁰⁰ Ibid., p. 33.

³⁰¹ Ibid., p. 39.

³⁰² Ibid., p. 40.

³⁰³ Ibid., p. 41.

³⁰⁴ Bradley, Stephen E. The Wills of Nash County, North Carolina, Vol. 1, 1777-1848, p. 88.

5 shillings each to: son, Stephen Watkins, dau. Anna Ammons, dau. Susanna Robbins, dau. Sarah Clibon, dau. Elizabeth Weaver, son Henry Watkins, son James Watkins, son Joseph Watkins, dau. Jinney Watkins, dau. Cobb, dau. Rhodo Sanders, dau. Mary Revell, dau. Beveton Watkins, dau. Mourning Winstead, dau. Rachel Watkins.

Exec. Friends Jacob Horn, Jno. Atkinson

Wit: Jno. Atkinson, Elizabeth Patrick

The same source also shows a will for John Watkins, who left a will dated 2 May 1808, in Nash Co., North Carolina.³⁰⁵ Note that his land, which was much more extensive than that of Henry Watkins, was also located on Kirby's Creek. Furthermore, both wills named Jacob Horn as executor.

John Watkins 2 May 1808; May Ct. 1808

Wife Nancy, 400 acres on north side of Kirby's Creek for life or widowhood

Dau: Charlotte Watkins, dau. Sally Ricks, son Isaac Watkins, my land on south side of Kirby's Creek, including the Falls of Tar River.

4 youngest children: Betsy, Nancy, Delilah, John Watkins (John gets land on n. side of Kirby's creek, excluding reserve for wife, which is split between John and Isaac after Nancy's death.)

Exec. Friend Jacob Horn, son Isaac Watkins

Wit: Sam. Smith, Marmaduke Mason

Since we are primarily interested in the Watkins family connected with the Curl family, it was helpful to find an analysis of Curl family deeds.³⁰⁶ Mr. Curl compiled a list of near neighbors from those people who witnessed deeds involving Wilson, Joseph, Lewis, or Willis Curl, and developed a geographic list based upon common recurrence of some of these names. From this analysis he concludes that Wilson Curl probably lived between Joseph and Lewis Curl and they shared neighbors. Of significance, Wilson and Joseph shared Henry Watkins, while Joseph Curl was also associated with John and Isaac Watkins.³⁰⁷ These deeds make it clear that there is a close relationship among John, Henry, and Isaac Watkins. Since Wilson Curl named his eldest daughter Lucretia in his will, cited previously, and since the will of Henry Watkins lists a son named

³⁰⁵ Ibid.

³⁰⁶ Curl, Clarence L. Curl, May, et al.: A Compilation of Family Records. (El Paso, TX: High Desert Publishing Co., 1995,) pp. 258-261.

³⁰⁷ This work shows other interesting relationships. For instance, Henry Horn, Isaac Horn, and Lewis Hines appear only on the deeds of Wilson Curl, and are in a group with several others. In the group with Henry Watkins, he has placed John Davenport, Andrew Ross, Nicholas Skinner, and Josiah Horn. This group is associated with deeds for both Joseph and Wilson Curl. Associated with Joseph alone is a group including William Horn, Joseph Exum, Micajah Revel, John Watkins, and Isaac Watkins. This latter pairing makes it clear that this John Watkins is the same as John Watkins, 1808, who left 400 acres to his son, Isaac. At the other end, in a group associated only with Lewis Curl, are James Watkins and others, whose names do not appear here.

James, and they appear to have been near neighbors, I think it likely that James Watkins was the son of Henry.

Edgecombe and Nash County deed records appear largely intact. The following deeds bear upon this family of men named Watkins. On 30 August 1779 Henry Watkins of Nash County sold to Lewis Hines for £500 current money a 100 acre plantation on Compass Creek adjoining Henry Horn, Lewis, Hines, and Wilson Curl, being part of a tract granted to Jacob Whitehead by Earl Granville on 16 March 1761 containing 650 acres. The tract was conveyed by Whitehead to Francis Jinkins on 11 February 1762, by Jinkins to Henry Horn on 4 August 1768, and by Henry Horn to said Henry Watkins. The deed was witnessed by Wilson Curl and Lewis Moore.³⁰⁸ The same day John Moore of Nash County sold to Henry Watkins of Nash County for £500 a 200 acre tract on both sides of Kirby's Creek adjoining Moore, Wilson Curl, Micajah Revel, and Emmanuel Skinner, being part of a 700 acre tract granted to John Moore by Earl Granville on 1 June 1762. The deed was witnessed by Wilson Curl and Lewis Hines.³⁰⁹ These deeds leave little doubt that 1804 Henry Watkins of Nash Co., N. C., is the same as the man of these 1779 deeds. Trading land apparently did not help, though, as Henry Watkins, with one poll, was listed as one of the insolvents in Capt. Horn's District for 1786 at the Nash County Quarterly Court for Monday 23 July 1787.³¹⁰

There are three other deeds in Nash County of interest. First, on 7 February 1779, Stephen Watkins of Edgecombe County sold to Moses Harrell of Nash County for £50 proclamation a 150 acre tract on both sides of Kirby's Creek adjoining the Folsom Road and Thomas' Road, it being part of a tract granted to Thomas Williams 2 March 1781. This deed was witnessed by Nicholas Skinner and William Barnes.³¹¹ Second, on 30 October 1778 Joel Horn of Edgecombe Co., sold to Hardy Harris, Wilson Curl, and John Watkins, son of John Watkins of Edgecombe County for £110 proclamation a 540 acre tract adjoining William Bridges, Philip Thomas, James Ricks, Horn's Creek, and Redman Bunn.³¹² Lastly, John Watkins of Edgecombe County sold to Gray Jordan for £19, 1 a tract of 127 acres on Horn's Creek adjoining William Bridges and Thomas.³¹³

James Watkins appeared as a witness to the sale of a 150 acre tract on Maple Creek from Joseph Sealy to Lewis Curl 10 January 1788.³¹⁴

³⁰⁸ Nash Co., N. C., Deed Book 1:112, 30 August 1779.

³⁰⁹ Nash Co., N. C., Deed Book 1:112, 30 August 1779.

³¹⁰ Dorman, Marvin K. *Edgecombe County North Carolina Abstracts of Court Minutes: 1744-46, 1757-94.* (Winston-Salem: Hutchison-Allgood Printing, 1968,) p. 72. This might be Henry Watkins, Jr., of course.

³¹¹ Nash Co., N. C., Deed Book 1:94, 7 February 1779.

³¹² Edgecombe Co., N. C. Deed Book 5:303; 30 October 1778, February Court 1790; quoted in Bradley, Stephen E. *Edgecombe County, North Carolina Deeds, Vol. 4: 1786-1794.* (Lawrenceville, VA: 1996,) p. 43.

³¹³ Edgecombe Co., N. C., Deed Book 6:136; 28 December 1790, August Ct., 1791; quoted in Bradley, Stephen E. *Edgecombe County, North Carolina Deeds, Vol. 4: 1786-1794.* (Lawrenceville, VA: 1996,) p. 65.

³¹⁴ Nash Co., N. C. Deed Book 1:406. Located 28 March 2012 at

The 1790 Census for Nash Co., N. C., shows James Wadkins (10100), Henry Watkins (21500), and another James Watkins (11200). It is tempting to speculate that 1807 James Watkins of Jones Co., Ga., is the first man in this list. The 1790 Census for Edgecombe Co., N. C., shows John Watkins (20302) living next to William Horn, Sr., Henry Watkins, (10000), Stephen Watkins (14500), living near Michael and Ann Horn, Daniel Watkins (12200) living near Josiah Watkins (12200).

Clearly, the tracts of land occupied by the Horn, Curl, and Watkins families was astride the dividing line between Edgecombe and Nash Counties, when the latter was formed in 1777. Consequently, examination of the deeds in Edgecombe County need to be examined for additional information.

John Watkins witnessed the sale of a tract of land from John Sikes of Hanover Co., N. C., to William Bell of Edgecombe Co., N. C., on 30 November 1761.³¹⁵ John Watkins witnessed by mark the sale of a tract from Jacob Pope to Pilgrim Pope, for love and affection, a 150 acre tract on the south side of Swift Creek on 3 November 1763.³¹⁶ These appear to be the earliest references to anyone named Watkins in the records. I have found no indication as to where they came from before this date. I also cannot tell which, if either of the two John Watkins who died in 1764 and 1772 this might be.

Thomas Watkins was described as living adjacent White Oak Swamp and James Spears in 1765.³¹⁷ Thomas Watkins sold to Caleb Coker for £20 a tract on the north side of Indian Cabin Branch, adjacent James Speir, being part of a tract for 115 acres granted by Lord Granville to Speir on 8 December 1760.³¹⁸ Stephen Watkins land is described as adjacent Tyancoke Swamp, Holland's Branch, Willis Dade and William Cohoon in a grant from the State of North Carolina to Aaron Proctor.³¹⁹ It appears that his land was inherited by Jarrett Watkins, who died and had the land divided by lot amongst his three heirs at law.³²⁰

Genealogical Summary

<http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/nash/deeds/cain002.txt>

³¹⁵ Edgecombe co., N. C., Deed Book 1:37, 30 November 1761/December Ct., 1761. Located at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/edgecombe/deeds/ebk1.txt>. Accessed 30 March 2012.

³¹⁶ Edgecombe Co., N. C., Deed Book C:133, 3 November 1763/January Ct., 1764. Located at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/edgecombe/deeds/ebkc.txt> Accessed 30 March 2012.

³¹⁷ Edgecombe Co., N. C., Deed Book C:375, 26 October 1765/January Ct., 1766. Located at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/edgecombe/deeds/ebkc.txt> Accessed 30 March 2012.

³¹⁸ Edgecombe Co., N. C., Deed Book C:546, 9 March 1768/May Ct., 1768. Located at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/edgecombe/deeds/ebkc2.txt>. Accessed 30 March 2012. The same land appears by reference in Deed Book D:61, 27 September 1768/February Ct., 1769.

³¹⁹ Edgecombe Co., N. C., Deed Book E:291, 28 October 1782/May Ct., 1783. Located at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/edgecombe/deeds/ebke.txt>. Accessed 30 March 2012.

³²⁰ Edgecombe Co., N. C., Deed Book 20:401, January 1833/February Ct. 1833. Located at <http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/edgecombe/deeds/ebk20.txt>, Accessed 30 March 2012.

1. HENRY¹ WATKINS died before May 1804 Nash County, N. C. He married MARY _____.

Children of HENRY WATKINS and MARY are:

- i. STEPHEN² WATKINS.
- ii. ANNA² WATKINS, m. _____ AMMONS.
- iii. SUSANNA² WATKINS, m. _____ ROBBINS.
- iv. SARAH² WATKINS, m. _____ CLIBON.
- v. ELIZABETH² WATKINS, m. _____ WEAVER.
- vi. HENRY² WATKINS.
2. vii. JAMES² WATKINS, died about 1811 Jones County, Georgia; m. LUCRETIA CURL about 1770 Edgecombe Co., N. C., daughter of WILSON CURL and MOURNING HORN; d. about before 1816 Jones County, Georgia.
- viii. JOSEPH² WATKINS.
- ix. JENNY² WATKINS.
- x. _____ m. _____ COBB.
- xi. RHODA² WATKINS, m. _____ SAUNDERS.
- xii. MARY² WATKINS, m. _____ REVELL.
- xiii. BEVETON² WATKINS.
- xiv. MOURNING² WATKINS, d. after 1827 Hawkins Co., Tenn.; m. EZEKIEL WINSTEAD, b. 26 November 1775 Northumberland Co., Va.; d. 23 November 1832 Hawkins Co., Tennessee.³²¹
- xv. RACHEL² WATKINS.

2. JAMES² WATKINS was born in Edgecombe County, North Carolina about 1765 and died before September 1811 in Jones County, Georgia. He married LUCRETIA CURL before 1790 in North Carolina, daughter of WILSON CURL and MOURNING HORN. She died before 1816 in Jones County, Georgia.

Children of JAMES WATKINS and LUCRETIA CURL are:

- i. TEMPERANCE³ WATKINS, b. 21 November 1798 Nash Co., N. C.; d. 1 December 1876 Copiah Co., Mississippi; m. SETH CORLEY 16 July 1815 Jones Co., Georgia, son of EDMOND CORLEY; b. 21 November 1798 in Georgia; d. 1 December 1876 Copiah Co., Mississippi.
- ii. MARTHA³ WATKINS, b. 28 June 1805 Montgomery Co., Tenn.; d. 10 September 1887 Scott Co., Mississippi; m. JOHN WOODSON AMIS 10 February 1824 Copiah Co., Mississippi, son of WILLIAM AMIS and JUDITH KNIGHT; b. 22 September 1795 Granville Co., N. C.; d. 4 February 1849 Scott Co., Miss.

³²¹ Kimberly. Slagle-Downs. 5 Jan 2009. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. kslagle.) She cites Smith, Michael K. The Winstead Family in America, and Families of Hawkins County, Tennessee.

Descendants of Wyche Brewer³²²

The birth and death dates and the fact of their marriage for Wyche Brewer and Flora McPherson were obtained from the tombstones in the Amis Cemetery, 5mi north of Conehatta, Miss.³²³ Judge Amis thought that the Brewers had come to Scott Co., Miss., from Sumter Co., Alabama. In the 1850 Census for Scott Co., “Wicht” Brewer’s family is located between the Amis and the Petty families. He is shown as 52 years old, born in Georgia. His wife, Flora, is shown as 48, born in Mississippi. There are eight children, seven girls, still living at home. Luvenia is shown as married to Albert Petty. Christianna, the wife of John W. Petty, living next door, is 24 and born in Alabama. She is shown as another daughter in Petty family data.³²⁴

Wyche Brewer first appears in the 1830 Census of Butler County, Alabama,³²⁵ with one male 30-40, three females under five, one female 5-10, and one female 20-30, which matches the later data. He is only one person removed from Malcolm McPherson, who has one male under 5, one male 5-10, one male 10-16, and one male 30-40, two females under five, one 5-10, and one female 30-40. Butler County was organized in 1819, and a census was done, but it has not survived. However, it was formed in part from Conecuh County, and the 1820 Census for this county does survive. This census shows William Brewer and William McPherson living next door to each other.

Wyche Brewer purchased 40 acres of land on May 15, 1837, in St. Stephen’s Twp., Sumter Co., Alabama.³²⁶ He is in the 1840 Census for Sumter Co., Ala., between 40 and 50 with a wife between 30 and 40, and one son under five. He has two girls under five, three between 10 and 15, and one between 15 and 20.³²⁷

The following deed is of interest:

The State of Alabama Sumter County Know and see by these present that I William Brewer and Mary Brewer in consideration of the sum of three hundred and fifty six dollars in hand paid and bargained granted sold released and conveyed and by these presents do bargain grant and release and convey to Wiche Brewer all the described tract or parcel of land located in the county of Sumter and state aforesaid to whit the North end of the East half of the South East quarter of section fourteen township nineteen Range two and to the amount of fifty acres - containing 50 acres all lying in the district of lands sold at the land

³²² Updated 1 April 2012.

³²³ Transcription by Elvy Hammond. Located on the Scott Co., Miss., page www.usgenweb.org.

³²⁴ 1850 Census, Scott Co., Miss., p. 258.

³²⁵ 1830 Census, Butler Co., Ala., p. 298.

³²⁶ Bureau of Land Management Document #9631, Alabama, Serial #AL3420-186. This was a cash entry sale for 40.03 acres located in Township 19N, Range 2W, Section 13. The file is accessible through links on the Alabama home page for www.usgenweb.org.

³²⁷ 1840 Census, Sumter Co., Ala., p. 137.

office at Demopolis. To have and to hold all and singular the aforesaid. s/
William Brewer Mary Brewer.³²⁸

The 1880 Census in Mississippi for Lake County³²⁹ showed William Owens 48, m, Ala., NC, TN; Harriet, wife, 42, f, Ala., Ga., NC; James, son, 10, m, Miss., Ala., Ala.; Oscar, son, 6, m, Miss., Ala., Ala.; Lawrence, son, 6, m, Miss., Wyche, son, 4, m, Miss., and Martha Brewer, 55, f, Ala., Ga., NC, sister-in-law.³³⁰ These dates match the estimated birth years from the 1850 census fairly well for two of Wyche and Flora Brewer's daughters.

Genealogical Summary

1. WYCHE¹ BREWER, b. 6 July 1798 in Georgia, d. 17 March 1877 Scott Co, Miss. He married FLORA Mc PHERSON about 1821 Conecuh Co., Ala., daughter of WILLIAM Mc PHERSON and CHRISTIAN Mc DONALD. She was born 1 December 1803 in North Carolina and died 6 February 1866 Scott Co., Miss.

Children of WYCHE BREWER and FLORA MCPHERSON are:

- i. MARTHA² BREWER, b. about 1823 Butler Co., Ala.; d. after 1880 Lake Co., Miss.³³¹
- ii. LUVENIA² BREWER, b. 11 February 1825, Butler Co., Ala.; d. 18 February 1897, Newton Co., Miss. She married ALBERT GALLATIN PETTY about 1845 Scott Co., Miss., son of JOHN WRIGHT PETTY and ANNA HARRIS. He was born 29 May 1820 Lincoln Co., Tenn., and died 2 June 1879 Scott Co., Miss.

Children of Luvenia Brewer and Albert Gallatin Petty are:

1. ANNA MISSOURI³ PETTY, b. 12 March 1847 Scott Co., Miss; m. WARNER BLEDSOE about 1864 Scott Co., Miss.
2. MARY AUGUSTA³ PETTY, b. 8 April 1849 Scott Co., Miss., d. 9 July 1922 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss; m. (1) ALBERT GALLATIN AMIS 16 December 1865 Newton Co., Miss., son of JOHN WOODSON AMIS and MARTHA WADKINS. He was b. 15 Jan 1841 Scott Co., Miss., d. 31 July 1878 Newton Co., Miss. She m. (2) WILLIAM BUYCKE THORNTON September 1879 Scott Co., Miss. He was b. 3 April 1856 and d. 1 Feb 1897 Gulfport, Harrison Co., Miss.
3. FRANCES MADORA³ PETTY, b. 15 Sep 1851 Scott Co., Miss., d. 16 June 1929 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. J. M. CLEVELAND 2 June 1882 Scott Co., Miss.
4. CORINE FLORENCE³ PETTY, b. 16 Oct 1853 Scott Co., Miss; d. Mills Co., Texas; m. FRANK BLEDSOE.
5. THOMAS WRIGHT³ PETTY, b. 12 August 1855 Scott Co., Miss; d. 1913 Scott Co., Miss.; m. SALLIE MAJURE about 1878 Scott Co., Miss.

³²⁸ Sumter Co., Ala., Deed Book G:722, [23 December 1842.]

³²⁹ 1880 Census Lake Co., Miss., Beat 5, District 52, p. 230, #253.

³³⁰ Lentz, Wanda Eakin. 3 Jul 2002.

<http://genforum.genealogy.com/brewer/messages/6110.html>.

³³¹ Judge Amis stated that she never married.

6. SARAH ELIZABETH³ PETTY, b. Sept. 1858 Scott Co., Miss., d. about 1898 Attalla Co., Miss.; m. JOHN B. PARKS about 1875 Scott Co., Miss.
7. JOHN DAVIS³ PETTY, b. 24 Oct 1861 Scott Co., Miss.; m. (1) MOLLIE NICHOLSON; m. (2) JENNIE GULLEY after 1900.
8. ALBERT GALLATIN³ PETTY, b. 29 July 1865 Scott Co., Miss; m. (1) EMILY CARSON about 1903 Scott Co., Miss. She d. March 1925 Lake Co., Miss.; m. (2) PEARL NESTER December 1926 Lake Co., Miss.
- iii. CHRISTIANA² BREWER, b. about 1827, Butler Co., Ala.; m. JOHN WRIGHT PETTY, about 1846, Scott Co., Miss., son of JOHN WRIGHT PETTY and ANNA HARRIS. He was b. 12 November 1826, Madison Co., Ala.; d. 27 March 1858, Scott Co., Miss. (Children are listed under his entry.)
- iv. LENORA² BREWER, b. 13 October 1828 Butler Co., Ala., d. 13 August 1915, Bosque Co., Tex.; m. WILLIAM MATTHEW THOMAS about 1850 Scott Co., Miss.³³²

Children of Lenora Brewer and William Thomas are:

1. MADISON³ THOMAS, b. 1852 Scott Co., Miss; d. young
2. EMANUEL WAYMIRE³ THOMAS, b. 13 Jan 1854, Scott Co., Miss.
3. JEFF DAVIS³ THOMAS, b. 1856, Scott Co., Miss.
4. JOHN WRIGHT³ THOMAS, b. 1858 Scott Co., Miss.
5. BABS³ THOMAS, b. 1860 Scott Co., Miss; d. young.
6. WESLEY B.³ THOMAS, b. 20 May 1862 Scott Co., Miss.
7. CLINTON H.³ THOMAS, b. June 1865 Scott Co., Miss.
8. ALBERT WYCHE³ THOMAS, b. 14 June 1867 Scott Co., Miss.
9. MELISSA TENNESSEE³ THOMAS, b. 21 June 1873, Bosque Co., Texas; m. SAM BAYLOS POWELL.
- v. MARY² BREWER, b. about 1830 Butler Co., Ala; m. ROMULUS DAY.
- vi. ELIZA² BREWER, b. about 1832 Sumter Co., Ala.;³³³ m. LUNSFORD JONES.
- vii. NANCY² BREWER, b. about 1834 in Alabama; M. JOHN ARNOLD.
- viii. HENRIETTA² BREWER, b. about 1836; m. (1) BENNETT BISHOP; m. (2) WILLIAM OWENS before 1868.
- ix. MELISSA² BREWER, b. about 1838. She married IRVIN MILLER 4 Dec 1856, Scott Co., Miss.³³⁴
- x. WILLIAM² BREWER, b. about 1840 Sumter Co., Ala.; d. Civil War; m. MELISSA GUNN.³³⁵

³³² McCollough, ElaRuth. Personal communication 12 July 2002. Her connection was through Lenora. She also is the source of the dates, which matches the census estimate, and come from her tombstone in Kopperl Cemetery, Bosque Co., Texas.

³³³ Smith, Donna. Personal communication 10 Jul 2002 gives a birth date of 7 April 1834. She does not give the source, but it is probably an IGI file. Her connection was through Lenora.

³³⁴ Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi. (Chicago: Goodspeed Publ. Co., 1891.) p. 438.

³³⁵ Judge Amis stated that he had two daughters and that his wife and children moved to Texas about 1870. Clearly there is no possibility of y-DNA testing to link Wyche Brewer to the family of George Brewer in Brunswick Co., Virginia. It may still be possible to link through a descendant of William Brewer, who is clearly a male relative, although not the father of Wyche Brewer.

Descendants of Richard Langford³³⁶

1. RICHARD¹ LANGFORD was born 9 October 1772 in Hanover Co., Virginia, and died 12 May 1860 in Macon Co., Alabama. He married (1) AMELIA SOPER 22 May 1801 in Montgomery Co., Maryland, daughter of ZADOK SOPER and ANN _____. She was born in Prince Georges Co., Maryland, and died about 1823 in Hancock Co., Georgia. He married (2) NANCY HEATH 2 December 1824 in Putnam Co., Georgia. She was born 1800 in Georgia and died 1872 in Lee Co., Alabama.

The information presented was collected by Dan Langford,³³⁷ whose father was a first cousin of Mary Salome (Langford) Amis. He told me by e-mail in 2001 that his father had always been grateful to Judge Amis, who took him under his wing when his parents died, and paid for his education. He had originally been in contact with Frances (Amis) Floyd, and copies of that correspondence were available. He also published an earlier version of his findings in a local genealogy journal.³³⁸

According to Dan's notes, Richard Langford was born in Hanover Co., Virginia, but moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland as a child. Efforts to use this clue to locate the parents of Richard Langford have not, as yet, borne fruit.³³⁹

Richard Langford has not been identified in the 1800 or 1810 census, but is recorded the Register of St. George's Parish, then Montgomery Co., Maryland, now District of Columbia. The Register records his marriage to Amelia Soper 22 May 1801, and the birth of his first child, Henry Norman Langford, b. 13 March 1802, baptized 25 April 1802. The Register also records the births of Ann Turner Langford and Carmila Langford.

³³⁶ Updated 12 August 2008.

³³⁷ Dan Langford was living in Spring, Texas, in 2001, but has been offline for more than five years. At the time, his wife was in poor health, and he may have died in the interim.

³³⁸ Langford, Dan A. The life of Richard Langford as Gleaned from Public Records. Tap Roots 1993;30(3):101-104.

³³⁹ Peden, Henry C. Revolutionary Patriots of Worcester & Somerset Counties, Maryland, 1775-1783. (Westminster Md.: Willow Bend Books, 2000,) pp. 174-175 shows the following data about people named "Lankford." Benjamin Lankford (1758-) Son of Lazarus & Rachel Lankford, b. in Coventry Parish Sept. 12, 1758. Elijah Lankford (1752-), applied for a pension in Somerset Co. on April 16, 1818, at age 66. Wife may have been named Hannah. Ephraim, Ezekiel, Jacob, and Jesse, John, Joseph, Joshua, Killum, Levi, & Thomas Lankford were privates in Somerset militia, 1780. Jesse is probably Jesse Maddux Langford (1760-) son of Lazarus and Rachel Lankford, b. in Coventry Parish Oct. 4 or 5, 1760. William Lankford, (1761-) Son of William and Rachel Lankford, born in Coventry Parish Jan. 9, 1761.

Since Richard Langford was in Prince Georges Co., Maryland, when he first appeared in public records, it is possible there is a connection to a different family, in this case Robert Langford, carpenter, of Prince Georges Co., Maryland, who bought a tract of land there 27 Feb 1743, and sold it 5 October 1745. (See my note: Robert Langford, Anne Arundel and Prince Georges Co., Maryland, 1745. 30 May 2006. Located at <http://genforum.genealogy.com/langford/messages/1688.html>.)

According to his obituary, Richard Langford was a “mechanic” who was involved in the building of the United States Capitol. Richard Langford bought 115 acres of land in Montgomery Co., Md., from John Turner, executor for the estate of Shadrack Turner on 5 September 1812 for \$500. On 24 June 1813 Richard Turner mortgaged the property for \$200 to Thomas Cramphin, which he apparently repaid, as he sold the tract to George Moore on 2 May 1815 for \$741.44. All told, he appears to have recouped the initial purchase price, covered the \$200 mortgage, and made \$41.44 from the transaction.

Richard Langford had service during the War of 1812. He served as a draftee in an Extra Battery of Maryland militia attached to the 4th Brigade from 26 July to 2 September 1813. A detachment of this unit under Captain Riley marched to Annapolis on 12 & 13 August 1813, with Richard Langford among the men in this detachment.

Richard Langford does not appear in either the 1800 or 1810 census, perhaps because he was living in the District of Columbia. He moved from the District to Hancock Co., Georgia between 2 May 1815, when he sold his land, and 1817, when he appears on a list of purchasers in Hancock Co., Georgia. He appears on the 1820 Census in Hancock Co., Ga.³⁴⁰ In the 1821 Land Lottery, Richard Langford of Hancock Co., Ga., He was on the tax rolls there as late as 1824.³⁴¹ He married Nancy Heath in neighboring Putnam Co., Ga., 2 December 1824.

Before his marriage, Richard Langford made a deed 1 December 1824 Putnam Co., Ga., conveying personal property (three slaves) after his death to his children: Henry, Martha, John, Albert, Elizabeth, Carmila, and Rutha Ann Langford.³⁴² This was witnessed by George N. Langford. On 8 January 1827, Richard Langford, as the assignee of Henry N. Langford, petitioned to court to require the administrators of the estate of George Meadows to issue a deed for Lot 59, 14th District, Butts Co., formerly Monroe Co., Ga., because Henry N. Langford and George Meadows had entered into a contract 3 January 1822 for the sale, but the deed had not been executed. The Court decided in favor of Richard Langford in February 1827. On 27 May 1827 Richard Langford entered the deed for lot 59 in Butts Co., Georgia. Richard Langford of Talbot Co., Ga., sold the lot

³⁴⁰ 1820 Census Hancock Co., Ga., p. 87, [121001-22010].

³⁴¹ Euclid Langford died, testate in Hancock Co., Ga., in 1810, naming his widow, Elizabeth and children Nicholas, John, Edmund, George N., Robert, and Henry. Euclid Langford and his sons were born in Virginia, three moved to Putnam Co., in the early 1820's, and George N. (Nicholson in one report) Langford lived next door to Henry N. Langford in Muscogee Co., Ga., in 1830. This suggested a relationship between these two families. Recently, use of Y-DNA testing has shown that two of the male descendants of 1810 Euclid Langford of Hancock Co., Ga., are J2a, while two male descendants of 1860 Richard Langford of Macon Co., Ala., have been found to be R1b1. This effectively excludes any kinship between these two families unless there was an misattributed paternity event. Since I do not have the details of the lineages, I do not know if that is a real issue or not. <http://www.familyreedna.com/public/Langford>. Accessed 10 August 2008.

³⁴² Putnam Co., Ga., Deed Book K:419.

in Butts County to Robert J. Smith 6 February 1830 for \$500, which was the price Henry N. Langford had originally paid George Meadows.

Richard Langford was found in Talbot Co., Ga., in the 1830 Census.³⁴³ In the 1832 Land Lottery, Richard Langford of Talbot Co., Ga., won lot 199, district 21, Sec. 3. On 26 December 1835 Richard Langford of Harris Co., Ga., bought lot 250 in the 17th Dist. for \$400 in a deed recorded in Butts Co., Ga. He bought 50 acres in lot 250 of the 17th District for \$400 on 29 January 1836 in Harris Co., Ga., and the same day both tracts to Lewis Peters of Wilkes Co., Ga., for \$1550. Richard Langford appeared on the records of an estate sale in Troup Co., Ga., 9 June 1836, but was probably visiting from nearby Harris County, as he was still there in 1840.³⁴⁴ On 15 January 1843 Richard Langford sold lot 282 of the 17th District for \$900. He appeared in Muscogee Co., Ga., court 9 June 1843 as agent for Elizabeth Langford, widow of a Revolutionary War soldier (probably Euclid Langford) to claim lot 151, dist. 3, Lee Co., Ga., awarded to Elizabeth Langford of Putnam Co., Ga., in the 1827 Land Lottery. Whether he lived in Muscogee Co., Ga., or was just visiting is uncertain.

He moved to Macon Co., Alabama, by May 1845, when he bought at public auction the southwest ¼ of section 32, township 19, range 25. He must have acquired additional land, for on 17 January 1848 he sold 80 acres in the northeast ¼ of section 6, township 18, range 25 for \$200. On 11 January 1849 they sold the northwest ¼ of the same section for \$75. He sold the 80 acres of the NE ¼ of section 6 for \$200 on 16 May 1850.

Richard Lankford, 77, born Virginia, was recorded in the 1850 Census with real estate valued at \$1800. Nancy was 50, Richard, 19, William 16, Robert 12, Amanda 10, and Anne E., all born in Georgia, were also present.

Nancy Langford probated the will of Richard Langford in Macon Co., Alabama, 23 May 1860. The estate was declared insolvent in 1865 and probate was closed.

Children of RICHARD LANGFORD and AMELIA SOPER are:

2. i. HENRY NORMAN² LANGFORD, b. 13 March 1802 Montgomery Co., Maryland; d. after 12 Dec 1881 Chilton Co., Alabama; m. (1) ELIZABETH DAVIS 12 July 1827 Putnam Co., Ga., dau. of THOMAS DAVIS and ELIZABETH ____; b. about 1810 Georgia; d. about 1838 Harris Co., Ga.; m. (2) ADELIN CHEATHAM 14 December 1838 Muscogee Co., Ga.
- ii. ANN TURNER² LANGFORD, b. 27 May 1803 Montgomery Co., Md.; d. before 1 December 1824.

³⁴³ 1830 Census Talbot Co., Ga., one male under five, two 15-20, one 50-60; one female under 5, two 15-20, 1 20-30. He also had three slaves boys under 10, two slave girls under 10, and one girl 10-24.

³⁴⁴ 1840 Census Harris Co., Ga., one male under five, two 5-10, one 15-20, one 60-70, one female 5-10, one 15-20, one 30-40, one slave boy under 10, three men 10-24, two girls under 10, and one 24-36.

Ann was not listed as one of the children of his first wife to whom Richard Langford left three slaves the day prior to his marriage to Nancy Heath. She may well have died much earlier in childhood.

- iii. MARTHA² LANGFORD, b. about 1805 Montgomery Co., Md.; d. after 1827 Putnam Co., Ga.; m. (1) REUBEN HERNDON³⁴⁵ 28 February 1825 Putnam Co., Ga.; m. (2) JAMES WILSON 29 August 1827 Putnam Co., Ga.

- iv. ALBERT G.² LANGFORD, b. about 1806 Montgomery Co., Md.; d. after 1880 Floyd Co., Ga.; m. (1) EMELINE BRANNAN 12 November 1839 Harris Co., Ga.; m. (2) EMILY R. _____ about 1875 in Georgia.

Albert Langford, 33, and Emaline, 24, along with children Martha 8, Joshua 6, Margaret 4, and John 7/12, are living in Talbot Co., Ga., in 1850.³⁴⁶ He was living in Macon Co., Ala., when his father's will was probated in May 1860, and they are recorded in the Southern District in the Census.³⁴⁷ In 1880 they were living in Floyd Co., Ga., where he stated he was 73 and born in DC. Also in the household, presumably as a second family, are Emily R. 37, Albert G. 4 AL, and Lucy P. 2 AL.³⁴⁸ This implies a move to Floyd Co., Ga., about 1878. It is certainly possible that Emily R. Langford is the wife of one of his sons, but she is certainly not his daughter.

- v. JOHN T.² LANGFORD., b. 3 July 1807 Montgomery Co., Md.; d. 20 January 1893 Yalobusha Co., Mississippi; m. MARTHA JANE CHAMPION 14 September 1843 Muscogee Co., Ga.

Muscogee Co., Ga., records include many references to the family of George N. Langford, son of 1810 Euclid Langford of Hancock Co., Ga. The marriage of John T. Langford and Jane Champion is of record.³⁴⁹ John T. Langford of Capt. Marcus' Dist., Putnam Co., Ga., was a fortunate drawer in the 1827 Land Lottery of section 1, district 32, lot 180, Lee Co., Ga.³⁵⁰ John T. Langford was listed as a resident of Georgia in his father's probate record in 1860. He appears in Columbus, Ga., in the census of that year.³⁵¹

- vi. ELIZABETH² LANGFORD, b. about 1809 Md.; d. before 1844 in Ga.; m. JOHN W. CARTER 15 December 1829 Putnam Co., Ga., son of JOHN CARTER and MARY KENDRICK.

³⁴⁵ The name was transcribed as Reuben Herrendery in another source.
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~langford/marriages.htm>. Accessed 8 August 2008.

³⁴⁶ 1850 Census Talbot Co., Ga., p. 237, #205/205.

³⁴⁷ 1860 Census Macon Co., Ala., p. 736, #265/275. Albert is 50, born in DC, Emaline is 34, b. in Ga. The children show Mary E. 18 GA, Martha 16 GA, Joshua 14 AL, Margaret 12 AL, John 10 AL, Sugar 6 AL, Emma 4 AL, and Jane 2 AL. He was an overseer.

³⁴⁸ 1880 Census Floyd Co., Ga., Chiulo, p. 325, Dist. 72, #73/73.

³⁴⁹ <http://files.usgwarchives.net/ga/muscogee/vitals/marriages/muscsmarr.txt>.

³⁵⁰ <http://files.usgwarchives.net/ga/deeds/1827/sur/surn-11.txt>.

³⁵¹ 1860 Census Muscogee Co., Ga., Columbus, p. 368, #528/528. He was said to be 50, and like his brother, also an overseer. Martha J. is 41, William 15, Emily 11, and Rebecca 6, all born in Georgia.

Mary Kendrick died testate 1822 in Putnam Co., Ga., with Richard Wright, probably Richard W. Wright, as a witness.³⁵²

John Carter and the children of Elizabeth Carter were heirs of Richard Langford in 1860, but their whereabouts were unknown.³⁵³

- vii. CARMILLA² LANGFORD, b. 7 September 1811 Montgomery Co., Md.; d. before 1850 Ala.; m. GREEN B. STEPHENS 15 September 1834 Talbot Co., Ga.

The children of Carmilla Stephens, ages and addresses unknown, were legatees of Richard Langford in 1860.

- viii. RUTHA ANN² LANGFORD, d. before 1850; m. HENRY DUDNEY 15 April 1838 Harris Co., Ga.

Neither Rutha Ann, Henry Dudney, or any children of Rutha Ann were identified as heirs of Richard Langford, so she probably died *sine prole*.

Children of RICHARD LANGFORD and NANCY HEATH are:

- ix. SAMUEL T.² LANGFORD, b. about 1825 Putnam Co., Ga.; m. ELIZA ANN PRINCE 13 March 1847 Upson Co., Ga.

They are living in the Northern Division of Macon Co., Ala., in 1860, along with children James R. 12, William J. 10, Mary 8, Elizabeth 6, Thomas 4, and John B. 2. Elizabeth was born in Georgia, but the rest of the children were born in Alabama.³⁵⁴

- x. RICHARD² LANGFORD, b. about 1831 Talbot Co., Ga.; d. before 1860 Macon Co., Alabama.

He is not named in his father's estate record, so presumably died between 1850 and 1860.

- xi. WILLIAM J² LANGFORD., b. about 1835 Harris Co., Ga.

W. J. Langford, 25, clerk, is in Opelika, Alabama in 1860.³⁵⁵

- xii. ROBERT WATTS² LANGFORD, b. 31 December 1837 Harris Co., Ga.; d. 4 December 1862 Scopes River, Rutherford Co., Indiana; m. MARGARET HILL HARRIS 28 February 1860 Macon Co., Ala.; b. 3 May 1841 Jasper Co., Ga.; d. 11 July 1884 Johnson Co., Texas.³⁵⁶

- xiii. AMANDA M.² LANGFORD, b. about 1842 Harris Co., Ga.; m. J. B. WATSON.

³⁵² Oakes, Elaine. Oakes/Brunson. 12 April 2008. (db. eoakes.) For a discussion of this Richard Wright being the son of 1832 John Wright of Clarke Co., Ga., see my report under his entry.

³⁵³ There is a John W. Carter, 59 GA, farmer, with wife Gatsey M., 46 GA, and daughter Eliza W., 10 F AL, who seems likely in the 1860 Census Walker Co., Texas, Newport, p. 104, #185/182.

³⁵⁴ 1860 Census Macon Co., Ala., Northern Div., p. p. 94, #697/708.

³⁵⁵ 1860 Census Russell Co., Ala., Opelika, p. 1079, #48/46. There is a William Langford, 33 GA, living in Canton, Madison Co., Miss., in 1870 [Beat 1, ED 37, p. 29.] He is still there in 1880, but said both parents were born in Georgia, so I am not sure this is the same William Langford.

³⁵⁶ Gardner, Keith. Gardner Family. 25 August 2001. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. :778610.) His file looks to me like he posted Dan Langford's data without attribution, but he did have some additional data. There is a Robert W. Langford, 29, in Muscogee Co., Ga., in 1860, [p. 325, #209/249], but he is likely related to George N. Langford of the 1810 Euclid Langford family, as the estate papers indicate he was living in Macon Co., probably with his mother.

- xiv. ANN E.² LANGFORD, b. about 1842 Harris Co., Ga.
She was in Macon Co., Alabama, in 1860.
- xv. FRANCES G.² LANGFORD, m. J. C. FUNDERBURGH.
Her husband's name is from Richard Langford's estate papers. They were living in Sumter Co., Alabama, in 1860.

2. HENRY NORMAN² LANGFORD was born 13 March 1802 in Montgomery Co., Maryland, and died after 12 December 1881 in Chilton Co., Alabama. He married (1) ELIZABETH DAVIS 12 July 1827 Putnam Co., Georgia, daughter of THOMAS DAVIS and ELIZABETH _____. She was born about 1810 in either Hancock or Putnam Co., Georgia, and died about 1838 in Harris Co., Georgia. He married (2) ADELINE CHEATHAM 14 December 1838 Muscogee Co., Georgia.

Henry N. Langford married Elizabeth Davis 12 July 1827. Her father, Thomas Davis, had died the year previously, and they received significant money and personal property from his estate.³⁵⁷

H. A. Langford is living in Muscogee Co., Ga., in 1830.³⁵⁸ Henry N. Langford sold lot 158 in the 19th district of then Muscogee, now Harris Co., Ga., to Thomas Kimbrough of Muscogee Co., Ga., 16 December 1836.³⁵⁹ The fact that Elizabeth Langford did not sign the deed suggests she may have died before this date. Although he was described as a resident of Muscogee County in the deed, it appears he was appointed a Justice of the Peace in Militia District 696 (Harris Co.) 19 February 1836.

Henry Langford moved to Macon Co., Alabama, shortly after his marriage to Adeline Cheatham, probably in 1837 or 1838, as they are there in 1840.³⁶⁰ His first recorded land purchase was made in 1842, when he purchased the NW ¼ of sec. 31, twp. 19, range 25 from John J. and Frances Harper for \$550.³⁶¹ The second tract with the S ½ of the SE ¼ section 25, twp. 19, range 26.³⁶² The third was the SW ¼ section 32.³⁶³ The fourth was for the south ½ and the east ½ of SW ¼ of section 25.³⁶⁴ (This is clearly mostly the same tract as before,

³⁵⁷ Langford, Dan A. Henry Norman Langford. *Tap Roots* 1995;33:22-34. Unless otherwise noted, all of the information is from Dan Langford.

³⁵⁸ 1830 Census Muscogee Co., Ga., p. 284. Two males under 5, 1 20-30, one female 20-30, two slave boys under 10, and one 10-24, one female 10-24. The relationship with George N. Langford, whose family recurs in the Muscogee Co., Ga., records is discussed under Richard's entry.

³⁵⁹ Muscogee Co., Ga., Deed Book C:519, 16 Dec 1836. The 202.5 acre lot was sold for \$1600.

³⁶⁰ 1840 Census Macon Co., Ala., p. 15. He has one son under 5, two 5-10, one 10-15, and he is 30-40. He has one daughter under 5, and his wife is 20-30. He also has one male slave 10-14, two 24-36, and one female slave 10-24, one 24-36, and one 36-55.

³⁶¹ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book F:69, [8 August 1846].

³⁶² Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book F:68, [17 July 1843/8 August 1846.]

³⁶³ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book D:119 [5 June 1844/17 March 1845.]

³⁶⁴ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book F:67, [28 Jan 1845/8 Aug 1846.]

suggesting a title problem.) The final purchase in this batch was for the E ½ of section 36, all in the same township.³⁶⁵

Henry N. "Sangford", 48 year old farmer, born in Maryland, had real estate valued at \$26,311 in the 1850 Census.³⁶⁶ On 2 November 1854 Henry N. and Adeline M. Langford sold to Elijah Evans the east and west ½ of section 36, twp. 19, range 25 and all of the SE ¼ of section 25 south of Tuskegee Road for \$1900.³⁶⁷ In March 1855 they sold several lots in the town of Auburn to Jane E. Smith, formerly Patton, executor of William K. Patton.³⁶⁸ On 26 December 1857 he sold a 3 ½ acre tract to the Montgomery and West Point Railroad.³⁶⁹

Dan Langford found a confusing deed made in Autauga Co., Ala., 18 December 1858, that was filed 12 April 1859 in Macon Co., Ala., that sold the NW ¼ of section 34 and the SE ¼ of section 28, and 200 acres in section 27 to C. L. and Lee Crofts for \$2750.³⁷⁰ Henry Langford and his family may have resided in Autauga Co., Ala., before moving to Decatur, Mississippi, to join their eldest son, Thomas Davis Langford.

Very little is known about Henry during his stay in Newton County, Mississippi other than the 1860 census³⁷¹ and the 1863 tax rolls. The Newton Court House burned in 1876, but the 1860 census indicated that Henry owned real estate and had substantial personal property. He was a landowner and farmer for many years, so it is reasonable to assume he also owned property in Mississippi. I suspect that he and the family returned to Alabama about 1864 as a result of another war very close to home.³⁷²

Given that Vicksburg fell 3 July 1863 and their daughter Emma married James O. Jeffries in Autauga Co., Ala., February 1864, it is likely they left in the fall of 1863. Henry Langford purchased the west ½ of section 24, the NE ¼ of section 23, and 15 acres in the north end of the SE ¼ of sec 23, twp. 20, range 16, all in Autauga Co., Ala., totaling 300 acres from Martin Johnson.³⁷³ A special census was done in 1866, which records the death of a soldier from disease during the war. This most likely was John H. Langford.

³⁶⁵ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book F:70, [10 Apr 1845/8 Aug 1846.]

³⁶⁶ 1850 Census Macon Co., Ala., p. 215.

³⁶⁷ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book J:10, [2 November 1854/16 November 1854.]

³⁶⁸ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book J:511 [March 1855/8 January 1856.] The lots were #13, the west ½ of lot 2, the SE corner of lot 9, known as the Eagle Hotel.

³⁶⁹ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book K:436, [26 Dec 1857/28 Dec 1857.]

³⁷⁰ Macon Co., Ala., Deed Book L:104, [18 Dec 1858/12 Apr 1859.]

³⁷¹ 1860 Census Newton Co., Miss., p. 762, #470/487. John and Emma were still living with him. His real estate was valued at \$1800 and his personal estate at \$10,784.

³⁷² Langford, Dan A. Henry Norman Langford. Tap Roots 1995;33:27-28.

³⁷³ Autauga Co., Ala., Deed Book 15:262, [1 Oct 1864/3 Oct 1864.] Dan commented that the north line of sections 23 and 24 is the boundary between Chilton and Autauga County, and the east line of section 24 is boundary between Elmore and Autauga County. Neither Chilton nor Elmore counties had been formed at this time. The land is near the headwaters of Shoal Creek, about two miles east of the town of Marbury.

In 1870, Henry Langford and Adeline Jeffries were living in Montgomery, Alabama, with no children, but with three blacks, and one black infant.³⁷⁴ They apparently still owned land in the “country,” as on 14 November 1876, Henry N. and Adeline M. Langford sold to Joseph Lake, et. al., for \$250 the NE ¼ and the NW ¼ of section 25, twp. 20, range 16 in Autauga County, adjoining the land acquired in 1864.³⁷⁵ On 25 October 1878 they sold the NE ¼ of NE ¼ section 29, less 1 acre in the extreme southeast corner of the 40 acre tract to E. L. Powers for \$200.³⁷⁶ (The reserved 1 acre is probably a cemetery.)

In 1880 Henry Langford and A. M. Langford were living on Bridge Street in Wetumpka, Alabama.³⁷⁷ Dan Langford found two newspaper references to Henry N. Langford [Nov. 16, 1876, and May 28, 1879] that show he was a bridge keeper for a bridge over the Coosa River at Wetumpka. His occupation in the 1880 Census in Wetumpka, Alabama, is listed as bridge keeper. On 12 December 1881 Henry and Adeline Langford sold to A. T. Mitchell the W ½ of section 24 and the NE ¼ of sec. 23, and 15 acres in the N end of SE ¼ of section 23, all in twp. 20, range 16, totaling 300 acres, the land purchased in 1864.³⁷⁸ Although the deed was executed in Chilton Co., Ala., there is no certainty he was actually living there. This deed is the last written record of Henry N. Langford, who was 79 years old at the time.

Henry N. Langford died in Jemison, Chilton Co., Alabama, in 1891, and is buried in Pine Hill Cemetery along with Adeline and daughter Emma and son-in-law J. O. Jeffries.

The father of Dr. T. D. Langford, was born in the earlier part of the last century and lived and died near Auburn, Alabama. He had two daughters, Scrap, who married William Langford and settled near Linden, Alabama, and Emma, who married a man named Jeffreys. He had four sons, Thomas Davis, Henry, Joel and Philip. Philip married and settled in Montgomery and was a merchant there. Henry married and settled in Leake County, Miss. He had two daughters, Mollie, who married Dempsey Pace, and Sallie, who married Fred Weaver. Both are now dead. He had five sons, Bill, John, Eck, Henry, and Charley, who went to Texas more than forty years ago and all trace of them is lost.³⁷⁹

Children of HENRY N. LANGFORD and ELIZABETH DAVIS are:

3. i. THOMAS DAVIS³ LANGFORD, b. 3 June 1828 Putnam Co., Ga.; d. 22 January 1909 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. LUCY FRANCES WILSON 11 September 1859 Newton Co., Miss., dau. of HENRY WILSON and ELIZA HOWE; b. about 1841 Monroe Co., Ga.; d. 27 May 1910 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

³⁷⁴ 1870 Census Montgomery Co., Ala., Montgomery 4th Ward, p. 503, #318/336.

³⁷⁵ Autauga Co., Ala., Deed Book 23:383, [14 Nov 1876/30 Dec 1876.] Dan commented that he had not found a record for the purchase of this land.

³⁷⁶ Elmore Co., Ala., Deed Book Q:1, [25 Oct 1878/10 June 1879.] This land is near Deatsville, and again, no record was found of its acquisition.

³⁷⁷ 1880 Census Elmore Co., Ala., Ward 2, Beat 8, Wetumpka, ED 73, p. 1, #1/1.

³⁷⁸ Autauga Co., Ala., Deed Book 28:165, [12 December 1881 Chilton Co., Ala.]

³⁷⁹ Amis, A. B. Typescript, 1936. Copy housed in the Special Collections, Mississippi State University Library, Starkville, Miss. The quotation is from a personal copy of that work.

- ii. JOEL J.³ LANGFORD, b. May 1830 Muscogee Co., Ga.; d. December 1910 Chilton, Falls Co., Texas; m. WINNIE JANE CASSIDY 20 December 1855 Henry Co., Ala.; b. 4 August 1835 in Alabama; d. 24 August 1880 Newton Co., Miss. [Buried in the Conehatta Methodist Church cemetery.]
 “They raised at least eight children in Alabama and moved to Newton County, Miss., sometime after 1874 and on to Texas between 1885 and 1895. Joel was a farmer and an Alabama veteran of the Civil War.”
- iii. HENRY³ LANGFORD, b. September 1832 Muscogee Co., Ga.; d. 1911 Neshoba Co., Miss.; m. CAROLINE ELIZABETH PHIPPS 5 January 1854 Macon Co., Ala.
 “They had eight children, three born in Alabama and the others in Mississippi. The family moved to Neshoba Co., Miss., in about 1858.”
- iv. PHILEMON O.³ LANGFORD, b. January 1835 Harris Co., Ga.; d. after 1909 Montgomery, Ala.; m. SUSAN R. MAY 12 April 1860 Lowndes Co., Ala.
 “They raised at least seven children in Montgomery, Alabama, some of whom stayed and raised their children there. Philemon was a man of many talents. On succeeding census records he was listed as a teacher, merchant, and dentist. He had one son, Edward Davis Langford (1867-1945) who was a dentist in Montgomery for many years and another son, Marcus Lee Langford (1865-1946) who was a physician who practiced in Texas from the 1890’s to the 1940’s.”

Children of HENRY LANGFORD and ADELIN CHEATHAM are:

- v. MARY³ LANGFORD, b. about 1839; m. WILLIAM BRADY LANGFORD.
 The relationship of William B. Langford to this family is not known. Mary’s nickname was “Scrap” according to Judge Amis. They lived in Dayton, Marengo Co., Ala., and had at least four children. He was a hotel keeper and merchant.
- vi. JOHN H.³ LANGFORD, b. about 1841 Macon Co., Ala.; d. 1861-1865.
- vii. EMMA J.³ LANGFORD, b. about 1844 Macon Co., Ala.; m. JAMES O. JEFFRIES.

3. THOMAS DAVIS³ LANGFORD was born 3 June 1828 Putnam Co., Georgia, and died 22 January 1909 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Mississippi. He married LUCY FRANCES WILSON 11 September 1859 Newton Co., Mississippi, daughter of HENRY WILSON and ELIZA HOWE. She was born about 1841 in Monroe Co., Georgia, and died 27 May 1910 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.

Dr. Thomas Davis Langford³⁸⁰ was born June 3, 1828. He studied medicine at Charleston, S. C., and graduated about 1856. Shortly afterward he came to Newton County, Miss. and located for the practice of his profession, making his headquarters at the old tavern home of Henry Wilson, on the Jackson and Livingston Stage Road. In 1859 he married Lucy Francis Wilson, daughter of Henry Wilson and Eliza Howe. After their marriage they continued to reside in the same community until 1871 when they moved to Anderson County, Texas, where they stayed two years, but becoming discouraged, returned and settled on a

³⁸⁰ Amis, A. B. Typescript, 1936.

farm about a mile east of Conehatta in Newton County, Miss. They continued to reside there until about 1905 when they broke up housekeeping, sold the farm to their sons, Willie and George, and went to live with their son Howard in Meridian. He died in March 1909 and she died in May 1910. They were both buried in the Methodist Churchyard at Conehatta, Newton Co., Miss.

Children of THOMAS LANGFORD and LUCY WILSON are:³⁸¹

- i. WILLIAM H.⁴ LANGFORD, b. August 1861 Newton Co., Miss.; d. after 1920 Buckner Co., La.; m. ODELLA C. MITCHELL December 1891 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 8 Sept. 1872 Ala.; d. 12 November 1934 Newton Co., Miss.
- ii. LARKIN DAVID⁴ LANGFORD, b. 2 May 1862 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 15 Aug 1913 Austwell, Refugio Co., Texas; m. ELLA MORGAN LOPER 2 Sep 1891 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 22 Oct 1867 Newton Co., Miss; d. 1 Apr 1952 Shreveport, Grant Par., La.
- iii. ELIZA ROBERTA⁴ LANGFORD, b. July 1865 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 14 October 1939; m. JOSEPH ANDERSON PACE 1 Nov 1883 Newton Co., Miss.; b. Oct 1861; d. 21 Apr 1944.
- iv. MARY SALOME⁴ LANGFORD, b. 1 February 1868 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 7 December 1942 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. ALPHONSO BOBBITT AMIS 11 June 1892 Newton Co., Miss., son of ALBERT GALLATIN AMIS and LUVENIA BREWER; b. 7 February 1867 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 6 July 1949 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.
- v. THOMAS HOWARD⁴ LANGFORD, b. November 2, 1869; d. 1937 Conehatta, Newton Co., Miss.; m. INA JOE BAILEY December 1899 Newton Co., Miss.; b. September 1874; d. 1932.
- vi. LUCY VIRGINIA⁴ LANGFORD, b. November 5, 1871, in Texas; d. 12 March 1905 Newton Co., Miss.; m. WILLIAM W. RUSSELL 1892 Newton Co., Miss.;
- vii. ROBERT LEE⁴ LANGFORD, b. December 11, 1873, Newton Co., Miss.; d. 27 Feb 1955 Newton Co., Miss.; m. ETHEL BROWN about 1901.
- viii. PALLIE LOIS⁴ LANGFORD, b. July 27, 1877. [Tombstone says 12 Sept 1877]; d. 10 Oct 1932; m. WILL BASS.
- ix. GEORGE MARVIN⁴ LANGFORD, b. May 16, 1879 Newton Co., Miss; d. 28 July 1959 Conehatta, Newton Co., Miss.; m. ALMA BLACKBURN 1904 Newton Co., Miss.; b. 30 Nov 1855 Miss.; d. 20 June 1944 Newton Co., Miss.
- x. ERNEST⁴ LANGFORD, b. July 15, 1881 Newton Co., Miss; d. 30 Sep 1925 Newton Co., Miss.
- xi. HERBERT BAILEY⁴ LANGFORD, b. May 27, 1883 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 28 July 1965 Shreveport, Grant Par., La.; m. MARY BEATRICE CURTIS 20 Nov 1912 Shreveport, La.; b. 12 Dec 1891 Pass Christian, Miss.; d. 27 Jan 1977 Shreveport, La.
- xii. ALBERT LEON⁴ LANGFORD, b. 22 June 1886 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 13 Oct 1891 Newton Co., Miss.

Descendants of Thomas Petty³⁸²

³⁸¹ Additional data obtained from Kay. Our Winding Family Vine. 22 April 2008. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. ourtexasfolks.)

The traditional view of the Petty family was presented by Alice Amis Hodges in her study of the Petty family of Madison County, Alabama.³⁸³ She argued that Thomas Petty, wife of Catherine Garton, was the son and grandson of men named Thomas Petty or Pettus. This analysis was apparently popularized in the 1940's, but Mrs. Hodges did not cite her reference.

However, James Petty has presented evidence that seems to indicate that Thomas Petty was, in fact, the son of a man named Hubert³⁸⁴, whose last name was usually rendered Patey or Patty. His evidence, which I have not confirmed is as follows:

1. On 6 March 1700/01 Thomas and Katherine Petty appeared with Martha Garton, Katherine's mother, to settle the estate of John Garton. [Richmond Co., Va., Court Orders 3:85, 168.]
2. On 13 October 1701 Thomas Petty and his wife, Katherine, sold land in Lancaster Co., Va., on Morratico Creek, which land was bequeathed to him in the will of his father Hubert Petty. [Lancaster Co., Va., DB 7:36.]
3. On 2 November 1699 Thomas Petty sued Dennis and Jane Cameron, "the executors of Walter Welch, dec'd., who was executor of Hubert Patty" for Thomas' inheritance, which he had not received. On 3 April 1700, Thomas Petty and his wife, "Kat." Won their case and received "four cows, and their increase since he came of age." [Richmond Co., Va., Court Order Book 3:24.]
4. In the Spring term 1687, Hubert Petty/Patey of Lancaster Co., Va., died leaving a will naming his wife Faith, and his minor son, Thomas. Hubert bequeathed all of his land and property to Thomas and named his executor, Walter Welch, as Thomas' guardian. [reference not given.]

Further information on Hubert Patey has also been developed and republished online.³⁸⁵ Although the records spell his name several ways, I will simplify them and call him Hubert Patey. He came to Maryland in 1650 in the household of William Turner. He is listed as a plaintiff in suit against John Wakefield in 1654.³⁸⁶ It is unclear if he was still indentured at that point, but he appears in Norfolk Co., Virginia, in 1660 when he was an administrator appointed to an estate.

Hubert Patey purchased 150 acres of land on Morratico Creek in Lancaster Co., Virginia, 20 November 1665 from Abraham Bush. Two years later he and

³⁸² Updated 10 April 2012

³⁸³ Hodges, Alice Amis. *Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala.* (Pendleton, S. C., 1978.)

³⁸⁴ Petty, James W. 10 Sep 1998. <http://genforum.genealogy.com/petty/messages/253.html>.

³⁸⁵ McGee, Barbara. Located online 3 April 2010 at <http://www.pettygenealogy.com/HMTL%20files/pafc05.htm#209C14>. Referred to hereafter as McGee. (Unless specified, all references to records are from Mrs. McGee.)

³⁸⁶ Browne, William Hand, ed. *Judicial and Testamentary Business of the Provincial Court* 10: (1649/50-1657):368-369, 6 April 1654.

his wife, Rebecca, sold half of this tract. He made application for a land patent in 1672, which is apparently the only time his name appears in the records as Petty. He wrote his will in 1687 naming his wife Faith and minor son, Thomas.³⁸⁷ Walter Welch was named as guardian for son Thomas. There is some indirect evidence to suggest that Walter Welch may have been Hubert Patey's uncle, although the scanty data are subject to interpretation. Some believe that Walter Welch may have been a brother to Rebecca, first wife of Hubert. Although there are no data, the fact that Thomas appears to have been an only child suggests that Rebecca died in childbirth or while Thomas was quite young, and then Hubert died shortly after his marriage to Faith.

The traditional view links Thomas Petty to the Pettus family, members of the minor nobility.

The tradition has developed among researchers of the Petty family over the years that Thomas Petty was the son of Thomas Pettit/Petty and Rachel Wilson of Essex County, Virginia, and the grandson of Col. Thomas Petty and Catherine Morris of Rappahannock Co., Virginia. This line is further traced back to Thomas Pettus, who resided in Norwich, England in 1492. Thomas Pettit, the supposed father of the subject of this article, died in 1720, and named a son Thomas in his will. This has been the sole source of proof tying the lines together.³⁸⁸

As a result, many still accept this interpretation rather than the more humble origins of Hubert, who appears to have been a carpenter, based upon his will, and who certainly was a commoner. Personally, I find the links outlined above reasonably convincing. However, I have chosen to start the summary with Thomas Petty, about whom more documentation is established.

Genealogical Summary

1. THOMAS² PETTY was born 1673 in Lancaster Co., Virginia, and died before 24 May 1750 in Orange County, Virginia. He married CATHERINE GARTON about 1699 in Richmond Co., Virginia, daughter of JOHN GARTON and MARTHA _____. She was born about 1675 in Rappahannock Co., Virginia, and died 3 January 1748/49 in Orange Co., Virginia.

Thomas Petty's year of birth is estimated from a Northumberland Co., Va., court record dated 6 November 1689 involving the probate of his guardian, Walter Welch. At that time, Thomas bound himself out to John Davis to teach him the trade of carpentry. His term was for five years, which implies he was 16, since he was able to make his own decision, and also implying he would be 21 by November 1694. Both of these considerations seem to establish his birth year in

³⁸⁷ Lancaster Co., Va., Will Book 5:113, 2 June 1687.

³⁸⁸ McGee.

1673, although it is going a bit far to say that he was born in November of that year.

Thomas Patty sued Dennis Cameron and wife Jane Cameron, as executors of Walter Welch, who was the executor of Hubert Patey, for the portion of the inheritance he had not received on 2 November 1699 in Richmond Co., Virginia. He received four cows and their calves.³⁸⁹

Thomas Petty, Katherine Petty, and Martha Garton were awarded 300 pounds of tobacco as settlement of a suit against Robert and Anna Post concerning the estate of John Garton.³⁹⁰ Thomas and Katherine Patty and Ruth Boyd sued Hannah Port for a portion of the estate of John Garton that they had not received in the initial settlement.³⁹¹

Thomas and Katherine Petty and Ruth Garton Boyd applied for letters of administration for the estate of John Garton, the younger, 6 April 1721. David Boyd filed a complaint against Thomas Petty 2 August 1721, but it was dropped.³⁹² Ruth Boyd and Thomas Patty gave security as executors of the will of David Boyd 2 October 1728. Thomas asked for release from his duties 2 March 1731/32 and was replaced by his son-in-law, Thomas Sims.

All of these chancery actions establish the connections between Thomas Petty and Catherine Garton and her family, which included her parents, John and Martha, her sister Ruth Boyd, wife of David Boyd, and John Garton the younger, who apparently died without leaving a wife or children.

Land deeds show that Thomas and Catherine Garton sold 65 acres of land on Morratico Creek, adjoining the lands of Abraham Bush, 13 October 1702 in Lancaster Co., Virginia.³⁹³ As noted earlier, this land appears consistent with that purchased by Hubert Patey from Abraham Bush. Since I have not read the original deed, I do not know if he specifically established his ownership by inheritance, or if he simply assert his title, as was done more commonly.

Thomas Patty purchased 150 acres of land on Bare Branch of Rappahannock Creek from Thomas Barker in Richmond County 6 October 1703.³⁹⁴ Thomas Patty sold 50 acres of this tract to his son John 2 January 1727/28.³⁹⁵ Thomas and Catherine Petty and John and Rebecca Petty sold their tracts of land to William Jordan 4 November 1732.³⁹⁶ Both families leased land in then Spotsylvania Co., Virginia, 23 October 1734, which became Orange County 1 January 1734/35.³⁹⁷

³⁸⁹ Richmond Co., Va., Court Order Book 3:24, 3 April 1700.

³⁹⁰ Richmond Co., Va., Court Order Book 3:85, 6 March 1700/01; and 3:186, 7 May 1702.

³⁹¹ Richmond Co., Va., Court Order Book 9:48, 5 April 1722.

³⁹² Richmond Co., Va., Court Order Book 9:14, 2 August 1721.

³⁹³ Lancaster Co., Va., Deed Book 7:36, 13 October 1702.

³⁹⁴ Richmond Co., Va., Deed Book 3:118, 6 October 1703.

³⁹⁵ Richmond Co., Va., Deed Book 8:249, 2 January 1727/28.

³⁹⁶ Richmond Co., Va., Deed Book 8:622-624, 4 November 1732.

³⁹⁷ McGee.

Thomas Patty was sued for debt 17 March 1735/36 by William Jordan and was awarded 570 pounds of tobacco. Thomas Patty was also ordered to perform road work service apparently in lieu of court costs, but asked to be excused on the basis of being 75 years old.³⁹⁸ Although the evidence suggests he was closer to 65 years old, this would still have been considered quite elderly for the time and place.

Thomas Petty wrote his will 31 January 1748/49 and it was proved in Orange County, Virginia, 24 May 1750.³⁹⁹

In the name of God Amen, Jan. 31 1748 I Thomas Petty of Orange Co. St. Thomas Parish being sick and weak of body but of sound and perfect mind and memory praise be to God for the same do make and ordain this my last will and testament in writing and hereby do also make void all former wills or testaments by me heretofore, made. Imprimis, I give and bequeath my soul to God that gave it in hopes of full assurance to receive the same again at the Resurrection at the last day by the merit of my Lord Saviour Jesus Christ and my body I bequeath to the Earth from Whence it came to be buried in decent manner according to the discretion of my executors and executrix hereafter mentioned.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son John Petty one Shilling.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son William one Shilling.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Thomas Petty one Shilling.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son James Petty one Shilling.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Rebecca Sims one Shilling.

Item. I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Wright one Shilling.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son George Petty and my daughter Martha Petty all my estate both real and personal after my debts being paid and the legacies aforesaid to be equally divided between my well beloved children George Petty and Martha Petty to them and their heirs forever. Lastly, I nominate my son George Petty executor and my daughter Martha Petty executrix of this my last will and testament as witness my hand and seal this day and year above mentioned.

Thomas (X) Petty

Signed, sealed and delivered

in the presence of us

Solomon Ryan, Wm. Sims

Thomas Petty younger

May 24, 1750 at a court held for Orange Co. Thursday 24 May 1750 will was presented by Geo. and Martha Petty exrs. and ordered recorded.

Children of THOMAS PETTY and CATHERINE GARTON are:

³⁹⁸ Orange Co., Va., Court Order Book 1:146.

³⁹⁹ Orange Co., Va., Will Book 2:144-145.

- i. REBECCA³ PETTY, b. about 1701 Richmond Co., Va.; d. before April 1784 Culpeper Co., Va.; m. THOMAS SIMS 30 November 1725 Richmond Co., Va.; d. before 18 July 1785 Culpeper Co., Va.

Thomas Sims wrote his will 21 April 1784 and it was proved 18 July 1785 in Culpeper Co., Virginia.⁴⁰⁰ Rebecca was dead when he wrote his will.

- ii. JOHN³ PETTY, b. about 1703 Richmond Co., Va., d. before 27 September 1770 Orange Co., Va.; m. REBECCA SIMS.

John Petty wrote his will 26 July 1768 Orange Co., Virginia, and it was proved 27 September 1770.⁴⁰¹

In the name of God, Amen; I John Petty, being of the County of Orange, Parish of St. Thomas, being in perfect sense and memory, do make and ordain this my last will and testament Imprimis: I lend my beloved wife, Rebecca, the land and plantation whereon we now live, containing 122 acres during her natural life or widowhood, also my negro fellow Punch and negro woman Maoll, together with all my other estate, during her natural life or widowhood, and after her decease my will and desire is that my estate be divided amongst my children in manner and form to wit;

Item; I leave to my eldest son Thomas Petty 5 shillings current money to be paid to him by my executors when demanded and it is my will and desire that my said son have no other part of my estate.

Item; I give and bequeath to my daughters Sarah Corley and Tabitha Edwards and to my son Luke who are now in Carolina, the sum of 5 shillings each.

Item; I give and bequeath to my granddaughter Ann Ford the feather bed that she lies on with the furniture belonging to it.

Item; I give and bequeath to my son-in-law William Ransdall my large church Bible. Item; I give and bequeath to my son Francis Petty one horse to the value of £8.

Item; I give and bequeath to my son Abner Petty my negro man named Punch, but in case Abner should die before he arrives to the age of 21 yrs or has heirs of his body lawfully begotten, then it is my will and desire that my said negro Punch be sold and the money divided amongst my other children who I have not cut off with 5 shillings.

Item; I give and bequeath to my son George Petty after his mother's decease, the land and plantation whereon I now live and one negro woman named Moll. With her future increase to him and his heirs forever but in case that George should have died before he arrives to the age of 21 yrs or has heirs of his body lawfully begotten then it is my will and desire that the land and plantation go to my son John Petty and his heirs forever and the negro woman named Moll be sold to the highest bidder and the money to be equally divided betwixt all my children who have not been cut off 5 shillings.

It is my will and desire that in case my wife Rebecca Petty should marry after my decease that then she should have no more of estate than the law here after mentioned, vis.; Alizia Ford, John Petty, Zachariah Petty, Ann Ransdall, Rebecca Boston, Susannah Hawkins, Jemima Boston, Francis Petty, and Abner

⁴⁰⁰ Culpeper Co., Va., Will Book E:342.

⁴⁰¹ Orange Co., Va., Will Book 2:422.

Petty, and I do appoint my beloved wife Rebecca Petty Extrx., and my son Zachariah Petty and William Ransdall executors of this my Esate will and testament this 26th day of July 1768.

John Petty signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of us: Alexander Waugh Jr., Absalom Wood, William Wood.

Since the signing of the above will, I have been informed of the death of my eldest son, Thomas Petty, therefore to prevent his children from having any part of my estate, I give to my grandson Reuben Petty, son of Thomas Petty, one shilling sterling in witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 20th day of Feb 1770.

John Petty Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of Catty Petty and Alexander Waugh Jr.

2. iii. THOMAS³ PETTY, b. 1706 Richmond Co., Va.; d. after 1756 Lunenburg Co., Va.; m. ELIZABETH MOORE 24 August 1727 North Farnham Parish, Richmond Co., Va.
- iv. CHRISTOPHER³ PETTY, b. about 1708; d. before 1765 Culpeper Co., Va.; m. MARTHA _____.
- v. WILLIAM³ PETTY, b. about 1710; m. ELIZABETH _____.

William Petty purchased a lease in Orange Co., Virginia, in 1741 in which he named his sons Theophilus and William Petty. The family left Orange County in May 1748 and appear in Brunswick Co., Va., where on 27 September 1750 William Petty and his wife Elizabeth sold a tract of land to John Marshall of Charles City Co., Virginia. No record has been found of their acquisition of the land, so it is possible that it was through an inheritance from her family. Her surname has not been established from the records.

William Petty and family moved to nearby Lunenburg Co., Virginia, where he appears in the 1751 Tithe List. Theophilus is also listed, indicating he was born before 1734. William Petty appears in court records with children of Thomas Petty, Jr., until July 1756, a suit between Richard Taylor and William Petty was dismissed because William had moved away from Lunenburg Co., Va.

William Petty received land grants in Orange Co., N. C., that he later divided amongst his children. He appears for the last time in court records from 1769. His son, William Petty, Jr., used the "Jr." in August 1770, and did not in November 1770, suggesting his father had died in the interim.

The only proven children of William and Elizabeth Petty are Theophilus and William. He is supposed to have had two other sons, Hubbard and John, although proof is lacking.⁴⁰²

- vi. MARY³ PETTY, b. about 1714; m. THOMAS KNIGHT.
- vii. MARTHA³ PETTY, b. about 1717; m. R BOSTON.

⁴⁰² Information was reported by McGee, but appears to be a verbatim quote from Hodges, Alice Amis. *Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala.* (Pendleton, S. C., 1978,) p. 22. Just to confuse the issue, Mrs. Hodges probably has Thomas and William confused in her records. Since she does not cite her sources, I cannot back track to figure out how to correct the information. It seems clear that Thomas Petty was the father of the William Petty, grandfather of John Wright Petty.

- viii. JAMES³ PETTY, b. about 1720; d. before 3 November 1806 Union Co., S. C.; m. MARTHA _____.

James Petty and his family appear to have moved to Bute Co., N. C., before 1768, and then to Chatham Co., N. C., and then to Union Co., S. C., about 1785. He wrote his will there 14 March 1806 and it was proved 3 November 1806.⁴⁰³

In the name of God, Amen, I James Petty of the State of South Carolina, Union District, farmer, being of sound body mind and memory and understanding, praised be God for the same, do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following: first I commit my soul to God who gave it and my body to be buried in a Christian manner at the discretion of my Executors and as for my worldly goods I dispose of in the following manner:

First: it is my will that all lawful debts be paid together with funeral expenses, probate of will and etc. Then I it is my will that my beloved wife Martha enjoy as her right all my estate and real and personal during her life or widowhood (excepting for...of five shillings to each of my children : Viz: Ambrose, James, Absalom, Joshua, Thomas, and George, and also the same moiety of five shillings to each of my daughters namely: Rachel, Sarah, Martha, Catharine, and Polly to be paid to each of them by my executors at the Death or Marriage of my beloved wife.) At her Death or Marriage I give my plantation and land containing 325 Acres, more or less, to my son Gabriel Petty in fee simple and also two thirds of my personal estate; and the other third part I give to my beloved wife to dispose of at her discretion—and lastly I constitute ordain and appoint my trusty and well beloved wife Executrix and my son Gabriel and my trusty friend, Nicholas Corry, Executors of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and making void all and every other will and wills at any time heretofore by me made and declare this to be my last will and testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 14th of March in the year of our Lord 1806.

Signed and declared published by the above named J.P. the testator as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence have subscribed our names as witnesses.

Signed: James Petty

Witnesses: Charles Petty, Jeptha Harrington & John Petty

- ix. GEORGE³ PETTY, b. about 1723; d. 1752 Orange Co., Va.; m. JEMIMA _____.

George Petty's will was written 3 January 1751 and proved 28 May 1752 in Orange Co., Va.⁴⁰⁴

2. THOMAS³ (THOMAS², HUBERT¹) PETTY was born about 1708 in Richmond Co., Virginia, and died about 1770 in Orange Co., Virginia. He married

⁴⁰³ Union Co., S. C., Will Book A:232. Transcript located online 8 April 2012 at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/Thumbnails.aspx?recordId=299028>.

⁴⁰⁴ Orange Co., Va., Will Book 2:165.

ELIZABETH MOORE 24 August 1727 North Farnham Parish, Richmond Co., Virginia, daughter of FRANCIS MOORE and ANN _____.

Very little firm information has been collected on this man other than the information recorded in the Registry of North Farnham Parish.

Children of THOMAS PETTY and ELIZABETH MOORE are:

- i. FRANCIS MOORE⁴ PETTY, b. 27 June 1728 Richmond Co., Va.; d. before 26 February 1816 Halifax Co., Va.; m. MARY _____.

Francis Moore Petty was witness for a deed of Thomas Petty and Francis Moore in Lunenburg Co., Va., 16 February 1757. He wrote his will 9 September 1802 and proved 26 February 1816.⁴⁰⁵

In the name of God amen, I Francis Moore Petty of Halifax County in the state of Virginia, being weak of body but sound of mind and memory, Thanks be to God Almighty for the same, do make this my last will and testament in the manner and form following.

First I consign my body to the dust and my soul to God that gave it. Secondly my will and desire is that all my debts be paid by my executor hereafter to be mentioned.

Item - I lend to my beloved wife Mary during her natural life or pleasure, all of my estate both real and personal now in my possession.

Item - I give and bequeath to my son Joseph one negro woman named Ann, now in his possession with all of her increase for the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Five to him and his heirs forever.

Item - I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Bosticke one negro woman named Dorcas now in her possession with all of her increase for the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Eight to her and her heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my son Garton One Hundred Fifty pounds to be paid on application, in lieu of land I intended to give him.

Item - I give and bequeath to my son Davis all the tract of land on Whitewater Saw, where Andrew now lives, containing his Hundred and Fifty Three acres be the same more or less, to him and his heirs forever.

Item - I give and bequeath to Coleman Hawkins, son of Milly Hawkins Twenty Five pounds to be paid by my executor on his coming of age twenty one years old.

After the death of my wife, or if she should wish to divide my estate it is my will and desire that all of my estate such as land, slaves, stock and all kinds of furniture so lent to my wife be sold by my executor and the money arriving from such sale together with all the money I may have or had as due me by bond or likewise be equally divided among my children, except my son Joseph who is to secure One Hundred pounds over and above what I have before given him, to them and their heirs forever. My will and desire further is that no part of my estate be appraised, and lastly I mandate, constitute and appoint my

⁴⁰⁵ Halifax Co., Va., Will Book 10:424.

son Joseph and my son Garton Petty executors of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all others.

In testimony whereof I have set my hand this 9th Day of September One Thousand Eight Hundred and Two.

Francis Moore Petty

Signed, Sealed and Acknowledged in presence of us,
Peter Barksdale, John ? and Richard ?

- ii. ANN⁴ PETTY.
- 3. iii. WILLIAM⁴ PETTY, b. about 1730 Richmond Co., Va.; d. before 27 May 1805 Clark Co., Kentucky; m. LETITIA _____.
- iv. LAVINIA⁴ PETTY.
- v. ELIZABETH⁴ PETTY.
- vi. JOSEPH⁴ PETTY, b. 1738 Orange Co., Va.

3. WILLIAM⁴ (THOMAS³⁻², HUBERT¹) PETTY was born about 1730 in Richmond Co., Virginia, and died before 27 May 1805 Clark Co., Kentucky. He married LETITIA _____.

The history of the Reverend William Petty, Sr., Baptist minister of early Surry County, North Carolina, has been the subject of many genealogical researchers.⁴⁰⁶ Though not all of their conclusions are fully proven, we must remember that we are dealing with the Colonial Period and that surviving records are scanty. Some of the material which follows is not documented but is presented as hypotheses in the hopes of guiding further research.

The Reverend William Petty is reputed to have been the second son of Thomas Petty IV, who married Elizabeth Moore in Richmond County, Virginia, on August 24, 1727. Their oldest son, Francis Moore Petty, was born June 27, 1728, as shown by a baptismal record in North Farnham Parish where they married. William's name first appears in a 99 year lease recorded in 1735 in Orange County, Virginia; so his birth date has been estimated as being about 1730. The absence of a church record for him in North Farnham probably indicates that his parents had moved to Spotsylvania County, Virginia, prior to his birth.⁴⁰⁷ The use of the youngest son's name in a land lease was customary when leasing land for a longer period than the probable life span of the parent.

The Petty family settled in an area near the meeting of the Rappahannock and Rapidan Rivers. In 1734 this land became a part of Orange County. (The 1735 land lease mentioned previously also mentions Thomas Petty IV's younger brother, another William (b. 1710) and William's son Theophilus. According to a

⁴⁰⁶ Pettey, Harry, Medlin, Doris, and Parks, Vivian. The Pettey's of East Texas. Cited by Mike. 1658-1758 Charles Co., MD, Families, "The First 100 Years." 8 April 2012. Located online at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. mrmarsha.)

⁴⁰⁷ My interpretation is that he had become Baptist by the time his second son was born and therefore had no intention of having him baptized in the Anglican church. Further, even good Anglicans do not appear to have thought it that important to have each child christened in the church.

1775 land record of Chatham County, North Carolina, this William, brother to Thomas, also had another son, William, Jr., born about 1740. The presence of this other William Petty (b. 1710) and his son William Petty, Jr. (b. 1740), has complicated the interpretation of existing records. Comments on this William, Jr., will be limited to the hypothesis that he was the Revolutionary soldier who married Mildred Phelps about 1774 and died in Halifax County, Virginia, in 1827 (Rev. Pension Record W-18747).

1756 land records indicate that Thomas Petty IV and his brother William (b. 1710) had moved their families to Lunenburg County, Virginia, possibly as early as 1751. Halifax County was formed from Lunenburg in 1752, Charlotte from Lunenburg in 1765, and Pittsylvania from Halifax in 1767. An understanding of the sequence of county formation in Colonial Virginia is important to an interpretation of Petty family history through land records.

Our subject William Petty (b. ca 1730) married about 1754 in Culpeper County, Virginia to one Lettice _____. Some researchers say he was married twice but there is no evidence to support the theory that his first wife was the Elizabeth Petty listed as a daughter in the 1794 will of Thomas Marshall of Culpeper County, Virginia; but there is ample evidence that it was William's cousin, Zachariah Petty, who married this Elizabeth Marshall about 1762. The colonial records for a William and Elizabeth Petty in the Lunenburg County area are probably for William Petty (b. 1710) our subject's uncle, who is reported to have married an Elizabeth in Orange County about 1734. Assuming, as it now seems proper to do, that our subject William Petty (1730), son of Thomas Petty IV, was not the William Petty on record in Lunenburg with wife Elizabeth, where was he? Did he remain in Northern Virginia and marry there when his father went South to Lunenburg County along with other Petty relatives? If so, no records have been found to indicate it save perhaps the sworn statement of his son William in his pension application that he was born in Fauquier or Stafford County, Virginia on March 13, 1764. Wherever he and his family may have been from 1764 and earlier, our subject William Petty (1730) purchased 200 acres of land on Wallace Creek in Charlotte County, Virginia on August 1, 1770, from William and Joseph Crews (Charlotte County Deed Book 3, p. 330). Whether our William Petty ever lived in Charlotte County is not certain from information at hand; but he was a resident of neighboring Pittsylvania County by 1773 when "William Petty of Pittsylvania County" sold land he purchased from William and Joseph Crews (Charlotte County Deed Book 3, p. 360).

His wife Lettice (Lettie, Letty, Lettitia) relinquished her dower right, and in so doing forged one of the strongest links between the William Petty of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, in 1773 and the William Petty whose will was probated in Clark County, Kentucky, on May 27, 1805, naming among others his widow Lettis and his daughter, Elizabeth Dodson. Even before selling his land in Charlotte County, William Petty had on January 1, 1772, purchased 150 acres of land on both sides of Double Creek in Pittsylvania County (Pittsylvania County Deed Book 2, p. 437) which he sold in two separate tracts on August 17, 1778, while still listed as a resident of Pittsylvania County (Pittsylvania County Deed Book 5, pp. 23 and 25).

In my view, this appears to be the most balanced attempt to “sort out” the various men named William Petty who lived in the southern counties of Virginia before the Revolution.⁴⁰⁸ From the information that appears validated, William Petty moved many times in the course of his life, presumably founding churches. For instance, his son, William, asserted he was born in 1764 in either Fauquier or Stafford Co., Virginia, but enlisted in the Revolutionary cause in Surry Co., N. C., in 1780. (see his entry below.)

As noted in the quotation above, there is good reason to think that in 1771 William Petty had purchased 200 acres of land on Wallace Creek in Charlotte Co., Virginia from William and Joseph Crews,⁴⁰⁹ and was living in Pittsylvania County when he and Lettice sold the tract in 1773.⁴¹⁰ He had previously purchased 150 acres of land on both sides of Double Creek in Pittsylvania County on 1 January 1772,⁴¹¹ and sold the tract in two parcels in August 1778.⁴¹²

William Petty obtained a land grant from the state of North Carolina for a 300 acre tract of land on the waters of Deep Creek adjacent Henry Hambrick, Millington (Millanton?) Blalock, and Richard Blalock 9 August 1787.⁴¹³ William Petty, Sr., sold a 300 acre tract of land on Deep Creek adjacent Henry Hambrick and William Blalock to Christian Fender for £32 North Carolina money in 1792.⁴¹⁴

The 1790 tax list for Surry Co., N. C., shows Ransdale Petty with 300 acres of land and 1 poll, William Petty with 400 acres of land and no polls, Zachariah Petty with 140 acres and 1 poll.⁴¹⁵

The 1790 Census for Surry Co., N. C., shows Ransdall Petty with himself, his wife, and one son.⁴¹⁶ William Petty was shown with three males under 16, two over 16, three women, and one slave.⁴¹⁷ Zachariah Petty is shown with himself, one son under 16, and five women.⁴¹⁸ In 1800 William Petty, Sr., was listed in Morgan, Wilkes Co., N. C., over 45, with one male 16-25, and one 10-15,

⁴⁰⁸ A somewhat more traditional, but apparently undocumented, interpretation says that 1805 (year of death) William Petty of Clark Co., Ky., (place of death), was married twice. By his supposed first wife, Elizabeth Ransdell, he had either 8 or 10 children. He married secondly to Letitia Thornton, by whom he had an additional 4 or 5 children.

⁴⁰⁹ Charlotte Co., Va., Deed Book 3:330, 1 August 1770.

⁴¹⁰ Charlotte Co., Va., Deed Book 3:360.

⁴¹¹ Pittsylvania Co., Va., Deed Book 2:437, 1 January 1772.

⁴¹² Pittsylvania Co., Va., Deed Book 5:23, 25, 17 August 1778.

⁴¹³ Surry Co., N. C., Deed Book D:41, 9 August 1787. Located online 19 April 2012 at <http://genforum.genealogy.com/hamrick/messages/961.html>.

⁴¹⁴ Surry Co., N. C., Deed Book E:228, 14 January 1792. Located online 19 April 2012 at <http://www.moonzstuff.com/fender/nimrod1766.html>.

⁴¹⁵ Captain Hudspeth's District. Located online 19 April 2012 at <http://newrivernotes.com/nc/surry/1790tl.html>.

⁴¹⁶ 1790 Census Surry Co., N. C., p. 519. (This list is roughly alphabetized, but the names are not adjacent to each other.)

⁴¹⁷ 1790 Census Surry Co., N. C., p. 519.

⁴¹⁸ 1790 Census Surry Co., N. C., p. 519.

his wife, over 45, 1 woman 16-25, and one 10-15, and one slave.⁴¹⁹ William Petty, probably his son, is 26-45, as is his wife, and they have 3 boys under 10, and two 10-15, and also two girls under 10, and one girl 10-15 years old.⁴²⁰

William Petty founded a Baptist Meeting House on Deep Creek in 1788. The church is now known as the Flat Rock Baptist Church and is in present day Yadkin Co., N. C.

In the year 1786, eleven churches, which had been previously gathered about the head of the Yadkin and its waters, began to hold yearly conferences, as a branch of the Strawberry Association in Virginia. The proceedings of this conference were annually submitted to the Association to which it had attached itself, for their inspection, and were borne thither by delegates appointed for the purpose. But in 1790, the churches, composing this conference, were, upon their request, dismissed, and formed a distinct Association. The ministers belonging to this body at its commencement, were George M'Neal, John Cleaveland, William Petty, William Hammond, Cleaveland Caffee, Andrew Baker, and John Stone. This Association, like Sandy-Creek, transacted its business, or at least, held its sessions, for a number of years, without a moderator. Some of their scrupulous brethren, it seems, were opposed to order, or formality, as they esteemed it, in their religious proceedings, and pleaded that it was an infringement of Christian liberty, and too much like worldly assemblies, to have a moderator at their head, whom they must address when they spoke, and whose liberty they must request, etc. In 1793, Mr. John Gano, who then lived in Kentucky, visited this Association, and found many difficulties among them on account of these things. But he knew very well how to manage prejudices so whimsical and absurd, and prevailed on them to choose a moderator and establish rules, by which their business was afterwards conducted with much decorum.⁴²¹

William Petty and his wife moved to Winchester, Clark Co., Kentucky, between 1800 and 1804, when he wrote his will there.⁴²² He named his wife, Lettis, his youngest son Thomas, then his sons Francis, Zachariah, William, Randell, John, and James, and daughters Rhoda Cast, Elizabeth Dodson, Rachel Russell, Hannah Ward, and Sarah Stevens. Wife Lettis and son Thomas were named as executors. Witnesses were Charles and Sarah Tracy.⁴²³

⁴¹⁹ 1800 Census Wilkes Co., N. C., Morgan, p. 57.

⁴²⁰ Same page, although he is listed two lines above his father.

⁴²¹ Benedict, David. *A General History of the Baptist Denomination in America and Other Parts of the World*. (London: Lincoln & Edmonds, 1813.) Quotation cited was located online 19 April 2012 at <http://www.fbainstitute.com/baptist-in-america/benedict29.html>.

⁴²² Clark Co., Kentucky, Will Book 2:41, 1 May 1804/27 May 1805.

⁴²³ Ellsberry, Elizabeth Prather, comp. *Will Records of Clark County, Kentucky*. (Chillicothe, MO: Elizabeth Prather Ellsberry, circa 1965.) Located online 20 April 2012 at Ancestry.com. *Clark County, Kentucky Wills 1792-1826, Vol. 1-2* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2001.

Children of WILLIAM PETTY and LETTICE _____ are:⁴²⁴

- i. FRANCIS MARION⁵ PETTY, d. March 1857 Tipton, Willow Fork Twp., Moniteau Co., Mo.; m. SARAH RAGLAND 2 December 1802 Clark Co., Ky.
- ii. ZACHARIAH⁵ PETTY d. 1835 Surry Co., N. C.; m. NANCY ANNE DODSON.
4. iii. WILLIAM⁵ PETTY b. 3 March 1764 Fauquier or Stafford Co., Va.; d. 26 September 1834 New Market, Madison Co., Alabama; m. LUCRETIA WRIGHT 25 January 1783 Wilkes Co., N. C., daughter of JOHN WRIGHT and ANN WILLIAMS; b. 7 July 1765 Fauquier Co., Va.; d. 16 August 1842 Madison Co., Alabama.
- iv. RANSDALL⁵ PETTY, m. P. ELSEY DODSON.
- v. JOHN⁵ PETTY m. MARY SANDERS 5 January 1791 Wilkes Co., N. C.
- vi. JAMES⁵ PETTY b. 13 September 1771 Culpeper Co., Va.; d. 14 July 1847 Franklin, Williamson Co., Tenn.;⁴²⁵ m. KIZIAH JANE SANDERS.
- vii. THOMAS⁵ PETTY, b. 1780 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 1838 Montgomery Co., Ky.; m. REBECCA _____ about 1808 Clark Co., Ky.
- viii. RHODA⁵ PETTY d. 1823 Warren Co., Ohio; m. ELISHA CAST 10 March 1804 Clark Co., Ky.; b. say 1780 Iredell Co., N. C.; d. 1822 Warren Co., Ohio.
- ix. ELIZABETH⁵ PETTY, m. CALEB DODSON.
- x. RACHEL⁵ PETTY, m. BUCKNER RUSSELL 1790 Wilkes Co., N. C.; b. 1751 Va.; d. after 15 January 1836.
- xi. HANNAH⁵ PETTY, d. 1845 Hendricks Co., Ind.; m. JOHN R. WARD 1778 Wilkes Co., N. C.
- xii. SARAH⁵ PETTY, m. RICHARD STEVENS.

4. WILLIAM ELI⁵ (WILLIAM⁴, THOMAS³⁻², HUBERT¹) PETTY was born 3 March 1764 in either Fauquier or Stafford Co., Virginia, and died 26 September 1834 in New Market, Madison Co., Alabama. He married LUCRETIA WRIGHT 25 January 1783 Wilkes Co., N.C., daughter of JOHN WRIGHT and ANN WILLIAMS. She was born 7 July 1765 in Fauquier Co., Virginia, and died 16 August 1842 in New Market, Madison Co., Alabama.

William Eli Petty is one of the better documented ancestors from this period I have investigated, as his application for a Revolutionary War pension is extant as are family Bible records. He was born in Virginia, but in his pension application cannot say if it was in Fauquier or Stafford County. As noted above, his father was a pioneering Baptist minister, who moved fairly regularly, founding new meeting houses as he went. William Eli Petty was also a Baptist minister, but he spent most of his life in North Carolina before moving to Madison County, Alabama, about 1815.⁴²⁶

⁴²⁴ Additional data are from McGee.

⁴²⁵ Buried in Rowe Cemetery. Not located on findagrave.com.

⁴²⁶ Campbell, Vera M. Petty, Howard, Carleton and Golden Families. In *The Heritage of Madison County, Alabama*. (Clanton, Ala.; Heritage Publishing Consultants, 1998.)

State of Alabama)⁴²⁷
Madison County)

On this 29th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the judge of the circuit court now sitting William Petty a resident of the county of Madison and State of Alabama aged sixty eight years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following dictation in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under General Rutherford, Colonel Armstrong, and Capt. Absalom Bostwick who was his immediate commander—he marched from Surry County, North Carolina, as a drafted militiaman through Salisbury, from there to Cheraw Hills, and somewhere in the neighborhood of Rugby Mills he joined Gen'l. Gates army, with which he remained until a few days before the engagement in which Gates was defeated. He was detached with about 300 men under to command of Major Elisha Isaacs to inform Gen'l. Sumpter whom he joined in the neighborhood of Candis and remained until his defeat, in this campaign he was in service about three months—after the close of which he was engaged in scouting parties until he again entered the service as a substitute for a man whose name he has entirely forgotten—he however recollects that he was commanded by Major Francis Hargrove and Pendleton Isbell after the close of this last campaign he was engaged in guarding the legislature of North Carolina he was almost continually engaged in scouting parties which at that time was considered very ____ service. He served more than six months, but how long he does not know—during the first campaign he thinks Major Micajah Lewis and Major John Armstrong were in the same town and in the regular service. He further states that he was frequently sent on express. He has no documentary evidence of his service.

He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension rolls of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the date and year aforesaid in open court.
(signed) William (P) Petty, his mark.

Interrogation propounded to William Petty an applicant for a pension in the War of the Revolution.

1st Where and in what year were you born? Ans. I was born in the county of Fauquier or Stafford, State of Virginia—I do not know which—on the 13th day of March 1764.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? Ans. I have a ____ in my family Bible which I made myself from what my parents have told me.

3rd Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you live now? Ans. I lived in Surry County, North Carolina, when I entered the service, and continued to live there until the close of the Revolutionary War. I then moved to Wilkes Co., N. C., and

⁴²⁷ Revolutionary War Pension Application of William Petty, S-17016. Copy located on Heritage Quest 21 April 2012.

lived there until the year 1817 when I moved to Madison County, Alabama Territory, now state of Alabama, and have lived there since and still do.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom? Ans. I was once drafted and once was a substitute—but I have entirely forgotten for whom—he was a stranger to me when I engaged as his substitute—I knew him afterward, but cannot recollect his name—I was at that time 16 years of age.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such regimental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service. Ans. I cannot state now particularly than I have done in my declaration to which I refer in answer to this interrogatory.

6th Did you receive a discharge from the service; and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it? Ans. I never did receive any discharge—it was at that time considered of no value.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution. Ans. Drury Allen and Samuel Chapman are present, any others to whom I am known I believe would do the same.

(signed) Wm Petty

On 30 May 1835 Lucy Petty appointed Theophilus Lacy her attorney to receive the pension due to William Petty from the 4th day of September 1833 to the 26th day of September 1834, due to her in consequence of the death of William Petty.

William Petty died testate in Madison Co., Alabama.⁴²⁸ Two Bible records of descendants list the dates of birth for their children. William Petty and Lucy Wright Petty's dates are from their tombstones.

As a small child growing up in west Huntsville, I can remember my mother, Mary Lou Driver Harbin, and my grandmother, Mildred "Meldie" Vodrine Petty Driver, talking about the Petty's of New Market and Hazel Green. My mother was very leery of whom we dated, even from Huntsville. It seems that the Pettys and the Wrights married into all the Madison County families.⁴²⁹

Children of WILLIAM PETTY and LUCRETIA WRIGHT are:

- i. NANCY⁶ PETTY, b. 28 February 1785 Surry Co., N. C.; d. 25 December 1846 Manchester, Co., Tennessee; m. JOHN HICKERSON.
- ii. ELI WILLIAMS⁶ PETTY, b. 26 December 1786 Surry Co., N. C.; d. 1 July 1854 Franklin Co., Tenn.; m. DIANE MARTAIN HARRISON.

⁴²⁸ Madison Co., Alabama, Probate Record 7:61, 26 April 1834/17 March 1835. He named his wife Lucretia Petty, daughters Nancy Hickerson, Amelia Carlton, and Eliza Eastland, and sons Eli, Lazarus, John Wright, Zachariah, William Thornton, James William, Thomas Merce, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Harrison. One deceased daughter was not named.

⁴²⁹ Harbin, William Wayne. Wright/Wrta/Wryta Families. In *The Heritage of Madison County, Alabama*. (Clanton, Ala.; Heritage Publishing Consultants, 1998.)

- iii. LAZARUS D⁶ PETTY., b. 7 June 1789 Surry Co., N. C.; d. 7 October 1843 Madison Co., Alabama; m. SARAH.
- 5. iv. JOHN WRIGHT⁶ PETTY, b. 28 February 1791 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 23 September 1876 Madison Co., Alabama; m. ANNA HARRIS 18 March 1817 Wilkes Co., N. C.; b. 18 January 1798 Montgomery Co., N. C.; d. 13 June 1869 Madison Co., Alabama.
- v. ZACHARIAH⁶ PETTY, b. 23 May 1792 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 8 July 1854 Madison Co., Alabama; m. REBECCA SHACKLEFORD 2 January 1823 Madison Co., Alabama; b. 20 December 1790; d. 26 March 1845 Madison Co., Alabama.
- vi. AMELIA⁶ PETTY, b. 20 July 1795 Wilkes Co., N. C.; 17 November 1867 Sherman, Grayson Co., Texas; m. DAVID CARLTON 26 September 1814 Wilkes Co., North Carolina.
- vii. WILLIAM THORNTON⁶ PETTY, b. 29 September 1797 Wilkes Co., N. C.; m. ABIGAIL BAYLESS 3 December 1821 Madison Co., Alabama; b. 20 January 1802 Washington Co., Tenn.; d. 20 December 1883 Lamar Co., Texas.
- viii. SALLY⁶ PETTY, b. 11 August 1799 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 11 February 1801 Wilkes Co., N. C.
- ix. JAMES WILLIAM⁶ PETTY, b. 12 October 1801 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 29 September 1843 Limestone Co., Ala.; m. ELIZABETH FISHBACK MORGAN 4 August 1825 Limestone Co., Ala.
- 6. x. THOMAS MERCE⁶ PETTY, b. 5 October 1803 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 1887 Hillsboro, Scott Co., Miss.; m. LOUISA WHYTE ROBERTS 4 August 1825 Madison Co., Ala.; b. 19 December 1808 Tennessee; d. 1 January 1889 Ruston, Lincoln Par., La.
- xi. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN⁶ PETTY, b. 4 November 1805 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 6 March 1875 Wilkes Co., N. C.; m. (1) CYNTHIA BRYAN 29 January 1829 Wilkes Co., N. C.; b. 1800 North Carolina; d. 7 March 1851 Wilkes Co., N. C.; m. (2) JANE AMANDA NESBITT about 1852 Wilkes Co., N. C.
- xii. ELIZA WRIGHT⁶ PETTY, b. 28 August 1808 Wilkes Co. N. C.
- xiii. DANIEL HARRISON⁶ PETTY, b. 28 February 1812 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 1863 Madison Co., Ala.; m. SUSAN ANN STONE 5 November 1833 Madison Co., Ala.; b. 25 May 1816 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 9 January 1859 Madison Co. Ala.

5. JOHN WRIGHT⁶ (WILLIAM⁵⁻⁴, THOMAS³⁻², HUBERT¹) PETTY was born 28 February 1791 in Wilkes Co., North Carolina, and died 23 September 1876 in Madison Co., Alabama. He married ANNA HARRIS 18 March 1817 in Wilkes Co., N. C. She was born 18 January 1798 in Montgomery Co., North Carolina, and died 13 June 1869 in Madison Co., Alabama.

Dr. John Wright Petty⁴³⁰ was born in North Carolina, but moved to Lincoln Co., Tenn., following his marriage to Anna Harris. He then moved to the adjacent Madison Co., Alabama. There is on record in Madison Co., Ala., a deed

⁴³⁰ Hodges, Alice Amis. Ancestry and Descendants of Dr. John Wright Petty of Madison Co., Ala. (Pendleton, S. C., 1978,) p. 7.

of gift dated Feb. 17, 1823, from Sarah Harris of Montgomery Co., N. C., to her beloved daughter Ann Harris and John Wright Petty, her husband, of two slaves. This deed was filed 17 Feb 1823. John Wright Petty and his wife lived for a while in Lincoln Co., Tenn., before moving to Madison Co., Ala. These two counties are adjacent to one another. He died 23 September 1876 and she died 13 June 1869. Both are buried in Madison Co., Ala. John Wright Petty was a physician.

It appears that John Wright Petty and his children were the ones who decided to add an "e" to the spelling of the surname, which is the way the family in Scott Co., Mississippi, spelled the name. For simplicity, I have retained the previous spelling.

Children of JOHN WRIGHT PETTY and ANNA HARRIS are:

- i. CLINTON ROWLAND⁷ PETTY, b. 25 December 1817 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 8 January 1897 Lincoln Co., Tenn.;⁴³¹ m. ELIZA ANN PALMER 9 September 1850 Madison Co., Ala.; b. 1831; d. 1899 Blanche, Lincoln Co., Tenn.⁴³²

Hearts have been made sad in our community since we wrote you last. On Friday morning, the 8th inst., at about 2 o'clock, Mr. Clinton Pettey died of old age and the grippe. He was one of our best citizens, a quiet Christian man and beloved by all who knew him. He leaves a wife and a large family of grown children to mourn his death. For a number of years he was a member of the M. E. Church, but for months past he was too feeble to often get to the house of God. On Saturday, after funeral service by Rev. Wood Bouldin, he was laid to rest in the cemetery at Blanche to await the resurrection morn.⁴³³
- ii. WILLIAM W.⁷ PETTY, b. 15 May 1819 Wilkes Co., N. C.; d. 30 March 1904 Fresno, California.⁴³⁴
7. iii. ALBERT GALLATIN⁷ PETTY, 29 May 1820 Lincoln Co., Tenn.; d. 2 June 1879 Scott Co., Mississippi; m. LUVENIA BREWER about 1845 Scott Co., Miss., dau. of WYCHE BREWER and FLORA MCPHERSON; b. 11 February 1825 Butler Co., Alabama; d. 18 February 1897 Newton Co., Miss.
- iv. SARAH ANN⁷ PETTY, b. 7 January 1822 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 6 March 1854; m. ELI MITCHELL 8 September 1841 Madison Co., Ala.
- v. WILLIAM HOWARD⁷ PETTY, b. 20 February 1823 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 28 August 1860 Nacogdoches, Texas;⁴³⁵ m. SARAH POWER 19 September 1845 Madison Co., Ala.⁴³⁶; b. 20 April 1828; d. 24 December 1885 Nacogdoches Co., Texas.⁴³⁷

⁴³¹ Buried in Blanche Cemetery, Blanche, Lincoln Co., Tenn. Located 28 April 2012 at <http://findagrave.com>.

⁴³² Buried in Blanche Cemetery, Blanche, Lincoln Co., Tenn. Located 28 April 2012 at <http://findagrave.com>.

⁴³³ *The Fayetteville (TN) Observer* 21 January 1897. (Attached to the photo of his tombstone at location above.)

⁴³⁴ There are a number of Pettys buried in Odd Fellows Cemetery, Fresno Co., California, who are likely his children, but I have not found a record of his burial.

⁴³⁵ Buried in Redland Cemetery, Douglass, Nacogdoches Co., Texas. Located 28 April 2012 at <http://findagrave.com>.

- vi. NANCY⁷ PETTY, b. 26 January 1826 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 6 December 1846 Madison Co., Ala.
- 8. vii. JOHN WRIGHT⁷ PETTY, b. 12 November 1826 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 27 March 1858 Scott Co., Miss.; m. CHRISTIANA BREWER about 1846 Scott Co., Miss., dau. of WYCHE BREWER and FLORA MCPHERSON; b. about 1827 Butler Co., Ala.
- viii. ANN ELIZA⁷ PETTY, b. 30 August 1827 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 7 April 1909 Ala.; m. WILLIAM HOWARD 24 November 1852 Madison Co., Ala.; b. 16 April 1826; d. 12 June 1913 Madison Co., Ala.⁴³⁸
- ix. RICHARD P.⁷ PETTY, b. 8 January 1829 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 31 October 1890 Fayetteville, Lincoln Co., Tenn.; m. MARGARET NORRIS.
- x. CORNELIA⁷ PETTY, b. August 1833 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 17 January 1882. unmm.
- xi. LUCY⁷ PETTY, b. 2 January 1835 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 19 December 1915 Fayetteville, Lincoln Co., Tenn.; m. THOMAS LOVE 26 September 1856 Madison Co., Ala.
- xii. NEWTON ELI⁷ PETTY, b. 16 April 1838 Madison Co., Ala.; d. August 1924 Madison Co., Alabama.; unmm.
- xiii. DANIEL BOONE⁷ PETTY, b. 25 November 1839 Madison Co., Ala.; d. 2 May 1869 Madison Co., Ala.; unmm.

6. THOMAS MERCE⁶ (WILLIAM⁵⁻⁴, THOMAS³⁻², HUBERT¹) was born 5 October 1803 in Wilkes Co., North Carolina, and died 4 August 1885 in Hillsboro, Scott Co., Mississippi. He married LOUISA WHYTE ROBERTS 4 August 1825 in Madison Co., Alabama. She was born 19 December 1809 in Tennessee and died 1 January 1889 in Ruston, Lincoln Par., Louisiana.

Children of THOMAS PETTY and LOUISA ROBERTS are:

- i. ROBERT L.⁷ PETTY, b. about 1826 Bedford Co., Tenn.; d. 7 June 1899 Scott Co., Miss.; m. MARY ANN BUTLER about 1850 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 2 May 1831 Rankin Co., Miss.; d. 27 March 1892 Scott Co., Miss.
- ii. HIRAM F.⁷ PETTY, b. 1830 Lincoln Co., Tenn.; m. ALMEDA ____.⁴³⁹
Hiram F. Petty enlisted as a private in Co. I, 28th (Gray's) Louisiana Infantry on 11 May 1862.⁴⁴⁰ H. F. Pettey and Almeda are living in Ward 6, Athens, Claiborne Par., Louisiana, in 1870.⁴⁴¹ Children listed are Imogene, 10,

⁴³⁶ There is also a marriage of William H. Petty and Ann Roberta Ricks 10 March 1848 in Lincoln Co., Tenn. (Tennessee State Marriages 1780-2002. Online database at Ancestry.com, accessed 28 April 2012.)

⁴³⁷ Buried in Redland Cemetery, Douglass, Nacogdoches Co., Texas. Located 28 April 2012 at <http://findagrave.com>.

⁴³⁸ Both are buried in Foster Cemetery, Madison Co., Alabama. Located 28 April 2012 at <http://www.findagrave.com>.

⁴³⁹

⁴⁴⁰ Confederate Research Sources, 3:125. Online database located on ancestry.com 29 April 2012.

⁴⁴¹ 1870 Census Claiborne Parish, La., p.174B, #151.

Thomas L., 8, Lathenia (f) 3, and John R., 11/12. All of the children were born in Louisiana. Almeda was born in Georgia.

- iii. NANCY⁷ PETTY, b. 17 July 1833 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 4 March 1926 Palestine, Anderson Co., Texas; m. SAMUEL CURTIS 1850 Scott Co., Miss.; b. about 1817 Tenn.⁴⁴²;
- iv. BENTON⁷ PETTY, b. about 1835 Scott Co., Miss.
Benton Petty appears only on the 1850 Census. I have not been able to locate him in any subsequent records. I have also found no record of his gravestone.
- v. W. FERDINAND⁷ PETTY, b. about 1837 Scott Co., Miss.; m. ELIZABETH _____.⁴⁴³
Ferdinand and Elizabeth are living in Scott Co., Miss., in 1880. She is 35, b. MS, and the children are William 16, May 14, Oliver 10, Floy (f) 8, and Percy 5. Martha Amis is living with her daughter Frances Moore at #84/89, and James Graham and his wife Woodson are living between them.
- vi. AMERICA⁷ PETTY, b. about 1839 Scott Co., Miss.
- vii. AMELIA TENNESSEE⁷ PETTY, b. 7 June 1843 Scott Co., Miss.; m. JOSEPH (CUDGE) MCGOWAN about 1860 Scott Co., Miss.⁴⁴⁴
Tennessee McGowan and her husband "Cudge" are living in Scott Co., Mississippi in 1880.⁴⁴⁵ Contrary to his son's statement, he was born in Georgia, not Ireland, and his parents were born in Georgia and South Carolina. They are listed on the same page as Martha Amis, Frances (Amis) Moore, James and Mirnia Woodson (Amis) Graham and Ferdinand Petty.
- viii. ANDREW J.⁷ PETTY, b. about 1845 Scott Co., Miss.
- ix. EMMA⁷ PETTY, b. 15 September 1847 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 27 May 1903 Claiborne Parish, La.; m. JOHN FRANKLIN EVERS about 1866 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 30 March 1840 Monroe Co., Ga.; d. 28 August 1897 Claiborne Parish, La.
- x. JULIETTA JOSEPHINE⁷ PETTY, b. 11 October 1849 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 13 December 1932 Louisiana; m. JAMES RICHARD CARVER 27 May 1869 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 19 February 1846 Autauga Co., Ala.; d. 24 April 1911 Louisiana.⁴⁴⁶

7. ALBERT GALLATIN⁷ (JOHN WRIGHT⁶, WILLIAM⁵⁻⁴, THOMAS³⁻², HUBERT¹) PETTY was born 29 May 1820 in Lincoln County, Tennessee, and died 2 June

⁴⁴² 1850 Census Scott Co., Miss., p. 258A, #64/64. Samuel Curtis, M. D., 33, and wife Nancy, 17, are living with her parents next door to Albert G. Petty and John W. Petty. An ancestry file says he was born in Stewart Co., Tenn., and that they married 2 April 1846, which would have made her not quite 13. I think this is unlikely to be the correct date. His date of death is given as 17 August 1874.

⁴⁴³ 1880 Census Scott Co., Miss., Beat 5, p. 102C, ED 83, #87/92.

⁴⁴⁴ Their son, Joseph Manisco McGowan died 23 May 1956 in Cleburne, Johnson Co., Texas, and the death record listed his birth in Scott Co., Miss., 16 June 1885. He stated that his father was born in Ireland. [Texas Deaths 1890-1976. Online database accessed 29 April 2012 at familysearch.org.]

⁴⁴⁵ 1880 Census Scott Co., Miss., p. 102C, ED 83, #89/96.

⁴⁴⁶ Bluemel, Daniel. Bluemel Family History. 25 October 2011. Located at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, (db. danielbluemel.) Some of his locations are wrong, but the dates are quite specific.

1879 in Scott Co., Mississippi. He married LUVENIA BREWER about 1845 Scott Co., Miss., daughter of WYCHE BREWER and FLORA MCPHERSON. She was born 11 February 1825 in Butler Co., Alabama, and died 18 February 1897 in Newton Co., Mississippi.

Albert G. Petty moved to Madison Co., Ala., when he was an infant. About 1843 he moved to Scott Co., Miss., where he taught at various schools. He married Luvenia Brewer, daughter of Wyche Brewer and Flora McPherson. They settled on a farm about a mile northeast of Sulphur Springs Baptist Church in Scott County. He was a man of medium height and weighed about 140 pounds. He was intelligent and well educated for a man of those times and was a man of influence in his community. He was a Master Mason, a Granger, and a member of the Sulphur Springs Baptist Church where he served for many years as the church clerk. He is buried in the Amis graveyard near Conehatta, Miss.⁴⁴⁷

Children of ALBERT PETTY and LUVENIA BREWER are:

- i. ANNA MISSOURI⁸ PETTY, b. 12 March 1847 Scott Co., Miss; m. WARNER BLEDSOE about 1864 Scott Co., Miss.

After their marriage, they resided for several years near Sulphur Springs Church, but about 1881 they moved to Union, in Newton County, where they resided for some years. About the year 1889 they moved to Texas and later to McAllister, Oklahoma, where they lived the balance of their lives. They both have been dead several years.

- ii. MARY AUGUSTA⁸ PETTY, b. 8 April 1849 Scott Co., Miss., d. 9 July 1922 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss; m. (1) ALBERT GALLATIN AMIS 16 December 1865 Newton Co., Miss., son of JOHN WOODSON AMIS and MARTHA WADKINS. He was b. 15 Jan 1841 Scott Co., Miss., d. 31 July 1878 Newton Co., Miss. She m. (2) WILLIAM BUYCKE THORNTON September 1879 Scott Co., Miss. He was b. 3 April 1856 and d. 1 Feb 1897 Gulfport, Harrison Co., Miss.
- iii. FRANCES MADORA⁸ PETTY, b. 15 Sep 1851 Scott Co., Miss., d. 16 June 1929 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. J. M. CLEVELAND 2 June 1882 Scott Co., Miss.
- iv. CORINE FLORENCE⁸ PETTY, b. 16 Oct 1853 Scott Co., Miss; d. Mills Co., Texas; m. FRANK BLEDSOE about 1872 Scott Co., Miss.
After their marriage they resided in the northwestern part of Newton County until about 1889, when they moved to Texas and settled in Mills County, about eight miles from Goldthwaite. Her husband died in 1925. She still resides in the old home. They had twelve children.
- v. THOMAS WRIGHT⁸ PETTY, b. 12 August 1855 Scott Co., Miss; d. 1 October 1913 Scott Co., Miss.; m. SARAH AGNES MAJURE about 1878 Scott Co., Miss.
He married Sallie Majure about 1878. After their marriage they bought the old Wyche Brewer place, near Sulphur Springs Church and they lived there several years. About 1888 they moved to Conehatta, and lived there until about 1892 when they returned to their old home, where they continued to live

⁴⁴⁷ Alice Amis Hodges, quoting from Judge Amis.

until he died in 1913. After he died, his widow went to live with her daughter Merle McCord, until she died in 1919. They were both buried in the churchyard at Sulphur Springs.

- vi. SARAH ELIZABETH⁸ PETTY, b. Sept. 1858 Scott Co., Miss., d. about 1898 Attalla Co., Miss.; m. JOHN B. PARKS about 1875 Scott Co., Miss.

After their marriage they resided for a few years on a farm on the old Jackson road adjoining his father's farm. About 1880 they sold the farm and moved to Philadelphia, in Neshoba County, where they lived for several years. Later they moved to Attalla County and settled on a farm where she died in the fall of 1898 or 1899. Subsequently her husband remarried and now lives at Louisville, Mississippi.

- vii. JOHN DAVIS⁸ PETTY, b. 24 Oct 1861 Scott Co., Miss.; m. (1) MOLLIE NICHOLSON; m. (2) JENNIE GULLEY after 1900.

For some years he lived at Union, then later at Neshoba, and for four years at Philadelphia while he was Clerk of the Chancery Court. He now resides at Neshoba, Mississippi.

- viii. ALBERT GALLATIN⁸ PETTY, b. 29 July 1865 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 1 March 1930 Newton Co., Miss.; m. (1) EMILY CARSON about 1903 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 7 May 1885; d. 25 January 1925 Scott Co., Miss.; m. (2) PEARL NESTER December 1926 Lake Co., Miss.; b. 14 July 1890; d. 27 April 1947 Newton Co., Miss.⁴⁴⁸

After they married they lived at Conehatta, Miss., until about 1924, when they moved to Lake, where she died in March 1925. About December 1926 he married Pearl Nester. He was a practicing physician and resided at Lake, where he died in 1929.

8. JOHN WRIGHT⁷ (JOHN WRIGHT⁶, WILLIAM⁵⁻⁴, THOMAS³⁻², HUBERT¹) PETTY was born 12 November 1826 in Madison Co., Alabama, and died 27 March 1858 in Scott Co., Mississippi. He married CHRISTIANA BREWER about 1846 in Scott Co., Miss., daughter of WYCHE BREWER and FLORA MCPHERSON. She was born about 1827 in Butler Co., Alabama.

Children of JOHN W. PETTY and CHRISTIANA BREWER are:

- i. VIRGINIA⁸ PETTY, m. MARCUS LAFAYETTE CLOUD 30 April 1874 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 22 December 1842; d. 14 August 1903 Scott Co., Miss.
- ii. WRIGHT⁸ PETTY, m. MARY MILLSAPS.
- iii. JOHN WILLIAMS⁸ PETTY, b. 16 November 1854 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 22 December 1936 Scott Co., Miss.; m. EMILY S. WALL 22 November 1893 Scott Co., Miss.; b. 28 May 1866 Newton Co., Miss.; d. 6 May 1902 Scott Co., Miss.
- iv. FLORA ANN⁸ PETTY, b. 30 September 1852 Scott Co., Miss.; d. 26 September 1935 Scott Co., Miss.⁴⁴⁹

⁴⁴⁸ All three are buried in Conehatta Methodist Cemetery, Newton Co., Miss. (Located at <http://www.findagrave.com>. Accessed 29 April 2012.

⁴⁴⁹ Sanders, Delores Pickering. Remember Me: Scott County [MS] Cemetery Census, 2nd Ed., 1999, Sulphur Springs Baptist Church, p. 2266.

Descendants of Larkin Wilson⁴⁵⁰

1. LARKIN¹ WILSON was born in England and died about 1788 in Botetourt Co., Virginia.

Dan Langford shared the results of his research with me for this report. He was not able to confirm many details about Larkin Wilson, Sr., as much of his information came from Ms. Millie Stewart, who had also researched the Wilson family.⁴⁵¹ Neither the date of his birth, nor the date of his emigration is known, although it seems certain that he came from England. The last name of his wife is likewise uncertain. The family legend has it that Larkin died of a broken neck sustained in a fall while helping a neighbor raise a barn.

The names of his children were from Dan Langford, and to date, I have not found where this list came from, nor have I been able to confirm the presence of any of these people in Botetourt County, Virginia. The 1784 Personal Property Tax lists 16 men with the surname Wilson in the first district, and nine men in the second district.⁴⁵² Unfortunately, none of them is identifiable as Larkin Wilson.⁴⁵³

Reportedly, Larkin Wilson was the son of Roger Wilson, born about 1722 in England, and his wife Elizabeth. Larkin had a brother, Richard, who also came to America, and died in Georgia. This file shows Larkin Wilson marrying Mary Jane Hansen, but lists her as the daughter of William Swanson and Mary McGuire. More work is needed to confirm the validity of this statement.⁴⁵⁴ I have included her statements about the other children here.

Children of LARKIN WILSON and MARY HANSON are:

2. i. LARKIN² WILSON, b. 7 May 7 1770 Botetourt Co., Va.; d. July 1845 Monroe Co., Ga.
- ii. NELSON WILSON, b. 1771 Botetourt Co., Va.; d. 1859 Georgia; m. (1) SUSANNAH WOODRUFF 6 Mar 1797 Oglethorpe Co., Ga., daughter of CLIFFORD WOODRUFF; m. (2) ELLA GEE.

Nelson Wilson is in Capt. Collier's District in the 1800 Census for Oglethorpe Co., Ga.⁴⁵⁵ Clifford Woodruff wrote his will in Oglethorpe Co.,

⁴⁵⁰ Updated 5 November 2006.

⁴⁵¹ I have subsequently found Mrs. Stewart's report in Abbott, Frank M. History of the People of Jones County, Georgia, Vol. 6, p. 58, at the Washington Library, Macon, Georgia. She lived in Macon.

⁴⁵² 1784 Personal Property Tax List, Botetourt Co., Virginia. Located at <http://newrivernotes.com>. Accessed 2 Nov 2006.

⁴⁵³ I have found one family listing that shows his name as Larkin William James Roger Wilson. She does not indicate where this came from. Gubbins, Beth. Beth's Family History. 29 Oct 2006. Located at <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com>, (db. :3087208.)

⁴⁵⁴ Gubbins, Beth. Beth's Family History. 29 Oct 2006. Located at <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com>, (db. :3087208.)

⁴⁵⁵ Located at <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/oglethorpe/census/1800/colliers.txt>.

Ga., on 17 May 1831 and left \$10 to be divided between his daughters “Molly Colquitt and Susan Wilson, along with bequests to his other children.”⁴⁵⁶

- iii. ARKELLIS WILSON, b 1774 Botetourt Co., Va.; d. before 1850 Jasper Co., Ga.; m. (1) SARAH MASON; m. (2) NANCY SWANSON; d. 1870 Jasper Co., Ga.

Arkillis Wilson is listed in Jasper Co., Ga., in the 1830 Census.⁴⁵⁷ The 1850 Census shows Arkellis Wilson, 23, b. Ala., along with wife Nancy, as newlyweds,⁴⁵⁸ which suggests Arkellis Wilson moved to Alabama shortly after the 1830 census. Nancy Wilson, 70, born in Georgia, is listed nearby in the household of A. J. Wilson, 31, b. in Georgia.⁴⁵⁹ In 1860 “Mary” Wilson, widow, 78, born in Georgia, is living in the house with A. J. Wilson, and others of her family, but she is listed as the head of household.⁴⁶⁰

The marriage records of Jasper Co., Ga., show Arkellis Wilson married Judah Finley on 18 July 1833.⁴⁶¹

- iv. LEONARD WILSON.

Leonard Wilson is listed in Jasper Co., Ga., in 1830, aged 50-60.⁴⁶²

- v. WILLIAM WILSON.

On 10 May 1810 John Gresham of Oglethorpe Co., Ga., deeded two lots in Lexington to Joel Bridge, of Chatham Co., Ga., executor of William Wilson, to clear a debt owed by Gresham to William Wilson for \$2902.16.⁴⁶³ Presently, I have no information as to the likelihood this is the same man. Another possibility is William Wilson who died in Jasper Co., Ga., before 26 Sep 1816. This deed was written by John Wilson, clerk.⁴⁶⁴

- vi. JOHN WILSON, d. 1842 Jones Co., Ga.; m. ESTHER ____.
- vii. MARTHA (PATSY) WILSON, d. 1815 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; m. SAMUEL EDMONDSON 24 Dec 1800 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.

Accessed 5 Nov 2006. Also listed is Jos. Wilson, whose connection is unknown to me. James Wilson is listed in Capt. Hardeman’s district along with Bennett Wilson.

(<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/oglethorpe/census/1800/hardmans.txt>) Joseph Wilson is Capt. Lee’s District.

(<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/oglethorpe/census/1800/lees.txt>).

⁴⁵⁶ Oglethorpe Co., Ga., Will Book D:75-76. [9 September 1840] Copy located at <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/oglethorpe/wills/woodruff.txt>.

⁴⁵⁷ 1830 Census, Jasper Co., Ga., p. 372 [He is age 60-70, and is listed three males and three females, one of whom is probably his wife, and 11 slaves.

<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/jasper/census/1830/1830pt3ja.txt>

⁴⁵⁸ 1850 Census, Jasper Co., Ga., p. 13, #88. <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/jasper/census/1850/1850.txt>

⁴⁵⁹ 1850 Census, Jasper Co., Ga., p. 13, #81.

⁴⁶⁰ 1860 Census, Jasper Co., Ga., p. 308, #557/563.

⁴⁶¹ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book B:150.

<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/jasper/vitals/marriages/marr2.txt> Also shown is the marriage for John Wilson to Nancy Phillips 1 April 1832, (p. 148);

⁴⁶² 1830 Census, Jasper Co., Ga., p. 380. He is listed with one female slave, and no other persons in his household.

<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/jasper/census/1830/1830pt3ja.txt>

⁴⁶³ Oglethorpe Co., Ga., Deed Book F:151.

<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/oglethorpe/deeds/b6320001.txt>

⁴⁶⁴ Jasper Co., Ga., Deed Book B:36-37. John Ward sold to Sally Wilson, executor of William Wilson, a tract of land of 100 acres, the southeast half of Lot 95 17th Dist.

- viii. MARY WILSON, b. 1773 Botetourt Co., Va.; d. 1824 Oglethorpe Co., Ga.; m. JOHN MASON.
- ix. SUSANNA NANCY WILSON, d. 1812 Monroe Co., Ga.

2. LARKIN² (*LARKIN*¹) WILSON was born 7 May 1770 in Botetourt Co., Virginia and died July 1845 Monroe Co., Virginia. He married MARY ANN CABINESS 28 December 1803 in Greene Co., Ga., daughter of GEORGE CABINESS and PALATEA HARRISON. She was born 4 January 1785 in North Carolina and died December 1862 in Monroe Co., Ga.

Larkin Wilson's marriage to Mary Ann Cabiness is recorded in the marriage records of Greene Co., Ga.⁴⁶⁵ They had moved to Jones Co., Ga., with her father before October 1809, when he was listed as a juror.⁴⁶⁶ He paid a poll tax in Jones Co., Ga., in 1811, on land located next to that owned by his wife's family, and paid taxes there regularly through 1823.⁴⁶⁷ He also won lot 65, 4th District, Houston Co., Ga., in the 1821 Georgia Land Lottery. Sometime prior to 1830, he moved to Monroe Co., Ga., where he appears in the 1830 and 1840 Census.

His wife stayed on in Monroe Co., Ga., after his death in 1845, as she appears as the head of household in the 1850 Census. At that time her holdings were valued at \$5000. In the 1849 tax record she was shown as holding 13 slaves and three parcels of land, as well as a four wheel carriage.⁴⁶⁸

Additional information about the children were obtained from Mrs. Stewart's report.⁴⁶⁹ The marriage books for Monroe Co., Ga., confirmed dates of marriage for many of the children.⁴⁷⁰

Children of LARKIN WILSON and MARY CABANISS are:

- i. PALATIA HARRISON³ WILSON, b. 22 April 1805 Greene Co., Ga.; d. 11 July 1866 Jones Co., Ga.; m. THOMAS WARE STEWART 22 June 1821 Jones Co., Ga., son of WILLIAM STEWART and JANE SMITH; b. 15 Feb 1787; d. 19 Nov 1846 Jones Co., Ga.

"Pallie" Harrison Wilson Stewart and her husband, as well as a son, Washington Jackson Stewart (10 Nov 1830—13 Feb 1858) are buried in the Stewart Cemetery, Jones Co., Ga.⁴⁷¹

⁴⁶⁵ <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/greene/vitals/marriages/grm/180050.txt>. Accessed 4 November 2006.

⁴⁶⁶ Abbott, Frank M. *History of the People of Jones County, Georgia*, Vol. 2, p. 3. Copy located at the Washington Library, Macon, Georgia.

⁴⁶⁷ 1811 Jones Co., Ga. Tax Record, p. 59, Larkin Wilson, 1 poll, 3 slaves, 101.25 #2, acq. Golsby, adj. Cabeniss [sic] on Shoal Cr. Dan Langford also found him in 1813, no page cited; 1814, p. 96; 1819, p. 118; 1820, 1823, no page cited.

⁴⁶⁸ 1849 Monroe Co., Ga., Tax Record; Morris District, p. 111.

⁴⁶⁹ *History of the People of Jones County, Georgia*, Vol. 6, p. 58.

⁴⁷⁰ <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/monroe/vitals/marriage/1850.txt>. Accessed 2 November 2006. There are a number of other marriages for persons named Wilson, who may be grandchildren of Larkin Wilson.

Palacia Harrison Wilson Stewart, known as Dr. Poly Stewart was one of the first woman doctors in Georgia.⁴⁷² She was a descendant of the Harrisons of Jamestown, Virginia, and her mother was Mary Cabaniss the daughter of George and Palacia Harrison Cabiness. Her father was Larkin Wilson from Virginia, born in 1770.

Palacia H. W. Stewart was born April 2, 1805 in Jones County, Georgia, on a large plantation two miles east of Bradley. Her home still stands, and has recently been restored by a descendant, Mrs. Doris Hungerford Fraley. In front of this home at the time when Polly was growing up were the drill grounds for the Militia. Later she lived not far away at the home built by Thomas Ware Stewart, now known as the Joseph Glawson Place, built in 1842.

Polly Harrison Wilson grew up on the plantation and was an attractive brunette. Her eyes were large and gray with heavy lashes, she had black hair, an exquisite complexion, regular features with full lower lip (which the artists called an Egyptian nether lip). She was strong, healthy and very active. At sixteen, she married a man twice her age. On June 22, Thomas Ware Stewart took his girl-bride to his small plantation near Fortville. There Thomas and Polly brought their strength and knowledge to bear, and soon they had two thousand acres and many slaves and were successful planters. Polly had thirteen children. When the thirteenth child was six weeks old her husband, Thomas Ware Stewart suddenly died. Polly faced life with thirteen children, a large plantation and almost one hundred slaves.

Polly had studied and managed to get a fair medical education, and on May 13, 1848 she had passed examinations and was given a diploma in Medicine by "The Botanico-Medical Society", of Hartford, Connecticut. This diploma is now in the possession of Miss May Stewart,(granddaughter) at Gray, Georgia, and is signed by H. A. Archer, M.D., Pres., J. J. Jacques, M.D., Vice-Pres., T. S. Sperry, M.D., Sec.

Her services to the counties of Baldwin, Jasper and Jones during the Civil War was a heroic effort. She was constantly called to the bedside of the sick, and gave of her time, means and efforts. She was practical and when the occasion demanded, could use her temper. She was reared an Episcopalian, later joined the Presbyterians and after marriage was a Baptist. She attended church as much as her time would allow, but when she was absent she was distributing alms or caring for the sick. No man in Jones County did more for the Confederacy than Dr. Polly Stewart.

Her six sons were in the Confederate Army and all returned after the war except Polk who was killed and buried in Savannah. It was during

⁴⁷¹ Colvin, Earl and Colvin, Beth. *Fields of Stone: Cemeteries of Jones County, Georgia.* (2004), p. 503. His parents are also buried there, with William Stewart's date of death 10 April 1827 and Jane Smith Stewart's date of death, 20 April 1836.

⁴⁷² History of the People of Jones County, Georgia, cited by Medders, Richard. *Medders Family Tree.* 30 Sep 2006. Located at <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com>, (db medders_family).

the terrible war days that her executive abilities counted most for her country and community. Other women whose impulses were equally generous and patriotic did little or nothing because they were without means, but Polly Harrison W. Stewart provided the means for her purposes. She had her farms producing at a maximum during the war, with all of the drawbacks and difficulties of that period.

3. ii. HENRY BAILEY³ WILSON, b. 24 March 1807 Greene Co., Ga.; d. 4 July 1880 Newton Co., Miss.; m. ELIZA HOWE about 1833 Monroe Co., Ga., daughter of DAVID HOWE and ELIZABETH ____; b. 12 Aug 1812 Putnam Co., Ga.; d. 8 Nov 1888 Newton Co., Miss.
- iii. SANDAL ORGAN WILSON, b. 15 April 1809 Jones Co., Ga.; m. ROBERT WATSON.
- iv. GEORGE JEFFERSON WILSON, b. 9 July 1813 Jones Co., Ga.; d. April 1873 Rusk Co., Texas; m. MARY JANE FORTSON 20 September 1848 Russell Co., Ala.
George Jefferson Wilson and Mary Jane Fortson moved from Russell Co., Ala., to Rusk Co., Texas, in 1854, where her father, and brother Richard Fortson owned land. She died there in 1872 and he died in April 1873. Both are buried in Fortson Cemetery, but the markers are largely gone.⁴⁷³
- v. WILLIAM JASPER WILSON, b. 9 July 1813 Jones Co., Ga.; m. ELIZA HANSFORD 7 March 1839 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁷⁴
- vi. ELBRIDGE GERRY WILSON, b. 4 Feb 1815 Jones Co., Ga.; m. MARY L. MORRIS 30 December 1841 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁷⁵
Elbridge G. N. Wilson and Mary L., 30, are living in Pike Co., Ga., in 1860, along with John L. Wilson, 17, Mary C. Wilson, 8, Elbridge G. Wilson 6, Augustine B. Wilson, 2, Martha W. Wilson, 10/12, and Frances A. Smith, 19, domestic.⁴⁷⁶
- vii. MARY ANN WILSON, b. 30 Jan 1818 Jones Co., Ga.; m. SIMEON FRANKLIN SPEER 1 December 1836 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁷⁷
- viii. LUCY ANN REBECCA WILSON, b. 12 May 1820 Jones Co., Ga.; m. STEPHEN LESEUR 10 August 1837 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁷⁸
- ix. BENJAMIN LARKIN WILSON, b. 12 February 1822 Jones Co., Ga.; d. 1839 Monroe Co., Ga.
- x. PERMELIA A. WILSON, b. 19 February 1822 Jones Co., Ga.; d. 1 May 1892; m. MATTHEW TRENT FARLEY 15 Nov 1843 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁷⁹
- xi. ELIZABETH EDNA WILSON, b. 5 April 1824 Jones Co., Ga.; m. JOHN CAUTHEN 15 June 1845 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁸⁰
- xii. ZACHARIAH WESLEY WILSON, b. 5 April 1824 Jones Co., Ga.; d. 27 April 1904 Monroe Co., Ga.; m. JANE E. ROBERTS 5 May 1847 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁸¹

⁴⁷³ Henderson, Betty A. 11 Aug 2001. Located at <http://genforum.genealogy.com/wilson/messages/15928.html>.

⁴⁷⁴ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book A:155.

⁴⁷⁵ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book A:199.

⁴⁷⁶ 1860 Census, Pike Co., Ga., p. 82, #587/559. Near neighbors are Seaborn Jones and Joseph H. Bragg.

⁴⁷⁷ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book A:110.

⁴⁷⁸ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book A:113.

⁴⁷⁹ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book A:237.

⁴⁸⁰ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book A:238.

⁴⁸¹ Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book B:22.

- xiii. SUSAN A. WILSON, b. 12 May 1826 Jones Co., Ga.; m. MATTHEW LEWIS ATKINSON 4 May 1848 Monroe Co., Ga.⁴⁸²
- xiv. CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS WILSON, b. 10 May 1828 Jones Co., Ga.

3. HENRY BAILEY³ (*LARKIN*²⁻¹) WILSON was born 24 March 1807 in Greene Co., Ga. and died 4 July 1880 in Newton Co., Miss. He married ELIZA HOWE about 1833 Monroe Co., Ga., daughter of DAVID HOWE and ELIZABETH _____. She was born 12 Aug 1812 in Putnam Co., Ga., and died 8 Nov 1888 in Newton Co., Miss.

In 1832, as a resident of Jones Co., Ga., he bought land in Monroe Co., Ga. In 1835, he bought 100 acres of land from Elizabeth Howe, Eliza's mother, in Monroe Co. Both of these tracts of land were subject to a Sheriff's sale in 1842. Henry and his family, along with four slaves, appear in Monroe Co. for the 1840 Census, so his move to Mississippi occurred between 1841 and 1846. With the Sheriff's sale of his land in 1842, this seems the most likely year for removal. Lucy, age 9, born in Ga., and her family are listed in Neshoba County, Miss., for the 1850 Census. Lucy was the youngest child born in Georgia, again supporting 1842 as the likely year for removal

In the 1850 Census Henry B. Wilson listed his occupation as "farmer,"⁴⁸³ but according to Judge Amis, he operated a stage coach inn as well, as described in the Amis history for Albert. G. Amis. The 1850 Slave Schedule for Neshoba Co., Miss.⁴⁸⁴ shows he had one adult female and four young children. In the 1860 Census he had an estimated value of \$5400 and the slave schedule showed that he had four adult women, two adult men, two teenage males, and six younger children.⁴⁸⁵ His stage stop was burned by Sherman during the Civil War, and in the 1870 Census, his personal value was estimated at \$200.⁴⁸⁶

Henry B. Wilson and Eliza (Howe) Wilson are buried in the Wilson Cemetery, Newton Co., Miss.⁴⁸⁷ It appears that all of their children except Lucy Frances Wilson are buried there. (She is buried with her husband in the Methodist Church Cemetery, Conehatta, Miss.)

Children of HENRY WILSON and ELIZA HOWE are:

- i. MARY E.⁴ WILSON, b. 4 April 1834 Monroe Co., Ga.; d. 5 Nov 1906 Newton Co., Miss; m. ENOCH M. HATTAWAY about 1860 Newton Co., Miss.
Mary E. Hattaway is living with Henry B. Wilson in the 1870 Census, age 37, along with a daughter, Eliza, age 9. This suggests she married about 1860.

⁴⁸² Jasper Co., Ga., Marriage Book B:34.

⁴⁸³ 1850 Census, Neshoba Co., Miss., p. 149.

⁴⁸⁴ 1850 Slave Schedule, Neshoba Co., Miss., p. 736.

⁴⁸⁵ 1860 Census, Newton Co., Miss., p. 758.

⁴⁸⁶ 1870 Census, Newton Co., Miss., Newton P. O., p. 497, #142/142.

⁴⁸⁷ Garrett, Cathy. Wilson Family Cemetery, Newton Co., MS. 1 June 2000. Located at <http://genforum.genealogy.com/wilson/messages/9498.html>.

The 1860 Census for Mississippi shows only three men named Hattaway, all in Newton Co. Enoch, 24, b. Ala., is married to Mary, 24, b. GA, and they have no children. James, 33, b. Ga., and his wife Eliza, 26, b. Ala., have two children, while William, 26, is working as a farm laborer for James A. Haroldson, whose household is in between the brothers.⁴⁸⁸

- ii. LARKIN DAVID WILSON, b. 17 February 1836 Monroe Co., Ga.; d. 6 January 1873 Newton Co., Miss.; m. NANCY ELIZABETH (ANDERSON?); b. 29 December 1842; d. 24 Dec 1935 Newton Co., Miss.

In the 1870 Census Larkin D. Wilson and Nancy E. Wilson are living in their own household with Thomas, 4, George 2, and Anna 1.⁴⁸⁹ The first son is probably the T. M. Wilson buried in the family cemetery. He was b. 18 Dec 1865 and died 13 July 1933 both in Newton Co., Miss. He is buried next to Mary Larkie Wilson (28 Dec 1872-7 Feb 1957) who is probably his wife. "George" may be Georgia, who is also buried in the family cemetery. (24 Sept 1867—9 Oct 1870.) I assume, without proof, that the other persons buried here are descended from Thomas M. Wilson.

- iii. GEORGIA S. WILSON, b. 18 April 1839 Monroe Co., Ga.; d. 10 May 1861 Newton Co., Ga.; m. JOSEPH SPEAR.

The tombstone for Georgia S. Spear matches the birth date recorded for Georgia S. Wilson. Also recorded is a tombstone for Georgia Spier Finlayson, b. 1861, d. 1929. This suggests to me that Georgia (Wilson) Spear/Spier died in childbirth and that her daughter later married Mr. Finlayson, whose tombstone is not recorded.

Georgia Spear, 21, b. GA, is living with Joseph Spear, 27, Ala., schoolteacher, in Scott Co., Mississippi in the 1860 Census. She has no children listed.⁴⁹⁰ He is probably the son of Hardy Spear, who is 64, NC, and Ada, 65, NC, who are also living in Scott Co., Miss.⁴⁹¹

- iv. LUCY FRANCES WILSON, b. 6 September 1841 Monroe Co., Ga.; d. 27 May 1910 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.; m. THOMAS DAVIS LANGFORD 11 September 1859 Newton Co., Miss., son of HENRY NORMAN LANGFORD⁴⁹² and ELIZABETH DAVIS;⁴⁹³ b. 3 June 1828 Putnam Co., Ga.; d. 22 Jan 1909 Meridian, Lauderdale Co., Miss.
- v. ANDREW J. WILSON, b. 16 August 1845 Neshoba Co., Miss.; d. 10 August 1861 Newton Co., Miss.
- vi. PALLIE SANDAL WILSON, b. 27 April 1849 Neshoba Co., Miss.; d. 25 September 1948 Newton Co., Miss.

The fact that her tombstone records her name as Pallie Wilson suggests she never married.

- vii. JEFFIE WILSON, b. 9 April 1853 Neshoba Co., Miss.; d. 18 August 1878 Newton Co., Miss.

⁴⁸⁸ 1860 Census, Newton Co., Miss., p. 761, #549/476; #463/480; and #464/481. (Enoch, William, and James in that order.) By the process of elimination, Mary Wilson married Enoch Hattaway.

⁴⁸⁹ 1879 Census, Newton Co., Miss., Newton P. O., p. 493, #90/90.

⁴⁹⁰ 1860 Census, Scott Co., Miss, p.16, #96/96.

⁴⁹¹ 1860 Census, Scott Co., Miss., p. 15, #93/93.

⁴⁹² See Descendants of Richard Langford.

⁴⁹³ See Descendants of James Davis.

Leslie Joyner

From: Leslie Joyner <archives@lauderdalecounty.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2012 8:59 AM
To: 'lwrightjax@aol.com'
Subject: RE: The Amis Brewer Pettey Langford Families of Newton County, MS

I have printed your revised copy for our research shelf and will be uploading it to the website soon.
Thank you for all of you and your families hard work, and allowing us to hold copies of your families history!

From: lwrightjax@aol.com [<mailto:lwrightjax@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2012 12:34 PM
To: archives@lauderdalecounty.org
Subject: The Amis Brewer Pettey Langford Families of Newton County, MS

Sir:

My great-grandfather was the author of a 1936 work of the above title. My great aunt, Frances (Amis) Floyd apparently gave you her copy of the manuscript, since it is her hand that made the annotations in the copy you have placed on your website.

This book started my interest in genealogy, and it seemed appropriate to update this work, which is now more than 75 years old. I have attached a pdf file that contains the updates, including expanded work on the descendants of William Amis of Granville Co., N. C., as well as extended discussion of the origins of Martha Wadkins, his grandmother, where I was able to take the clues he obtained from oral history and find a paper trail that corrected a few details. I have also included updates on the Pettey family, and also the Wilson and Langford families, the latter two of which were started by Dan Langford, who is now deceased.

None of this material is covered by copyright, and I have tried to be accurate in my source citations. I am sending it to you so that you may print a copy for the library and you have my permission to post it on your website, provided you continue to leave the original on there as well. I see this as a "second edition" not a replacement for his work.

Please let me know that you have received this by email. I will provide a postal address if you need it.

Lucius F. Wright, M. D.